



STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS, ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HoFF

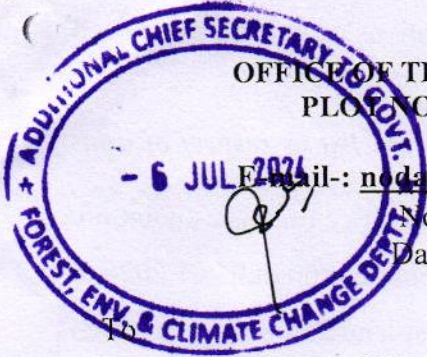
Plot No. GD-2/12, ARANYA BHAWAN, CHANDRASEKHARPUR

BHUBANESWAR-751023

Email: nodal.pccfhoff@odisha.gov.in / nodal.pccfodisha@gmail.com

No. /9F (IND) – 398/2023

Dated, Bhubaneswar the July' 2024



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 32.717 ha Revenue forest land in Mouza Harapur, Harekrushnapur, Durgapur and Alkar under Jatani Tahasil of Khordha District for establishment of Info-valley Electronics Manufacturing Cluster – Submission of compliance to GoI observations regarding.**

Ref: Letter No.5-ORC635/2024-BHU dated 29.02.2024 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 compliance basing on the reports of DFO, City Forest Division and RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle is furnished below:-

Observation (a):- Since, the instant project is a non-site specific in nature, detail justification for locating the project in the forest area giving details of the alternative non-forest area examined and reasons for their rejection has not been furnished with the proposal.

Compliance:- The RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle has reported that 03 sites were identified initially in between Khordha and Bhubaneswar nearer to NH-5. The identified sites area shown on Topo Sheet No.F45T12 in 1:50,000 Scale. The reasons of non-acceptance of Site No.-1 and site No.-2 are explained below.

Site No.-1:- It was a large chunk of agriculture land with thickly populated habitations with numerous building and trees. So, it is not possible to take up the project here due to huge relocation and public resentment.

Site no.-2:- It is a thickly populated area with large number houses and business establishments, which needs large relocation and public resentment. Hence, it is not feasible for the project.

Due to the above stated reasons site No.-1 and site No.-2 were not selected. So, it was decided to take up proposed site with 32.717 ha forest Kisam land. Soft copy of the alternatives

examined has been provided by the user agency in shape of **CD** enclosed to the compliance. The detailed of the justification along with the Topo map showing the alternatives examined is enclosed as **Annexure-I**

Observation (b):- *The State Govt. has not furnished the tree enumeration list in respect of non-forest land involved in the project.*

Compliance: - During scrutiny of the proposal EDS was raised from this office on this as point no. (v) on dt. 30.10.2023. The RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle vide his office memo no. 60 dt.03.01.2024 in compliance to the EDS had complied that there is no tree over non-forest land 255.877 ha involved in Info-valley project. Hence, tree enumeration over non-forest land involved in the project is not required. The document in support of the report of the RCCF, Bhubaneswar is enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

Observation (c):- *The concerned DFO has not uploaded the KML files, Sol Toposheet, DGPS map of proposed CA/Addl. CA areas and CA/Addl. Scheme in Parivesh web portal.*

Compliance: - EDS was raised from this office on 30.10.2023 in item no.-13 to provide the KML file/Shp file of the identified CA land of the project. As the CA land has been identified under the jurisdiction of the DFO, Khordha division hence, DFO Khordha vide L. No.7823 addressed to RCCF, Bhubaneswar has furnished the compliance and uploaded the details of the KML file, Topo Map of the identified CA land In the Parivesh web Portal. The RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle has reported that the DFO, Khordha Forest Division has uploaded the KML files, Sol Topo sheet, DGPS map of proposed CA/ Addl. CA areas and CA/ Addl. CA schemes in Parivesh web portal enclosed as **Annexure-III**.

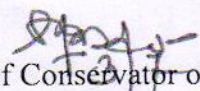
Observation (d):- *The user agency has not submitted the KML/shape file of non-forest land/degraded forest land identified for CA/Addl. C.A. and entire project area with the proposal.*

Compliance:- The RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle has reported that the user agency has submitted the KML/ Shape file of non-forest land/ degraded forest land identified for CA/ Addl. CA which has been uploaded in the portal.

In view of the above, the compliance to Govt. of India observations dated 29.02.2024 is sent herewith for favour of kind information and necessary action.

