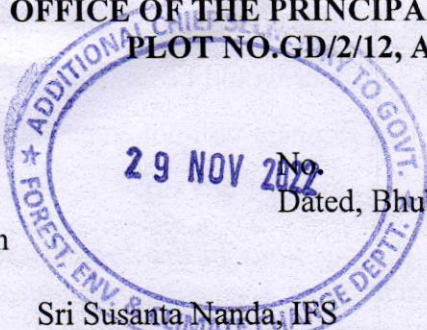




STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HOFF
PLOT NO.GD/2/12, ARANYA BHAWAN, CHANDRASEKHARPUR
BHUBANESWAR-751023



/9F(RLY)- 413/2021
November, 2022

From

Sri Susanta Nanda, IFS
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act
O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha

To

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

Sub: Diversion of 594.618 ha (292.289 ha in Nayagarh Forest Division and 302.329 ha in Boudh Forest Division) of forest land in connection with Khurda- Bolangir New BG Rail Link Project 112 Km to 180 Km under Nayagarh and Boudh Forest Division by East Coast Railway.

Ref: Letter No. 5-ORA528/2022- BHU dated 20.09.2022 of the Dy. Inspector General of Forest (Central), GoI, MoEF & CC, IRO, Bhubaneswar.

Sir,

In reference to the above mentioned subject, this is to inform that the Government of India, MoEF & CC, IRO, Bhubaneswar had deferred the proposal in the REC meeting held on 20th September, 2022 with certain observations with a request to furnish compliances for non-forestry use of 594.618 ha of forest land in favour of East Coast Railway in Boudh & Nayagarh District. The user agency has furnished the compliances and subsequently DFO of DFO, Boudh & DFO, Nayagarh have submitted the point wise compliances after due examination and accordingly, I am to submit the information as below on the observation of REC:-

Observation (1):- As the proposed railway line is in the elephant impact zone and elephant corridor, so elephant overpasses, underpasses and viaducts at appropriate positions as identified by the local Divisional Forest Officer should be constructed, fencing of the railway line towards the sanctuary side should be done so that elephant will not enter the track and will use the under passes and overpasses.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the DFO, Boudh Division & Nayagarh Division have reported that the user agency has furnished an undertaking that as the proposed railway line is in the elephant impact zone and elephant corridor, elephant overpasses, underpasses and viaducts at appropriate positions as identified by the local Divisional Forest Officer would be constructed, fencing of the railway line towards the sanctuary side shall be done so that elephant will not enter the track and will use the under passes and overpasses, which are enclosed as **Annexure-I & I (a)**.

Observation (2):- *Speed of the train should be less than 20 Km per hour in the stretch and Forest Department/ Railway Authority should regularly inform each other regarding the movement of elephant so that the train can be stopped without harm to elephants as and when required.*

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the DFO, Boudh & Nayagarh Division have reported that the condition has already been incorporated in the approved Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan duly approved by PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha vide his Memo No. 9733 dated 28.10.2022, which is enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

Observation (3):- *A Comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan should be prepared addressing all the issues raised during the site inspection/REC meeting, not only for safety of elephant but also for all the wildlife found in the locality duly approved by CWLW.*

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the DFO, Boudh & Nayagarh Division have reported that the Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan has been prepared and approved by the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha Bhubaneswar addressing the safety of elephant, other Wildlife and habitat management vide his letter No. 8564 dated 22.09.2022 (**Copy enclosed as Annexure-III**) with additional condition i.e. speed of the train should be less than 20 Km per hour in the stretch and Forest Department/ Railway Authority should regularly inform each other regarding the movement of elephant, so that the train can be stopped without harm to elephants as and when required has been incorporated in the approved Wildlife Conservation Plan as intimated vide his Memo No. 9732 dated 28.10.2022 of the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha.

