

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER: BALANGIR FOREST DIVISION AT-NEAR NEW BUS TERMINAL, PO/DIST: - BALANGIR, PIN-767001, ODISHA Phone & Fax – 06652-232948 (O), Mob: 9437032948, Email – <u>dfo.Balangir@odisha.gov.in</u>

Memo No. 5943 /4F-Misc. Dated, Balangir the 16 th July-2024.

To,

The Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhawanipatna Circle, Bhawanipatna.

Sub: Diversion of 6.56 ha. of forest land for construction of Balangir By-Pass Road(west) by the Executive Engineer, N.H Division, Balangir under Balangir Forest Division – Submission of Compliance of GoI -regarding.

Ref: (I) Memo No. 1649/FE&CC dtd.25.01.2024 of the OSD-cum- Special Secretary to Govt. of Odisha, FE& CC Department, Bhubaneshwar. (II) Your Memo No. 1069 dt.06.03. 2024. (III) This Office Memo No. 9058 dt.05.12.2023.

In continuation to this office Memo No. cited above on the captioned subject, the detailed compliance report in respect of **Point (a)** and **Point (b)** of GoI letter regarding violation of Forest Conservation Act-1980 of revenue forest land proposed for diversion in connection with Bolangir By-Pass Road(west) by the Executive Engineer, N.H Division is as follows.

Observation -Point (a):

As per examination of KML file of entire alignment in DSS and it appears from the google time series that vegetation has been removed and there has been an attempt to construct the road on the aforesaid plots and violation over 0.533 ha forest land has been observed in Plot no. 1733, 1712, 1120, 843 ,1172 and 1187. The reply of the query raised appears to be an eyewash. The violation over the forest land may be properly be detected jointly by the DFO concern and Revenue Officials.

Compliance:

A joint verification was conducted on 22.04.2024 in presence of revenue officials of both Balangir & Puintala Tahsil, officials from N.H division, Balangir & forest officials and all the revenue forest plots identified for the diversion of 6.56 ha. of forest land for the construction of the Balangir By-Pass Road by N.H. Division, Balangir were verified jointly.

During the verification, it was observed that the user agency, i.e., N.H. Division, Balangir had carried out road works by spreading fly ash on plot nos. 1172 and 1187 of Khata no. 218 under Puintala village, Puintala Tahsil, plot nos. 843 and 1120 of Khata no. 319 of Bishnumunda village. It was also found that 10 nos. of trees have been removed from the plot No. 1172 Khata No.218, Kissam- Gramya Jungle of Puintala Village. For plot No.1712 & 1733, Khata No.615, Kissam-Patra jungle of Bijakhaman village, there is one existing earthen road and the violated area as observed is being used for day time parking of heavy vehicles during no entry period to Balangir Town form 6.00 AM to 10.00 PM. It was also observed that one culvert has been constructed in Plot no. 1712 of Khata No. 615 with a violation of area 0.17 acre. The detailed plot wise area violated is given in a separate sheet as **Annexure-I** and the total area of violation comes to be 1.326 acre. The detailed Joint Verification Report is enclosed as **Annexure-II series**.

Observation -Point (b):

Detail action taken report by Revenue authority & extent of Forest area used under violation of FC Act,1980 along with the name and designation of erring officials responsible for violation causing diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose has not been furnished by the State Govt.

Compliance:

The Executive Engineer, NH Division, Balangir was asked to submit the action taken repot against the erring officials for the above violation vide Memo No.5225 dtd.25.06.2024 of Divisional Forest Officer, Balangir Forest Division.

In reply, the Executive Engineer, NH Division, Balangir states that the fly ash was dumped inadvertently over the plot No.1172 & 1187 under Puintala village due to space constraint

and embankment construction work over the non-Forest private land.

Regarding uprooting of 10 nos trees, the Executive Engineer, NH Division, Balangir informed that due to lack of round-the clock vigil, the trees have been uprooted.

In case of Plot No. 1120 & 843 under Bishnumunda Village& plot No.1712 & 1713 under Bijakhaman village, the fly ash was dumped inadvertently due to space constraint & presence of build up area and the act of construction of culvert on plot No.1712 of Bijakhaman village was done non deliberately.

As stated, the plot No. 1712 & 1733 is being used as Seasonal Market and Parking place of vehicle during no entry period in Balangir Town& no violation noticed.

In this regard, the contractor (Sri Durga Condev (P) Ltd., Tarola, Jagatpur) has been warned and not to carry out any works over the said plot until receiving working permission from the competent authority. Furthermore, he has reported that the fly ash has been completely removed from the specified plots and no land breakage has occurred. The detailed Compliance repot submitted by Executive Engineer, NH Division, Balangir is enclosed as **Annexure-III series**.

The Tahasildar, Puintala was asked to submit the action taken repot against the erring officials for the above violation vide Memo No.5234 dtd.25.06.2024 of Divisional Forest Officer, Balangir Forest Division.

In reply, the Tahasildar, Puintala has submitted the action taken report regarding the above-mentioned violation over the forest land that all the Revenue Inspectors have been directed to keep strict vigilance on the maintenance of Gramya jungle Kissam land to stop any sort of construction activity or encroachment over the land vide his letter No. 1496 dt.05.07.2024 (Copy enclosed as Annexure-IV series).

The Tahasildar, Balangir was asked to submit the action taken repot against the erring officials for the above violation vide Memo No.5228 dtd.25.06.2024 of Divisional Forest Officer, Balangir Forest Division.

In reply, the Tahasildar, Balangir has submitted the action taken report regarding the above-mentioned violation over the forest land that all the Revenue Inspector of his good office have been directed to keep strict vigilance on the maintenance of Patra jungle Kissam land to stop any sort of construction activity or encroachment over the land vide his letter No. 2313 dt.05.07.2024 (Copy enclosed as **Annexure-V series**).

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Encl: 03 (Three) Sets

Divisional F Balangir Forest Division

Memo No. 5944 /4F (Misc) Dt. 16 /07/2024.

Copy Submitted to the Conservator of Forests (Nodal) O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of his kind information and necessary action.

Divisional Forest Officer Balangir Forest Division