

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS; ANGUL CIRCLE, AT/PO- HAKIMPADA, ANGUL- 759143, ODISHA, Phone-06764-296010 (O), 296011(Res), Email Id: rccfangul@gmail.com.

Memo No. 2628 /5F-FC-15/2025 dated- 5.6.25

To

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

O/o. the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha.

Sub: -

Proposal for diversion of 87.520Ha. of forest land including alternate road for construction of Hidsing Irrigation Project F (C) Act 1980 by Superintending Engineer, Angul Investigation Division, Angul of Water Resources Department Govt. of Odisha.

Ref:

Your Memo No.3602/9F(IRRIG)349/2021 dated 14.2.2025.

Inviting a reference to the memo cited above on the subject this is to inform you that the Divisional Forest Officer, Angul Division vide his Memo No.4174 dated 16.05.2025 (Copy enclosed) has submitted point-wise compliance on the observation made vide your memo under reference. The point-wise compliance is furnished below:-

Observation-1

The proposal was accepted by the Nodal Officer in 2017 and now after lapsing of almost of 7 years it has been submitted to the Ministry for approval on PARIVESH 1.0. The reasons with cogent and valid justification for submitting the proposal with such extraordinary delay shall be submitted.

Compliance

In compliance with these observations, the user agency, i.e. the Superintending Engineer, Angul Investigation Division, Angul, has informed that the proposal has been delayed due to the following reasons:

· Change in the alignment of the proposed area.

• Finalization of an alternative road from Angul to Tikarpara.

 Selection and finalization of non-forest land for Compensatory Afforestation (CA).

· Selection and finalization of degraded forest land for CA.

• Disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Modification of CA schemes due to changes in wage rates.

Observation-2

As per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letter No. FC-11/118/2021- FC dated 25.01.2024 the State Govt. shall complete the procedures laid down in the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, the minutes of the meeting of Project Steering Committee (PSC), shall be attached with part-IV of forms and processing of proposals, through Conservator of Forests, for completing the procedural/technical purposes". The compliance in this regards is required.

Compliance

In compliance with these observations, the user agency and DFO, Angul Division has intimated that the FDP documents have been uploaded on the PARIVESH 1.0 Portal of the MoEF & CC, Government of India. As per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letter No. FC-11/118/2021-FC dated 25.01.2024, "The State Government shall complete the procedures laid down under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam. 1980. The minutes of the meeting of the Project Screening Committee (PSC) shall be attached with Part-IV of the forms during the processing of proposals, through the Conservator of Forests to fulfill procedural / technical purposes." This provision is applicable for uploading the FDP documents on the PARIVESH Portal of MoEF & CC, Government of India for those proposals which are submitted on or after 28.06.2022, the date of publication of Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022. The instant proposal was submitted in the year 2017 much before the applicability for implementation of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022. Further, as reported by the DFO, Angul Division that during the verification of documents, neither the State Nodal Officer nor the State Government raised any EDS regarding the uploading of documents on the PARIVESH Portal of MoEF & CC, Government of India. For this reason, the minutes of the meeting of the Project Screening Committee have not been enclosed.

Observation-3

As Schedule-I species reported in the area, comments of PCCF (Wildlife) and CWLW Odisha on the likely impact of the project on the movement of wildlife needs to be furnished by the State. Further, comments may also be furnished on the adequacy of mitigation measures like Site Specific Wildlife Management Plan or Comprehensive Integrated Wildlife Management proposed for the area.

Compliance

In compliance with this observation, and as reported by the DFO, Angul Division, the Site-Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan will be submitted to the RCCF, Angul, within a week and the same will be submitted to the PCCF(WL) & CWLW, Odisha soon.

Observation-4

The State Government has not uploaded the copy of the approval letter for Catchment Area Treatment Plan on Parivesh portal. The same need to be uploaded.

Compliance

In compliance with this observation, a copy of the approved Catchment Area Treatment Plan has been uploaded on the PARIVESH Portal of the MoEF & CC, Government of India. A copy of the approved Catchment Area Treatment Plan is enclosed as **Annexure-I.**

Observation-5

The State Government has not uploaded site suitability certificate over 94.216 ha on parivesh portal. The same need to be uploaded.

Compliance

In compliance with this observation, the Suitability Certificate for 94.216 ha has been uploaded on the PARIVESH 1.0 Portal of the MoEF & CC, Government of India. A copy of the Suitability Certificate for 94.216 ha of non-forest land for Compensatory Afforestation (CA) duly signed by the DFO, Deogarh Division is enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

Observation-6

The State Government in their forwarding letter has reported that total 4425 number of trees and 1598 number of poles enumerated to be felled in the forest land. However, DFO in Part-II on PARIVESH has reported that total 514 nos. of trees enumerated to be felled. This needs clarification.

