



भारत सरकार / Government of India  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय / Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय / Integrated Regional Office  
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19<sup>th</sup> October, 2021  
20<sup>th</sup>

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary,  
Forest & Environment Department,  
Government of Odisha,  
Bhubaneswar

Sub: Diversion of 15.265 ha of forest land for expansion of existing of Red Mud Pond at village Rengopali under Lanjigarh Tahasil in Kalahandi District of Odisha by Vedanta in favour of M/s IDCO, Bhubaneswar, under Kalahandi South Forest Division.

Ref.: State Govt. letter No.10F(Cons)44/2021-10169/F&E dated 04.06.2021

Madam,

With subject and reference cited as above, I am directed to inform that the above proposal was discussed in the REC meeting held on 11.10.2021. The Committee decided to approve proposal conditionally with the following observations.

- A report to be sought from the State Forest Department on the representation received from Ministry of Lanjigarh factory Anchal Vikash Samiti within 15 days. If no response is received within the stipulated time, it will deemed that, the State Govt. has nothing to say in this representation.
- All non-forest land received under CA in Kalahandi district should be notified as forest under the Indian forest Act, 1927 within 6 months.
- CA area under degraded forest is very large and planting 200 saplings/ha. seems to be very scanty. State Forest Department may consider to afforest the degraded area with more saplings per hectare.
- User agency shall submit a technical report as to whether the proposed site is polluting the first level aquifers within 15 days.

It is therefore requested to kindly furnish the observations made in Para (a) & (d) above to this office for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

*Padma Mahanti*

(Padma Mahanti)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)

Copy to:

1. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharapur, Bhubaneswar-751023.
2. The Chief General Manager (Land), IDCO, IDCO Tower, Janpath, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)