Observation (4):- *From the DSS as well as the site inspection report, it appears that the proposed railway line is very close to the boundary of Baisipalli Wildlife Sanctuary (From Buguda Colony to Baniguchha, approximately 15 KM).As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order in IA No. 1000 of 2003 dated 03.06.2022, the Railway Authority should realign the above stretch keeping in view the minimum distance 1 KM from the boundary of Baisipalli Wildlife Sanctuary.*

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, considering the representation of the project proponent dated 18.11.2022 (Copy enclosed as **Annexure-IV**) the PCCF & HoFF has passed an order that this project is an ongoing project and construction of railway line is not one of the prohibited activities in the ESZ, as per the 9th February, 2011 guideline issued by Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India and more ever this phase of the Railway line project, i.e. 112 Km to 180 Km

stretch is permitted as per Para 44 (e) of the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 03.06.2022 in IA No. 1000 of 2003 subject to forest clearance as it involves forest land (Copy enclosed as Annexure-V).

The DFO, Nayagarh Division in her compliance has further mentioned that, the railway line has been realigned after the objection from DFO, Nayagarh and is present within 1 Km (300 mt) from the boundary of Baisipalli Sanctuary. Further, shifting is not practically feasible as it will pass through the middle of the Brutanaga reservoir for which Stage-I approval has been accorded vide F. no. 8-23/2010-FC of Government of India, MoEF & CC (FC Division) dated 31st August, 2010.

It is therefore requested to consider the above information and process the diversion proposal at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above

Sd/- 28/11/22
Principal Chief Conservator of Forest
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. *24042* /Dt. *28-11-2022*

Copy alongwith it senclosures forwarded to the OSD-cum- Special Secratry to Government, FE & CC Department, Government of Odisha for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to the Letter No. Letter No. 5-ORA528/2022- BHU dated 20.09.2022 of the Dy. Inspector General of Forest (Central), GoI, MoEF & CC, IRO, Bhubaneswar.

Sd/- 28/11/22
Principal Chief Conservator of Forest
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. /Dt.

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhubaneswar Circle for information and necesary action.

Sd/- 28/11/22
Principal Chief Conservator of Forest
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. /Dt.

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Boudh/ Nayagarh Forest Division for information and necesary action.

Sd/- 28/11/22
Principal Chief Conservator of Forest
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. /Dt.

Copy forwarded to the Deputy Chief Engineer (Con)-II, East Coast Railway, West Annex Building Rail Vihar, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar- 751023 for information and necesary action.

Sd/- 28/11/22
Principal Chief Conservator of Forest
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act



EAST COAST RAILWAY

UNDERTAKING

I Sri R. K. Mohanty, Dy. Chief Engineer/Con/ East Coast Railway, Boudh undertakes to state that, elephant overpasses, underpasses and viaducts at appropriate positions as identified by the Divisional Forest Officer, Boudh Division shall be constructed, fencing of the railway line towards the sanctuary side shall be done in the elephant impact zone and elephant corridor to prevent entry of elephant and to ensure use of the under passes and overpasses.

(R.K. Mohanty)

उप मुख्य अभियंता (निर्माण)

पूर्व तट रेलवे, बौद्ध.

Dy. Chief Engineer (Con)

E. Co. Railway, Boudh.

Countersigned

DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER
BOUDH FOREST DIVISION



EAST COAST RAILWAY

1191
Annexure-Ic

I, Sri R. K. DASH Dy. Chief Engineer, (Con-II) East Coast Railway, Bhubaneswar undertakes to state that, elephant overpasses, underpasses and viaducts at appropriate positions as identified by the Divisional Forest Officer, Nayagarh Division shall be constructed, fencing of the railway line towards the sanctuary side shall be done in the elephant impact zone and elephant corridor to prevent entry of elephant and to ensure use of the under passes and overpasses.

(Handwritten signature)
26.10.2025

(R.K. DASH)
Dy. Chief Engineer/Con-II
East Coast Railway, Bhubaneswar



OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (WILDLIFE)
& CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN, ODISHA

Government of Odisha, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department
PRAKRUTI BHAWAN, PLOT NO.1459, SAHEED NAGAR, BHUBANESWAR- 751007
Phone: 0674-2602250, Website: www.wildlife.odisha.gov.in, Email: odishawildlife@gmail.com

No. 9732 / CWLW-FDWC-FD-0121-2021
Bhubaneswar, Dated the 28 October, 2022

To

The Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction)
East Coast Railway, Boudh/
The Deputy Chief Engineer/Con/II
Annex Building, Rail Vihar Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-23

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 594.618 ha (292.289 ha in Nayagarh Forest Division and 302.329 ha in Boudh Forest Division) of forest land in connection with Khurda Road-Bolangir New BG Rail Link Project 112 Km to 180 Km under Nayagarh and Boudh Forest Division by East Coast Railway-Approval of Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan.