End. As above


Yours faithfully


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

Memo No. 13343 /Dt. 05-07-2024


Copy alongwith its enclosures forwarded to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, FE&CC Department, Govt. of Odisha for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to letter No.5-ORC635/2024-BHU dated 29.02.2024 of the Dy. Inspector General of Forests (Central), GoI, MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar and Memo No. 4219/FE&CC dated 11.03.2024 of the OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government, FE&CC Department.

Encl-As above


Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)


Memo No. /Dt.

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhubaneswar Circle for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No. 1933 dated 13.06.2024.


Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)


Memo No. /Dt.

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, City Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 1934 dated 13.06.2024 of RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle.


Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)


Memo No. /Dt.

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Khordha Forest Division for information and necessary action.


Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Memo No. _____ Dt.

Copy forwarded to the Chief General Manager (Environment), IDCO, IDCO Towers, Janpath, Odisha, Bhubaneswar-751022 for information and necessary action with reference to letter No.5-ORC635/2024-BHU dated 29.02.2024 of the Dy. Inspector General of Forests (Central), GoI, MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar and Memo No. 1935 dated 13.06.2024 of RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle.


Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

1950-1951

10

08D-55

Annexure - 1

Info-Valley

In order to bring large dividend to Odisha in term of economic, industrial & infrastructure development and generation of new employment opportunities Government of Odisha created a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in form of a Public Private Partnership (PPP) for which IDCO was dedicated to be the Nodal Agency. Initially an IT SEZ alongwith an Integrated Self Sustaining Town ship on about 500 Ac of land in southern outskirts of Bhubaneswar was proposed by Govt. of Odisha, which was approved by Govt. of India, vide letter No.F.2/408/2006-SEZ, dt.25/10/2006 of MoC & Industries of Deptt. of Commerce, Gol.

The location of site selected is in periphery of Bhubaneswar in close proximity to NH5 along Khandagiri-Khordha growth corridor with Bhubaneswar airport with a distance of 25 kms and Bhubaneswar Railway Station at a distance of 28 kms, Khordha Road Railway Station at a distance of 10 kms. Besides this Odisha University of Culture, IIIT and AIMS coming up within 10 kms of distance.

The initial identified land of 500 Ac are distributed under following 5 villages as under:-

SI No	Village	Tahasil	Land Sanctioned (in Ac)
1	Gaudakasipur	Jatani	202.24
2	Arisal		112.28
3	Harekrushnapur		19.88
4	Durgapur		59.73
5	Harapur		98.87
Total			500.00 Ac

This site is connected by 3 roads from 3 sides as under:-

1. Link road from Talakheta Chhak- 4.5 kms
2. Link road from Gohira Chhak- 6.5 kms
3. Link road from major district road-77- 2.00 kms

In view of interest shown by Global IT players like Infosys, WIPRO, TCS, Satyam, Reliance, Mind Tree for the selected sites, it was decided to develop the Infovalley project over the selected site considering the all aspects and feasibility and with a proposal for creating 8000 direct and 3,20,000 indirect employment.

IDCO applied for EC for construction of IT SEZ over 500 Ac with a build up area of 20,81,029 sqm in Jatani Tahasil of Khordha District. Environment Appraisal Committee(EAC) of MoEF & CC, Gol in their 68th meeting held during 19-20, November, 2008 issued ToR for EC.

(66)

Subsequently, SEIAA, Odisha vide their letter No.292, dt.02/08/2010 accorded EC in favour of IT SEZ project over an area of 500 Ac (202.3 hact) in Jatani Tahasil of Khordha District under EIA Notification, 2006.

As per the revised master plan, the total project area is 288.594 hact. Out of which 32.717 hact is forest kissam area and 255.877 hact of non forest area. This forest kissam land is devoid of any natural tree growth. Only scattered old Cashew and Acacia tree are available, inside the worked out morrum and laterite quarry area, which is unfit for any other purpose.


To avoid this forest kissam land 2 other alternative sites were examined, which were not accepted due to following reasons:-

Site No.1- It is a large chunk of agricultural land with thickly populated habitations with numerous have buildings and trees. So it is not possible to take up the project here due to huge relocation and public resentment.

Site No.2- It is a thickly populated area with large number of houses and business establishments, which needs large relocation and public resentment. Hence it is not feasible for the project.

