



East Coast Railway

Office of the  
Dy. Chief Engineer /Con./II  
Near Angul Rly. Stn., Angul

No.IRCON/2069/MCRL/FOREST/19/

Dated 24.09.2021

To  
✓  
The Divisional Forest Officer  
Angul Forest Division  
Angul.

**Sub:** Diversion of 125.355 ha {Reserved Forest 41.533 ha, protected Forest 23.326 ha, Revenue Forest (Village Forest) 60.486 ha} of forest land for construction of Angul-Gopalprasad- Puttagadia- Jarpada-Tentuloi New BG Railway Line by East Coast Railway.

**Ref:** Letter No.5-ORA466/2021-BHU, Dated 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 of Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate change Integrated Regional Office, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

Madam/Sir,

With reference to letter cited above, the clarification to the points raised therein is furnished below:

1. It has been observed that, the area is a high conflict zone between human settlement and elephants etc. in this connection the user agency submits the compliance as follows:
  - i. Talcher Coalfields extended over several coal Blocks from Talcher to Chhendipada and at present a number of Coal Blocks are in operation. It is not possible to lay the line inside the mines block.
  - ii. The purpose of such Railway line is for evacuation of coal. As such it has to connect maximum number of Coal Mines so as to reduce unusual heavy traffic, accordingly the present alignment has been done.
  - iii. As regards Raijara Irrigation Project, it may be pointed out that, most part of the said project (including the sluice) is within "Utkal-C" Coal Block. Therefore it may not serve the purpose for which it was created. The map of the Coal Blocks on Topo-sheet is enclosed for reference.
  - iv. The user agency undertakes to comply to the conditions prescribed by MoEF & CC.
  - v. The advantage of the proposed and selected site over the other 2 alternatives are as follows.

In alternate line No-1

Forest Area found - 162.714 ha.

Total Length becomes - 41.309 Km.

Total Tree enumerated- 5013 Nos.

The map showing the line in Topo sheet enclosed as Annexure - A

In alternate Line No-2

Total Forest Area - 136.156 Ha.

Total Length found - 40.095 Km.

Total no. of Tree enumerated - 8084 Nos.

The map showing the line in Topo sheet enclosed as Annexure - B

Alternate Line No-3

The selected and proposed alignment 3 consists of

Total Forest Land - 125.355 Ha.

Total length - 45.482 Km.

Total tree enumerated- 4009 Nos.

The map showing the line in Topo sheet enclosed as Annexure - C

- vi. Other alternative alignments explored were found that, more Reserved Forest area is involved and accordingly more areas will be required for Railway Sidlings /feeder lines.
- vii. Besides the alignment has to be taken in to consideration, Appropriate Curvature, Minimum stretch of 1 Km length and Gradient of 1 in 150.

Considering all the above factors, the current alignment is the best possible alignment and requires minimum forest (Reserved Forest) area for diversion.

- 2. The KML files of the other alternatives along with tree enumeration is submitted herewith as required.
- 3. The CA area has been inspected by the DFO/Bolangir and it is learnt that report has been forwarded to you by DFO/Bolangir..
- 4. The station areas as proposed in Engineering Scale Plan (ESP) are kept minimum in the forest area considering technical and operational point of view.
- 5. The proposed alignment has been inspected by the DFO Angul. The tree enumeration has been verified by him. The total no of trees found in the forest area of proposed alignment is 4009. The number of trees in the 2nd alternate alignment is 8084 and that of other alternate alignment No.1 is 5013.

In the proposed alignment 2693 trees are with class of 30cm to 59 cm, 844 trees are in the girth class of 60-89 cm, only 472 trees are 90 cm and above (most of which are defective). In the Revenue forest areas some scattered trees are found with scattered bushes.

It is submitted for kind consideration of the Regional Empowerment Committee (REC).

*Received*  
*24/9/21*

  
24-9-21  
(S. Tarai)

**Dy. Chief Engineer/Con./II**  
**East Cost Railway, Angul**

- 1. Copy to Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Angul Circle for information & necessary action.