X-Sub: Additional condition in the approved Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan

Sir,


Approval of Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan to implement mitigation measures has been communicated to you vide this office Letter No.8564 dt. 22.09. 2022. Subsequently, MoEF&CC, IRO, Bhubaneswar vide Letter No.5-ORA528/2022-BHU dt 20.09.2022 has communicated the observations of the REC in the meeting held on 15.09.2022. As per Observation at Sl. No.2, the following condition is added in the SSWLCP, which should be adhered to scrupulously.

"Speed of the train should be less than 20 Km per hour in the stretch and Forest Department/ Railway Authority should regularly inform each other regarding the movement of elephant so that the train can be stopped without harm to elephants as and when required."

The aforesaid condition is in addition to the stipulation on related protection measures already incorporated in the approved plan cited supra.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this letter

Yours faithfully

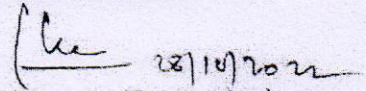

28/10/2022
Conservator of Forests (Eco-tourism)

Memo No. 9733 /dt 28/10/2022

Copy forwarded in continuation of this office Memo No 8565 dt 22.09.2022 for information and necessary action to -



1. OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government of Odisha, FE&CC Department, Bhubaneswar
2. PCCF (FD & NO, FC Act), O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha
3. Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhubaneswar/Berhampur/Angul Circle
4. Divisional Forest Officer(s), Nayagarh/ Mahanadi WL/ Phulbani/ Boudh Division


28/10/2022
Conservator of Forests (Eco-tourism)



**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (WILDLIFE)
& CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN, ODISHA**

Government of Odisha, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department
PRAKRUTI BHAWAN, PLOT NO.1459, SAHEED NAGAR, BHUBANESWAR- 751007
Phone: 0674-2602250. Website: www.wildlife.odisha.gov.in. Email: odishawildlife@gmail.com

No. 8564 / CWLW-FDWC-FD-0121-2021
Bhubaneswar, Dated the 22 September, 2022

To

The Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction)
East Coast Railway, Boudh/
The Deputy Chief Engineer/Con/II
Annex Building, Rail Vihar
Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-23

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 594.618 ha (292.289 ha in Nayagarh Forest Division and 302.329 ha in Boudh Forest Division) of forest land in connection with Khurda Road-Bolangir New BG Rail-Link Project 112 Km to 180 Km under Nayagarh and Boudh Forest Division by East Coast Railway-Approval of Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan

Sir,

It is to intimate that you have to implement mitigation measures as per approved Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan. I am directed to convey the approval of PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha for the Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan for the above project at financial outlay of ₹2892.185 lakh (Rupees twenty-eight crore ninety-two lakh eighteen thousand five hundred) only for the following activities:

(a)	In project impact area in Nayagarh Division	₹921.833 lakh
(b)	In project impact area in Mahanadi WL Division	₹329.647 lakh
(c)	In project impact area in Phulbani Division	₹289.003 lakh
(d)	In project impact area in Boudh Division	₹1351.702 lakh
Total:		₹2892.185 lakh

3. Activities in the project area will be executed by the project proponent under the guidance of DFO, Nayagarh/ Boudh Division, as the case may be. A sum of ₹2892.185 lakh shall be deposited in State CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>) for implementation of various activities within the project impact area by the Forest Department through concerned DFOs.

4. The following conditions may be noted for future compliance.
a. If there would be need for Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan after expiry of the present plan period, the User agency will have to submit another such plan at least one year before the expiry of the existing Conservation Plan and deposit the amount upon its approval. In case of delay, it will be dealt as per law for violations of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.



129/192

b. The User agency has to give an undertaking to bear the differential cost in case of enhancement of wage rate during implementation of this plan.

