

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
FOREST, ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT

No. FE-DIV-FLD-0131-2021- 2888 /FE&CC, Bhubaneswar, dated the 16.2.23
10F (Cons)71/2021

ORDER

Sub: Diversion of 3.657 ha forest land (Revenue Forest land 3.171 ha and DLC forest land 0.486 ha) coming within jurisdiction of Balasore Wildlife, Bhadrak Wildlife & Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife), Rajnagar for laying of Paradip-Somnathpur-Halida Product Pipeline in Balasore, Bhadrak & Kendrapara District by M/s Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

WHEREAS, the Chief Construction Manager, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., SERPL, Meghadambaru, Dist.-Balasore had applied for diversion of 3.657 ha forest land coming within jurisdiction of Balasore Wildlife Division, Bhadrak Wildlife Division & Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife) , Rajnagar for laying of Paradip-Somnathpur-Halida Pipeline project in Balasore, Bhadrak & Kendrapara District.

And whereas, the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India, Integrated Regional Office, Bhubaneswar had accorded 'Stage-I/in-principle' approval for diversion of 3.657 ha forest land (Revenue forest land 3.171 ha and DLC forest land 0.486 ha) coming within jurisdiction of Balasore Wildlife, Bhadrak Wildlife & Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife), Rajnagar for laying of Paradip-Somnathpur-Haldia Product Pipeline in Balasore, Bhadrak & Kendrapara District by M/s Indian Oil Corporation Ltd vide its Letter No.5-ORB476/2021-BHU, dtd.03.12.2021 (**Annexure-I**).

And whereas, the MoEF&CC, Government of India, Integrated Regional Office in consideration of the compliance of the conditions of the 'Stage-I/in-principle' approval, have accorded Stage-II/ final approval for diversion of 3.657 ha forest land (Revenue forest land 3.171 ha and DLC forest land 0.486 ha) coming within jurisdiction of Balasore Wildlife, Bhadrak Wildlife & Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife), Rajnagar for laying of Paradip-Somnathpur-Haldia Product Pipeline in Balasore, Bhadrak & Kendrapara District by M/s Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, subject to fulfillment of conditions as stipulated therein vide its Letter No.5-ORB476/2021-BHU dtd.28.12.2022 (**Annexure-II**).

Now, therefore, the Government of Odisha, do hereby allow diversion of above mentioned 3.657 ha of forest land in favour of user agency as per approved land use pattern subject to fulfillment of the conditions of final forest clearance order as stipulated by the MoEF&CC, Government of India, Integrated Regional Office, Bhubaneswar as submitted by the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha vide their letter No.17785, dt.21.10.2021.

The Collector, Balasore, Collector, Bhadrak, Collector, Kendrapara, Divisional Forest Officer, Balasore Wildlife Division, Divisional Forest Officer, Bhadrak Wildlife Division, Divisional Forest Officer, Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife), Rajnagar, as the case may be are hereby authorized to handover the forest land coming within their jurisdiction, as has been finally diverted following due procedure of law. Before handing over the diverted forest land to the user agency, it shall be ensured that Net Present Value of the forest land for this project for which approval has been obtained shall be deposited in full, at applicable rates.

d

-1-

The Divisional Forest Officer, Balasore Wildlife Division, Divisional Forest Officer, Bhadrak Wildlife Division and Divisional Forest Officer, Mangrove Forest Division(Wildlife), Rajnagar are also directed to monitor compliance to the conditions stipulated for such diversion in the respective forest/ wildlife clearance order and to report violations, if any, to the Nodal Officer, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha and to the Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department.

Execution of project activities will be subject to availability of all other statutory clearances required under relevant Acts/ Rules for this project, deposit of requisite funds and compliance of Court's order, if any.

By order of the Governor

16/2/2023
(Lingaraj Otta)

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2889 /FE&CC,

Date 16.2.23

Copy with copy of Annexures forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha for kind information and necessary follow up action.

Appropriate instruction to the Divisional Forest Officer, Balasore Wildlife Division, Divisional Forest Officer, Bhadrak Wildlife Division, Divisional Forest Officer, Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife), Rajnagar and user agency may be imparted for required follow up action at their end. It may be ensured by the Divisional Forest Officers that Net Present Value of the forest land involved in this project of the user agency is deposited by them in full, at applicable rates in appropriate head. The user agency may also be instructed to furnish compliance to the conditions of forest/ wildlife clearance pertaining to the project in every quarter to the Divisional Forest Officers for facilitating monitoring of compliances.