Due to reasons stated above, the alternative sites were not feasible, so it was decided to take up the proposed site with 32.717 hact of forest kissam land, out of which IT & ITES industries will be establish over 11.477 hact and roads will be constructed over 5.279 hact. Rest 15.961 hact of forest kissam land will be maintained as green space which will be enriched with local plant species and will be maintained as a multi tire forest. Besides this green belt and avenue plantation along the roads will be developed.

In view of the above, it is requested to kindly consider the fact and allow the diversion of forest land for non forest use in order to pave way for IT sectors to the State and providing job opportunities to thousands of local youths and bringing economical development in the lives of lakhs of families of the State.


15/11/24
Chief General Manager (Evn.)
IDCO, Bhubaneswar



Through e-mail

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, BHUBANESWAR CIRCLE
STATE SILVICULTURE GARDEN, At/Po- GHATIKIA, BHUBANESWAR - 751029.
PHONE / FAX - 0674-2951174, 2951175 E-MAIL- rccf.bhubaneswar@odisha.gov.in

Memo No. 60 / 4F -01/2024
Dated, BBSR, the 03th January, 2024

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act,
O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub:- Proposal for Diversion of 32.717 ha Revenue Forest land in Mouza Harapur, Harekrushnapur, Durgapur and Alkar under Jatani Tahasil in khordha District for Establishment of Infovally Electronics Manufacturing cluster.
Proposal No. FP/OR/IND/19440/2016, State SL.No.066/2017 dated.15.11.2017.

Ref: (I) Your Memo No.21159 dt.30.10.2023.
(II) Memo No 8605 dt.22.11.2023 of D.F.O, City Forest Division.
(III) Memo No.7824 dt.18.12.2023 of D.F.O, khordha Forest Division

In inviting a reference to the above cited correspondence on the captioned subject, it is to inform that the DFO City Forest & Khordha Forest Divisions has furnished the point-wise compliance of the discrepancies observed by C.F(nodal) O/o P.C.C.F, Odisha, Bhubaneswar to this office during the course of scrutiny of Diversion Proposal.

The point wise compliances of the discrepancies observed submitted by DFO are furnished as follows.

Point No. (i):- Checklist has not been signed by RCCF, Bhubaneswar.

Compliance:- The Checklist has been signed by RCCF, Bhubaneswar Copy of which is enclosed as Annexure -1

Point No. (ii):- DFO, City forest Division has neither in form-I(part-II) nor in his site inspection Report has mentioned about the Eco-Value Class of the forest land proposed for Diversion. Without this, it would be difficult to calculate the NPV.

Compliance:- The forest area proposed for Diversion for Infovally Project of IDCO is dry deciduous type. As per guide line for calculation of NPV a Tropical dry deciduous of forest comes under category of Eco-Class - III. Hence the forest in village Harapur, Harekrushnapur, Durgapur & Alkar are coming under Eco-class-III.

Point No. (iii):- Form-I (Part-III) has not been signed by the RCCF , Bhubaneswar.

Compliance:- Form-I (Part-III) has been signed by the RCCF , Bhubaneswar which is enclosed as Annexure -2.

Point No. (iv):- Tree enumeration has been taken up in the applied forest land. But in site inspection report DFO, City forest division has mentioned that No vegetation Growth is there over the forest land applied for diversion. Clarification in this regard is required.

Compliance -There is no tree vegetation over on non-forest area involved with Infovally project of IDCO" No vegetation Growth is there over the forest land" applied for diversion is a typographical error.

Point No. (v):- No tree enumeration has been taken up over the non-forest land of 255.877 ha involved in the proposal.

Compliance:- there is no vegetation over non-forest area involved with infovally project, so no trees are there to enumerate.

D.P. Letter - 23

Received copy of
this letter along with
enclosure.

06/01/24
P.A.
o/o PCCF & HoFF
Odisha

Point No. (vi):- DFO City Forest Division is supposed to estimate the cost of the forest proposed for diversion. But as per the enclosed documents it is envisaged that the project proponent has estimated the cost of the forest required for calculation of the C-B analysis.

Compliance:- The User Agency duly authenticated by DFO City Forest Division has submitted the estimation of cost of forest diversion which is enclosed as **Annexure -3 in DP**

Point No. (vii):- One DGPS index map only in respect of forest land proposed for diversion is enclosed in the proposal. ORSAC vetted DGPS map of forest land pertaining to individual village proposed for diversion is required to be enclosed in the diversion proposal.

