

File No.:5-ORA641/2024-BHU
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi - 110003.
Dated: 10-06-2025

To

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

Sub: Proposal for seeking ex-post facto approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 136.966 ha (94.013 ha in Balliguda Division + 42.953 ha in Kalahandi North Division) of forest land for construction of 220/132/33 KV/DC Transmission line from existing 220/132/33 KV Grid Sub-Station at Kesinga of Kalahandi District to proposed 220/132/33 KV Grid Sub-Station at Sirtiguda of Kandhamal District by Deputy General Manager (EI), EHT Construction Division, OPTCL, Berhampur in Odisha-reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the proposal no. 5-ORA641/2024-BHU forwarded by the Regional Office, Bhubaneswar on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and to say that the proposal was considered by the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 26.05.2025. The detailed minutes of the AC meeting held on 26.05.2025 may be accessed on the website of this Ministry: www.parivesh.nic.in. The Advisory Committee, after going through the facts of the proposal decided to deferred the proposal and sought clarification/information on the following for further consideration in the matter:

- i. The State Govt. shall provide the detail of all such cases where the User Agency (OPTCL) has violated the provisions of the Adhiniyam. The State Govt. shall also report the action taken under Section 3A/3B of the Adhiniyam in such cases.
- ii. The separate KML file of the transmission line indicating the proposed forest land is not available on the portal. The same shall be uploaded.
- iii. In view of the presence of wildlife, particularly elephants, in the proposed

project area, the sensitive locations along the project route that require wildlife mitigation measures may be identified and a mitigation plan be formulated with the approval of the Chief Wildlife warden.

- iv. In case of violation, the state has only provided the area involved in the construction of towers, whereas the area involved in the stringing of the wires has not been calculated. The needful shall be done and the detail of the exact area involved in violation shall be accordingly intimated.

In view of the above, the State Government is requested to submit the information as indicated above, for further consideration of the proposal in the Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Suneet Bhardwaj)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. Dy. DGF (Central), Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar.
3. Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.