Yours faithfully

Conservator of Forests (Eco-tourism)

Encl: Copy of approved Plan

Memo No. 8565 /dt 22/09/2022

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to -

1. OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government of Odisha, FE&CC Department with reference to that Department Memo No. FE-DIV-FLD-0071-2022-15658/FE&CC dt 05.09.2022
2. PCCF (FD & NO, FC Act), O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha with reference to F,E & CC Department Memo No.15658/FE&CC dt 05.09.2022
3. Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhubaneswar Circle with reference to F,E & CC Department Memo No.15658/FE&CC dt 05.09.2022
4. Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Angul Circle
5. Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Berhampur Circle with reference to F,E & CC Department Memo No.15658/FE&CC dt 05.09.2022
6. Divisional Forest Officer(s), Nayagarh/ Mahanadi WL/ Phulbani/ Boudh Division alongwith copies of approved SSWLCP

Conservator of Forests (Eco-tourism)

Office of the
Chief Administrative Officer (Construction)
2nd floor, Rail Sadan, North Block
SamantaVihar, Bhubaneswar- 751017
e-mail: cpmecorbbs@gmail.com
Fax/Phone: 0674-2300193

No.CE/C/I/BBS/KUR-BLGR/FD/112-149/ 03546

Date:18.11.2022

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (FD & NO, FC Act),
Bhubaneswar,
Government of Orissa,
Aranya Bhavan, Bhubaneswar-751023

PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HoFF
ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR

19 NOV 2022

Received No. 8069

Sub: Sanction of Stage-I clearance & issue of working permission for taking up construction work of KUR-BLGR new B.G Rail link project in between Km.112-143.33-180pertains to Nayagarh & Boudh forest division.

Ref:

1. DIGF. MoEF letter 5-ORA528/2022-BHU, dated 20.09.2022
2. MoEFDIG(WL), MoEF (WL Division),NDLS's letter No.1-9/2007WL-1(pt) dt.09.02.2011
3. This office Letter No.CE/Con-I/BBS/KUR-BLGR/51/02938, dated.27-09-2022.
4. FE-DIV-FLD-0071-2022-19496/FE&CC, Dated.02-11-2022.

Sir,

In reference to above subject matter and letter under references Khurda Road - Bolangir New B.G.Rail Link project was sanctioned in 1994-95 (**Annexure-I**) and the work is in progress. It covers length of 289 Km passing through districts of Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Boudh, Subarnpur & Bolangir.

Detailed Estimate was sanctioned in phases i.e, between Km. 0-36Km in Phase-I, Km.36-Km.112 in Phase-II, Km.112-240 in Ph-III & Km.240-289 in Ph-IV. Accordingly land acquisition proposal and Forest diversion proposal was processed in 5 phases. (**Annexure-II**)

- (i) Km. 0 - Km.36, for which Stage-I and Stage -II clearance obtained in the year 2008 and the section commissioned. (**Annexure-III**)
- (ii) Km. 36 - Km. 112,for which Stage-I and Stage -II clearance obtained in the year 2020 and commissioned upto Km 91 and for rest of the patch work is in progress. (**Annexure-IV**)

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(iii) Km. 180 - Km. 238 Stage-I clearance working permission was obtained on 09.02.2021 and the construction is in progress. **(Annexure-V)**

(iv) Km 238-289 Stage-I clearance working permission was obtained on 20.08.2019. Km. 263 to 289 commissioned and the construction work is in progress in rest of the patches. **(Annexure-VI)**

(v) **Km-112-180, Stage I clearance is under process.**

In this connection, it is to mention that State Govt. is providing land free of Cost from Km. 112-289 and also sharing 50% construction cost of the above patch. Forest Clearance proposal between Km. 112-180 was processed and forwarded to MoEF by State Govt. after complying all the observations of State Forest Department. It is also mentioned that Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan (SSWLCP) has already been approved by PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha, vide letter No.8564/CWLW-FDWC-FD-0121-2021 dt.22.09.2022 **(Annexure-VII)**. However, the proposal was returned on 20.09.2022 by MoEF based on discussion in the Regional Empower Committee with certain observations, which would be complied with except item No.-4, where it is advised to realign keeping in view the minimum distance of 1 Km from Baisipalli Wildlife Sanctuary.

