



**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, ODISHA,
BHUBANESWAR**

No. **18028** /9F (Irrg)-369/2018
Dated, Bhubaneswar the **25** August' 2018

To

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

Sub:- Proposal for diversion of 341.23 ha of forest land in the Balangir Forest Division under Balangir district, Odisha for construction of Upper Lanth Medium Irrigation Project (Proposal No.FP/OR/IRRIG/25941/2017)

Sir,

In inviting a reference to F&E Department letter No. 10F (Cons)146/2018-17337/F&E dated 07.08.2018 of Special Secretary to Government, Forest & Environment Department, on the captioned subject, the following point-wise compliances on the deficiencies pointed out therein are furnished below:-

Point (a):- This is a non-site specific project. However no justification for locating the project on forest land with alternative sites examined with specific reference to Dam & reservoir area of the project that also includes 283.38 ha of RF land, has been given as per para 2.1(3) of FC Act guidelines

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the user agency has reported that initially three alternate sites are selected for feasibility study as mentioned below (Page No. 450-452/DP)

- (i) Location -I : Latitude $20^{\circ} 39' 32''$ N, Longitude $82^{\circ} 50' 34''$ E
- (ii) Location -II : Latitude $20^{\circ} 39' 20''$ N, Longitude $82^{\circ} 51' 38''$ E
- (iii) Location -III : Latitude $20^{\circ} 38' 20''$ N, Longitude $82^{\circ} 53' 20''$ E

On feasibility study, it is observed that the submergence of reserve forest land at Location-I is 1238.30 ha, at Location-II is 1944.40 ha and at Location-III is 283.38 ha. Considering the submergence, the location-III at latitude- $20^{\circ} 38' 20''$ N, Longitude $82^{\circ} 53' 20''$ E is found less submergence of reserve forest land. Moreover, from Geotechnical condition, the location-III is the present location of reservoir and dam is found most suitable due to the following factors:-

- (i) Availability of stable foundation grade rock (Granite) at smaller depths ranging from 1.00 m to 5.80. Thus making the project cost economical.
- (ii) Reduction in cost of R&R activities as only 02 villages come under submergence due to creation of reservoir at FRL-295-50m.
- (iii) Idle length of the canal is avoided as the canals enter the plain land and provide irrigation just after it emerges from the reservoir at this location.

Basing on the above facts, the present site was approved by CWC, Govt. Of India during 1984 and technical clearance had been accorded by CWC in its 73rd meeting of Advisory committee on Irrigation, Flood Control and Multipurpose Projects held on 31.05.2000 (**Page No.460-462/DP**). Also, this site is economically and structurally most viable for the head works structures. At present, there is no scope for the change of project site.

Point (b):- Details of administrative approval accorded by the Water Resources Department for this project has not been furnished.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the user agency has reported that the Advisory Committee of CWC has technically cleared the project (**Page No.460-462/DP**) subject to certain conditions:-

- (i) Forest clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forest for diversion of 394.94 ha of forest land.
- (ii) Clearance of R&R Plan from Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- (iii) Concurrence of State Finance Department etc.

As per the stipulation, the Forest Clearance for Diversion of the forest land has to be obtained first. Meanwhile, the clearance of R&R Plan obtained by MOTTA, Govt. of India. After that, concurrence of State Finance Department/Administrative approval of the project will be obtained considering cost of all components of the projects before execution. However, copy of approval for the component of Forest Diversion Proposal is enclosed at **Page No.463/DP**.

Point (c):- Land status of non-forest land of the project coming within Khaprakhhol Tahasil as on 25.10.1980 has not been provided in the DP as land details annexed to letter No.683 dt.7.2.2017 of Tahasildar, Khaprakhhol at page 302-355/DP are relating to land coming under Belpada Tahasil for this project.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the land status of non-forest land of the project coming within Khaprakhhol Tahasil as on 25.10.1980 is enclosed at **Page No. 302-355/DP**.

Point (d):- Tahasildar, Belpada's certificate on CA land to be free from encroachment is not furnished.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the user agency has reported that the Collector, Balangir District vide his letter No.460/Rev dated 27.05.2018 has approved the site selection proposal for Upper Lanth Medium Irrigation project for balance 48.393 ha of Gochar land in village Kapani and Budamunda both under Belpada Tahasil towards compensatory afforestation (**Page No.112/DP**). The Tahasildar Belpada vide his letter No.1648 dated 09.08.2018 has intimated that the alienation and de-reservation case has been initiated and it is under process for an area of 48.40 ha for settlement in favour of State Forest Department. The Tahasildar Belpada has furnished the certificate that the land is free from encroachment which is enclosed at **Page No. 464/DP**.

Point (e):- RoRs of CA land kept at page 97-104/DP are incomplete.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, an area of 341.238 ha of non-forest land has been identified in 13 nos. of villages under Patnagarh and Belpada Tahasil of Balangir District under

Balangir Forest Division for the purpose of compensatory afforestation in lieu of proposal for diversion of 341.230 ha of forest land for construction of Upper Lanth Medium Irrigation project.

