



No. 5-ORB506/2022-BHU

23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2022

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary,  
Forest, Environment & Climate Change Deptt.,  
Government of Odisha,  
Bhubaneswar – 751 001.

Sub: Diversion of 4.31 ha of Revenue forest land (3.358 ha of Jhanajhana Mouza & 0.952 ha of Dhenka Mouza) for preparation of land bank for relocation of villagers of Pitanau, Ratanmara & Jhunaposi Hamlets situated inside Hadagarh Wildlife Sanctuary under the jurisdiction of Keonjhar (WL) Division, Anandapur, Keonjhar District, Odisha.

Madam,

I am directed to refer to State Govt. letter No10F(Cons)09/2022-4427/FE&CC dated 03.03.2022 and PCCF & HoFF, Odisha's letter No.17873/9F(Rehab)-445/2021 dated 13.09.2022 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. After due consideration of the proposal of the State Government, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change **hereby conveys approval** for diversion of 4.31 ha of Revenue forest land (3.358 ha of Jhanajhana Mouza & 0.952 ha of Dhenka Mouza) for preparation of land bank for relocation of villagers of Pitanau, Ratanmara & Jhunaposi Hamlets situated inside Hadagarh Wildlife Sanctuary under the jurisdiction of Keonjhar (WL) Division, Anandapur, Keonjhar District, Odisha, subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions.

- i) The legal status of the diverted forest land shall be changed to revenue land.
- ii) The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- iii) The State Govt. shall ensure strict compliance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 03.06.2022 in IA No.1000 of 2003.
- iv) The user agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
- v) The land vacated in the protected area due to relocation of village shall be developed as per approved Wildlife Management Plan by CWLW/NTCA guideline.
- vi) A detailed Action Plan shall be prepared to develop the land vacated by the settlers.
- vii) State Govt. should facilitate voluntary relocation of villagers in such a way that all the villagers opt to go together.
- viii) No fragmentation of forests/wildlife habitat should take place due to the relocation of project.
- ix) The relocation activity shall be undertaken solely as a process of consolidation of the wildlife habitat.
- x) The land/villages within the forest which have been vacated shall be brought under the protected area network through enabling notification under Wildlife Protection Act after extinguishing all the existing rights over the vacated land.

- xi) The extent of land de-reserved/de-notified for resettlement shall not be more than the extent vacated by the settlers in the core area.
- xii) The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- xiii) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- xiv) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, NGT Order (s) & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
- xv) Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife, shall be complied by the user agency.
- xvi) Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in Para 1.21 of Chapter-1 of Handbook of comprehensive Guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by Ministry's letter No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.
- xvii) The State Govt. shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions.

Yours faithfully,

*Padma Mahanti*

(Padma Mahanti)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)

Copy to:-

1. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003.
2. The Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023.
3. The Tahasildar, Hatadihi Tahasil, At/PO: Hatadihi, Dist: Keonjhar-758083, Odisha.

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)