



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

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No. 17705

Dated, Bhubaneswar, the

/9F (Trans)- 390/2023

22<sup>nd</sup>

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:** Proposal for seeking ex-post facto approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 136.966 ha (94.013 ha in Balliguda Division + 42.953 ha in Kalahandi North Division) of forest land for construction of 220/132/33 KV/DC Transmission Line from existing 220/132/33 KV Grid Sub-Station at Kesinga of Kalahandi District to proposed 220/132/33 KV Grid Sub-Station at Sirtiguda of Kandhamal District by Deputy General Manager (EI), EHT Construction Division, OPTCL, Berhampur in Odisha- GoI observations regarding

**Ref:** (i) Letter No.5ORA641/2024-BHU dated 10.06.2025 of Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, FC Division, New Delhi  
(ii) Memo No.10F(Cons)14/2024-14492/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 DFO, Balliguda Forest Division, Kalahandi (North) Forest Division and RCCF, Berhampur, Bhawanipatna Circle respectively 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, Bhawanipatna Circle has reported that the User Agency i.e. M/s OPTCL Berhampur has violated the provision of the Adhiniyam in 6 Nos. of projects which is enclosed as **Annexure-1** duly signed by the User Agency. Regarding unauthorized construction of towers by M/s OPTCL, Berhampur over the Forest Land proposed to be diverted under this project, the DFO, Balliguda Forest Division has reported that 62 Nos. of towers have been constructed over 0.42 ha of both notified forest block and revenue forest land under his division. In view of the above violation under the provisions of the Adhiniyam, two nos. of offence cases have been booked in notified forest blocks vide OR Case No.59 of 2023-24 of Balliguda Range and OR

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Case No.35 of 2023-24 under Tumudibandha Range against the SDO (Const.) OPTCL, Balliguda Sub-Division and the Project Manager, M/s Flowmore Ltd. Also, encroachment cases have been booked by the Tahasildars of K.Nuagaon, Balliguda and Tumudibandha Tahasil against unauthorized construction of Electrical Towers by M/s OPTCL, Ltd. which has been communicated by the Collector, Kandhamal District with the enclosures vide his letter No.178 dated 12.01.2024 addressed to the DFO, Balliguda Division which is enclosed as **Annexure-2A**. The Action Taken Report on violation made by the User Agency has been submitted by the DFO, Balliguda Forest Division addressed to the RCCF, Berhampur Circle vide his Memo No.2909 dated 16.05.2024 with copy to this office vide Memo No.2911 dated 16.05.2024 with necessary enclosures which is enclosed as **Annexure-2B**.

Similarly, regarding unauthorized construction of towers by M/s OPTCL, Berhampur over the Forest Land proposed to be diverted under this project, the DFO, Kalahandi (North) Forest Division has reported that 23 Nos. of towers have been constructed, Reserved forest land-6 Nos. + Revenue Forest land-17 Nos. under his division. In view of the above violation under the provisions of the adhiniyam, one no. of offence cases have been booked in notified forest blocks vide OR Case No.146 of 2023-24 of Madanpur Rampur Range against the SDO (Const.) OPTCL, Balliguda Sub-Division and the Project Manager, M/s Flowmore Ltd. Also, encroachment cases have been booked by the Tahasildars of Kesinga, Narla and Madanpur Rampur Range against unauthorized construction of Electrical Towers by M/s OPTCL, Ltd. which has been communicated by the Collector and District Magistrate, Kalahandi District with the enclosures vide his letter No.123/Rev dated 24.01.2024 addressed to the DFO, Kalahandi (North) Forest Division which is enclosed as **Annexure-2C**. The detailed Action Taken Report on violation made by the User Agency has been submitted by the RCCF, Bhawanipatna Circle against the erring Forest/ Revenue officials and the User Agency responsible to this office vide his Memo No.5554 dated 25.11.2024 with necessary enclosures which is enclosed as **Annexure-2D**.

***Observation-(2):- The separate KML file of the transmission line indicating the proposed forest land is not available on the portal. The same shall be uploaded.***

**Compliance:-** In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Berhampur and Bhawanipatna Circle have reported that the separate KML file of the Transmission Line indicating the forest land proposed to be diverted under 2 Nos. of Divisions has already been uploaded in the web portal.

***Observation-(3):- 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, Berhampur and Bhawanipatna Circle have reported that the Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan has been prepared against this project covering Kalahandi (North), Balliguda, Bolangir Forest Divisions and has been submitted to the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha for according of necessary approval vide Memo No.2688 dated 11.07.2025 of the RCCF, Bhawanipatna Circle.

***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.***

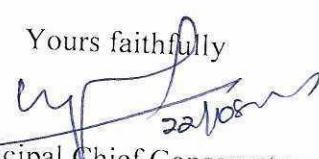
**Compliance:-** In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Berhampur Circle has reported that unauthorized Electrical Towers (5 Nos.) have been constructed over notified forest blocks over 0.050897 ha and 57 Nos. of Towers have been constructed over Revenue Forest land covering an area of 0.369483 ha. Thus, for 62 Nos. of Towers, total forest land unauthorizedly used is 0.42038 ha. Stringing of the electrical cable has not yet been started. The report submitted by the DFO, Balliguda Forest Division vide his Memo No.3769 dated 23.06.2025 is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-3**. Similarly, the RCCF, Bhawanipatna Circle vide his Memo No.2918 dated 28.07.2025 has reported that Stringing of the electrical cable has not yet been carried out by the User Agency so far. In that connection, copy of Memo No.5257 dated 19.07.2025 of the DFO, Kalahandi (North) Forest Division addressed to the RCCF, Bhawanipatna Circle and Letter No.275 dated 16.06.2025 of the DGM, EI, EHT (Construction) Division, OPTCL is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-3A**.

Further, regarding such unauthorized construction of electrical towers over the notified forest and Revenue Forest land coming under both Balliguda and Kalahandi (North) Forest Division by M/s OPTCL Ltd. The report has also been submitted to the DIG @, GoI, MoEF & CC, RO, Bhubaneswar vide this office Memo No.8829 dated 21.04.2025, the copy of which is enclosed as **Annexure-4**.

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. 17706 Date. 22.08.2025

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.

Memo No. 17707 Date. 22.08.2025 Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

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)14/2024-14492/FE&CC dated 17.06.2025.

Encl:-As above

Memo No. 17708 Date. 22.08.2025 Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Berhampur/ Bhawanipatna Circle for information & necessary action with reference to their Memo No.2728 dated 25.06.2025 and Memo No.2918 dated 28.07.2025 respectively.

Memo No. 17709 Date. 22.08.2025 Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Balliguda/ Kalahandi (North) Forest Division for information & necessary action with reference to Memo No.2730 dated 23.06.2025 of RCCF, Berhampur Circle and Memo No.2920 dated 28.07.2025 of the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhawanipatna Circle to their address respectively.

Memo No. 17710 Date. 22.08.2025 Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

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)