

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, SAMBALPUR

Memo No. 2328

/3F(M)- 97/2020.

Dated, Sambalpur, the

20th, November'2020.

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act,
O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub: - Proposal for diversion of 39.599 ha of revenue forest land for Establishment of OIL DEPOT by M/s Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) through IDCO, Bhubaneswar at Village Arda, Tahasil-Kirmira, District-Jharsuguda, Odisha under Section 2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act,1980.**Reg-Recommendation & submission of proposal.**

Ref: Memo No.4734 dt.16.11.2020 of DFO, Jharsuguda Forest Division.

In inviting a reference to the above cited subject, the proposal for diversion of 39.599 ha. of revenue forest land at Village Arda under Kirmira-Tahasil in Jharsuguda district filed by IDCO in favor of M/s Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) vide Proposal No. FP/OR/IND/43075/2019 (State SI No OR-077/2019 Dated 02.12.2019) received from the Divisional Forest Officer, Jharsuguda Forest Division vide his memo No. 4733 dt.16.11.2020 is sent herewith for obtaining approval of Central Government of India under Section-2 (ii) of Forest Conservation Act,1980. The details point wise observations made by the DFO, Jharsuguda is follows:

1.Brief Description:

The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) is a Government of India PSU, Maharatna Oil & Gas Company with headquarters in Mumbai, Maharashtra. The Corporation operates two large refineries of the country located in Kochi and Mumbai. The company is India's 2nd largest downstream oil company. The Company registration Certificate and memorandum of Association of BPCL is enclosed as **Annexure- 1**.

The BPCL had a Petroleum depot at Sambalpur near to Sambalpur Railway Station. As the depot was very close to habitation and in congested locality, the district administration has directed the BPCL authority to relocate the depot on safety ground.

The Odisha Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (IDCO) was established in the year 1981 with the specific objective of creating infrastructure facilities in the identified Industrial Estate/Areas for rapid and orderly establishment and growth of Industries, trade and commerce. It has been declared as the Nodal Agency for providing industrial infrastructure in the State of Odisha.

Establishment of Industrial Areas, Industrial Estates, Functional Industrial Estates, Growth Centers etc. at different strategic locations and to provide infrastructure therein are the prime functions of the Corporation. IDCO is the nodal agency of Government for

providing land to large projects which cannot come up in the Industrial Estate and Areas. It arranges to obtain/acquire land for all such projects in any location of the state.

The BPCL authority has requested the IDCO, Bhubaneswar for providing land for establishment of "OIL DEPOTS" in various occasions since 2009. Copy of the request letters dated 29.06.2009 and 15.03.2011 are enclosed as *Annexure-2*.

Minimum Facilities Required for Establishment of "OIL DEPOTS" are availability of adequate land for the project with a feasible railway siding, Proximity to main railway track and feasibility of tank wagon siding as per study undertaken by the RITES (Govt. of India undertaking), Suitability for Petroleum Installation away from city/populated area, and good road connectivity for movement of heavy traffic.

Need of the project:

The state of Odisha has been experiencing a spurt in industrial growth including that of petroleum products in recent years and the same trend of demand continues. To serve the need of the state, BPCL has four petroleum oil depot one each at Sambalpur, Paradeep, Balasore and Berhampur. After closing of Oil Depot at Sambalpur since 2015, the proposed project aims to ensure uninterrupted supply of essential petroleum products to Western Odisha, a growing industrial hub of the state. The proposed oil depot at Arda near DhutraRail Station will be used for storage and distribution of petroleum products i.e. petrol, diesel, kerosene, furnace oil, light diesel oil. High Performance Petrol Speed, Hi-speed diesel (HSD) will also be blended at the depot through blending with imported additives.

The Project find place in Survey of India Topo Sheet No F45M1 (73C/1) and enclosed as **Plate No-I**.

2. Justification for locating the project in forest area:

The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd, a public sector Oil Company had Petroleum oil depot at Sambalpur located adjacent to the Sambalpur Railway Station on the land licensed from Railway and catering to the needs of ten districts of Western Odisha namely Sambalpur, Bargarh, Balangir, Jharsuguda, Sundargarh, Deogarh, Sonpur, Kalahandi, Nuapada and Boudh. The Oil Depot at Sambalpur has been closed due to safety and extension of Railway Station.

For establishing an Oil Depot the minimum pre-requisites are

- Adequate land (about 100 Ac) required with Railway Siding facilities with 900m Siding length.
- Proximity to main railway line and feasibility of tank wagon siding.
- Away from Township / populated area as petroleum installation are hazardous in nature.
- Good Road connectivity for movement of heavy traffic – movement space long oil tankers required.

