

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,  
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA  
Original Application No.158/2025/EZ**

Surendra Tapasu and Others

.....Applicants

-Versus-

Union of India & Others

.....Respondents

**I N D E X**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Description of Documents</b>	<b>Page No</b>
1.	Additional affidavit filed on behalf of the Opp. Party No.6.	1-4
2	<b><u>Annexure-M/6</u></b> Copy of online proposal No. FP/OR/Airport/ 426096/2023 on dtd.01.04.2026 of MoEF & CC, Government of India	5-9

By the Respondent No.6 through

**Cuttack**

**Dt. 05.05.2026**

*A. Dash*  
**ADDL. STANDING COUNSEL  
AISHWARYA DASH  
E. NO. D/2372/2017  
MOB. NO.9583615112**



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**ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT FILED ON BEHALF  
OF THE OPP.PARTY NO.6: -**

I, Debadutta Suranjita Jena, aged about 54 years,  
D/O- Late Bhaskar Chandra Jena, presently working  
as Special Secretary to Government, Commerce &  
Transport Department, Govt. of Odisha,  
Bhubaneswar, Dist-Khordha do hereby solemnly  
affirm and state as follows:

*Debadutta Suranjita Jena.*  
Special Secretary to Govt  
Commerce & Transport Deptt

1. That I am presently working as above. I have gone through the contents of the original application, supplementary affidavit filed by the applicant as well as the documents annexed thereto and understood the contents thereof. I am otherwise also well acquainted with the facts of the present case and competent to

*Adaw*

*985206*  
Surendra Prasad Dha  
Advocate.  
NOTARY, CUTTACK

swear this affidavit by virtue of my office and also being authorized to file the present affidavit on behalf of Opposite Party No. 06.

2. That, it is humbly submitted that, the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC), MoEF & CC, Government of India has recommended for the combined Environment Clearance and CRZ Clearance vide their MoM dated 05.08.2025 subject to conditions that, the Project Proponent shall obtain Forest Clearance for the project of Shree Jagannath International Airport at Puri. Accordingly, the Government of Odisha sent a proposal for seeking approval of the Central Government for construction of the said project.

3. That, it is humbly submitted that the recommendation for grant of Stage-I approval for the project of Shree Jagannath International Airport at Puri was also duly accepted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India vide 2<sup>nd</sup>

Debadatta Suramya Jais.  
Special Secretary to Govt  
Commerce & Transport Deptt

*185*  
Surendra Prasad Dha.  
Advocate  
NOTARY, CUTTACK

*185*

Advisory Committee meeting held on dated 27.02.2026.

4. That, it is humbly submitted that, now after careful consideration of the proposal of the Government of Odisha, and on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee and approval of the same by the competent authority of MoEFCC, New Delhi, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India has accorded "*In-principle/Stage-I*" approval under Section 2(1)(ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 27.887 ha. of DLC forest land for construction of Shee Jagannath International Airport in Puri District, Odisha vide Online Proposal No. FP/OR/Airport/426096/2023 on dtd.01.04.2026.

Copy of online proposal No. FP/OR/Airport/426096/2023 on dtd.01.04.2026 of MoEF & CC, Government of India is annexed herewith and marked as Annexure-M/6.

5. That, in view of the facts and submissions stated

Debadette Surangite Seso.  
Special Secretary to Govt  
Commerce & Transport Deptt

Sunendra Prasad Dha.  
Advocate  
NOTARY, CUTTACK

above, the original application is devoid of any merit and is liable to be dismissed.

6. That this deponent craves leave to submit further Affidavit, if necessary at the time of hearing.

7. That the contents of the above paragraphs are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and based on official records.

Identified by:

*Adan*

Adl. Standing Counsel

*Debadatta Sunapati Jena,*  
Special Secretary to Govt  
Commerce & Transport Deptt  
**DEPONENT**

**CERTIFICATE**

Certified that due to want of cartridge papers, white papers are used.

Cuttack

Dt. 8.05.2026

*Adan*

ADDL. STANDING COUNSEL

AISHWARYA DASH

E. NO. D/2372/2017

MOB. NO.9583615112

E-mail: [aishwaryadash010@gmail.com](mailto:aishwaryadash010@gmail.com)

The above named Deponee

Solemnly affirm on 8.5.2026

D.C. Jena Being Identified

by *A. Dash (Adl)*

*Surendra Prasad Dhas*  
Advocate

NOTARY, CUTTACK





Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)



Online Proposal No.:  
FP/OR/Airport/426096/2023



Dated: 01/04/2026

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests)  
Department of Forest, Environment and Climate Change  
Government of Odisha  
Bhubaneswar.