The village wise area identified for compensatory afforestation is furnished below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Tahasil	Name of Village	Area identified (in ha)
1	Patnagarh	Damkipali	61.599
2	Patnagarh	Rahenmal	15.293
3	Patnagarh	Podachhapar	38.296
4	Patnagarh	Karlamal	38.341
5	Patnagarh	Katipathar	13.306
6	Patnagarh	Dahimal	10.308
7	Patnagarh	Jalia	16.034
8	Patnagarh	Bindhar Pathar	15.084
9	Patnagarh	Baguadara	33.715
10	Patnagarh	Bileimara	10.911
11	Patnagarh	Karlabahali	39.158
12	Belpada	Kapani	27.203
13	Belpada	Budamunda	21.190
Total			341.238

Out of the above 341.238 ha under non-forest land 292.845 ha of non-forest land under Patnagarh Tahasil has already been mutated in favour of State Forest Department and the RoRs are enclosed at **Page No. 94-111/DP**.

Further, the Collector, Balangir District vide his letter No.460/Rev dated 27.05.2018 has approved the site selection proposal for Upper Lanth Medium Irrigation project for balance 48.393 ha of Gochar land in village Kapani and Budamunda both under Belpada Tahasil towards compensatory afforestation (**Page No.112/DP**). The Tahasildar Belpada vide his letter No.1648 dated 09.08.2018 has intimated that the alienation and de-reservation case has been initiated and it is under process for an area of 48.40 ha for settlement in favour of State Forest Department (**Page No. 464 /DP**)

Point (f):- English version of Gram Sabha resolutions are not furnished.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the user agency has furnished the Odia and English version of Gram Sabha resolutions which is enclosed to the DP in a separate volume.

Point (g) :- CATP attached to the DP needs to be technically approved by competent authority.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the Catchment Area Treatment Plan for diversion of 341.23 ha of forest land in the Balangir Forest Division for construction of Upper Lanth Medium Irrigation Project under Balangir district is appended to the DP from **Page No.150-185/DP** and the financial outlay of Catchment Area Treatment Plan comprising of ANR Plantation @200 plants per ha over 45 ha, AR plantation @1600 plants per ha over 76.0 ha, grass land development including grass over 15.0 ha, loose boulder wall gully plugging for 3 nos. and masonry stone check dams (4 nos.) amounting to Rs.1,52,34,900/- (Rupees one crore fifty-two lakhs thirty-four thousand nine hundred) only at current wage rate of Rs.224.30 per manday has been technically approved by Addl.PCCF (FD & NO, FC Act) which is enclosed at **Page No. 186 /DP**.

Point (h) :- Detailed tree enumeration report from the forest/non-forest land of the project are to be furnished.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the user agency has furnished an undertaking that the raw tree enumeration data is under formulation and the tree enumeration data of forest land will be submitted during compliance to Stage-I approval and the enumeration data for the non-forest land will be submitted before Stage-II approval which has been duly countersigned by the DFO, Balangir Division is enclosed at **Page No. 465 /DP.**

Point (i):- Soft copy of DGPS map of the proposed forest land as well as CA land is not furnished.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the soft copy of DGPS map of the proposed forest land as well as CA land have been enclosed to the DP.

Point (j) :- Maps of RF patches of the proposed project area showing boundary pillars in A3/A4 size duly authenticated by the DFO, Balangir need to be furnished.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the Maps of RF patches of the proposed project area showing boundary pillars in A3 size duly authenticated by the DFO, Balangir is enclosed at **Page No.476/DP.**

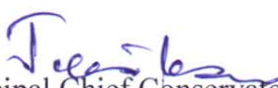
Point (k) :- No. of families to be affected for this project may be indicated clearly as R&R Plan mentions it to be 342 families whereas RCCF, Bhawanipatna in his site inspection report (point 14) indicates it to be 975 and PCCF, Odisha puts this figure at 595 in his recommendation letter.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the user agency has reported that earlier R&R scheme was prepared during March 2001 as per Govt. of Odisha R&R policy 1994 which was approved by MOTA and communicated to Govt. of Odisha during January 2003 (**Page No.367-443/DP**). As per the original R&R plan, 342 families were supposed to be displaced, but now during the site inspection it was found that 975 families (ST 595, SC 39 and General 341) will be displaced taking current population into consideration. The revised R&R scheme will be prepared and approved before execution of work (**Page No.477/DP**).

In view of the above position of compliance to the deficiencies raised by Govt. of Odisha, Forest & Environment Department, proposal for diversion of 341.23 ha of forest land in the Balangir Forest Division under Balangir district, Odisha for construction of Upper Lanth Medium Irrigation Project in the State of Odisha submitted by Executive Engineer, Padmapur Investigation Division, Padampur is recommended and sent herewith in triplicate for consideration of Govt. and onward transmission to Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India for necessary approval under Section -2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

**Encl- Diversion Proposal
in triplicate**

Yours faithfully



Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act
2-4/818


Memo No. 18029 dated. 25.08.18

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

Memo No. 18030 dated. 25.08.18 24/8/18

Coy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Balangir Forest Division for information and necessary action.


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


Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act
24/8/18