

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA**

**APPEAL NO. 04 OF 2026**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

Munidei Majhi

...Appellant

-Versus-

MoEF&CC & Ors.

...Respondent (s)

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**NDoH: 07.05.2026**

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Date: 06.05.2026

Place: Kolkata

**DRAWN AND FILED BY:**

*Mbachani*

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**SETTLED BY:**

Shri Sanjay Upadhyay  
[Senior Advocate]

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA  
APPEAL NO. 04 OF 2026**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

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...Appellant

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MoEF&CC & Ors.

...Respondent (s)

**PRELIMINARY REPLY ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT NO. 4,  
M/S VEDANTA LIMITED TO THE APPEAL NO. 04 OF 2026 (EZ)**

1. That this Hon'ble Tribunal is currently seized of the abovementioned Appeal, wherein the Appellant had challenged the Stage-I Clearance dated 05.01.2026 granted by the Respondent No. 1, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (hereinafter, 'MoEF&CC') to Respondent No. 3, Odisha Industrial Development Corporation (hereinafter, 'IDCO') for non-forestry use of 4.911 ha of forest land for construction of a road from Sijimali Bauxite Mines (Hill Top) to SH-44 in Rayagada District in the State of Odisha.
2. That this Hon'ble Tribunal issued Notice on 27.02.2026 and the instant case was, thereafter, listed on 23.03.2026 when Respondent No. 4, M/s Vedanta Limited (hereinafter, the 'answering Respondent') was granted time for filing its Reply and the case was directed to be listed on 18.05.2026.
3. That, however, subsequently on 13.04.2026 an I.A. No. 44/2026/EZ was filed by the Appellant in the instant Appeal and mentioned on the same date before a different composition of this Hon'ble Bench, albeit without prior intimation to any of the Respondents. It was only on 15.04.2026 that a Notice dated 15.04.2026 alongwith an Order dated 13.04.2026 was sent by the Appellant informing about the prior listing of the present Appeal on 24.04.2026.
4. That ultimately on 24.04.2026, this Hon'ble Tribunal granted the answering Respondent time to file its Reply and directed for the case to be listed on 07.05.2026. Accordingly, in pursuance of the Orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal

dated 23.03.2026 and 24.04.2026, the present Reply is being filed by the Respondent No. 4, M/s Vedanta Ltd. (hereinafter referred as “Answering Respondent”) in response to the allegations made in the present Appeal.

5. That the Answering Respondent, at the outset, submits that all those averments in the Appeal that have not been specifically admitted are herewith denied and are not to be construed as having been accepted by the Answering Respondent as if *traversed seriatim*.
6. That the Respondent No.4 seeks to place on record its Preliminary Objections/Submissions against the Appeal, which in its humble opinion, are crucial for a holistic adjudication of the present matter. The Respondent No.4 craves leave to file a detailed para wise response as and when necessary.

#### **PRELIMINARY OBJECTIONS**

##### **A. The present Appeal is infructuous since a Stage II Clearance has been granted to Respondent No.3, IDCO**

7. That at the outset, it has come to the knowledge of the answering Respondent that the project road in question has been granted the Stage II Clearance on 05.05.2026 which essentially means that present case has been rendered infructuous and is liable to be dismissed as the Stage-I clearance which has been impugned in the present *lis* has merged into the Stage -II Clearance. The respondent No.4 could obtain the Stage-II from the Parivesh portal only on 06.05.2026 and is marked and annexed as **ANNEXURE R/1 (Colly)** alongwith the Corrigendum dated 06.05.2026.
8. In this regard, the Respondent No.4 places reliance on Vimal Bhai and Ors vs Union of India & Ors (Appeal No. 07/2012) wherein vide Judgment dated 07.11.2012, this Hon’ble Tribunal dismissed Appeal challenging Stage-I Forest Clearance noting that as Appeal under Section 16(e) of the NGT Act, 2010 is only provided against an Order passed by the State Government or

other authorities. The Judgment goes on to state that, “in other words, the legislature in its wisdom has kept the Order of approval/clearance passed by the Central Government under FC Act beyond the scope of Appeal.”

9. This position was further corroborated by this Hon’ble Tribunal in the case titled *Milind Pariwakam vs Union of India & Ors* (2015 SCCOnLine NGT 845) a four Judge Bench of this Hon’ble Tribunal has clearly stated that only an Order passed under Section 2 of the FCA, 1980 is appealable under Section 16 of the NGT Act, 2010.