**Subject: 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 27.887 ha. of DLC forest land for construction of Shree Jagannath International Airport under Puri Forest Division in Puri District, Odisha. (FP/OR/Airport/426096/2023)- reg.**

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to Government of Odisha's proposal No. FP/OR/Airport/426096/2023 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The said proposal has been examined by the Advisory Committee (AC) constituted by the Central Government under Section- 3 of the aforesaid Adhiniyam on 27.02.2026.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the Government of Odisha and on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee and approval of the same by the competent authority of MoEFCC, New Delhi, the Central Government hereby accords "**In-principle/Stage-I**" approval under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 27.887 ha. of DLC forest land for construction of Shree Jagannath International Airport under Puri Forest Division in Puri District, Odisha, subject to the following conditions:-


**1. General Conditions**

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Special Secretary to Govt  
Commerce & Transport Deptt

S. No	Conditions
1.1	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
1.2	The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the Compensatory Afforestation as per the approved CA Scheme at the current wage rate in consultation with State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal;
1.3	Compensatory Afforestation over 29.939 ha of non-forest land in Anipatia and Banabarada village of Kakatpur Tahasil shall be raised at the project cost and afforestation work shall start within two years from the date of final approval and maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved CA scheme by the State Forest Department;
1.4	The non-forest land shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department, OR shall be notified by the State Government as Protected forest under section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant section(s) of the local Forest Act, before handing over the forest land to the user agency;
1.5	The State Govt. shall ensure that the additional compensatory afforestation shall be raised over an area of 59.52 ha of degraded forest land as per the approved scheme;
1.6	The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC (pt.) dated 29.12.2023 in this regard;
1.7	At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
1.8	The Compensatory levies to be realized from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited, through e-challan, in to the account of National Authority, CAMPA pertaining to the State concerned through e-portal ( <a href="https://parivesh.nic.in/">https://parivesh.nic.in/</a> );
1.9	The complete compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal ( <a href="https://parivesh.nic.in/">https://parivesh.nic.in/</a> );
1.10	The user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled, if any, 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;
1.11	The cost of felling of trees, if any, shall be deposited by the User Agency with the

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Special Secretary to Govt  
Commerce & Transport Deptt

S. No	Conditions
	State Forest Department;
1.12	The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
1.13	The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the proposal;
1.14	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
1.15	The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels, if required to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
1.16	The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS coordinates;
1.17	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
1.18	The user agency in consultation with the State Government shall create and maintain alternate habitat/home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Bird's nests artificially made out of eco-friendly material shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project;
1.19	The User Agency shall implement the R&R Plan, if applicable, as per R&R policy of State Government in consonance with National R & R policy, Government of India before the commencement of the project work and implementation. The said R&R plan shall be monitored by the State Govt./Regional Office of MoEF&CC;
1.20	The KML files of proposed area for diversion as well as the land identified for the compensatory afforestation shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details before handover of the land;
1.21	The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
1.22	No damage to the flora, fauna or the environment of the adjoining area shall be caused;
1.23	Adequate measures to ensure no damage to the adjoining forest areas should be

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Commerce & Transport Deptt

S. No	Conditions
	taken by the User Agency at the project cost;
1.24	The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;
1.25	Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife shall be carried with by the State Government and user agency;
1.26	The user agency shall comply all the provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
1.27	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 Chapter 1 of the consolidated guidelines and clarifications issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 29.12.2023.

**2. Standard conditions**

S. No	Conditions
2.1	Felling shall be done only in built up area and bare minimum felling shall be permitted in other non-built up areas. Felling of trees before the start of construction should be verified by the concerned DFO.
2.2	In case of blank areas along the roads planting of trees should be done in at least 5 meter wide strip;
2.3	Only built up area should be fenced so that other areas are available for free movement of animals;
2.4	Along the arterial roads, natural forests should be maintained;
2.5	The user agency shall assist the State Government in conservation and preservation of the flora and fauna of the area in accordance with the plan prepared by the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State.

**3. Specific Conditions**

*True Copy attested*  
  
*Special Secretary to Govt  
Commerce & Transport Deptt*

S. No	Conditions
3.1	The State Government shall ensure that the User Agency implements mitigation measures and other important recommendations derived from the impact assessment studies and Site Specific Wildlife Management Plan developed as per the recommendations made by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and Zoological Survey of India (ZSI).

After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

**Copy To**

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. The DDGF (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar of MoEF&CC.
3. The APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
5. User Agency.

**Your's faithfully**

Sd/-

(Raja Ram Singh)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests

**Signature valid**

Digitally Signed by : Dr. Raja Ram Singh  
Assistant Inspector General/Scientist, MEF

Date: 01/04/2026

**True Copy attested**



**Special Secretary to Govt  
Commerce & Transport Deptt**