Compliance

In compliance with this observation, and as reported by the DFO, Angul Division, a total no. of 4,425 trees have been enumerated for felling in the forest land. The detailed tree enumeration list is enclosed as **Annexure-III**.

Observation-7

Shape/KML file of the forest land proposed for diversion over 87.52 ha is not available on PARIVESH portal. This needs to be uploaded.

Compliance

In compliance to this observation, the Shape/KML file of the forest land proposed for diversion over 87.52 ha has been uploaded on the PARIVESH Portal of the MoEF& CC, Government of India. The Shape/KML file of the forest land is also enclosed in a pen drive.

Observation-8

KML file of the additional compensatory afforestation over 140.743 ha degraded forest land has not been provided/uploaded. The same shall be provided.

Compliance

In compliance to this observation, the additional Compensatory Afforestation over 140.743 ha of degraded forest land has been uploaded on the PARIVESH Portal of the MoEF & CC, Government of India. The additional Compensatory Afforestation over 140.743 ha of degraded forest land has been uploaded at additional information of the portal which is also enclosed in a **pen drive**.

Observation-9

As per the DSS analysis, proposed CA over 94.216 ha of non-forest land is falling inside the Reserve Forest boundary. In this regard the State Govt. shall provide comments that the proposed CA land is non-forest land.

Compliance

In compliance with this observation, the proposed CA land over 94.216 ha is confirmed to be non-forest land. The Joint Verification Report, along with the land schedule, has been uploaded on the PARIVESH Portal of the MoEF & CC, Government of India. The Joint Verification Report along with the land schedule, is enclosed as **Annexure-IV**.

Observation-10

As reported by the State Govt. that administrative approval given by the Central Water Commission, Govt. of India vide their letter no. M&A/AP-1/2012/13-15 dated 04.01.2013 in this regard the State Govt. shall provide the comments whether the said approval is valid.

Compliance

In compliance with this observation, the Administrative Approval granted by the Central Water Commission, Government of India, vide their letter No. M&A/AP-1/2012/13-15 dated 04.01.2013.A copy of the Administrative Approval issued by the Central Water Commission, Government of India is enclosed as **Annexure-V**.

Observation-11

The State Govt. / user agency shall furnish a report from the State Dam Safety Organization (SDSO) regarding all technical aspects wrt the dam. The recommendations shall be implemented by the user agency to avoid any possible unforeseen conditions. In this regard an undertaking shall be provided by the user Agency.

Compliance

In compliance with this observation, the user agency, i.e., the Superintending Engineer, Angul Investigation Division, Angul, has submitted necessary undertaking for this purpose. A copy of the undertaking duly signed by the DFO, Angul Division is enclosed as Annexure-VI.

Observation-12

Further, the State Government shall provide a copy of approval of the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) on the recommendations made by the State Dam Safety Organization (SDSO) and submit the same.

Compliance

In compliance with this observation, the aforementioned project has been examined by the Central Design Organization with reference to the checklist as per the latest guidelines for the preparation of the DPR issued by the Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR (2010). A copy of the letter of the Engineer-in-Chief, Planning & Design, Odisha, Bhubaneswar, is enclosed as **Annexure-VII**.

Observation-13

The site is also coming within Eco Sensitive Zone of Satkosia TR and as per the information provided the proposal for seeking WL clearance is under process. As the KML file of the proposed diversion is not available therefore, it is not known that how much area is falling in ESZ and whether FC and WL clearance can be processed parallely or WL clearance is required first as per the guidelines. In this regard the State Govt. shall provide their comments.

Compliance

In compliance with this observation, the KML file of the proposed diversion of 87.52 ha of forest land has been uploaded on the PARIVESH Portal. As per guideline No. F-8-64/2013-FC, dated 20th August 2014, issued by the MoEF & CC, Government of India: "Approval granted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, will not be linked to the grant of clearance from the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), except in cases where the land proposed for diversion falls within protected areas, for which prior approval of the Hon'ble Supreme Court is required." A copy of the KML file is enclosed in a pendrive, and a copy of guideline No. F-8-64/2013-FC, dated 20th August 2014, issued by the MoEF& CC, Government of India, is enclosed as Annexure-VIII.

In view of the above compliances, the annexures and undertaking submitted by the DFO, Angul Division is forwarded herewith in **three** sets for favour of information and necessary action.

Encl :- As above.

(Dr. Sanjaya Kumar Swain)
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Angul.

Memo No. 2629 / Dated. 5.6.25

Copy submitted to the Divisional Forest Officer, Angul Division for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No.4174 dated 16.05.2025.

Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Angul.

Memo No. 2630 / Dated. 5.6.25

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Deogarh/ Dhenkanal Division for information and necessary action.

Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, 25
Angul.

Memo No. _______/ Dated. 5.6.26 Copy forwarded to the Superintending Engineer, Angul Investigation Division, Angul for information and necessary action .

Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, S