





Accordingly, a Committee, with the District Magistrate, Jharsuguda as the Nodal Body, has been ordered to be constituted to examine if the existing and proposed ash pond is confirming to the siting criteria of 500 metres from Hirakud Reservoir and impact of the Ash Pond Breach on the Hirakud Wetland.

3. Para 1 to 9: No comments

4. That, in reply to the averments made in Para-10 of the Original Application, the Hirakud Reservoir has been designated as a Ramsar site vide dated 12.10.2021 and detailed information can be obtained. (Source: [https://rsis.ramsar.org/RISapp/files/RISrep/IN2494RIS\\_2210\\_en.pdf](https://rsis.ramsar.org/RISapp/files/RISrep/IN2494RIS_2210_en.pdf)) is annexed herewith as **Annexure I**.

5. Para 11 to 40: No comments

6. That, since this matter primarily relates to the State Wetland Authority, State Pollution Control Board, Central Pollution Control Board, Govt. of India, and does not relate to the office of the Respondent No.12, the Odisha Biodiversity Board may be spared (excluded) as a respondent.

7. That the averments which have not been specifically replied shall be deemed to have been denied and the Deponent craves leave of the Hon'ble Tribunal to make further submissions and file further affidavit(s) in support of their contentions in the interest of justice and for effective adjudication by the Hon'ble Tribunal.

8. That, the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief based on the available official records.

*Neeta Biswal*  
PCCF-Cum-Chairman  
Odisha Biodiversity Board

  
AMBIKA PRASAD RAY  
NOTARY, CUTTACK TOWN  
REGD. NO-ON-56/2004

## VERIFICATION

I, Dr. Meeta Biswal, aged about 58 years, W/o- Sri Debidutta Biswal, at present working as the Chairperson, Odisha Biodiversity Board, Regional Plant Resource Centre Campus, Ekamrakanan, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Dist. Khurda, Odisha, do hereby verify that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge as derived from official records and nothing material has been concealed therefrom. Verified at Cuttack on this the 24<sup>th</sup> Day of June 2024.

Identified by:

  
Addl. Govt. Advocate

  
Verificant  
**PCCF-Cum-Chairman**  
**Odisha Biodiversity Board**

  
**AMBIKA PRASAD RAY**  
**NOTARY, CUTTACK TOWN**  
**REGD. NO.-ON-56/2004**

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Dr. Meeta Biswal, aged about 58 years, W/o- Sri Debidutta Biswal, at present working as the Chairperson, Odisha Biodiversity Board, Regional Plant Resource Centre Campus, Ekamrakanan, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Dist. Khurda, Odisha, do hereby solemnly affirm & state as follows: -

1. That I am the Respondent No.12 in the aforesaid Original Application. I am well acquainted with the facts of the case and as such competent to swear this affidavit on my official capacity.
2. That the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge and based on official records.

Identified by:

*hw*

Addl. Govt. Advocate

*Meeta Biswal*

Deponent

**PCCF-Cum-Chairman  
Odisha Biodiversity Board**

**CERTIFICATE**

Certified that due non-availability of cartridge papers, plain legal papers are used.

Cuttack

Date: 24/06/2024

*hw*

ADDL. GOVT. ADVOCATE

*Dr. Meeta Biswal*  
The above named deponent being identified by *S. S. Panda* Adv solemnly affirm and states before me that the contents of this *AD/1* are true to the best of his/her/their knowledge and belief.

*24-06-24*  
**AMBIKA PRASAD RAY  
NOTARY, CUTTACK TOWN  
Regd. No.-ON-56/2004**





# Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 31 October 2022

## India

### Hirakud Reservoir



Designation date	12 October 2021
Site number	2494
Coordinates	21°36'38"N 83°45'59"E
Area	65 400,00 ha