



भारत सरकार / Government of India  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय / Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change  
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, भुवनेश्वर / Regional Office, Bhubaneswar  
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No.5-OR428/2020-BHU

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2025

To

**The Addl. Chief Secretary,**  
Forest, Environment & CC Department,  
Government of Odisha,  
Bhubaneswar - 751 001

**Sub:- Final (Stage-II) approval of Central Government under Section 2(1)(ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of 1.99 ha of forest land (0.744 ha in Keonjhar Forest Division and 1.246 ha in Deogarh Forest Division) for laying of underground Iron Ore slurry pipeline for transportation of Iron Ore Slurry from Barbil (Kitabeda) to village Bhaktipal in Kaniha Tahasil, Angul District under Angul Division through Bhaluki village of Pallahara Tahasil of Angul District under Deogarh Forest Division by M/s Jindal Steel and Power Limited - reg.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Govt. letter No.10F(Cons)127/2020-12760/F&E dated 25.08.2020, wherein prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for non-forestry use of 1.99 ha of forest land (0.744 ha in Keonjhar Forest Division and 1.246 ha in Deogarh Forest Division) for laying of underground Iron Ore slurry pipeline for transportation of Iron Ore Slurry from Barbil (Kitabeda) to village Bhaktipal in Kaniha Tahasil, Angul District under Angul Division through Bhaluki village of Pallahara Tahasil of Angul District under Deogarh Forest Division by M/s Jindal Steel and Power Limited, was sought in accordance with Section-2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. After due consideration of the proposal by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, the **in-principle** approval for non-forestry use of the said forest land was accorded by Ministry vide this office letter of even number dated 24.09.2020, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The State Government has furnished the compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and has requested to grant final approval of the proposal.

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Odisha vide their letter No.17517/9F (Misc)-55/2018 dated 20.08.2025 and submission of the compliance report by the State Govt. in *Parivesh* web portal on 06.09.2025, **Stage-II/final** approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change is hereby granted under Section 2 (1)(ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of 1.99 ha of forest land (0.744 ha in Keonjhar Forest Division and 1.246 ha in Deogarh Forest Division) for laying of underground Iron Ore slurry pipeline for transportation of Iron Ore Slurry from Barbil (Kitabeda) to village Bhaktipal in Kaniha Tahasil, Angul District under Angul Division through Bhaluki village of Pallahara Tahasil of Angul District under Deogarh Forest Division by M/s Jindal Steel and Power Limited, subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:-

- 1) The State Govt. shall ensure that the legal status of diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- 2) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- 3) The State Govt. shall ensure the compliance on FRA, 2006 as per Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules and guidelines issued from time to time before handing over of the diverted forest land to user agency.
- 4) The State Govt. shall ensure that the KML files of the area to be diverted and CA/Addl. CA area shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details before handing over of the diverted forest land to the user agency.
- 5) The State Govt. shall ensure that the boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates.
- 6) The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department will raise compensatory afforestation over 1.99 ha non-forest land identified in Plot No.169/1913 & No.169/1914 of Khata No.151/151 of village Kurumula under Pallahara Tahasil of Deogarh Forest Division within two years from the date of Stage-II Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department as per approved plan/scheme and maintained thereafter, at the cost of user agency.
- 7) The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department will raise additional Compensatory afforestation over 2.00 ha of degraded forest land identified in Charigochhia RF under Khamar Range of Deogarh Forest Division at the cost of user agency within two years from the date of Stage-II Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department as per approved plan/scheme and maintained thereafter, at the cost of user agency.
- 8) The State Govt. shall ensure that the species to be planted in the CA/Addl. CA scheme shall be of native species of the area. At least 18 month old seedlings should be planted. Intensive monitoring of the plantation needs to be done and documented using Geo tagging so that the increase of canopy density and survival and growth of plantation can be evaluated at regular intervals.
- 9) The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department shall implement Regional Wildlife Management Plan at the cost proportionately contributed by the user agency.
- 10) The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department shall implement the duly approved Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan with emphasis on safeguarding the elephant movements in the applied area of Keonjhar and Deogarh Division and in the non-forest area of Angul Division involved in the project which passes through Kanheijena-Anantpur Elephant corridor by the side of Kanheijena RF at the cost of user agency.
- 11) The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department shall implement duly approved Elephant Anti-Depredation Scheme for Barbil, Champua, BJP Range of Keonjhar Division and Pallahada, Khamar Range of Deogarh Division at the cost of user agency.

- 12) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall implement duly approved intensive Soil and Moisture Conservation measures along both sides of the proposed pipeline corridor passing through forest area at project cost.
- 13) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall explore the possibility of successful transplantation 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.
- 14) The State Govt. shall ensure that the slurry pipeline shall be laid at minimum 1.2 meter below the ground with 1.2 mtr width and after lying down of the pipeline the ground will be levelled as proposed by the State Govt.
- 15) The State Govt. shall ensure that no labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the user agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.
- 16) The State Govt. and the user agency shall ensure that no additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for any activity related to the project work.
- 17) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that while executing works, the user agency shall not fell any tree or damage forest growth in the surrounding forest area in any manner.
- 18) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that earth or any material shall neither be brought from nor the debris resulting during construction be disposed of in the adjoining forest area by the user agency.
- 19) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that the layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- 20) The State Govt. shall ensure that the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and under no circumstances be transferred to any other user agency, department or person without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- 21) The State Govt. shall ensure that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
- 22) The State Govt. shall ensure that the DFO concerned will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in surrounding area.
- 23) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall submit annual self monitoring report on compliance of stipulated conditions to the Nodal Officer (FCA) of the State and Integrated Regional Office of this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly.
- 24) The State Govt. shall ensure that any other conditions that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, which shall be complied by the user agency.
- 25) 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.

- 26) Any other direction issued by the Ministry as a result of Hon'ble Supreme Court order will have bearing on this approval.
- 27) Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in Para 1.16 of Consolidated Guidelines and Clarification issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 vide Ministry's letter dated 29.12.2023.

Yours faithfully,

(Sujoy Dutta)  
Assistant Commissioner (Forestry)

Copy to:-

1. The Chief Executive Officer, National Authority CAMPA, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Supreme Court Metro Station Building, New Delhi-110 001.
2. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003.
3. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharapur, Bhubaneswar-751023.
4. The Divisional Forest Officer, Angul Forest Division & Deoghar Forest Division, Odisha
5. The Authorized Signatory, M/s Jindal Steel and Power Ltd., At/PO/Dist: Angul, Odisha.

Assistant Commissioner (Forestry)