



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Coastal Shipping and Inland Navigation Department – Fixing Norms for Vertical and Horizontal clearances for construction of bridges / structures across navigable waterways other than National Waterways in Kerala - Orders issued.

COASTAL SHIPPING & INLAND NAVIGATION (A) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms.) No. 10 / 2019 / CSIND.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 20/12/2019.

- Read : 1. Letter no. CE/IN&KP/QC&M/GEN/1847/18 dated 08-07-2019 from the Chief Engineer (IN & KP), Alappuzha.
2. Minutes of the Meeting convened by Additional Chief Secretary (WR&CSIND) on 25-10-2019.

ORDER

The main arterial waterway in Kerala is the West Coast Canal, which includes both the National Waterway from Kollam to Kozhikkode & the State Waterways from Kollam to Kovalam and Kozhikkode to Neeleswaram. The Inland Waterway network in the State consist of National Waterways maintained by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and State Waterways and other feeder / link canals maintained by Coastal Shipping and Inland Navigation Department. The National Waterways in Kerala come under Class III specifications notified by IWAI ie., Vertical clearance of 6m and Horizontal span of 50 m for Rivers and Vertical clearance of 6m and Horizontal span of 40 m for Canals.

2) As per the letter read as 1<sup>st</sup> paper above, the Chief Engineer (IN & KP) has requested Government to fix norms for Horizontal & Vertical Clearances for construction of bridges & other structures across navigable waterways other than National Waterways in Kerala. The Chief Engineer (IN & KP) has reported that standard specifications for parameters like horizontal / vertical clearance, minimum depth of water etc are essential for the construction/ re-construction of structures across the waterways to ensure safe ply of vessels and that there are structures of various departments such as Public Works Department, Irrigation Department, Local Self Government Department, Harbour Engineering Department, Kerala Water Authority etc across these waterways.

3) Having examined the matter in detail, Government are pleased to fix the following norms for construction / re-construction of structures across navigable waterways in Kerala other than National Waterways in order to ensure safe ply of vessels through the waterways.

3.1) For West Coast Canal

a. South of Kollam

Horizontal Clearance - 25 m

Vertical Clearance - 5 m from high tide level

b. North of Kozhikkode (Malabar Side)

Class III specification as per IWAI

ie Rivers Horizontal Clearance - 50 m

Vertical Clearance - 6 m

Canals Horizontal Clearance - 32 to 40 m in normal case.

(It can be modified as per site conditions to be decided by the Chief Engineer (IN & KP) after site inspection.)

Vertical Clearance - 6 m

3.2) For Feeder Canals

Horizontal Clearance - As available according to site conditions to be decided by the Chief Engineer (IN & KP) and subordinate engineers after site inspection.

Vertical Clearance - 5 m from High Tide Level.

3.3) For low lying areas like Kuttanad

Vertical Clearance - Flood Level of 2018 + 2 m

Horizontal Clearance - As available according to site conditions to be decided by Chief Engineer (IN & KP) and subordinate engineers after site inspection.

3.4) For locations where agro-machineries are to be transported through canals

Vertical Clearance - Normal Water Level + 4 m

Horizontal Clearance - As available according to site conditions to be decided by Chief Engineer (IN & KP) and subordinate engineers after site inspection.

4) All the departments concerned should ensure that these Norms are followed in Letter and Spirit, while sanctioning New Structures and while reconstruction is carried out.

*(By Order of the Governor)*

**DR. VISHWAS MEHTA,  
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY.**

To

The Additional Chief Secretary, Local Self Government Department.

The Principal Secretary, Public Works Department.

The Secretary, Water Resources Department.

The Secretary, Power Department.

The Secretary, Transport Department.

The Chief Engineer (Inland Navigation & Kuttanad Package), Alappuzha.

The Chief Engineer (Irrigation & Administration), Thiruvananthapuram.

The Chief Engineer ( Roads & Bridges), Thiruvananthapuram.

The Chief Engineer , Harbour Engineering Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

✓ The Chief Engineer, Local Self Government Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Director, Inland Waterways Authority of India, National Waterway Road,  
Kannadikkadu, Maradu, Ernakulam-682 304.

The Director, Inland Navigation Directorate, Kollam.

The Managing Director, Kerala Waterways and Infrastructures Limited, Kochi.

The Principal Accountant General (Audit), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Accountant General (A&E), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.

I&PR (Web & New Media Division) Department (for including in Government Website).  
SF/OC.

Forwarded / By Order,

  
Section Officer