

**No.10-103/2008-IA-III**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
(IA-III Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi-110003.

Dated the 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2009

**OFFICE ORDER**

**Sub: Locating helipads in Coastal Regulation Zone area – regarding.**

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For the purpose of conserving and protecting the coastal environment, the Ministry has issued the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991, which regulates and prohibits certain activities.

2. The Ministry has been receiving proposals for locating helipads in the CRZ areas including those on the rooftops of high rise buildings which are in CRZ area. It is also noted that helipads are required for providing relief and rescue operations in the coastal areas.

3. The Ministry has examined the activities involved in the construction and operation of helipads and recognizes the need for locating helipads in CRZ area for relief, rescue and for maintaining coastal security in the coastal areas of the country; it was noted that the CRZ Notification, 1991 is silent about location of helipads in the CRZ area.

4. In view of the above factual matrix, the Ministry hereby clarifies that the helipads could be located in the following CRZ areas subject to the conditions listed below:-

4.1.1 Helipads may be permitted in CRZ-I and III areas only for emergency requirements for providing relief and rescue operations during floods, cyclones and other natural and manmade disasters, including maintaining coastal security.

4.1.2 It shall be ensured that construction and operation of such helipads will be undertaken subject to the following conditions:-

- (a) No fuel storage facility to be located in the CRZ area.
- (b) No destruction of any mangroves, coral reefs and other ecologically sensitive features.
- (c) No relocation of the local communities.
- (d) No obstruction to the activities of the local communities.
- (e) Not to be used for commercial activities.

4.2 The helipads in CRZ-II areas including on the rooftops of high rise buildings may be permitted subject to the following:-

- i) Not be used for commercial activities.
- ii) No fuel storage in the CRZ area.
- iii) Structural design of the building shall provide for operation of the helipad.

- iv) All safety measures shall be incorporated in the building design and operation of the helipad by the concerned agencies.
- v) Noise level shall be within norms.
- vi) The surrounding buildings/infrastructures, such as towers and high tension lines, shall not fall in the flypath of the helicopters and no disturbance shall be caused to the nearby establishment.

5. Further, since, the matter entails very careful consideration from the view point of the public living in the vicinity of the congested and thickly inhabited areas of CRZ-II, the following additional safeguards shall also be taken into consideration:-

- i. Concerns, if any, of the public residing in the vicinity of the proposed helipad site shall be obtained as per the local bylaws and addressed comprehensively.
- ii. Site visit shall be undertaken, as necessary.

6. The proposal for helipads as indicated at para 4 above shall be in the first instance scrutinized by the concerned State/Union territory Coastal Zone Management Authority to ensure satisfactory compliance to all the conditions listed above in each of the CRZ category for locating such helipads. The State/Union territory Coastal Zone Management Authority thereafter shall accord clearance to such projects located in CRZ-I, II and III areas in accordance with para 3(v) of the CRZ Notification, 1991 which stipulate an investment limit of Rs.5 crore to be accorded clearance by the respective State/Union territory Coastal Zone Management Authority. In case the project cost is more than Rs.5 crores clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests would be required for which the State/Union territory Coastal Zone Management Authorities would send a self contained proposal with its recommendation.

7. This Office Order issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

**Sd/-**  
**(Dr. A. Senthil Vel)**  
**Additional Director**

To,

- (i) **Chairman of all UT and State Coastal Zone Management Authorities.**
- (ii) **Secretary of all the coastal State/UT Environment Department.**
- (iii) **Member Secretary, UT/ State Coastal Zone Management Authorities.**
- (iv) **Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence.**
- (v) **Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home.**