

PR68

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESEMENT OF THE ASAKKADUPATTI  
WEIR, KOLLI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT, KOLLI HILLS, TAMIL  
NADU**

SACON Library



PR68

**PA. Azeez, S. Bhupathy, P. Balasubramanian**

**Salim Ali Centre For Ornithology & Natural History  
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu**

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESEMENT OF THE ASAKKADUPATTI  
WEIR, KOLLI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT,  
KOLLI HILLS, TAMIL NADU**

**Submitted to  
TAMILNADU ELECTRICITY BOARD**

**PR68**

**PA Azeez, S Bhupathy, P Balasubramanian**

SACON Library



PR68



**Sálim Ali Centre For Ornithology & Natural History  
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu  
October 2005**

## CONTENTS

1: Introduction.....	1
2: The Kolli hydroelectric project – the original proposal.....	1
3: EIA of the Kolli hydroelectric project.....	2
4: The present study – the Asakkadupatti wier.....	2
5: Methodology.....	5
6: Vegetation of Kolli hills.....	6
6.1: Floristic composition at the Asakkadupatti weir site.....	6
6.2: General floristics of the Kolli hill.....	7
6.2.1: Scrub forests.....	8
6.2.2: Dry deciduous forests.....	9
6.2.3: Evergreen forests.....	9
6.2.4: Riverain forests.....	9
6.3: Floristic composition of certain locations in the Kolli hills.....	10
6.3.1: Umaiya.....	12
6.3.2: Kovilur.....	12
6.3.3: Telliangudu.....	13
6.3.4: Irungulipatty.....	13
6.3.5: Kattankattupatti.....	13
6.3.6: Kadampallam.....	14
6.3.7: Manchapathi.....	14
6.3.8: Pulianjolai Reserve Forest.....	14
6.4: Fauna.....	16
7: Impacts of the weir at Asakkadupatti.....	20
7.1: Impacts during the construction phase.....	20
7.2: Impacts during the operation phase.....	22
8: Mitigatory measures.....	24
9: Summary and Conclusion.....	25
10: Acknowledgements.....	26
11: References.....	27



## 9: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

- Sálím Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History undertook the present study on the request of the Tamilnadu Electricity Board. The scope of the study was limited to examination of the ecological impact of the Asakkadupatti weir, which is the alternate proposed in lieu of the dropped Umaiyar weir.
- The present study shows that the weir site and its submergence area do not have notable natural vegetation. Ecologically important or sensitive species or species-assemblages were also not found in the immediate environs. The association of primitive angiosperm *Michelia champaka* L. and an advanced gymnosperm *Gnetum ula* Brongn, reported earlier in the EIA report, also does not exist in the proposed weir site. Hence, the execution of the project in Asakkadupatti is not likely to cause serious ecological damages in its immediate environs.
- However, necessary steps should be taken by the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and Forest Department to reduce the collateral damages like dependency of the workforce on the local environment and vegetation that are likely to arise from the construction activities.
- About 10-20 cusecs water may be let in the stream reaching to Agasagangai falls through out the year to maintain the local ecological set-up along the stream and the falls. For the purpose of stabilising the banks of the reservoir, native trees species may be planted.
- Since Kolli Hills is an ecologically important locality in the Eastern Ghats, TNEB should take utmost care in minimising disturbances during the construction phase of the project.