Khurda Road - Bolangir New BG Rail line project is a socio-economy project sanctioned by Railway Board in 1994-95. Final Location survey was undertaken in the year 1994-95. The line covers a length 289 Km connecting Khurda Road Station on Howrah - Chennai Main line to Bolangir situated on Titilagarh - Sambalpur - Jharsuguda branch line. The line falls entirely in the State of Odisha and traverses through Six District of State Viz. Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Boudh, Subarnapur and Bolangir. After completion of project it will connect the coastal Odisha with Western Odisha leading to commercial and cultural integration of both parts. Moreover, it will reduce the distance to New Delhi, Mumbai and western India by 140 Km. from Bhubaneswar and Puri in the State Capital and cultural capital of Odisha respectively.

In the initial proposal this line was passing through the Baisipalli Wildlife Sanctuary adjacent to NH from Km 128 to Km 132 (Map enclosed as **Annexure-VIII**). DFO wildlife Division, Nayagarh has objected this alignment, which was passing through the Baisipalli Wildlife Sanctuary and it was decided to change the alignment and to take the alignment out of sanctuary area as far as possible. Accordingly the new alignment was planned. However during fixing of alignment it is found that a new dam project on Bhurutang River is coming up and the alignment was coming inside the reservoir area of proposed dam. Water Resource Department has objected to carry the alignment inside the reservoir and after a detailed discussion it was finalized to carry the alignment in the fringe area of the reservoir by providing viaduct. After detailed survey the present alignment was finalized considering the sanctuary area on one side and Bhurutang reservoir on the other side in the year 2018. At present shifting of alignment is not possible and this may lead to again entering inside the reservoir.

- The work is in progress from both side i.e. from Km.0-112 from Khurda end (out of which Km.0 to Km.91 commissioned) and Km.180-289 from Bolangir end (out of which Km.263.5 to Km.289 commissioned).
- Estimate for Km.112 to Km.180 was sanctioned in June'2016.
- Activities like finalization of 'L' section, survey, land boundary demarcation have already been completed and respective Land Schedule for Forest, Govt. & Private land were submitted to Govt. of Odisha on 02.11.2018 for processing to acquire as per LA act-2013.
- At present entire process of Land acquisition has been completed and the entire private land/Govt. Land in this patch has already been acquired after completing the process of disbursement of private land compensation to the land losers.
- The present railway alignment has been finalized taking into consideration boundary of Baisapali Sanctuary on one side and future Bhutang irrigation reserver on the other side with rulling gradient of 1 in 150.
- The present route & L-Section has been designed, balancing the cutting, filling areas and minimizing the use of reserve/dense forest areas.
- Shifting of railway alignment may also lead to restrict the ruling gradient 1 in 150 as the new alignment will have to cross the hilly terrain & Bhurtanga Reservoir. Providing steeper gradient will lead to train operation problem.
- Shifting of railway alignment to the other side of the Bhutang River will also shift the Buguda Railway Station to the other side of the river and it will fall inside future Bhutang Irrigation Project. The distance to Buguda Railway Station will increase for the rail passengers/nearby villagers and the river has to be crossed and it will be difficult for access to the local people. The very purpose of KUR - BLGR Railway line project is to connect the unconnected hinterland of Odisha with the Major cities will be defeated.

From the above paragraphs, it is crystal clear that the construction of the project is in advance stage of progress & already been re-aligned in between Km.122-130 to avoid the Baisiapalli wildlife sanctuary & Brutanga irrigation project in Buguda -Baniguchha section in Nayagarh district.

So, at this juncture, further change in alignment of the Railway line in between Buguda -Baniguchha section is not feasible. Moreover, shifting of Railway alignment towards the south side of the Baisipalli Sanctuary zone will enter inside the Brutanga Irrigation Reservoir which has already been objected by the Water Resources Deptt, Govt. of Odisha.

Vide letter under reference (2) cited above DIG (WL), MoEF (WL Division), NDLS has issued guide lines on dt.09.02.2011(**Annexure-IX**) for declaration of Eco-Sensitive zones around National Parks & wildlife sanctuaries. As per Annexure - 1 of this guide lines, 26 activities are listed which are divided into *regulated/prohibited/permited* categories in Eco-Sensitive areas while some activities could be allowed in all eco-sensitive zones. In the broad list of activities construction of new Railway line is not a part. Therefore, the construction activity of KUR-BLGR new BG rail link project is permissible as per the guide lines of MoEF (WL), NDLS.