The proposed site at village Arda under Kirmira Tahasil of district Jharsuguda is found to fulfill the basic requirements for establishing an "OIL DEPOT". This proposed land is also in the Industrial Land Bank of the state and approved by the "State Level Single Window Clearance Authority, Odisha." The justification for locating the project in Forest land is at *Annexure - 3*.

The alternatives examined prior to selection of the proposed site and reasons for not taken for establishment of the project is at *Annexure-4*.

3. Maps:

The user agency has submitted the following maps duly authenticated.

Sl No	Plates Description	Scale	Index
1	Location map : Survey of India Topo Sheet No F45M1 (Scale 1:50000)	1:50000	Plate-I
2	Cadastral Map of Project site i.e. Village Arda, Tahasil-Kirmira, District Jharsuguda (16"= 1 Mile)	16"= 1 Mile	Plate-II& II-A
3	DGPS map of the Project	(1:3960)	Plate-III
4	Lay Out Plan of the Project	1: 1200	Plate- IV
5	Cadastral map of Village Talamunda under Laikera Tahasil of Jharsuguda indicating the CA land identified.	16"= 1 Mile	Plate-V
6	Topo map of CA Land at Village Talamunda district Jharsuguda F45M5 (73C/5)	1:50000	Plate-VI
7	DGPS Map of CA Land	1:3960	Plate-VII
8	KML File		In CD
	Of the Project site		
	Of CA Land		

4. Forest Land:

The entire land allotted and proposed for diversion i.e. 39.599ha (97.85Ac) is of Village Forest Kissam as per revenue records. The Tahasildar, Kirmira has authenticated the land schedule and is at **Annexure-5** of the DP. The details of the land are as furnished below.

Mouza	Khata No	Plot No	Total area of the Plot in Ac	Proposed area to be diverted & alienated in Ac	Kissam
Arda	619	5585	35.750	31.850	Village Forest (Revenue Forest)
		5584(P)	57.800	30.780	
		5708	38.420	35.220	
	Total		131.970	97.850 Ac= 39.599 ha	

The land details are as per land settlement 1991-92. As the entire land is of Forest Kissam and covers under purview of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as per present settlement, the status of land as on 25.10.1980 not required.

The purpose wise land breakup is as follows.

Purpose wise Land use pattern				
Sl No	Component	Forest land in ha	Non Forest land in ha	Total
1	Oil Depot / Other required facilities	6.7359	0	6.7359
2	Railway Line & Siding	5.851	0	5.851
3	Inside road	2.861	0	2.861
4	Truck Lorry Parking	2.40	0	2.40
5	Green Belt & Area under	13.449	0	13.449

	Tree cover			
6	Water Reservoir	0.0375	0	0.0375
7	Open Un-used Area	8.2656	0	8.2656
	Total	39.599	0	39.599

The DGPS Map of the Project site is at **Plate No. III** and the KML File is in a CD attached to this DP.

5. Flora and fauna:

The applied area consists of Planted Cashew (*Anacardium occidentale*) and most of Cashew trees are in damaged, malformed and in a senile stage. During the year 2017-18, 15 ha of mixed plantation have been raised under DMF Scheme and 4 ha mixed plantation under CSR Scheme. The average height of planted seedlings is 3.20 meter and GBH 15.0cm in an average. The nearest forest block is Pitamal RF. The vegetation of the nearest forest block is Dry deciduous mixed forest categorized as Eco Class-III. In Odisha, the mixed Plantation raised is considered as Eco Class-I & II (open Forest). The crop density is less than 30% i.e. all open forest.

The applied area is not forming a part of any Wildlife Sanctuary / National Park / Protected Area. But, frequently wild elephant movement are noticed. The area is also not coming within Eco- Sensitive Zone of any Wildlife Sanctuary / National Park / Tiger Reserve. The fauna noticed in the area are Wildlife like Barha (*Sus scrofa cristatus*), Pati (*Macaca mulatta*), Hanuman (*Presbytis entellus*), Odha (*Lutra perspicillata*), Gunduchimusa (*Funambulus pennanti*) and Musa (*Rattus rattus rufescens*) are seen in the forest land proposed for diversion but their population is very thin. Birds like Koili (*Eudynamis scolopacea scolopacea*), Kubhati (*Centropus sinensis parroti*), Kopata (*Streptopelia decaocto decaocto*), Haldibasanta (*Oriolus oriolus kundoo*), Damara Kua (*Curvismacropygia culmistrata*) etc are seen. Common reptiles and lizards like Dhandasapa (*Enhydrynhydris*), Dhamana Sapa (*Elepherradiata*), Chitti Sapa (*Dendrelaphis ahaetulla*), Rana Sapa (*Bungarus caeruleus*), Naga Sapa (*Naja najakothia*), common garden lizards are seen in the area. Elephant movement is frequently observed in the zone of impact of the project towards Bagdihi stations i.e. towards Rourkela end (East ward direction) of the Railway line.

