



No.5-ORA472/2021-BHU

20th October, 2021

To

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

Sub: Diversion of 310.110 ha of forest land for construction of Right Main Canal and distributary etc in Kanupur Irrigation Canal System under Keonjhar Forest Division in Keonjhar District by Executive Engineer, Kanupur Canal Division, Jhumpura of Water Resource Department, Government of Odisha.

Ref: State Govt. letter No.10F(Cons)62/2021-15887/F&E dated 06.09.2021.

Madam,

With subject and reference cited as above, I am directed to inform that the above proposal of the State Govt. has been examined in this office and observed the following.

- As per KML file in Google Imagery, the user agency has already constructed canal in Kalikaprasad RF and some Revenue forest land in violation of FC Act, 1980 which was corroborated during the site inspection. Details and extent of violations, including the name & designation of officials prima facie found guilty along with names of DFOs/ CF/RCCF posted in the project Forest Division/Circle from 2016 to 2021 and Action Taken Report be submitted to the IRO, Bhubaneswar.
- As per DSS, the Irrigation canal corridor and C.A. land identified in Ukhunda RF is overlapping each other, clarification may be furnished in this regard.
- The State Govt. has reported that 59,931 nos. of trees has been enumerated over the proposed forest land. Details of trees enumerated and actually felled over the proposed forest land may be furnished, since construction has already been done at the proposed forest land.
- The State Govt. has not furnished compliance report of stipulated conditions of final approval granted by Ministry vide letter No.8-261/88-FC dated 04.07.1989 for diversion of 235.269 ha of forest land for Kanupur Major Irrigation Project. Further, the non-forest land identified for C.A. over 235.269 ha against Kanupur Major Irrigation project has not been declared as PF/RF by the State Govt. till date.

It is therefore requested to kindly furnish the above desired information to this office for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Padma Mahanti

(Padma Mahanti)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)

Copy to:

- The Addl.PCCF & Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023 for kind information and necessary action.
- The Executive Engineer, Kanupur Canal Division, Jhumpura, Keonjhar, Odisha for kind information and necessary action.

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)