

## 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.pccfodisha@gmail.com

No.

16849

/9F (Trans)- 416/2021

Dated, Bhubaneswar, the

11

August, 2025

To

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change FC Division, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road New Delhi-110003

Sub: Diversion of 23.983 ha of revenue forest land for construction of 220 KV LILO Line from existing Bhanjanagar-Meramundali DC line to 220/33 KV GRID Substation at Daspalla from village Madhyakhanda to Gopalpur by M/s OPTCL under Nayagarh Forest Division of Nayagarh District, Odisha- GoI observations regarding

Ref: (i) Letter dated 10.06.2025 of Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, FC Division, New Delhi

(ii) Memo No.10F(Cons)24/2023-14497/FE&CC dated 17.06.2025 of Govt. of Odisha, FE & CC Department

In inviting a reference to aforementioned letter of GoI, MoEF & CC, FC Division, New Delhi cited above on the captioned subject, the point wise compliance based on the reports of the RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle and the DFO, Nayagarh Forest Division are furnished below:

Observation-(1):- The State Govt. shall provide the detail of all such cases where the User Agency (OPTCL) has violated the provisions of the Adhiniyam. The State Govt. shall also report the action taken under Section-3A/3B of the Adhiniyam in such cases.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle has reported that regarding unauthorized construction of towers by M/s OPTCL, Berhampur over the Revenue Forest Land proposed to be diverted under this project, the DFO, Nayagarh Forest Division has called for an explanation from the DGM (Elect) E.H.T. (C) Division, OPTCL, Berhampur for violation of provision of FCA, 1980 vide Letter No.6705 dated 25.08.2023. Also, both the Tahasildar, Daspalla and Gania Tahasil were requested to enquire over such unauthorized construction and to book cases under OPLE Act for violation of FC Act, 1980 vide Memo No.41 dated 05.01.2024. The Tahasildar, Khandapada Tahasil had been requested vide Memo No.7390 dated 27.09.2023 of the DFO, Nayagarh Forest Division to furnish the non-encroachment and non-encumbrance certificate over the identified CA land at Mouza Nuagaon over 12.210 ha. The Collector and District Magistrate, Nayagarh District had been requested to furnish detailed information regarding unauthorized construction of 14 Nos. of Towers over the proposed Revenue

Forest Land under Daspalla Range without any forest clearance thereby violating FC Act, 1980 and furnishing the name of the erring officials who are responsible for such violation and action taken against them so far, under Section-3A/3B of the Adhiniyam in such cases vide Letter No.9158 dated 16.11.2024 and No.6760 dated 28.07.2025. In reply, the ADM, Navagarh District vide Memo No.382 dated 28.01.2025 to the DFO, Nayagarh Forest Division has reported that 14 Nos. of cases under OPLE Act have been booked against the User Agency i.e. M/s OPTCL Berhampur for such unauthorized encroachment and order of eviction has also been issued to them. Also, the Tahasildar, Daspalla has been called for to explain by the Collector, Nayagarh District vide Letter No.212 dated 18.01.2025 to explain under which circumstances the OPTCL has constructed such unauthorized towers inside the revenue forest land and to furnish the name and designation of erring officials found responsible for such violation. In response to the DFO, Nayagarh Forest Division enquiry the Tahasildar Daspalla vide his Letter No.748 dated 13.02.2024 has furnished a report showing 14 Nos. of encroachment cases booked under different plots of different villages for construction of such unauthorized towers by M/s OPTCL with area of encroachment. Also, the Tahasildar, Khandapada vide Letter No.685 dated 16.02.2024 has reported that the identified CA land under Mouza Nuagaon over an area of 12.210 Ac. against this project is free from encroachment and encumbrance alongwith the report of Revenue Supervisor, Khandapada. All the above action taken report regarding the violation committed by the OPTCL are enclosed as Annexure-I Series.

Observation-(2):- In view of the presence of wildlife, particularly elephants, in the proposed project area, the sensitive locations along the project route that require wildlife mitigation measures may be identified and a mitigation plan be formulated with the approval of the Chief Wildlife Warden.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle has reported that for adopting mitigative measures for the wildlife movement on the sensitive locations of this project, the Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan has been prepared by the DFO, Nayagarh Forest Division as has been reported vide his Memo No.6305 dated 14.07.2025 and has also been submitted to the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha for approval vide Memo No.2175 dated 14.07.2025 of the RCCF, Bhubabneswar Circle which are enclosed as Annexure-II Series.

Observation-(3):- As per DSS analysis the proposed transmission line is on the boundary of Satkosia Tiger Reserve/ Baisipalli WLS. The state shall examine the matter and take necessary action for wildlife clearance accordingly, as applicable.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle has reported that the KML file of M/s OPTCL of this project superimposed on the Eco-Sensitive Zone of Satkosia Tiger Reserve [Mahanadi (WL) Division] shows that the proposed Transmission Line comes

within the Eco-Sensitive Zone of the Tiger Reserve. Hence, necessary approval and clearance is required from the National Board for Wildlife for processing. Accordingly, the User Agency i.e. M/s OPTCL Berhampur has been instructed to apply before the NBWL vide Memo No.6532 dated 21.07.2025 of the DFO, Nayagarh Forest Division. Also, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to obtain the required necessary approval and Wildlife Clearance for diversion of 23.983 ha of Revenue Forest land for construction of this 220 KV D/C LILO line from existing 220 KV Bhanjanagar-Meramundali DC line to 220/33 KV Grid Substation at Daspalla from village Madhyakhanda to Gopalpur under Nayagarh Forest Division which are all enclosed as Annexure-III Series.

Observation-(4):- In case of violation, the state has only provided the area involved in the construction of towers, whereas the area involved in the stringing of the wires has not been calculated. The needful shall be done and the detail of the exact area involved in violation shall be accordingly intimated.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle has reported that a separate list of area violated by the User Agency for unauthorized construction of the Electrical Towers and stringing of the electrical wire over the proposed Revenue forest land duly authenticated by the DFO, Nayagrh Forest Division is enclosed as Annexure-IV.

In view of the above, the compliance to the observation dated 10.06.2025 raised by the GoI, MoEF & CC, FC Division, New Delhi are sent herewith along with its enclosures for favour of kind information and further necessary action.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests

Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. | 6850 Date. | 1.08.202 K

Copy forwarded to the Deputy Director General of Forests (C), Govt. of India, MoEF&CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar for kind information & necessary action with reference to Letter dated 10.06.2025 of GoI, MoEF & CC, FC Division, New Delhi.

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Memo No. 16857 Date. 11.08.2025

Copy forwarded to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department, Government of Odisha, Kharavel Bhawan, Bhubaneswar for kind information & necessary action with reference to his Memo No.10F(Cons)24/2023-14497/FE&CC dated 17.06.2025

Encl:-As above

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

16852 Date. 11.08.2025

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle for information & necessary action with reference to his Memo No.2415 dated 30.07.2025.

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

11.08.2020

16853 Memo No. Date.

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Nayagarh Forest Division for information & necessary action with reference to Memo No.2418 dated 30.07.2025 of the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhubaneswar Circle to his address.

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Memo No. 16854

11.08.2025

Copy forwarded to the Dy. General Manager (Elect), E.H.T (C) Division, OPTCL, At-Sanakushasthali, Po-Badakusasthali, Berhampur, Odisha-760007 for information.

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

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