



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. 20941 /9F (Pipeline) – 401/2022

Dated, Bhubaneswar the 19th October' 2024

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 1.849 ha of forest land for implementation of Dhamra-Haldia Pipeline (DHPL) project, a spur line of Jagdishpur-Haldia-Bokaro-Dhamra-Pipeline (JHBDPL) project in Bhadrak, Balasore & Mayurbhanj District of Odisha by GAIL (India) Limited (A Govt. of India Undertaking) – Compliance to GoI observations regarding.

Ref:- Letter No.5-ORB557/2023-BHU dated 25.01.2024 the Deputy Inspector General of Forests (C), GoI, MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to the above mentioned subject, the compliance basing on report of DFO, Baripada Forest Division, DFO, Balasore(WL) Division, DFO, Bhadrak(WL) Division and FD, STR-cum-RCCF, Baripada Circle, RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle is furnished below- :

Observation (a):- Whether construction has been done prior to submission of proposal or after submission of the proposal?

Compliance:- The FD, STR-cum-RCCF, Baripada Circle has reported that no project work under Baripada Forest Division has been implemented over Revenue forest land (0.0428 ha of Gramya Jungle) in mouza-Muruda under Rasgobindpur Tahasil. Construction work has been carried out and pipeline laying work has been completed in the area of 0.2379 ha of forest land (in Mouza-Kainphulia-0.0813 ha and mouza-Shikharkhunta-0.1566 ha) under Betnoti Tahasil prior to submission of the proposal. The report submitted by the Additional District Magistrate, Mayurbhanj vide his letter no.1336, dt.01.07.2024 is attached herewith.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Balasore(WL) Division in his compliance report has reported that no non-forest activity has been undertaken over the forest land by GAIL India Ltd. in Jaleswar, Basta, Bhograi, Remuna & Bahanaga Tahasils coming under the jurisdiction of Balasore(WL) Division. The report submitted by the Additional District Magistrate, Balasore vide his letter No.6344, dt.27.09.2024 is attached herewith.

The RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle has reported that no construction has been done in proposed diversion area pertaining to Bhadrak (WL) division.

Observation No.(b):- What action has been taken by Revenue officials for allowing construction in Revenue forest land without forest clearance?

Compliance:- The FD, STR-cum-RCCF, Baripada Circle has reported that the Additional District Magistrate, Mayurbhanj vide his letter no.1336, dt.01.07.2024 addressed to the DFO, Baripada Forest Division has submitted enquiry report alongwith a copy of action taken report submitted by the by the Tahasildar, Betnoti (Letter No. 1996/Rev dated 13.06.2024) and Tahasildar, Rasgobindpur (letter No. 849 dated 13.06.2024) which are enclosed for kind reference.

The RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle has reported that no construction has been done in Revenue Forest land pertaining to Bhadrak (WL) division.

Observation No.(c):- Action taken against erring officials from GAIL, who have done this non-forestry activity in Revenue forest land.

Compliance:- The Divisional Forest Officer, Baripada Division has reported that the Tahasildar, Batnoti has imposed penalty of Rs.30,000.00 against Project Authority for use of revenue forest land for non forestry activities. A copy of report of Additional District Magistrate, Mayurbhanj vide his letter no.1336 dt.01.07.2024 alongwith its enclosures is sent herewith in support of compliance.

Observation No.(d):- Also, after analysis of DSS, some more area are visible with construction work, so detail report on exact area used under violation, surveying jointly by Revenue and Forest Officials may be furnished.

Compliance:- The FD, STR-cum-RCCF, Baripada Circle has reported that in Baripada Forest Division, Joint verification has been conducted by the Forest officials of Baripada Forest Division and Revenue Officials. It has been reported that in Khata No.113, Plot No.82, Khata No.131, Plot No.83 of Mouza-Kainphulia (Sabik Kasam-Jungle), and Khata No.9, Plot No.82, 83, Khata No.97, Plot No.84 of Mouza-Shikharkhuntha (Sabik Kisam-Jungle) under Betnoti Tahasil, the gas pipeline has been laid without prior permission from the competent authority. A copy of report is enclosed as Annexure-I.

In Balasore(WL) Division, joint verification has been done by the Forest officials of Balasore(WL) Division & Revenue officials. It has been reported that no violation has been committed by the Project Proponent as no construction activity has been undertaken over Revenue Forest land proposed for diversion by the User Agency in respect of Balasore(WL) Division. A copy of the report is enclosed herewith as Annexure-II

The RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle has reported that no violation has been committed pertaining to Bhadrak (WL) division. A copy of joint verification report of proposed diversion submitted by Range Officer, Chandbali/Basudevpur WL Range is enclosed as Annexure-III.

In view of the above, the compliance to the observations of Government of India, MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar dated 25.01.2024 is sent herewith for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully

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

Memo No. 20942 /Dt. 19.10.2024

Copy forwarded to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to Letter No.5-ORB557/2023-BHU dated 25.01.2024 the Deputy Inspector General of Forests (C), GoI, MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar and Memo No. 2042/FE&CC dated 03.02.2024 of the OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government, FE&CC Department.

Memo No. 20943 /Dt. 19.10.2024
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to the FD, STR-cum-RCCF Baripada Circle for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No. 3638 dated 14.10.2024.

Memo No. 20944 /Dt. 19.10.2024
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to the RCCF Bhubaneswar Circle for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No. 1503 dated 01.05.2024.

Memo No. 20945 /Dt. 19.10.2024
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to the DFO, Baripada Forest Division/DFO, Balasore(WL) Division for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 3639 dated 14.10.2024 of FD, STR-cum-RCCF Baripada Circle.

Memo No. 20946 /Dt. 19.10.2024
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to the DFO, Bhadrak(WL) Division for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 1505 dated 01.05.2024 of RCCF Bhubaneswar Circle.

Memo No. 20947 /Dt. 19.10.2024

Copy forwarded to the Deputy General Manager (B.I.S), GAIL India Limited, 612, Utkal Signature, Pahala, NH-5, Bhubaneswar-752101 for information and necessary action with reference to Letter No.5-ORB557/2023-BHU dated 25.01.2024 the Deputy Inspector General of Forests (C), GoI, MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)