**B. Appellants are attempting to challenge the mining project of the Answering Respondent under the guise of challenging IDCO’s road project**

10. That it is respectfully submitted that the present proceedings are a clear attempt by the Appellants to indirectly assail and obstruct the mining project of the Answering Respondent under the guise of challenging the separate Stage I approval granted for the access road project of the Respondent No. 3, IDCO. Surprisingly the Stage I Clearance granted to the mine in December 2025, prior to the Stage I Clearance to the road, was a pre-requisite to the Stage I Clearance for the subject road and the same has not been challenged. While the impugned approval in the present Appeal pertains to the road project of IDCO, yet the pleadings are replete with allegations directed against the mining project of Respondent No. 4, M/s Vedanta Ltd. and approvals sought by it under separate statutory processes. In this regard, it is the humble submission of the Answering Respondent that the Appellants cannot be permitted to enlarge the scope of the present Appeal or convert the same into a collateral challenge to matters that are not the subject matter of the impugned approval. Such an approach is legally untenable and the instant Appeal deserves to be rejected on this ground alone. Illustratively, following are some

instances which demonstrate that the real grievance is against the mining project, not merely the road project:

- i. While discussing their bonafides, the Appellants admit that they are aggrieved by the proposal to mine the forest land in question (Pg. 7-8 of appeal);
- ii. While discussing the issue of non-application of mind by the FAC, reliance has primarily been placed on the Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> FAC Meeting dated 30.07.2025 and 12<sup>th</sup> FAC Meeting dated 02.12.2025 which considered the Answering Respondent's proposal for diversion of 708.204 ha in mine lease area (Para 33-37/Pg. 19-22 of Appeal);
- iii. Application for prior Environmental Clearance for mining is pending (Pg. 545-547); and
- iv. Vedanta applied on 25.06.2024 for diversion of 708.204 ha for its mining project (Para 3/Pg. 10 r/w A2 @Pg. 39-91).

11. That, further, insofar as the Answering Respondent is concerned, all averments made by the Appellants are based on assumptions, conjectures and generalized allegations without any clear cause of action against the Answering Respondent. The Appellants merely seek to create an impression of *fait accompli* where none exists, as no mining activity has yet commenced and the same would be undertaken only after all permissions have been obtained and, consequently, in compliance with the law. Thus, the Appellants are mixing two separate issues in an attempt to stall the mining project of the Answering Respondent. In this regard, reliance is placed on the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of K.K. Modi v. K.N. Modi [(1998) 3 SCC 573] wherein it was held that proceedings filed for a collateral purpose, vexation, oppression, or misuse of court process amount to abuse of process.

**C. Appellants have challenged a Stage I approval, which is only an intermediate statutory step as opposed to complete diversion, making the instant Appeal premature**

12. That, moreover, the In-Principal Stage – I approval accorded to the Respondent No. 3, IDCO dated 05.01.2026 is conditional in nature and subject to compliance with the terms and conditions imposed by the Respondent No. 1, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change ('MoEF&CC'). The grant of such approval does not, by itself, amount to final diversion of forest land nor confer any unrestricted right to commence project activities. A cumulative reading of Section 2(A) of the Forest (Conservation) Act and Section 16(e) of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 reflect that an Appeal is provided only against order passed by the State Government while an Order of approval/clearance by the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act is beyond the scope of an Appeal.

13. That it is further submitted that Working Permission has since been granted to the Respondent No. 3, IDCO on 27.02.2026 and enables the limited preliminary and preparatory activities connected with the access infrastructure. In this regard, this Hon'ble Tribunal in the case of *Vimal Bhai v. Union of India, Appeal No. 07/2012 (PB)* held that an Appeal is provided for only against an order passed by State Government and an order of approval/clearance by the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act is beyond the scope of an Appeal. Accordingly, the Appeal in question pertaining to in-principle approval was held to be premature and unassailable, while the Appellants were given liberty to file their challenge once the final order is passed by the State Government. Similarly, in the case of *Milind Pariwakam v. Union of India, O.A. No. 52/2015*, this Hon'ble Tribunal yet again held that only an order passed under

Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act is appealable under Section 16 of the NGT Act, 2010. Thus, it is clear that an Appeal challenging the In-Principle Stage I approval is premature, unassailable and liable to be quashed. In light of the established legal position, it is humbly submitted that the Appellants could not have challenged the In-Principal Approval as the same stands to be premature in light of the grant of the Working Permit to IDCO and accordingly, the current Appeal is liable to be dismissed on this ground alone. It is reiterated that now with Stage-II Clearance having been granted, the present Appeal is infructuous and is liable to be dismissed.