16/2/2023
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2890 /FE&CC,

Date 16.2.23

Copy with copy of Annexures forwarded to the Asst. Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF&CC (FC Division), Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh, Aliganj Road, New Delhi, Pin-110003/ Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), Government of India, MoEF&CC, IRO, A/3, Chandrasekharapur, Bhubaneswar for kind information and necessary follow up action in compliance to the order of Hon'ble NGT dtd.07.11.2012 in Appeal No.07/2012 communicated by the MoEF, Government of India vide their letter F. No.7-23/2012- FC dtd.24.07.2013.

16/2/2023
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2891 /FE&CC,

Date 16.2.23

Copy with copy of Annexures forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha/ Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FD&NO), FC Act, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha/ Director, Environment-cum-Special Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department/ Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha for information and necessary action.

16/2/2023
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2892 /FE&CC,

Date 16.2.23

Copy with copy of Annexures forwarded to the FD-STR-cum-Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Baripada Circle/ Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhubaneswar Circle/ Divisional Forest Officer, Balasore Wildlife Division/ Divisional Forest Officer, Bhadrak Wildlife Division/ Divisional Forest Officer, Mangrove Forest Division(Wildlife), Rajnagar for information and immediate necessary compliance.

It may be ensured by the Divisional Forest Officers that Net Present Value of the forest land involved in this project of User Agency shall be deposited by them in full, at applicable rates in appropriate head before handing over of the forest land to the user agency. Besides, funds, if any, due to be deposited by the user agency for this project shall also be deposited by the project proponent before the forest land is handed over to them. The User Agency may also be instructed to furnish compliance to the conditions of forest/ wildlife clearance pertaining to the project in every quarter to the Divisional Forest Officers for facilitating monitoring of compliances by them.

The Divisional Forest Officers are also instructed to ensure that the direction given to the user agency are executed immediately.

16/2/2023

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2893 /FE&CC,

Date 16.2.23

Copy with copy of Annexures forwarded to Industries Department/ FS&CW Department/ R&DM Department/ Collector, Balasore/ Collector, Bhadrak/ Collector, Kendrapara/ Collector, Jagatsinghpur for information and necessary follow up action.

16/2/2023

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2894 /FE&CC,

Date 16.2.23

Copy with copy of Annexures forwarded to the Chief Construction Manager, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, SERPL, Meghadambaru, Po-Kuruda, Dist-Balasore, Odisha, Pin-756056 for information and immediate necessary action.

The user agency is asked to take following actions immediately as per orders of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal dtd.07.11.2012 in Appeal No.07/2012 communicated by the MoEF, Government of India vide their letter F. No.7-23/2012-FC dtd.24.07.2013.

- i. ***They shall publish the entire forest clearance granted in verbatim along with conditions and safeguards imposed by the Central Government in Stage-I/II forest clearance in two widely circulated daily newspapers, one in vernacular language and the other in English language so as to make people aware of the permission granted to the Project for use of forest land for non-forest purposes.***
- ii. ***They shall submit the copies of forest clearance orders granted by the Central Government/State Government to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal bodies along with the relevant offices of the State Government, who in turn, shall display the same for 30 days from date of receipt.***
- iii. ***Detailed action taken in compliance to the above order of State Government shall be intimated to the DFO, Balasore Wildlife Division/ DFO, Bhadrak Wildlife Division/ DFO, Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife), Rajnagar/ FD-STR-cum-RCCF, Baripada Circle/ RCCF, Bhubaneswar Circle/ PCCF & HoFF, Odisha/ Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department for reference.***

Besides the above, the user agency is also asked to deposit Net Present Value of forest land for this project in full, if not deposited yet, at applicable rates. Rquisite funds due for deposit by the user agency on account of this project shall also be deposited under appropriate head.

The user agency shall furnish compliances to the conditions prescribed in the forest/wildlife clearance order to the Divisional Forest Officers in every quarter, for the purpose of monitoring by him.

