

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003

Dated: 24th November, 2022.

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests),
Government of Odisha,
Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 159.895 ha of forest land for construction of Chheligada Medium Irrigation project in R. Udayagiri Block of Gajapati district. – Stage-I compliance regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Odisha's letter no. no. 20106/9F (Irrig.) -207/04 dated 29.09.2022, on the above subject forwarding reply in response to Ministry's letter dated 16.09.2022. After examination of reply submitted by the State Government, using DSS tools (report enclosed), revealed the following:

1. Complete and exact KML of the entire project area were not submitted. The same needs to be submitted depicting the area vis-à-vis land use proposed.
2. State Government has mentioned that as per DGPS survey the net project area has been reduced to 139.319 ha, against the area of 159.895 ha estimated using physical surveys. Contrary to the submission made in respect of DGPS surveys, ML files have been submitted corresponding to 158.815 ha i.e. area actually applied for diversion. Moreover, as per area estimates generated from KML files submitted by the State, difference in the area was observed only in respect of a site namely Suguba i.e. as per DGPS survey, the estimated area is 13.584 ha while corresponding KML file depicted the area as 33.971 ha. Therefore submissions made by the State that change in the area is due to physical and DGPS survey does not seem to be convincing. Therefore, a valid cogent justification for reduction in the area needs to be furnished by the State along with the following:
 - i. Details of changes (+/-ve) in the total project area may be furnished by the State.
 - ii. Correct KML files of the area deduced from the DGPS surveys may be furnished by the State.
3. Area is located at a distance of 8.75 km from the Lakhari Valley Wildlife Sanctuary. Therefore, State Government may submit their considered opinion on the applicability of clearance from the Standing Committee of NBWL.
4. Unambiguous information requested under point no (viii) of the Ministry's letter dated 16.09.2022 has not been furnished. State Government needs to confirm if the entire forest land involved in the project, based on its legal status as on 25.10.1980, is applied under the extant proposal or otherwise.
5. National Authority CAMPA vide their OM no. 1-26/2017-CAMPA (Pt.I) dated 12.09.2022 (copy enclosed) requested to furnish the particulars of the remittances. The same may be provided.

In view of above, the State Government is requested to submit information/documents/comments, as indicated above, to this Ministry for further necessary action in the matter.

Encl: As above.

Signed by Charan Jeet

Singh

Date: 24-11-2022 20:11:22

Reason: Approved

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Charan Jeet Singh)

Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. PCCF, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office (Eastern Zone), MoEF&CC, Bhubaneswar
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC
6. Guard File

Proposal: Diversion of 159.895 ha of forest land for the construction of Chheligarh Medium Irrigation Project in R. Udaygiri Block of Gajapati District.



- Proposed forest area for diversion is located in Gajapati District and its software-calculated area is found to be 158.815 ha.

S.No.	Name of Village	Area (in ha)		Software calculated area (ha) as per the KML file
		Previous	As per DGPS Survey	
1	CHADHIAPADA	8.202	9.76	9.632
2	CHHELIGADA	19.608	19.418	19.694
3	DUMBA	1.865	1.863	1.863
4	KAKILI	4.64	3.553	3.643
5	KANDHADIHA	23.5	23.842	23.824
6	KUANAPADA	18.564	18.878	18.486
7	NISANGAPUR	3.722	3.727	3.725
8	NUAGAN	26.295	25.086	24.835
9	SAILANGA	0	5.33	5.301
10	SINDHIBA	12.788	3.189	3.197
11	SUGUBA	32.666	13.584	33.971
12	TALARA	1.533	1.584	1.616
13	TILIGAM	6.512	9.505	9.030
Total		159.895	139.319	158.815

- There is difference of approx. **20 ha** in the software-calculated area and DGPS survey area of **Suguba village**.

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3. Proposed project is located at an approx. distance of 8.75 km from **Lakhari Valley wildlife sanctuary**.
4. Proposed area for diversion falls in **Not-in High Conservation Value Zone** based on Decision Rule1 and Decision Rule2.
5. Out of total proposed area, 6 ha is classified as very dense forest, 28 ha as moderately dense forest, 43 ha as open forest, 2 ha as scrub and 80 ha of land as Non Forest (land without tree cover) in terms of forest classes (as per the ISFR 2021) based on the interpretation of satellite data period 2019-2020.
6. Component wise (Landuse) KML file of proposed area is not available. Further, KML file of total project area is also not available.
7. Observations based on high resolution Google Earth images: encroachment of agriculture land and road is visible in the proposed forest area.