14. That the Respondent No.4 reserves its right to raise all its points on merits as and when required. Further, it is important to highlight that there are a catena of cases such as one held by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in the case of M/s Harrison's Malayalam Limited v. State of Kerala & Ors. [2018 (2) KLT 369] that public outcry ought not to influence adjudication (Para 163).

15. It is also settled law that sustainable development ought to balance the interests of industries, economy and the protection of the environment and reference in this regard is made to the cases of Indian Council of Enviro Legal Action v. Union of India [1996 (5) SCC 281 - Para 31, 33], Research Foundation for Science Technology & Natural Resource Policy v. Union of India [(2007) 15 SCC 193 – Para 10-12], G. Sundarrajan v. Union of India & Ors [2013 (6) SCC 620 – Para 201-204, 236-238] and Samaj Parivartana Samudaya v. State of Karnataka and Ors. [WP (C) No. 562 of 2009 – Para 17].

Date: 06.05.2026

Place: Kolkata

**DRAWN AND FILED BY:**

*Mbachani*

Eisha Krishn, Mansi Bachani,  
Gitanjali Sanyal & Anubhav Anand  
Advocates for Respondent No. 6

**SETTLED BY:**

Shri Sanjay Upadhyay  
[Senior Advocate]

**IN THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA  
APPEAL NO. 04 OF 2026**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

Munidei Majhi & Ors.

...Applicant

-Versus-

The Ministry of Environment, Forest  
and Climate Change & Ors.

...Respondent (s)

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Satyapriya, S/o Shri Arvind Shankar Singh, aged about 50 years, am the authorized signatory for M/s Vedanta Limited Core-6, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Scope Complex, 7, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003, do hereby solemnly affirms and declares as under:

1. That I am fully conversant of the facts and circumstances of the matter and am competent to swear this affidavit.
2. The contents of the accompanying Reply are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and have been drafted by the counsel on my instructions and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.
3. That the Annexures in the Reply are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

*I identified the deponent who has signed in my presence*  
*M. Acharya*  
*01/05/2026*

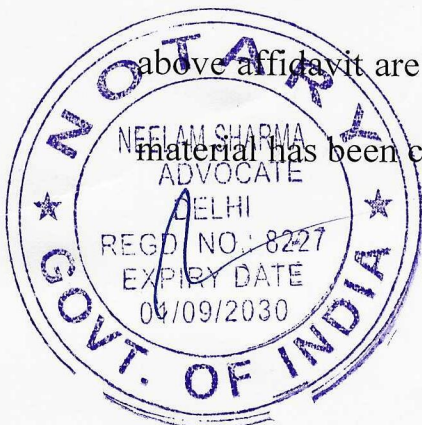
*Satyapriya*  
**DEPONENT**

**VERIFICATION:**

06 MAY 2026

Verified at New Delhi on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2026 that the contents of the

above affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.



**ATTESTED**

*(Signature)*  
NOTARY (Govt. of India)  
Neelam Sharma, Advocate  
Enrol. No.-D1281/2001  
Ch. No. 165A, Gate No. 11,  
Patiala House Courts,  
New Delhi-110001  
(M): 9899408301

*Satyapriya*  
**DEPONENT**

06 MAY 2026



**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**  
**Regional Office, Bhubaneswar**



Online Proposal No.: **FP/OR/OTHERS/523366/2025**



Dated: **05/05/2026**

To,

**The Addl. Chief Secretary,**  
 Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department,  
 Government of Odisha,  
 Bhubaneswar-751 001

**Subject: Stage-I/In-principle approval of Central Government under Section 2(1)(ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of 4.911 ha of forest land in favour of IDCO for construction of access road from Sijimali Bauxite Mines (Hill Top) to SH-44 to facilitate bauxite transportation in Kashipur Tahasil of Rayagada District under Rayagada Forest Division, Odisha.**

