



STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS, ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HoFF
PLOT NO. GD-2/12, ARANYA BHAWAN, CHANDRASEKHARPUR
BHUBANESWAR-751023

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Memo No. 2320 /9F(Trans) - 361/2023
Dated, Bhubaneswar, the 06th February' 2024

From

Shri Susanta Nanda, IFS
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)
O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar

To

The Deputy Director General of Forests (Central)
Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Regional Office, A/3, Chandrasekharpur
Bhubaneswar-751023

Sub: Diversion of 30.469 ha (Phulbani Forest division 19.563 ha + Boudh Forest division 10.906 ha) of forest land for construction of 132/33 KV DC line on DC tower from existing 132/33 KV Phulbani Grid Sub-station to 132/33 KV Grid Sub-station at Boudh by Deputy General Manager (Elect) EHT Construction Division, OPTCL, Angul in Odisha – Compliance to Govt. of India observations regarding. [Proposal No. FP/OR/TRANS/149711/2021, State Sl.No. OR-051/2022 dated 18.07.2022]

Ref:- Letter No.5-ORC592/2023-BHU dated 31.08.2023 of the Dy. Inspector General of Forests (Central), GoI, MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to GoI, MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar letter cited above on the captioned subject, the DFO, Boudh / Phulbani Forest Divisions and RCCF, Berhampur Circle have furnished the compliance to GoI observations as detailed below:-

Observation 1:- The State Govt. shall carry out joint inspection involving forest, revenue and OPTCL officials to ascertain actual number of towers erected along with GPS co-ordinates and extent of forest area used thereon, in violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Compliance:- The DFO, Boudh Forest Division has reported that the joint site inspection involving Forest, Revenue and OPTCL officials has been conducted on dt. 26.10.2023 to ascertain the actual number of towers erected on forest land proposed for diversion without prior approval of the competent authority under Forest Conservation Act, 1980. The list of towers with GPS co-ordinates and extent of forest area used thereon is enclosed as **Annexure- I**.

Further, the DFO, Boudh Forest Division has reported that during the preliminary site inspection, 10 (ten) numbers of transmission towers were found to be erected on forest land amounting to violation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980. However, during the re-verification of the tower locations, the Tahsildar, Boudh has certified Plot No. 81, Khata No. 15 of Samapaju village as non- forest land, thus bringing down the number of towers to 9 (nine) which is mentioned at **Annexure-I**.

The DFO, Phulbani Forest Division has reported that the joint site inspection involving Forest, Revenue and OPTCL officials was carried out, the report of which is enclosed as **Annexure-I A**. The DFO, Phulbani Forest Division has reported that all the violations were found on Revenue Forest Land which were never reported by the concerned Revenue Authority and / or User Agency.

Observation 2-: Detail action taken report on violation of FC Act, 1980 in both Boudh and Phulbani Division with name and designation of erring officials responsible for violation causing diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose may be furnished.

Compliance: - The DFO, Boudh Forest Division has reported that Show cause notice has been issued to Sri Prafulla Kumar Pati. Ex-DGM (Elect), EHT (Const.) Division, Angul vide his office letter no. 6996 dt. 19.11.2023 for violation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980. (Copy Enclosed as **Annexure-II**).

The Collector and District Magistrate, Boudh has been requested by DFO, Boudh Forest Division vide his office letter no. 7000 dt. 19.11.2023 to initiate action against the erring official responsible for violation as per the local prevailing laws. Subsequently, the Tahasildar, Boudh Tahasil and Tahasildar, Harabhanga Tahasil have initiated encroachment cases against the erring official i.e. Sri Prafulla Kumar Pati, Ex-DGM (Elect), EHT (Const.) Division, Angul under Odisha Prevention of Land Encroachment Act, 1972 communicated to this office vide letter no. 329 dt. 29.01.2024 and letter no. 292 dt. 16.01.2024 of Tahasildar, Boudh and Tahasildar, Harabhanga Tahasil respectively. (Copy Enclosed as **Annexure - III**).

The DFO, Phulbani Forest Division has enclosed a copy of letter No.180 dated 12.01.2024 of Collector, Kandhamal wherein it has been reported that encroachment cases have been booked by Tahasildar, Phulbani and Khajuripada against unauthorized construction of electric towers by OPTCL on Forest Land under Khajuripada and Phulbani Tahasil. The action taken reports are enclosed as **Annexure-III A**.

Encl: As above

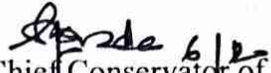
Yours faithfully


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. 2321 /Dt. 06.02.2024

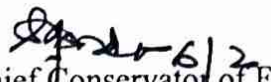
Copy alongwith its enclosures forwarded to the Addl. Chief Secretary to Government, FE&CC Department, Govt. of Odisha for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to Letter No.5-ORC592/2023-BHU dated 31.08.2023 of the Dy. Inspector General of Forests (Central), GoI, MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar and Memo No.19273 / FE&CC dated 11.09.2023 of OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Govt., FE&CC Department.

Encl-As above


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act


Memo No. 2322 /Dt. 06.02.2024

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Berhampur Circle for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 6369 dated 13.11.2023 and 351 dated 16.01.2024 of DFO, Phulbani Forest Division and Memo No. 556 dated 30.01.2024 of Boudh Forest Division.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. 2323 /Dt. 06.02.2024

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Phulbani Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No.6369 dated 13.11.2023 and 350 dated 16.01.2024.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. 2324 /Dt. 06.02.2024

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Boudh Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No.557 dated 30.01.2024.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. 2325 /Dt. 06.02.2024

Copy forwarded to the Deputy General Manager (Elect.), EHT (Construction) Division, OPTCL, Angul, Odisha, for information and necessary action with reference to Letter No.5-ORC592/2023-BHU dated 31.08.2023 of the Dy. Inspector General of Forests (Central), GoI, MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act