

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, ORISSA,  
BHUBANESWAR

No. 18280 /9F (Road)- 377/2012  
Dated, Bhubaneswar, the 18th August, 2017

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government,  
Forest & Environment Department,  
Orissa, Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 0.802 ha of forest land for construction of approach road and parking zone by M/s J.S. Construction Pvt. Ltd Cuttack for transportation of materials from their Black Stone Quarry located within Baniabandha Reserved Forest under Khuntuni Range of Athagarh Forest Division in Cuttack district, Odisha (FP/OR/Road/13102/2015).

Sir,

In inviting a reference to F&E Department letter No. 10F (Cons) 509/2011/16285/ F&E dated 31.08.2016 of Special Secretary to Government, Forest & Environment, on the mentioned subject the following point-wise compliances on the deficiencies raised therein are furnished below:

**(i) 4.9 ha of forest land is pre-1980 broken up area in this project. It may be clarified there is no access road, how the area was broken up?**

In compliance to the above, the DFO, Athagarh vide his office Memo No.3678 dated 27.07.2017 has reported that the 4.9 ha of forest land involved in this project is a pre-80 broken up area for which the Stage-II final approval has already been accorded by the GOI, MoEF & CC vide order No. 8 (21) 5/99- FCE dated 13.07.2009. The forest area over 0.802 ha in question now proposed for diversion for construction of approach road and parking zone leading from Gurudijhatia-Raj Athagarh Forest road to the existing Ghumaghasua Black Stone Quarry in favour of M/s J.S Construction Pvt. Ltd is also a pre-80 road, through which the quarry area which had already got final approval might have been broken up, as there was no other access road.

**(ii) It appears from the topo-sheet that the quarry is a contiguous forest of Kapilash Wildlife Sanctuary. Blasting etc will cause damage. Further if a road opens up to the quarry, illegal timber theft may also take place. Specific view on this point may be furnished.**

In compliance to the above, the DFO, Athagarh has reported that the 4.9 ha of forest area of the quarry project is contiguous to Kapilash Wildlife Sanctuary and at a distance of 5 KMs from the boundary of the above sanctuary. Since the project area formed a part of proposed Kapilash Wildlife Sanctuary, at that time, the then DFO, Athagarh Division had already submitted the necessary clearance/ comments on wildlife point of view to the CCF (Wildlife) & CWLW, Odisha vide his office memo No. 8211 dated 21.07.2000. Basing on the said report, the CCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha

vide his Memo No. 5486 dated 29.11.2001 had furnished his views with some more suggestions to the Nodal Officer, which was further communicated to State Government vide this office Memo No. 791 dated 09.01.2002 and finally to CCF, Central vide F&E Department letter No. 3420 dated 21.02.2002 mentioning certain terms and conditions to be strictly followed by the user agency, taking due regard to the proposed Kapilash Wildlife Sanctuary. Accordingly, the PCCF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar and the Government of Odisha, F&E Department had recommended the above proposal for quarry operation, subject to implementation of the terms and conditions as proposed by the CCF, Wildlife and CWLW, Odisha, Bhubaneswar. The DFO, Athagarh has reported that after declaration of Kapilash Wildlife Sanctuary vide Notification dated 21.09.2011, necessary Site Specific Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan submitted by the User Agency has already been forwarded to the PCCF (Wildlife) & CWLW Odisha, vide his office Memo No. 4550 dated 04.07.2012 for approval, which is still awaited.

The road now proposed for diversion is an existing road already open prior to 1980. So question of opening up a new road for this project does not arise. Regarding blasting hazards and possibility of illegal theft of timber which may take place, the DFO, Athagarh has suggested that the project proponent has to submit necessary undertaking to ensure sufficient precautionary measures to prevent the timber theft and blasting hazards etc. before execution of quarry operation.

This is for kind information and necessary action at Government level.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: **Diversion proposal**  
**3 (Three) Sets**

*ahmayak*  
*17/8/17*  
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, F.C. Act

Memo No. *18281*

/Dt. *18-08-2017*

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Angul Circle for information and necessary action.

*ahmayak*  
*17/8/17*  
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, F.C. Act

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

*ahmayak*  
*17/8/17*  
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, F.C. Act