6. Tree enumeration:

874 numbers of trees has been enumerated. All trees may be removed except those are coming within Green belt over 13.449 ha. The area is situated near to Dhutra Rail Station and Ultra Tech Cement plant (Jharsuguda Cement Works). Removal of trees / plantation (3 + year Old) will have an adverse effect in the immediate vicinity. The proposed Green belt will ameliorate the climate to some extent. The proposed Oil depot is a nonpolluting industry. The environmental effect on the district will be balanced by improving the degraded forest land selected at Village Talamunda about 15 km from the site through Compensatory Afforestation. The CA land has been selected in the same district / division to maintain a balance of forest land & environment. The tree enumeration list is enclosed as **Annexure-6** of the DP.

7. Compensatory Afforestation:

Against diversion of 97.85 acres or 39.599ha of forest land, for Compensatory Afforestation purpose, Degraded Revenue Forest land over an area 79.20 ha (Twice the area proposed for diversion) has been provided by the Collector, Jharsuguda vide letter no 8553/Rev, Dated 18.06.2020 at Village Talamunda under Laikera Tahasil of District Jharsuguda (at **Annexure-7**). The Kissam of selected land is Jungal i.e. "Patra Jungle/Gramya Jungle". The total land is in three patches (Patch-I, II & III). The CA land selected Patch-I & II share Bhai Bahen Budhikuten RF has a common boundary. The Tahasildar, Laikera has furnished the land schedule & map of CA land vide his letter no 961 dated 08.06.2020 attached as **Annexure-8** of the Diversion Proposal.

Then, the villagers of Talmunda have petition filed against the CA land identified and earmarked in Village Talmunda of Laikera Tahasil on dt.07.09.2020. In this connection, the Collector & DM, Jharsuguda has been requested vide this office letter No.3583 dt.08.09.2020 for settle the allegation as raised by the Villagers Talmunda. As per report of the Collector & DM, Jharsuguda, some part of the identified forest kism land of Ac.195 dec. in mouza Talmunda is encroached upon for cultivation by the villagers of Talmunda. Encroachment case have been booked against them and area under process. No forest right title under Forest Right Act in regard to the land under encroachment as well as land identified for the CA purpose is given to anybody. Since the encroachers are using the land unauthorizedly for cultivation purpose, it is temporary in nature and as soon as the harvesting of the crops is completed, the encroached land will be made encroachment free and the same is under process. In this connection the Tahasildar, Laikera has also been requested vide this office letter No.4255/4F(Misc.) dt.14.10.2020 for supply a certificate in the effect that the identified /allotted land revenue forest land is free from encroachment /encumbrances. The Tahasildar, Laikera has reported that the land is free from encroachment vide his letter No.2013 dt 09.11.2020, the said letter is enclosed in the Diversion Proposal. As the site has a common boundary with the RF, it is suitable for management of both flora & fauna.

Therefore, it is proposed to have block plantation over 20.0 ha (@1600 plants / ha); ANR @400 plants/ ha over 50.0 ha. Total.52000 seedlings could be planted up against 79200 plants required to be planted as per guidelines. The balance seedlings i.e. 27200 seedlings will be planted up as per Working Plan prescription as block plantation over 68.0ha. The Compensatory Afforestation Cost estimated to be Rs.34789341/-. The detail scheme attached in **Annexure- 9** of the Diversion Proposal. The suitability certificate in Check list No 20 and cadastral map, DGPS map and Topo map have been authenticated by the undersigned. The user agency has furnished an undertaking to bear the cost of Compensatory Afforestation. The Same is enclosed in the DP. The cadastral map of CA land identified, Topo map and DGPS Map are at Plate No V, VI and VII respectively of this DP. The CA land finds place on SOI Topo Sheet No F45M5 (73C/5) (Scale 1:50000) Plate No VI of the DP. The KML file of CA land identified is in a CD attached to this DP.