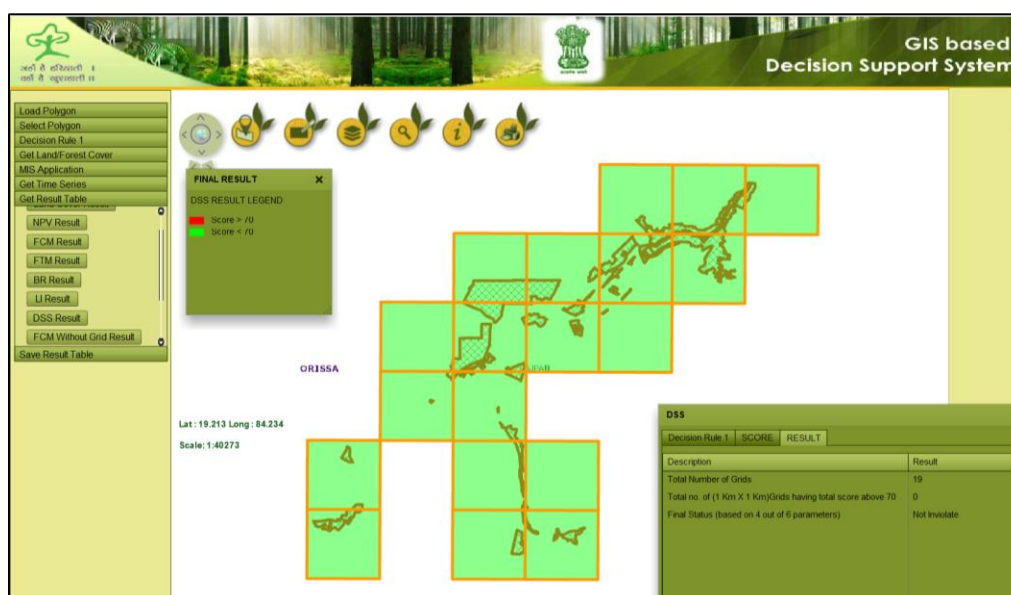
Decision Rule no. 1:

Whether forms part of:

- I. Hydrological Layer:
 - a. Major River: N/A
 - b. Wetland (Area more than 10 ha.): N/A
 - c. Water bodies (irrigation/Hydropower/water storage):N/A
- II. Very Dense Forest patch (>1 sq km): N/A
- III. Remnant Forest Type: N/A
- IV. Protected area/Tiger Reserves/Tiger corridors: N/A
- V. Wild life Species: Sloth Bear and Dhole

Decision Rule no.2: (analysis done using without 50% rule for Grid selection)

DESCRIPTION	RESULT
Total Number of Grids	19
Total no. of (1 Km X 1 Km)Grids having total score above 70	0
Final Status	Not-In High Conservation Value (HCV) Zone