Compliance:- The user agency has submitted authenticated ORSAC vetted DGPS surveyed maps of the individual village i.e Harapur, Harekrushnapur, Durgapur and Alkar Copy of which is enclosed as **Annexure -4 in the DP**

Point No. (viii):- copy of the application made to obtain EC for the project is required to be enclosed.

Compliance:- EC was obtained by the UA for the project vide letter No.292 dt.02.08.20210 of SEIAA which has been expired. Now the User Agency has applied for the extension. Copy of which is enclosed as **Annexure -5.**

Point No. (ix):- The distance of boundary of Chandaka WL Sanctuary from the applied site has not mentioned anywhere. Further, a Map showing the distance of the boundary of the PA from the applied site to be furnished.

Compliance:- The distance of boundary of Mendhasal Reserve Forest (nearest to project) has been mentioned in Part-II(SL.No.9) However, it is mentioned here that the boundary of Chandaka(WL) Sanctuaries is Appx 3.605 KM from project boundary. Copy of the map which is enclosed as **Annexure -6**

Point No. (x):- Non-forest Govt. land over 32.388 ha in village Chandapur & over 10.777 ha in village Barasahi has been identified DFO, khordha Forest Division has also furnished the site suitability certificate. Why DFO, Khordha has preferred to take up AR plantation over DFL in Pangarsingh R.F @ 1600 plants/ha without doing DSS analysis to the identified Govt. non-forest CA land.

Compliance:-

- DSS analysis of 10.777 ha Chandpur village shows the area is devoid of vegetation and suitable for block plantation. Therefore AR Plantation@1600 plants per ha is suggested.
- DSS analysis of 32.388 ha in Barasahi village shows that the area partly scrub forest and partly open forest. The area was inspected by the DFO khordha Forest on 18.12.2023 & found that the area having scattered tree growth and bushes and suitable for gap plantation @200 seedling with soil and moisture conservation & fencing. To compensate no of seedlings @1000 seedling /ha diverted area the degraded forest block of pangarsingh RF(9.896 ha) selected and as per DSS analysis and field inspection the area was found suitable for block plantation@1600 seedling/ha.
- DSS analysis of 9.896 ha area in Pangarsingh RF shows that the area is scrub and mostly devoid vegetation.

Point No. (xi):- it is proposed to take up AR plantation over 20.673 ha both on Govt. non-forest land & DFL on Pangarsingh RF Fencing provision is proposed for 9.896 ha AR plantation to be taken up in RF what about the fencing to AR plantation proposed to be taken up over 10.777 ha non-forest Govt. land in village Barasahi..

Compliance:- Chain link wiremesh fencing is proposed for AR plantation of 10.777 ha @1600 plants per ha. in Chandpur village & ANR Plantation of 32.388 ha.@200 plants in Barasahi village per ha due to high biotic interference in identified non-forest CA area.

Point No. (xii):- Bamboo twigs fencing may be prescribed on degraded forest land on Pangarsingh RF instead of Chain link wire mesh fencing.

Compliance:- Bamboo twigs fencing has been now prescribed for Degraded Forest Land in Pangarsingh RF instead of Chain link wireless fencing in CA Scheme.

Point No. (xiii):- KML/file/Shape file of the identified CA land and PDF of the project has not been provided.

Compliance:- KML/file/Shape file of the identified CA land and PDF of the project has been provided by the UA copy of which is enclosed as **Annexure -7**

The revised Compensatory Afforestation Scheme for AR Plantation over 20.673 ha. & ANR plantation 32.388 ha has been submitted & enclosed as **Annexure-8.**

The aforesaid compliance of the observations observed by C.F (Nodal), O/o
CF & HoFF Odisha, Bhubaneswar received from the DFO, City Forest & Khordha Forest
Division is enclosed herewith in duplicate (in 2 sets) for your kind perusal and needful action at
your end.
Encl- As above.
(2 sets of compliance report).

[Signature] 03/01/23
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Bhubaneswar Circle

Memo No. 61 /dt. 03.01.2024
Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, City Forest Division for information
with reference to his Memo No. 8604 dt. 22.11.2023.

[Signature]
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Bhubaneswar Circle.

