

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT
PUDUCHERRY COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Annual Report of PCZMA for the period April 2019 to March 2020

The Central Government in the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) issued the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 vide S.O. 114(E) dated the 19th February 1991 imposing restrictions on industries, operations and processes in the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), keeping in view the importance of the coastal environment and the need to protect the coastal ecosystems from the pressures of developmental activities. The Puducherry Coastal Zone Management Authority (PCZMA) is responsible for implementing the said Notification in the U.T. All developmental activities in CRZ require prior clearance of competent authority (MoEF / PCZMA) under this Notification. In order to further strengthen this Notification a new Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2011 has been published by MoEF on 06.01.2011 replacing the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991. The details of various activities of PCZMA during the year April 2015 to March 2016 is given below

Genesis of Puducherry Coastal Zone Management Authority

The Ministry of Environment & Forest & Climate Change, Government of India passed a Notification on 19th February 1991 under the Environment Protection Act, 1986 known as 'Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991' where in it is declared that the coastal stretches of seas, bays, estuaries, creeks and backwaters which is influenced by tidal action up to 500 meters from HTL and the land between LTL and HTL as Coastal Regulation Zone and imposed certain restrictions in the said Coastal Regulation Zone.

Based on the Guidelines in the CRZ Notification the Coastlines of the Puducherry, Karaikal and Mahe, Yanam regions in the U.T. of Puducherry were studied and a Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) was prepared by the Town and Country Planning Department, Puducherry during 1992. The same was approved by MOEF and published in State Gazette vide G.O. Ms. No. 18/93/Hg dated 31st December 1993. Till 1998, the provisions of CRZ Notifications were monitored and enforced by a High Power Committee of the Development Department, Govt. of Puducherry and the regulation of construction activities in CRZ was dealt by the Pondicherry / Karaikal / Mahe / Planning Authorities in their respective regions.

In 1998, Puducherry Coastal Zone Management Authority (PCZMA) was constituted and published in Gazette of India on 26th November 1998 based on the Supreme Court Direction to the Central Government to consider setting up of State & National Coastal Zone Management Authorities for ensuring effective implementation of CRZ Notifications. PCZMA was subsequently reconstituted in 2002, 2005, 2008, 2012, 2015 & 2018.

Puducherry Coastal Zone Management Authority is the regulatory body for protecting and improving the quality of the coastal environment and preventing and abating coastal environmental pollution in the coastal areas of Puducherry U.T.

The Union Territory of Puducherry has a coastline of 45 kms, stretching along the Bay of Bengal and to some extent along the Arabian Sea out of which Puducherry region alone has 24 km of coastline, Karaikal has 20 km stretch and Mahe has 1km stretch of coastline and 192 kms of Tidal influenced of water bodies in the U.T of Puducherry with a very wide range of coastal ecosystems such as estuaries, lagoons, mangroves, backwaters, sandy stretches, etc.,

The Ministry of Environment & Forest & Climate Change, Government of India published CRZ Notification, 2019 replacing earlier CRZ Notification, 2011. As per the Notification the CZMP has to be revised.

The present Composition of PCZMA

1.	The Secretary Department of Science, Technology and Environment, Government of Puducherry, Puducherry	Chairman, ex-officio
2.	The Director, Directorate of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare, Puducherry	Member, ex-officio
3.	The Chief Town Planner, Town and Country Planning Department, Puducherry	Member, ex-officio
4.	Prof. Dr. R. Ramesh, Director, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal management, Anna University, Chennai – 600 025	Member, (Expert)
5.	Dr.M.V.Ramana Murthy, Scientist “G” & Director - National Centre for Coastal Research, NIOT Campus,	Member, (Expert)

	Velachery – Tambaram Main Road, Pallikaranai, Chennai.	
6.	Thiru .JurgenPutz, Director, Palmyra, Centre for Ecological Landuse, Water Management and Rural Development, Auroville, Tamil Nadu.	Member, (NGO)
7.	The Member Secretary, Puducherry Pollution Control Committee, Puducherry	Member Secretary, ex-officio

Functions of PCZMA are as follows:

PCZMA carries out the following activities for protecting and improving the quality of the coastal environment and preventing and abating coastal environmental pollution in the coastal areas of Puducherry U.T.

1. Examination of proposals for changes or modifications in classification of CRZ areas and in the Coastal Zone Management Plans (CZMP) received from the Puducherry State Government and making specific recommendations to the National Coastal Zone Management Authority (NCZMA) thereof.
2. Enquire into cases of alleged violations of the provisions of the CRZ Notification and to take action.
3. Deal with environmental issues relating to CRZ which may be referred by Puducherry Government or NCZMA
4. Identify ecologically sensitive areas in CRZ and formulate area-specific management plans for the identified area
5. Identify coastal areas highly vulnerable to erosion or degradation and formulate area-specific management plans
6. Identify economically important stretches in the CRZ and prepare Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan for the same
7. Obtaining NCZMA approval for plans prepared as per clause iv, v & vi above.
8. Examine all project proposals in CRZ areas and give their recommendations.
9. Ensure compliance of all specific conditions that are stipulated in CZMP of Puducherry.
10. Furnish report of its activities to NCZMA once in six months.

Details of Project proposals and Action taken by PCZMA in the year 2019 to 2020

Details of Meeting	Date	No. of Projects Cleared by PCZMA	Recommended to			No. of Projects Deffered	General	No. of Projects Rejected
			MoEF&CC	SEIAA	PPA/KPA/MPA/Y PA			
40 th PCZMA Meeting	01.07.2019	1	-	-	4	-	1	3
41 st PCZMA Meeting	08.08.2019	1	-	-	6	Nil	1	Nil
42 nd PCZMA Meeting	06.12.2019	-	2		2	Nil	1	2

Other Activities:

- 1) **International Coastal Clean- Up Day – 2019** - was celebrated on 21.09.2019 in Puducherry in line with the International Coastal Cleanup Day. A massive coastal clean-up operation was carried out in the coastal stretches of Puducherry at Gandhi Statue, Vaithikuppam, Solai Nagar, Vambakeerappalayam, Kalapet, Pillaichavady, Narambai, Veerampatinam and Moorthikuppam. Hon'ble Minister (Environment) M. Kandasamy and Shri. K. Lakshminarayanan M.L.A. and Shri. Arjun Sharma. Secretary (Science, Technology and Environment)-cum- Chairman PCZMA and Smitha., R., Director (Science, Technology and Environment)-cum- Member Secretary inaugurated the cleaning campaign. Nearly 1000 school children, 200 NCC cadets and NSS volunteers participated in the campaign.





2. Preparation of PCZM Plan as per CRZ Notification, 2019:

Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2011 was replaced with the CRZ Notification, 2019. The Ministry of Environment, Forest Climate Change (MoEF&CC). Government of India has published the CRZ Notification, 2019 dated on 18.01.2019.

The Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2019 mandates all coastal States and Union territory administrations shall revise or update their respective Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) as per Guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for approval at the earliest and all the project activities attracting the provisions of this notification shall be required to be appraised as per the updated CZMP under this notification and until and unless the CZMPs is so revised or updated, provisions of this notification shall not apply and the CZMP as per provisions of CRZ Notification, 2011 shall continue to be followed for appraisal and CRZ clearance to such projects.

The Preparation of CZMP by the Department of Science, Technology and Environment, Government of Puducherry as per the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2019. The work is under progress.