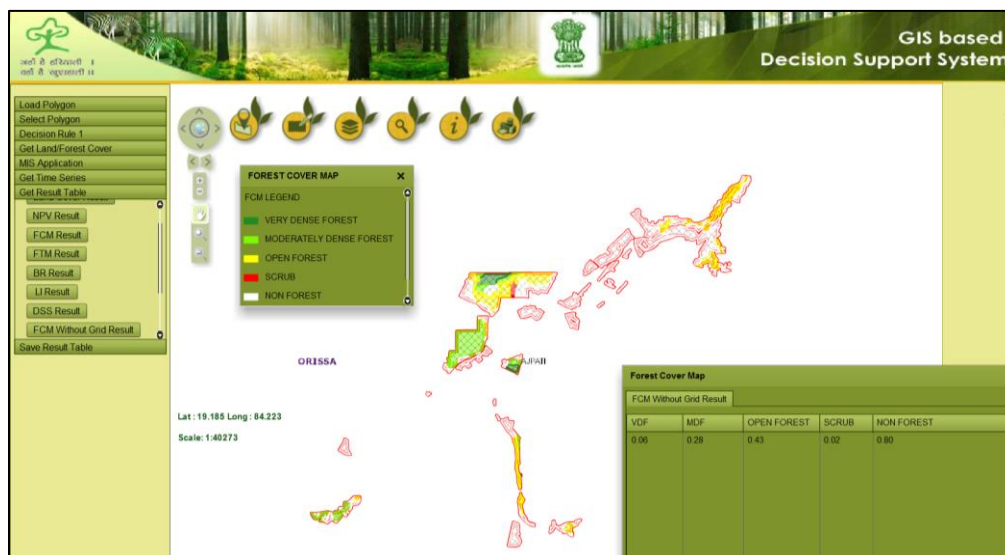
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GRIDID	SCORE FCM	SCORE FTM	SCORE BR	SCORE LANDSCAPE	AGGREGATE SCORE
2523449	27.99	37.25	53.36	49.89	42.12
2523448	14.45	22.98	28.72	44.82	27.74
2523450	54.46	37.6	44.25	56.06	48.09
2524720	14.7	28.06	53.83	50.93	36.88
2524718	25.8	50.56	55.73	45.64	44.43
2524719	19.2	15.69	20.48	45.93	25.32
2524717	43.88	27.32	43.99	44.88	40.02
2525986	29.34	50.73	61.29	47.84	47.3
2525987	33.14	37.05	43.11	47.69	40.25
2525989	77.01	56.55	60.92	47.46	60.48
2525988	25.03	12.12	15.73	47.38	25.06
2527254	6.77	17.16	15.38	52.05	22.84
2527255	19.77	9.11	11	49.51	22.35
2528523	60.27	67.15	69.67	52.49	62.4
2528522	68.19	71.4	71.57	53.2	66.09
2528520	3.24	4.78	1.64	60.47	17.53
2529785	9.37	8.41	36.17	62.18	29.03
2529787	38.16	41.78	56.6	55.9	48.11
2529788	24.74	19.51	25.95	54.69	31.22

Forest Cover Map:

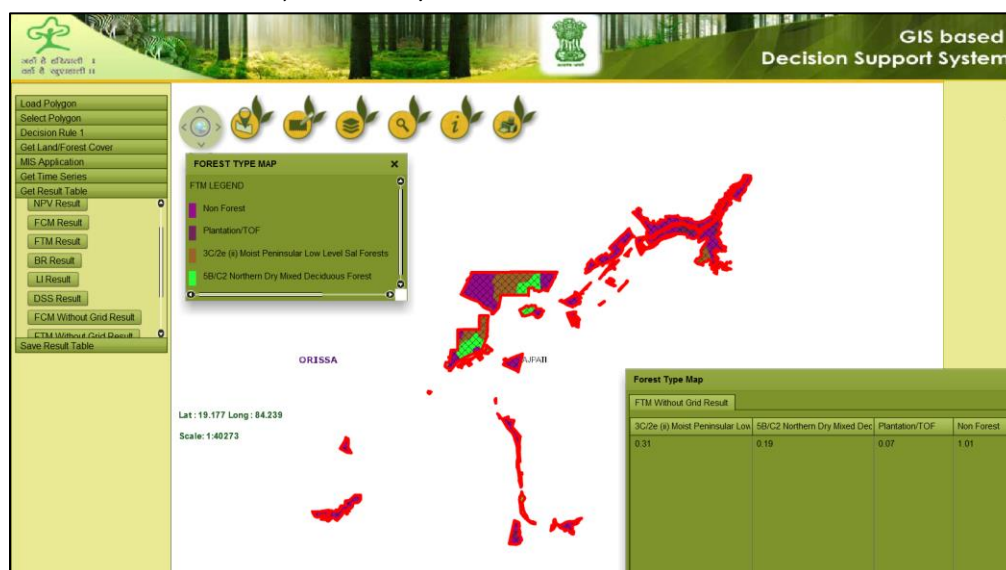
In terms of standards followed in ISFR 2021(interpretation of satellite data period 2019-2020) regarding forest density classes:

- I. Very Dense Forest (Canopy density 70% & above): 6 ha
- II. Moderately dense Forest (canopy density 40-70%): 28 ha
- III. Open Forest (canopy density 10-40%): 43 ha
- IV. Scrub: 2 ha
- V. Non-Forest (land without tree cover): 80 ha



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Forest Type Map: 5B/C2 Northern Dry Mixed Deciduous Forest: 19 ha, 3C/2e (ii) Moist Peninsular Low Level Sal Forests: 31 ha, Plantation/TOF: 7 ha and Non-Forest: 101 ha.



Biological richness: Medium: 76 ha, Low: 9 ha and Non-forest: 74 ha.



COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION (CA) LAND

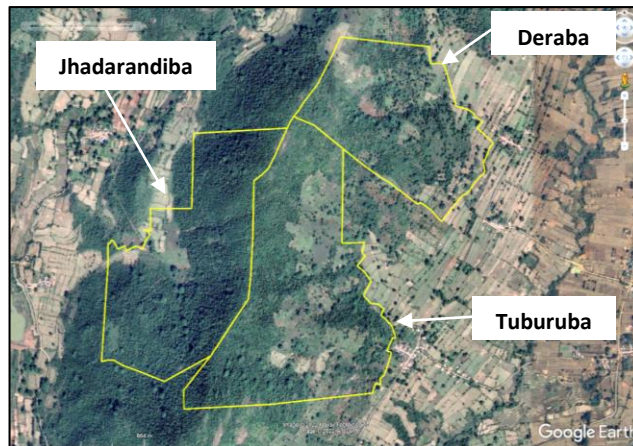
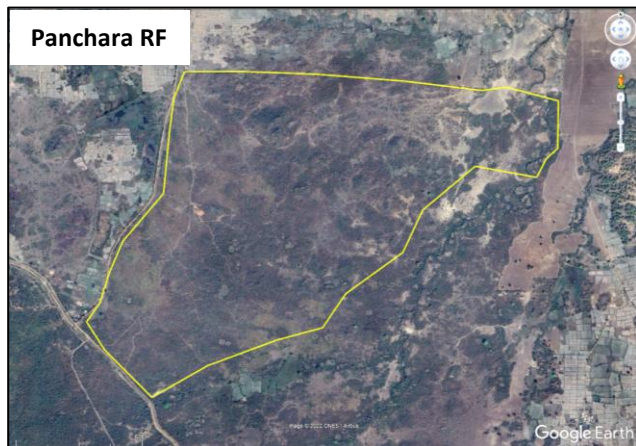
- CA land has been proposed over non-forest land which is located in Gajapati district of Odisha State and its software calculated area is found to be 158.528 ha.
- Forest Cover of proposed CA sites (based on interpretation of satellite data period 2019-20) as per ISFR 2021, is given below:

S. No.	Name of Village	Given Area (ha)	Software calculated Area (ha)	VDF	MDF	OF	SCRUB	NON-FOREST
1	Deraba	159.895	41.743	0	7	21	1	13
2	Jhadarandiba		53.322	24	23	5	0	1
3	Tuburuba		63.463	4	24	21	0	14
TOTAL		159.895	158.528	28	54	47	1	28

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3. As per DSS analysis, 82 ha of the proposed CA area is having very dense and moderately dense forest. Therefore, in this regard, State Govt has identified additional CA of **215 ha** on degraded forest land (DFL) in **Panchara RF** to plant the balance seedlings. Forest Cover of proposed CA (DFL) as per ISFR 2021, is given below:

S. No.	Name of Village	District	Given Area (ha)	Software calculated Area (ha)	VDF	MDF	OF	SCRUB	NON-FOREST
1	Panchara RF	Bauda	215.00	224.186	0	0	169	0	55



4. Proposed rate of plantation and vegetation density (as per DFO) of identified CA sites is given below:

S. No.	Name of RF/PF or Village	Given Area (ha)	Legal Status	Plantation rate
1	Deraba	159.895	NFL	Suitable for ANR with Gap Plantation @500 Plants/ha over 77.89 ha
2	Jhadarandiba			
3	Tuburuba			
4	Panchara RF	215.00	DFL	Suitable for AR Plantation @500 Plants/ha

Submitted for your kind consideration.

Shivani Sood
 STA, DSS Cell
 3.11.2022

No.1-26/2017-CAMPA(Pt.I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
(National Authority)
E-mail : adhoc-campa-mef@nic.in

Hall No.1, 4th Floor
Block No 3, CGO Complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003
Dated the 12th September, 2022

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 159.895 ha of forest land for construction of Chheligada Medium Irrigation Project in R. Udayagiri Block of Gajapati District, Odisha.

The undersigned is to refer to your Office Memorandum No.8-47/2002-FC dated the 6th September, 2022 and to say that the transaction number viz. RTGS/UTR/DD/Cheque of the remittances have not been mentioned in the prescribed proforma. It is requested to furnish the particulars of the remittances may please be provided so that appropriate report could be furnished.


(Anand Kumar Prabhakar)
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

To,
Shri Charan Jeet Singh
Scientist 'D' (FC Division)
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh, New Delhi.