Memo No. 2895 /FE&CC,

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government
Date 16.2.23

Copy with copy of Annexures forwarded to the Head, State Portal, I.T. Centre, Odisha Secretariat, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action. He is requested to upload this order along with its enclosures in the website of Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department **immediately** for information of all concerned. **This is required in compliance to order of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal dtd.07.11.2012 in Appeal No.7/2012. Hence, this may be done unflinchingly.**

Memo No. 2896 /FE&CC,

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government
Date 16.2.23

Copy with copy of Annexures forwarded to the Under Secretary to Government, Office Establishment Section, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department for information and necessary action with reference to their letter No.12939/F&E dt.16.07.2016.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government



No. 5-ORB476/2021-BHU

28th December, 2022

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary,
Forest & Environment Deptt.,
Government of Odisha,
Bhubaneswar-751 001.



Sub:- Diversion of 3.657 ha forest land (Revenue forest land 3.171 ha and DLC forest land 0.486 ha) coming within jurisdiction of Balasore Wildlife, Bhadrak Wildlife & Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife), Rajnagar for laying of Paradip-Somnathpur-Haldia Product Pipeline in Balasore, Bhadrak & Kendrapara District by M/s Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

Madam,

I am directed to refer to State Govt. letter No. 10F(Cons)71/2021-18845/F&E dated 27.10.2021, wherein prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for diversion of 3.657 ha forest land (Revenue forest land 3.171 ha and DLC forest land 0.486 ha) coming within jurisdiction of Balasore Wildlife, Bhadrak Wildlife & Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife), Rajnagar for laying of Paradip-Somnathpur-Haldia Product Pipeline in Balasore, Bhadrak & Kendrapara District by M/s Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., was sought in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 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 of even number dated 03.12.2021, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The Nodal Officer (FCA) of 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.

2. 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.25494/9F (Others)-386/2020 dated 16.12.2022 and uploading of the Stage-I compliance report in *Parivesh* web portal on 23.12.2022, **Stage-II/final approval** of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change is hereby granted under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 3.657 ha forest land (Revenue forest land 3.171 ha and DLC forest land 0.486 ha) coming within jurisdiction of Balasore Wildlife, Bhadrak Wildlife & Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife), Rajnagar for laying of Paradip-Somnathpur-Haldia Product Pipeline in Balasore, Bhadrak & Kendrapara District by M/s Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:-

A: Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land.

- i) The State Govt. shall ensure the complete compliance on FRA, 2006 as applicable.
- ii) The State Govt. shall ensure that NPV of the above proposal has been realized from user agency as per Ministry's direction from time to time.
- iii) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required.

iv) The State Govt. shall ensure that the KML files of the area to be diverted and the CA area 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.

v) The State Govt. shall ensure that 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 co-ordinates.

B: Conditions which need to be complied after handing over of forest land to the user agency.

i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.

ii) The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department will raise the Compensatory afforestation over 8.00 ha degraded forest land identified in Tinikosia RF (Patch-C) of Nilagiri WL Range under Balasore (WL) Division within three years from the date of Stage-II Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department, at the cost of user agency. The species to be planted in the CA scheme shall be of native species of the area avoiding Teak and exotic species. 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.

iii) 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.

iv) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that the pipeline shall be laid at a depth about 1.25 meter to 1.5 meter below the ground as proposed by the State Govt. and after laying down the pipeline, the ground will be leveled.

v) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall take adequate safety measures for accidental leakage of oil product pipe line.

vi) 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.

vii) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that no additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for any activity related to the project work.

viii) 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.

ix) 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.

x) 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.

xi) 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.

xii) The State Govt. shall ensure that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.

- xiii) The State Govt. shall ensure that the concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area.
- xiv) 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 Integrated Regional Office of this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly.
- xv) 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.
- xvi) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, 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.
- xvii) It may please note that violation of any of these conditions will be amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per Para 1.21 of Chapter-1 of Handbook of Guidelines issued under F.C. Act, 1980 vide Ministry's letter No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.

Yours faithfully,

Padma Mahanti

(Padma Mahanti)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)

Copy to:-

1. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi - 110 003.
2. The PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Chief Construction Manager, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., SERPL, Meghadambaru, PO: Kuruda, Dist : Balasore-756056.

—
Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)

SURE HAS BEEN A MOMENTOUS GOLDEN JUBILEE!

