



No.5-ORC588/2023-BHU

24th April, 2024

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary,
Forest & Environment Department,
Government of Odisha,
Bhubanewar – 751 001

Sub: Diversion of 12.202 ha of forest land for Single Line Broad Gauge Railway Connectivity from Amarda Road Station to Subarnarekha Port in the District of Balasore under Balasore (WL) Division by Subarnarekha Port Pvt. Ltd.

Ref: 1) This office letter of even number dated 24.08.2023.

2) PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Odisha's letter No.5451/9F(RAIL)-302/2023 dated 06.03.2024.

Sir,

With subject and reference cited above, I am directed to inform that the reply submitted by the Nodal Officer (FCA), Odisha vide letter under reference-2 was examined in this office. As per CRZ Notification, 2019 Construction of roads and roads on stilts, by way of reclamation in CRZ-I areas, shall be permitted only in exceptional cases for defence, strategic purposes and public utilities, subject to a detailed marine or terrestrial or both environment impact assessment, to be recommended by the Coastal Zone Management Authority and approved by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; and in case construction of such roads passes through mangrove areas or is likely to damage the mangroves, a minimum three times the mangrove area affected or destroyed or cut during the construction process shall be taken up for compensatory plantation of mangroves.

This proposal is in the mangrove area which is CRZ-1A and also passing through CRZ-1B area and No Development Zone area. The instant proposal is not a public utility project as it meant for Subarnarekha Port Private Ltd. (a private company). As per the CRZ Notification it is not permissible activity. It is therefore requested to direct the User Agency to realign the proposed railway line excluding CRZ-1A, CRZ-1B & No Development Zone area and submit the details of realigned railway proposal to this office for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Padma Mahanti

(Dr. Padma Mahanti)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)

Copy to:

1. The PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023 for kind information and necessary action.
2. The Company Secretary, Subarnarekha Port Pvt. Ltd., DCB-917, 9TH Floor, DLF Cyber City, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751024, Odisha for information and necessary action.

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)