The species proposed for plantation under Compensatory afforestation Scheme are native species like *Azadirachta indica* (neema), *Aegle marmelos* (Bela), *Acacia catechu* (Khair), *Bombax ceiba* (Simili), *Cassia fistula* (Sunari), *Dalbergia sisoo* (Sisoo), *Dalbergia latifolia* (Pahadisoo), *Gmelina arborea* (Gambhari), *Mangifera indica* (Aamba), *Phyllanthus emblica* (Anla), *Pongamia pinnata* (karanja), *Syzygium cumini* (Jamun), *Ficus* (2%) *Bamboo* (*Dendrocalamus strictus*), *Arjun* etc.

8. Cost Benefit Analysis:

The Cost Benefit Analysis for the project is at *Annexure-10*. The Cost Benefit Ratio is: 1:13489.

9. Environmental Clearance:

The project involved construction (Building and other infrastructure) more than 20000 sq. meters built up area. Hence, Environment clearance is required for the project.

10. Replacement & Rehabilitation Plan:

The project does not involve any replacement and rehabilitation of human habitation. Hence no Rehabilitation plan is required.

11. Violation:

There is no violation under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

12. Net Present Value:

The user agency has furnished an undertaking to pay the NPV (Net Present value) and additional Net Present Value as will be demanded by the Forest department. The undertaking is at *Annexure-11*.

13. DGPS Map.

As per the guidelines, all diversion proposals to be accompanied by the DGPS map duly authenticated by the ORSAC (Odisha Space Application Centre), Bhubaneswar. The user agency has submitted the DGPS map duly authenticated by the ORSAC vide his Letter no 3570 (3) dated 07.11.2019 (*Annexure-12*)

14. Certificate under FRA:

The user Agency has applied to the Collector, Jharsuguda to complete the FRA Process and issue the required certificate against proposed forest land for diversion. The user agency has also furnished an undertaking to submit the same after obtaining from Collector, Jharsuguda. (*Annexure-13*)

15. Wildlife:

Frequent wild elephant movements are noticed. The fauna noticed in the area are Wildlife like Barha (*Sus scrofa cristatus*), Pati (*Macaca mulatta*), Hanuman (*Presbytis entellus*), Odha (*Lutra perspicillata*), Gunduchimusa (*Funambulus pennanti*) and Musa (*Rattus rattus rufescens*) are seen in the forest land proposed for diversion but their population is very thin. Birds like Koili (*Eudynamis scolopacea*), Kubhati (*Centropus sinensis* Parroti), Kopata (*Streptopelia decora*), Haldibasanta (*Oriolus oriolus kundoo*), Damara Kua (*Curvas macrohyachosculmatus*) etc are seen. Common reptiles and lizards like Dhandasapa (*Enhydra enhydra*), Dhamana Sapa (*Elephera diata*), Chitti Sapa (*Dendrelaphis haetulla*), Rana Sapa (*Bungarus caeruleus*), Naga Sapa (*Naja najakothia*), common garden lizards are seen in the area. Further, elephant


movements are frequently observed in the zone of impact of the project towards Bagdihi stations i.e. towards Rourkela end (East ward direction) of the Railway line. To mitigate the adverse impact of the Project on Wildlife. The User agency needs to prepare and implement a Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan with due approval from PCCF (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha at the project Cost.

16.Others:

- a) The Project area has been inspected on 28.08.2020 and the Site Inspection Report is enclosed in the DP.
- b) Part-II is enclosed in the DP.
- c) Part-I is enclosed in the DP.
- d) The Chief General Manager (Land), IDCO is authorized to file this application. The letter of authorization is enclosed in the DP.

With the above back ground and considering the rising trend of demand of petroleum products of the region, to have a balanced growth of developmental projects, diversion of 39.599 ha of forest land for establishment of an "Oil Depot" by M/s Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. is recommended and sent herewith in quadruplicate along with Part-III for taking further necessary action at your end.

Encl: 4 sets of Proposal.


Conservator of Forests,
Sambalpur Circle.

Memo No. /dated. .11.2020.

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Jharsuguda Forest Division for information & necessary action with reference to his memo No.4733 dt.16.11.2020.

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Conservator of Forests,
Sambalpur Circle.

Part-III

(To be filed by the concerned Regional Chief Conservator of Forests)

14. Whether site, where forest land involved is located has been inspected by concerned Conservator of Forests (Yes/No). If yes, the date of inspection & observation made in form of inspection note to be enclosed.

Not required as the area proposed for diversion is below 40 Ha.

15. Whether the concerned Conservator of Forests agree with the information given in Part-B and recommendation of Deputy Conservator of Forests.

Yes, I do agree.

16. Specific recommendation of concerned Conservator of Forests for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with detailed reasons.

This proposal is recommended.


Conservator of Forests
Sambalpur Circle