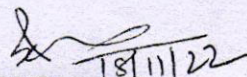
In the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment, dated 03.06.2022 (**Annexure-X**), **Clause 44(e)**, it is also mentioned that *"In the event of any activity is already being under taken within one km or extended buffer zone (ESZ), as the case may be, of any wildlife sanctuary or national park which does not come within the ambit of prohibited activities as per the 9th February 2011 Guidelines, such activities may continue with permission of Principal Chief Conservator of Forest of each State or Union Territory and the person responsible for such activities in such a situation shall obtain necessary permission within a period of six months. Such permission shall be given once the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest is satisfied that the activities concerned do not come within the prohibited list and were continuing prior to passing of this order in a legitimate manner. No new permanent structure shall be permitted to come up for whatsoever purpose within the ESZ"*.

In view of the facts stated above and in overwhelming public interest, it is requested to look in to the matter & necessary Stage-I Clearance and working permission may be accorded in reference to the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment, dated 03.06.2022, Clause 44(e) to continue the construction activities in Railway Km.112 to 180 of KUR-BLGR new BG rail link for early completion of the project.

Your kind co-operation in this regard is highly solicited.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above.


(A.K.Samal)

Chief Engineer /Con/I,
E.Co.Railway, Bhubaneswar

Copy to:-

1. Additional Chief Secretary, Forest Environment & Climate Change, Govt. of Odisha for kind information.
2. PCCF/HoFF, Odisha for kind information and necessary action.
3. Secy. to CAO/C/BBS for kind information of CAO/C/BBS.
4. The Commissioner Rail Co-ordination & Special Secretary to Govt. Commerce & Transport (Transport) Deptt, 5th floor, Kharvel Bhawan, Bhubaneswar for information please.



Annexure-V 90

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

E-mail: nodal.pccfhoff@odisha.gov.in

Memo No. 23789 /9F(RLY)- 413/2021
Dated, Bhubaneswar, the 23 November, 2022

To

The Divisional Forest Officer
Nayagarh/ Boudh Forest Divisions

Sub: Diversion of 594.618 ha (292.289 ha in Nayagarh Forest Division and 302.239 ha in Boudh Forest Division) of forest land in connection with Khurda-Bolangir New BG Rail Link Project 112 Km to 180 Km under Nayagarh and Boudh Forest Division by East Coast Railway-regarding

Ref: (i) This office Memo No. 18570 dated 21.09.2022
(ii) Letter No. CE/C/I/BBS/KUR-BLGR/FD/112-149/03546 dated 18.11.2022 from Chief Engineer/Con/I, E. Co. Railway, Bhubaneswar

In view of representation of Project Proponent dated 18.11.2022 and verdict of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and guidelines in force, the matter was cogitated upon and following order is passed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha.

"Since, this project is an ongoing project, and construction of Railway line is not one of the prohibited activities, as per the 9th Feb, 2011 Guidelines, this phase of the Railway line project i.e. 112 Km to 180 Km stretch, is permitted, as per Para 44(e) of the Judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 03.06.2022, subject to obtaining F.C clearance, as it involves forest land."

Hence, it is requested to furnish compliance to the observations of REC dated 15.09.2022 immediately for transmitting the same to Govt. of India, MoEF & CC, IRO, Bhubaneswar for further course of action.

Memo No. 23790

[Signature]
23/11/22
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, F.C. Act
/Dt. 23.11.2022

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhubaneswar/ Berhampur Circle for information & necessary action with reference to this office Memo No.18571 dated 21.09.2022.

Memo No. 23791

[Signature]
23/11/22
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, F.C. Act
/Dt. 23.11.2022

Copy forwarded to the Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction-II), East Coast Railway, West Annex Building, Rail Vihar, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023, Odisha for information and necessary action with reference to this office Memo No.18572 dated 21.09.2022.

[Signature]
23/11/22
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, F.C. Act

o/c