#SAVINGOURSTRIPES
MY TIGER TALE

Over-awed by a tiger encounter in the forest? Pen your tale, title it and submit your entry. The top 100 entries will receive Amazon vouchers worth Rs 1,000 each, along with a chance to get featured in TOI, and in the creation of our Tiger Anthem. Submit your entry at: www.savingourstripes.com

Know more at www.savingourstripes.com



MY TIGER TALE

Over-awed by a tiger encounter in the forest? Pen your tale, title it and submit your entry. The top 100 entries will receive Amazon vouchers worth Rs 1,000 each, along with a chance to get featured in TOI, and in the creation of our Tiger Anthem. Submit your entry at: www.savingourstripes.com

Second cheetah death at MP's Kuno in a month

Bhopal: In a major setback to India's ambitious cheetah re-introduction project, one of the 12 cheetahs airlifted from South Africa to Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh died of a mysterious ailment on Sunday evening, reports P Naveen.

Cheetah Uday - a wild male captured close to the Matlabas River in the Waterberg region of South Africa - was around six years old. It was transported in a batch of 20 on February 18.

The Cheetah Metapopulation Project - a non-profit, public benefit project dedicated to con-

servicing this threatened species that introduced this cheetah to Kuno had said it was healthy. Experts, however, say some of these cheetahs are losing fitness, and suffering from chronic stress after months in captivity.

In the morning, a team of wildlife experts went out on their daily mission to monitor the cheetahs that called Bano No 2 their home. As they made their rounds, their keen eyes were drawn to a disturbing sight - Uday was sitting in a low torpor; his head bowed in exhaustion.

Planning a family holiday? Tiger safari seems best bet

The thrill of sighting a tiger in the wild is drawing more and more families to reserves. From elderly to kids, they have many stories to tell about spotting the big cat in its natural habitat

are in majority, according to guides.

The cost is also steep, with two to three safaris usually done per trip - each accommodating six persons. Costs for the traveler between Rs 10,000 and Rs 12,000, more VIP or tailor-made cost even higher. Resort accommodation (usually preferred by families), food, tips to guides only add up.

But rarely do visitors mind shelling out some extra bucks for the thrill of sighting a tiger. "My first tiger sighting, I was half-crying," says Nuriya Rao of Mumbai.

"Over 15 years, I have had around 100 tiger sightings, but the excitement is the same each time," says G Ramachandra Rao, a wildlife photographer. Families do it to escape from the city into the wild, with the comfort of resorts, choice of food on offer. This makes it an ideal escape.

Wildlife ecotourism in general, feels D'Sa. "It is not just about spotting tigers, it is becoming increasingly popular in India and tiger safaris are no exception - because the soothing views and a peaceful time in forest are a stress buster for all".

For naturalists and guides, first-time visitors can be a bit noisy; but most learn the protocol after one or two safaris.

"We have seen young boys, who came first with their families, return as conservationists," says a nature guide at Kanha Tiger Reserve.

Doreen D'Sa, 71, who went on her first safari in 1987, says that the rising popularity can be gauged from how difficult it is to book vehicles online.

"Around 1994, one could walk in the Tadoba core. Ten years later, in 2003, I noticed only two vehicles. In 2013, I had to start booking sharp at midnight, and everything was full," says D'Sa.

"Ninety percent of the visitors on safaris now only want to see the tiger. The forest itself in places like Jim Corbett National Park is so beautiful. There are also other large mammals," says D'Sa.

Ramachandra Rao said that at times such visitors can lead to pressure on the driver or guides to disturb a tiger. "Drivers break rules for a small amount to 'show a tiger', and create traffic jams," he said.

But there was no only tiger growing in popularity, feels Naidu, due to the variety of tiger reserves.

"From mangroves in the Sundarbans, to semi-deciduous in MP to evergreen in Uttarakhand. The experiences are endless."

Indian tigers no cool dudes, ecotourism stressing them out

Hyderabad: The term 'ecotourism' may sound benign and politically correct, but scientists say today the Royal Bengal Tiger is more stressed out than his Siberian counterpart, largely because of ecotourism. After completing hormone studies, the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology's Laboratory for Conservation of Endangered Species (LaCONES), Hyderabad, scientists now root for greater distance between human and tiger as they fear that proximity to human habitations may affect their reproductive fitness.