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to State Govt. letter No.FE-DIV-FLD-0025-2025-10894/FE&CC dated 9.05.2025 and Online Proposal No.FP/OR/Others/523366/2025, wherein prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for non-forestry use of 4.911 ha of forest land in favour of IDCO for construction of access road from Sijimali Bauxite Mines (Hill Top) to SH-44 to facilitate bauxite transportation in Kashipur Tahasil of Rayagada District under Rayagada Forest Division, Odisha, was sought in accordance with Section-2 (1)(ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. After due consideration of the proposal by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, the *in-principle* approval for diversion of the said forest land was accorded by Ministry vide this office letter No. FP/OR/Others/523366/2025 dated 5.01.2026, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The State Government has furnished the compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and has requested to grant final approval of the proposal.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Odisha vide their letter No.8119/9F (Others)-343/2025 dated 21.04.2026 and submission of the compliance report by the State Govt. in *Parivesh* web portal on 23.04.2026, **Stage-II/final** approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change is hereby granted under Section 2 (1)(ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of 4.911 ha of forest land in favour of IDCO for construction of access road from Sijimali Bauxite Mines (Hill Top) to SH-44 to facilitate bauxite transportation in Kashipur Tahasil of Rayagada District under Rayagada Forest Division, Odisha, subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:-

**1. General Conditions**

S. No	Conditions
1.1	The State Govt. shall ensure that the legal status of diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
1.2	The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India .
1.3	The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department will raise compensatory afforestation over 6.07 ha of non-forest land identified in village Tingarjhola, Kalnara Tahasil of Rayagada District under Rayagada Forest Division within two years from the date of Stage-II Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department, at the cost of user agency.
1.4	The State Government shall ensure that the identified non-forest shall be notified as Protected Forest under Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or local forest Act. The Nodal Officer, after notification of such non forest land, shall uploaded a copy of said notification on the PARIVESH portal
1.5	The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department will raise Additional compensatory afforestation over 5.00 ha of degraded forest land identified Pedakonda Extn. RF under Rayagada Forest Division within two years from the date of Stage-II Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department, at the cost of user agency.
1.6	The State Forest Department shall ensure that the species to be planted in the CA & Additional CA schemes shall be of native species of the area. At least 18 month old seedlings should be planted. Intensive monitoring of the plantation needs to be done and documented using Geo tagging so that the increase of canopy density and survival and growth of plantation can be evaluated at regular intervals.
1.7	The State Govt. shall ensure the compliance on FRA, 2006 as per Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules and guidelines issued from time to time before handing over of the diverted forest land to user agency.
1.8	The State Govt. shall ensure that the KML files of the area to be diverted and CA areas shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details before handing over of the diverted forest land to the user agency
1.9	The State Government shall immediately repair/reconstruct the damaged boundary pillars and ensure proper demarcation of the diverted forest land on the ground. The State Government shall also take appropriate action against the responsible person(s) for damage/disturbance of forest boundary pillars under the provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and the applicable local Forest Act, if any.

S. No	Conditions
1.10	The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department shall undertake plantation of tall indigenous tree species along both sides of the proposed road, at the cost of the User Agency, to mitigate dust pollution resulting from the movement of heavy vehicles associated with mining activities.
1.11	The State Government shall ensure that the User Agency shall implement appropriate engineering and safety measures to prevent soil erosion as the proposed area features a medium slope and the road will be used by heavy vehicles.
1.12	The State Govt. shall ensure that overburden shall not be disposed beyond the designated road width. Muck generated from earth cuttings shall be fully utilized for filling works. Any excess muck shall be disposed strictly in accordance with a Muck Disposal Plan. No muck or debris shall be permitted to roll downhill slopes.
1.13	The State Govt. shall ensure that retaining walls, breast walls, and drainage structures shall be constructed at appropriate locations to ensure slope stability and prevent erosion along the alignment.
1.14	The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department shall undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures at the CA sites, with the cost to be borne by the user agency.
1.15	The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency explore the possibility of successful transplantation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
1.16	The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall explore the possibility of successful transplantation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
1.17	The State Govt. shall ensure that flanks of roads should be filled by transported soil and not with soil dug from the side of the roads.
1.18	The State Govt. shall ensure that the designing of new culverts/bridges and redesigning the existing ones over the natural streams/ rivers/canals should be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, so that it does not hamper movement of wild animals including fishes & amphibians migration.
1.19	The State Govt. shall ensure that speed regulating signage will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Forest Areas.
1.20	The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall provide adequate under passes in

S. No	Conditions
	wildlife areas/wildlife crossing, if any, for the safe movement of wildlife.
1.21	The State Govt. shall ensure that no labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the user agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.
1.22	The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that while executing works, the user agency shall not fell any tree or damage forest growth in the surrounding forest area in any manner.
1.23	The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that earth or any material shall neither be brought from nor the debris resulting during construction be disposed of in the adjoining forest area by the user agency.
1.24	The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that the layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
1.25	The State Govt. shall ensure that the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and under no circumstances be transferred to any other user agency, department or person without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
1.26	The State Govt. shall ensure that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
1.27	The State Govt. shall ensure that the DFO concerned will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in surrounding area.
1.28	The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall submit annual self monitoring report on compliance of stipulated conditions to the Nodal Officer (FCA) of the State and Regional Office of this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly.
1.29	Any order passed by the Hon'ble Courts or Tribunals in respect of the present project shall be complied with immediately, and any additional stipulation(s)/condition(s) imposed therein shall be implemented by the State Government/ User Agency.
1.30	The State Govt. shall ensure that any other conditions that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, which shall be complied by the user agency.
1.31	The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts,