Memo No. 62 /dt. 03.01.2024
Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Khordha Forest Division for
information with reference to his Memo No. 7823 dt. 18.12.2023.

[Signature]
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Bhubaneswar Circle.

Memo No. 63 /dt. 03.01.2024
Copy forwarded to the Chief General Manager (Evn.) IDCO for information with
reference to Memo No. 21160 dt. 30.10.2023 of C.F (Nodal), O/o the P.C.C.F & HoFF, Odisha
Bhubaneswar.

[Signature] 03/01/24
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Bhubaneswar Circle.

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER: KHORDHA DIVISION, KHORDHA
 AT / PO / DIST. - KHORDHA
 Tele No. (06755) 220539, 222825
 Email ID - dfokhordha@gmail.com

Memo No. 7823 4F (Misc)
 Dated, Khordha 18 the December, 2023.

To: The Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
 Bhubaneswar Circle, Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 32.717 hact of Revenue forest land in Mouza-Harapur,
 Harekrushnapur, Durgapur and Alkar under Jatni Tahasil in Khordha District for
 establishment of Infovalley Electronic Manufacturing Cluster.

Ref: Memo No. 21159 dtd.30.10.2023 of Conservator of Forests (Nodal) O/o the Principal
 Chief Conservator of Forests, HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

With reference to the subject mentioned above & letter under reference the following
 compliances are provided against discrepancies as mentioned.

Point No.10 - Non-forest Govt. land over 10.777 ha. in village Chandapur & over 32.388 ha. in village
 Barasahi have been identified. DFO, Khordha Forest Division has also furnished the site suitability
 certificate, Why DFO, Khordha has preferred to take up AR plantation over DFL in Pangarsingh R.F
 @1600 plants/ha without doing DSS analysis to the identified Govt. non-forest CA land.

- DSS analysis of 10.777 ha. Chandpur village shows the areas as non-forest. Therefore
 AR Plantation @ 1600 plants per ha. is suggested.
- DSS analysis of 32.388 ha. in Barasahi village shows that the area is scrub forest. The
 area was inspected by the undersigned on 18.12.2023 & found that due to existing
 vegetation, only ANR with a gap of 200 plantation per ha. is feasible. Therefore, for
 plantation of balance seedlings 10ha. AR plantation is proposed in Pangarsingh RF.
- DSS analysis of 9.896 ha. area in Pangarsingh RF shows that the area is non-forest.

Point No.11 - It is Proposed to take up AR Plantation over 20.673 ha. both on Govt. non-forest land &
 Degraded Forest Land on Pangarsingh RF. Fencing provision is proposed for 9.896 ha. AR plantation
 to be taken up in RF. What about the fencing to AR plantation proposed to be taken up over 10.777 ha
 non-forest Govt. land in village Barasahi.

- Chain link wireless fencing is proposed for both AR plantation of 10.777 ha. @ 1600
 plants per ha. in Chandpur village & ANR plantation of 32.388ha. @ 200 plants per ha.
 In addition to it SMC type-C model is proposed.

Point No.12 - Bamboo twigs fencing may be prescribed on degraded forest land on Pangarsingh RF
 instead of Chain link wireless fencing.

- Bamboo twigs fencing is prescribed for Degraded Forest Land in Pangarsingh RF
 instead of Chain link wireless fencing.

Point no. 13 - KML/file/Shape file of the identified CA land and Pdf of the project has not been
 provided.

- KML file of the identified Compensatory Afforastration land & pdf of the project as
 enclosed.

Therefore, the revised Compensatory Afforestation Scheme for AR plantation over 20.673 ha & ANR plantation 32.388 ha is revised & enclosed herewith in 6copies for your kind reference.

Encl: As above

Paci
18/12/23
Divisional Forest Officer,
Khordha Division, Khordha.

Memo No. 7824 /Date. 18-12-2023
Copy submitted to the Conservator of Forests, (Nodal), O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act O/o the Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, HoFF Odisha, Aranya Bhawan.

Paci
18/12/23
Divisional Forest Officer,
Khordha Division, Khordha

Memo No. 7825 /Date. 18-12-2023
Copy submitted to the Chief General Manager (Env.), IDCO for information and necessary action with reference to letter no.HO-CGM(Env.)/180/2018/34458 dated 31.10.2023.

Paci
18/12/23
Divisional Forest Officer,
Khordha Division, Khordha