In a research paper titled 'Comparison of tigers' faecal glucocorticoids (FGCM) level in two extreme habitats', LaCONES senior principal scientist Dr Govindswamy Umaphathy revealed the level of FGCM linked stress was significantly higher in Royal Bengal Tiger in India than in Amur tigers in Russian Far East.

"We compared three methods for extracting glucocorticoid metabolites in tiger faeces to examine correct stress levels in Bengal and Amur tigers in India and Russia, respectively." The level of FGCM was significantly higher in Bengal tigers. The reasons might be related to tiger density or anthropogenic pressure, said Umaphathy.

An increase of FGCM level may be caused by increased human presence, sexual intercourse, their reproductive in low air temperatures, conflicts with conspecifics or sympatric species.

Bengal tigers had a much higher density of potential prey than Amur ones, so hunger was less probable in India. Winter temperatures are much lower in the Russian Far East (-10-40°C) than India, so this is ruled out.

Both subspecies have food competitors among sympatric species of carnivores; however, in India all of them are much smaller than the tiger, although in Russia, brown bears may be dangerous to the Amur tigers. "Most likely the higher level of FGCM in Indian tigers is due to increased anthropogenic disturbance and high density of tigers," Umaphathy said.

Another study on physiological stress responses of tigers due to human disturbance, especially tourism, was measured in two central Indian tiger reserves - Bandhavgarh and Kanha, during both tourism and non-tourism periods. There was no difference in mean FGCM between the two tiger reserves, but within each reserve, levels were higher during tourism period than in non-tourism period.

In a third study, LaCONES correlated physiological stress and habitat factors in the reintroduction-based recovery of tiger populations. Umaphathy said, "The reintroduction of tigers in Sariska and Panna resulted in contrasting outcomes and population growth. Panna population grew rapidly, while Sariska population struggled." As spotted tigers in Sariska had higher FGCM than Panna tigers, "We concluded large carnivore reintroductions should consider physiological stress and habitats at fine scale, for realistic projections."

IndianOil

Pipelines Division - South-Eastern Region Pipelines PUBLIC NOTICE

FOREST CLEARANCE FOR PARADIP - SOMNATHPUR - HALDIA PRODUCT PIPELINE PROJECT IN ODISHA

The Integrated Regional Office (IRO), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India vide its letter no-O-08476/2021-BHU dated 03.12.2021 has accorded Stage-I (pre-proposal) and approval and vide its letter no-S-08318/2017-BHU dated 28.12.2022 has accorded Stage-II (final approval from the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 3,657 ha. forest land & 171 ha. D.C. forest land & 0.486 ha. coming within jurisdiction of Balasore Wildlife, Bhadrak Wildlife & Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife), Rajnagar for laying OF Paradip-Somnathpur-Haldia Product Pipeline in Balasore, Bhadrak & Kendrapada District, by M/s. Paradip Petroleum Corporation Limited (PPCL), subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:-

- Legal status of forest land proposed for diversion shall remain unchanged.
 - The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department will raise the Compensatory Afforestation over 8.00 ha degraded forest land identified in the Forest Survey of India Report, Range under Balasore (WL) Division within three years from the date of Stage-I Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department, at the cost of user agency. The species to be planted in the CA shall be of native species of the area avoiding Teak and exotic species. 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.
 - 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.
 - The State Govt. & user agency shall ensure that the pipeline shall be laid at a depth about 1.25 meter to 1.5 meter below the ground as proposed by the State Govt. and, after laying down the pipeline, the ground will be leveled.
 - The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall take adequate safety measures for accidental leakage of oil product pipeline.
 - 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 the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.
 - The State Govt. & user agency shall ensure that no additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for any activity related to the project work.
 - The State Govt. & 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.
 - The State Govt. & user agency shall ensure that the layout plan of the proposed forest land shall not be changed without the prior approval of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
 - The State Govt. & user agency shall ensure that the 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.
 - The State Govt. & user agency shall ensure that 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 the prior approval of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
 - The State Govt. shall ensure that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
 - The State Govt. shall ensure that the concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area.
 - The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall submit annual self-monitoring report on compliance of stipulated conditions to the Nodal Officer (FOA) of the State and concerned Integrated Regional Office (IRO) of this Ministry by the end of March every year.
 - The State Govt. shall ensure that any other conditions that the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the user agency.
 - The State Govt. & user agency shall ensure compliance to provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, NGT Order (s) & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, any or the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
 - It may please note that violation of any of these conditions will be amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per Para 1.21 of Chapter-1 of Handbook of Guidelines issued under F.C Act, 1980 vide Ministry's letter No. S-22017-FC dated 28.03.2019.
- The copy of the Stage-I & Stage-II clearances may be seen at website of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt of India at Forestclearance.nic.in. Now therefore the Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department, Government of Odisha has, allowed diversion of forest land in favour of M/s Indian Oil Corporation Limited (User agency) for the project vide its order No. FE-DIV/FL-D-0131-2021-2888/ MoEF&CC, Bhubaneswar Dated 16.02.2023.

