



No.5-ORB610/2023-BHU

18th February, 2025

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary,
Forest, Environment & CC Deptt.,
Government of Odisha,
Bhubaneswar-751001

Sub: Diversion of 2.832 ha of forest land in favour of M/s Mayfair Hotels & Resorts Ltd. under Bhubaneswar Tahasil of Khordha District under Chandaka (WL) Division.

Ref: 1) State Govt. letter No.FE-DIV-FLD-0092-2023-22952/FE&CC dated 02.11.2023.

2) PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Odisha letter No.22634/9F(Others)-397/2023 dated 12.11.2024

Sir,

With subject and reference cited above, I am directed to inform as per Rule 10 (2) &(4) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 the above proposal was submitted to Ministry for consideration. The above proposal was returned to Regional Office by Ministry with following observations:

- The State Govt. shall provide the detailed land use plan for the proposed forest land along with the details of its present land use.
- The justification given by the State Govt. that land was allotted by the site selection committee and no individual is responsible is not tenable. The decision for allotment would have been taken with the approval of the competent authority on the recommendations of the site selection committee. Therefore, the State Govt. shall examine its records in detail and provide the details of the persons responsible for violation.
- The State Govt. shall provide the list of the proposals and name of user agency whose details are mentioned in the Hon'ble NGT order dated 26.04.2022.
- The State Govt. has not taken any action against the erring officials responsible for violation and it is not known whether the user agency has stopped doing further construction/expansion of their projects in violation. In this regard a detailed report shall be submitted by the State Govt.
- The State Govt. shall also provide revised KML file of degraded forest land identified for compensatory afforestation land.
- As per the DSS analysis, Chandaka Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary is located at an approx.. aerial distance of 0.65 Km from the proposed forest land for diversion. In this regard the comments of the CWLW and applicability of WL clearance shall be provided.

Contd...2

- g) The State Govt. has informed that the non-forest Govt. land transferred and mutated in favour of the FE&CC Department for raising CA excluding the water body and the metalled road comes to only 0.998 ha. This indicates that the area proposed for CA is actually less than the area proposed for diversion, which needs clarification/necessary action at the level of the State.

It is therefore requested to kindly furnish the above desired information to this office for further processing of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,

Padma Mahanti

(Dr. Padma Mahanti)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)

Copy to:

- 1) The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023 for kind information and necessary action.
- 2) The General Manager (L&E), Mayfair Hotels & Resorts Ltd., 8-B, Jaydev Vihar, Bhubaneswar-751013 for information and necessary action.

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)