S. No	Conditions
	Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, NGT Order (s) & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
1.32	Any other direction issued by the Ministry as a result of Hon'ble Supreme Court order will have bearing on this approval.
1.33	Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in Para 1.16 of Consolidated Guidelines and Clarification issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 vide Ministry's letter dated 29.12.2023.

## 2. Standard conditions

## 3. Specific Conditions

S. No	Conditions
3.1	In strict compliance with the statutory mandate under Para 16(7) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, the issuance and continued operational validity of this Stage-II clearance are inherently subject to the final adjudication of Appeal No. 04/2026/EZ (Munidei Majhi & Ors. Vs. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change & Ors.), presently pending before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata.

## Copy To

1. The Chief Executive Officer, National Authority CAMPA, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Supreme Court Metro Station Building, New Delhi-110 001.
2. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003.
3. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023.
4. The Divisional Forest Officer, Rayagada Forest Division, Rayagada, Odisha.
5. The Chief General Manager (Env.), IDCO, IDCO Tower, Janpath, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

**Signature Not Verified**

Digitally Signed by: Shri **Yasanta Kiran Babu** (Yasanta Kiran Babu)  
Deputy Inspector General of Forests (RO)

Date: 05/05/2026



**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**  
**Regional office**



Online proposal no:  
**FP/OR/OTHERS/523366/2025**



Date **06/05/2026**

### CORRIGENDUM

**Subject:** **Stage-II/ Final Approval of Central Government under Section 2(1)(ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of 4.911 ha of forest land in favour of IDCO for construction of access road from Sijimali Bauxite Mines (Hill Top) to SH-44 to facilitate bauxite transportation in Kashipur Tahasil of Rayagada District under Rayagada Forest Division, Odisha.**

**Sir/Madam,**

I am directed to refer to this Regional Office's letter of even number dated 05.05.2026 on the subject cited above, whereby final approval was conveyed for the proposal mentioned therein, and to state that the words "Stage-I/In-principle approval" appearing in the subject line shall be read as "Stage-II/Final Approval".

All other contents, terms and conditions stipulated in the final approval letter shall remain unchanged.

**Yours Faithfully,**

**(Vasanta Kiran Babu)**  
**Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)**

**To,**

**The Addl. Chief Secretary,**  
 Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department,  
 Government of Odisha,  
 Bhubaneswar – 751 001.

**Copy To**

1. The Chief Executive Officer, National Authority CAMPA, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Supreme Court Metro Station Building, New Delhi-110 001.
2. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003.
3. The PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023.
4. The Divisional Forest Officer, Rayagada Forest Division, Rayagada, Odisha.
5. The Chief General Manager (Env.), IDCO, IDCO Tower, Janpath, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

**Signature Not Verified**

Digitally Signed by : Shri Yasanta Kiran  
Babu  
Deputy Inspector General of Forest, IRO

Date: 06/05/2026

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**Service in Munidei Majhi Vs. MoEF&CC & Ors. [Appeal No. 04 of 2026]**

1 message

**ELDF** <eldflegal@gmail.com>

Wed, May 6, 2026 at 5:39 PM

To: Amrita Pandey &lt;amritalegal@gmail.com&gt;, advocate.paushali@gmail.com, Yogeshwaran Amarneethi &lt;yogeshwaranadv@gmail.com&gt;, fsec.or@nic.in, legumjure@gmail.com

Cc: Eisha Krishn &lt;eisha@eldfindia.com&gt;, Mansi Bachani &lt;mansi@eldfindia.com&gt;

Dear Sir/Ma'am

Please find attached a copy of the Reply Affidavit filed on behalf of Respondent No. 04 Vedanta Ltd. in the above mentioned case.

*Thanks & Regards*

--

**Sameer Manher***Clerk**Enviro Legal Defence Firm**29, Presidential Estate LGF,**Nizamuddin East New Delhi – 110013**Ph. No. 011-40573181*

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 **Reply R4.pdf**  
7780K