NO PRICE TOO HIGH

- > Rs 4,000 to Rs 5,000 per vehicle, accommodating up to six persons
- > Groups go on two to three safaris per trip to make optimum use of money spent and
- for better chance of spotting tigers
- > Two to three safaris cost between Rs 10,000 and Rs 12,000 per trip
- Officials and unofficial talkal and
- VIP tickets can cost much more for last-minute bookings
- > Kind of tiger sightings depend on the gate or area allotted to each safari gypsy, some gates
- are known for better sightings
- > Wildlife conservationists and professional wildlife photographers prefer homestays,
- which are more affordable
- > Families prefer resorts with buffet breakfasts, sky's the limit for luxury packages

'No loss of support among Lingayats'

BJP president JP Nadda is confident that his party will retain office in Karnataka and break the trend of no party winning two consecutive terms since 1985.

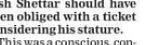
In conversation with TOI's Akhilesh Singh, Nadda takes up issues on Karnataka and underplays rebellions in the state. Excerpts from the interview:

Several senior BJP leaders have quit and joined Congress and JDS. Seems like BJP is on a sticky wicket.

■ Since the Jan Sangh days, no leader who left the party has flourished. Secondly, leaving the party is one thing, but the ideology? When you revolt ideologically, you are standing against a school of thought. So, surely, the loss will always be yours. Lot of thought went into ticket distribution. Some people are bound to be replaced. However, the party is galvanised, enthused and most people liked the party's decisions.

Since 1985, no party has come to power twice in a row in Karnataka. What makes you believe you will defy history?

■ We came to power in Tripura and Nagaland twice for the first time. In Goa, we came to power for the third time. In Uttarakhand, we came to power for the second time running. In Uttar Pradesh, we won four consecutive elections. Shivraj Singh Chavan is Modi's personality. It has helped us earn people's respect and given us courage to achieve the unprecedented.



Akhilesh Singh @timesgroup.com

People see Modi as the vehicle of their aspirations. Secondly, the party has also been growing.

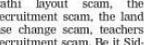
There is a perception that a senior leader like Jagdish Shettar should have been obliged with a ticket considering his stature.

■ This was a conscious, considered opinion that we will give senior leaders different responsibilities. It is important that members understand this. Unfortunately, he couldn't.

They said they were informed very late.

■ That's the way it happens. I will say they didn't have the maturity to understand the party's decisions. Be it Anil Bahau or JP Nadda, we know and believe that those who make decisions about us will surely make right decision. There have been many allegations against the government in Karnataka.

■ This is a malicious campaign against BJP. Not once has been filed. Even the case against Shivraj Singh Chavan is closed and he got a clean chit. Corruption is very much linked to Congress. They must answer on the Arka-



TOI INTERVIEW

vathi layout scam, the recruitment scam, the land use change scam, teachers recruitment scam. Be it Siddaramaiah or DK Shivakumar, everyone knows about these things. You would know about their head of media cell who in an unguarded moment blurted 'our sahab takes 10-12% commission'.

Last time, you projected B S Yediyurappa as the chief ministerial candidate. This time, Basavaraj Bommai is the incumbent chief minister. But his name hasn't been properly announced.

■ A. In the recent past, we haven't made such announcements in other cases. These things are decided by the parliamentary board. However, Bommai is the chief minister and we are fighting the election under his leadership.

