

File No: 5-ORB513/2022-BHU (E- 179422)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jorbagh Road, Aliganj
New Delhi – 110003
Dated:13-02-2026

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

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for ex-post facto approval for diversion of 0.151 ha (0.372Ac.) Forest land allotted to Central Chinmaya Trust over Revenue Plot No. 03 (Part), Khata No. 186 in Mouza-Paikanagar in Bhubaneswar Tahasil under Khordha District, Odisha (Online Proposal No. FP/OR/Others/33174/2018).

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter No. FE-DIV-FLD-0031-2022-7718 dated 26.04.2022 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section - 3 of the aforesaid Adhiniyam.

2. After careful examination of the proposal of the Government of Odisha and on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, and approval of the same by the competent authority of the MoEF&CC, New Delhi, the Central Government hereby accords *ex-post facto* '**in-principle**' approval under Section 2 (1) (ii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 0.151 ha (0.372 Ac.) Forest land allotted to Central Chinmaya Trust over Revenue Plot No. 03 (Part), Khata No. 186 in Mouza-Paikanagar in Bhubaneswar Tahasil under Khordha District, Odisha subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
2. **Compensatory Afforestation:**
 - a. In light of Para 13 (5) of Van (Sanrakshan evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, and as per plantation scheme for raising 100 plants shall be planted at the cost of the User Agency and the afforestation works shall start within two years from the date of final approval;
 - b. The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation, at the current wage rate, to the State Forest Department. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;
3. **NPV:**

- a. The User Agency shall transfer the funds towards the cost of Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC (Pt.) dated 29.12.2023 through online portal of CAMPA account of the State Concerned;
 - b. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the present rate, the user agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
4. *The State Government shall initiate necessary action regarding violations of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 3A and 3B of the Adhiniyam.*
5. *The State Govt. shall impose penal CA as per the guidelines dated 21.1.2026 issued by the Ministry.*
6. *The User Agency shall pay the five (5) times penal NPV for the extent of violation done plus 12 percent simple interest from the date of raising of such demand till the deposit is made by the User Agency.*
7. *The State Govt. shall ensure the submission of the proposals involved in Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Eastern Zone Bench Kolkata in OA No. 29/2019/EZ and MA No. 29/2022/EZ for regularisation under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam. This condition is binding to the State Government only.*
8. Compensatory levies to be realized from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited, through e-challan, into the account of CAMPA pertaining to the State concerned through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
9. The KML files of diverted area, the CA areas, the proposed SMC treatment area and the WLMP area (if any) shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details before handing over the forest land to the User Agency;
10. The cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;
11. The user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
12. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
13. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
14. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
15. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval

- of the Central Government;
16. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
 17. Felling shall be done only in built up area and bare minimum felling shall be permitted in other non-built up areas. Felling of trees before the start of construction, if any, should be verified by the concerned DFO;
 18. The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;
 19. Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate with the approval of competent authority in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
 20. The user agency shall comply all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
 21. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.16 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of consolidated guidelines of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 and the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC (Pt.) dated 29.12.2023;
 22. The State Government, before issuing the final diversion order, shall ensure that the user agency has complied with all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s), including compliance of Forest Rights Act, 2006, pertaining to this project, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
 23. The compliance report shall be uploaded on **e-portal** (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
3. After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/
(Raja Ram Singh)
Deputy Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The PCCF (HoFF), State Forest Department, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
2. The PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, State Forest Department, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
3. The Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office of MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar
4. User Agency

5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
6. Guard File.