

## 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. 23453

/9F (IRRIG) - 349/2021

Dated, Bhubaneswar the

215 November' 2025

From

Dr. K. Murugesan, IFS

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act)
O/o the PCCF &HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar

To

The Deputy Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (F.C. Division) Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road New Delhi-110003

Sub: - Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 87.520 ha of forest land for construction of Hidsing Irrigation Project including Alternate Road in Angul Forest Division under Angul District by Executive Engineer, Cuttack Investigation Division, Cuttack of Water Resource Department, Govt. of Odisha – Compliance to GoI observations dated 06.10.2025 regarding.

Ref: Letter dated 06.10.2025 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Govt. of India, MoEF& CC, (FC Division), New Delhi.

Sir,

Apropos to the subject cited above, the point-wise compliance to the observations of the Govt. of India MoEF& CC, (FC Division), New Delhi based on the reports of DFO, Angul Forest Division and RCCF, Angul Circle are as follows-:

EDS No.1: The proposed project area falls within a critical elephant habitat and the Mahanadi Elephant Reserve (proposed for extension). Further, it is observed that open canals are proposed under the project, which may obstruct elephant movement and pose a risk to their safety. Therefore, a detailed wildlife mitigation plan may be prepared in consultation with the Chief Wildlife Warden, incorporating suitable mitigation measures at strategic locations and other site-specific interventions to ensure unhindered and safe passage for elephants.

<u>Compliance:</u> In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Angul Circle has reported that DFO, Angul Division has incorporated all the mitigation measures in the Animal Passage Plan presented in Chapter-V of the Site-Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan (SSWLCP). The said SSWLCP has been

recommended and submitted to the PCCF (WL) & CWLW vide Memo No. 5672 dated 04.10.2025 of RCCF, Angul Circle for necessary approval. Further, the user agency has submitted an undertaking to deposit the total cost of the SSWLCP as approved by the PCCF (Wildlife), Odisha, Bhubaneswar and to implement the mitigative measures mentioned therein. Besides, the user agency has agreed to comply with any additional mitigative measures that may be recommended by the State Forest Department in future and to deposit the requisite additional cost as determined by the Department. The UA has submitted an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Angul Forest Division alongwith all connected documents which are enclosed as **Annexure-1**.

EDS No.2: As per the DSS analysis, cultivation land, water stream (Bauli Nallah) and road are visible in the proposed forest land for diversion. The State Govt, shall provide justification in this regard.

Compliance:In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Angul Circle has reported that the user agency, i.e. Superintending Engineer, Angul Investigation Division, Angul, has intimated that the total land involved (including forest land) in the reservoir area has been considered based on the certified copy of the Record of Rights (ROR) issued by the Tahasildar, Angul for the respective villages. The road to be submerged due to the construction of this project is approximately 3.65 km, which is part of State Highway No.23. The User Agency has intimated the Executive Engineer, Angul (R & B) Division, Angul, vide Letter No. 667/WE dated 07.03.2018 regarding the submergence and the alternate road proposed for construction. The Forest land on which the proposed road is to be constructed, comes to 13.394 ha out of the total forest land of 87.52 ha. The RFCTLARR Act. 2013 (Right to Fair compensation & Transparency in land Acquisition, Rehabilitation & Resettlement) would be followed at the time of land acquisition. A copy of all the connected documents submitted by the DFO, Angul Division are enclosed as Annexure-2 Series. Further, the component-wise breakup of the forest land proposed for diversion is furnished below:-

Sl. No.	Component	Forest Land (in Ha.)
1	Reservoir Area	58.487
2	Right Main Canal	9.401
3	Left Main Canal	6.238
4	Alternate Road	13.394
	<b>Total Forest Land</b>	87.52

EDS No.3: The component wise KML file of the entire project area (forest & non-forest) is not available. The same shall be provided.

<u>Compliance</u>: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Angul Circle has reported that the User Agency has submitted the component-wise KML file of the entire project area, which is enclosed submitted herewith in a pen drive.

EDS No.4: The State shall ensure that Compensatory Afforestation (CA) sites are free from all sorts of encroachments and encumbrances. A detailed report in this regard shall be submitted.

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Angul Circle has reported that the lands identified for Compensatory Afforestation are free from all kinds of encroachments and encumbrances. The joint verification has already been conducted in the presence of officials from the Forest Department, the Revenue Department, and the respective user agency to assess the suitability of the CA land and confirm its free from encroachment. The allotment letter of CA land, land suitability certificate and joint verification report of DFO, Deogarh Forest Division are enclosed as Annexure-3 Series.

In view of the above, the compliance to the observations of Government of India, MoEF & CC(FC Division), New Delhi dated 06.10.2025 is sent herewith for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Encl:-As above

Yours faithfully

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

23454 Memo No.

21.11.2025 / Dt.

Copy forwarded to the Dy. Director General of Forests (Central), MoEF& CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to letter dated 06.10.2025 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Govt. of India, MoEF& CC, (FC Division), New Delhi.

23455 Memo No. /Dt

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy alongwith the compliance report 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 dated 06.10.2025 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Govt. of India, MoEF& CC, (FC Division), New Delhi and Memo No. 30914/FE&CC dated 14.10.2025 of the OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government, FE&CC Department.

Encl: Compliance in one set

No 20/1/25 Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

23436 /Dt. 21.11.200 Memo No.

Copy forwarded to the RCCF, Angul Circle for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No.6190 dated 06.11.2025.

Na 20/10/2025

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

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Memo No. 23457 /Dt. 21. 11, 2026

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Angul Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No.6191 dated 06.11.2025 of RCCF, Angul Circle.

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Memo No. 23458 /Dt. 21.11.20%

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Deogarh/Dhenkanal Forest Divisions for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 6192 dated 06.11.2025 of RCCF, Angul Circle.

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Memo No. 23459 /Dt. 21, 11, 20 W

Copy forwarded to the Superintending Engineer, Angul Investigation Division, Angul for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No.6193 dated 06.11.2025 of RCCF, Angul Circle.

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Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

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