The quota rejig, taking away the 4% of Muslim community and giving 2% each to Lingayat and Vok-

kaliga communities happened right before the election. Was it done in view of possible anti-incumbency?

■ No, the demand had been pending for a long time. We are examining the issue. Such matters are resolved after intense consultations. The Muslim quota was unconstitutional. The decision has been lauded across the board.

Congress has announced that it will reverse the decision if it is elected.

■ That has always been the Congress way. Divide and rule. Also, Constitution does not allow religion-based quotas. How will they bring it back? But dividing people, polarising a community has been their habit.

Those who have left include senior Lingayats. Do you think that this will hurt your support among the community?

■ No, not at all. Lingayats or anyone else, people's interest in BJP is only increasing. No party could give Lingayats what BJP has done. What did Congress do to Lingayat leader Veerendra Patil? They unceremoniously removed him in nine months.

Certain sections have condemned the decision to ban the radical Popular Front of India as vindictive.

■ We don't expect better from Congress. They always want to polarise. Congress patronised and indulged PFI and communal tensions

'K'taka needs stability and continuity: Sitharaman'

Bangalore: Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Sunday said Karnataka needs economic and political stability and continuity.

At an interaction organised by Thinkers Forum, Jayanagar, in the city, Sitharaman described the participants as influencers, and asked them to state facts before the people "to the larger interest of the country". The minister, however, stated that she was not in the city for political purposes. Corporate professionals, she noted, are not accountants and lawyers were among the participants.

"Karnataka is really on a good trajectory of growth... I think the state needs stability and continuity in policies and ideas to make sure that people who have failed the state repeatedly should not be given an opportunity. At an interaction organised by Thinkers Forum, Jayanagar, in the city, Sitharaman described the participants as influencers, and asked them to state facts before the people "to the larger interest of the country". The minister, however, stated that she was not in the city for political purposes. Corporate professionals, she noted, are not accountants and lawyers were among the participants.

"Karnataka is really on a good trajectory of growth... I think the state needs stability and continuity in policies and ideas to make sure that people who have failed the state repeatedly should not be given an opportunity. At an interaction organised by Thinkers Forum, Jayanagar, in the city, Sitharaman described the participants as influencers, and asked them to state facts before the people "to the larger interest of the country". The minister, however, stated that she was not in the city for political purposes. Corporate professionals, she noted, are not accountants and lawyers were among the participants.

Siddaramaiah's remarks give boost to BJP's Lingayat push

After garlanding the statue of Basavanna on the occasion of Basava Jayanti, Siddaramaiah said, "As saint Kanakadasaru has rightly said, we must give wisdom to the forces that are trying to instigate the people to fight in the name of caste and community. The people will give them a reply in the state polls."

After Siddaramaiah's remarks, the BJP was quick to launch a scathing attack against him, saying he had insulted the entire Lingayat community when he was chief minister. The Brahmin community had been ridiculed in the past. Earlier, he had tried to break the Lingayat-Veerashaita community when he was chief minister. The people of the state will teach Siddaramaiah a lesson, "chief minister Bommaisaid.

Chief minister (B S Bommai). He is the root of all corruption in the state," Siddaramaiah had said when asked about the BJP's stance against Lingayats should be the next chief minister.

The Congress leader's remarks were interpreted by the BJP as a bid to 'demonstrate' the entire Lingayat community the most decisive electoral constituent in the state even as Siddaramaiah claimed that the statement was about the current chief minister.

Coincidentally, Siddaramaiah made the remarks on Saturday and got himself into hot water, just a day ahead of the birth anniversary of 12th-century reformer Basavanna, the most celebrated Lingayat icon.

It is not right for a former chief minister to make a statement like this, he said.

He has said that the entire Lingayat community is corrupt. The Brahmin community had been ridiculed in the past. Earlier, he had tried to break the Lingayat-Veerashaita community when he was chief minister. The people of the state will teach Siddaramaiah a lesson, "chief minister Bommaisaid.

Siddaramaiah, however, lashed out at the BJP for "misinterpreting his statement" and said his comments with particular reference to Bommaisaid were being deliberately misinterpreted to imply the whole community.

BJP candidate from Shikaripur and younger son of B S Yediyurappa, P Vijayendra, on the other hand, questioned Rahul Gandhi's "love" for the Lingayat community only during elections.

"You're just to Kula Sangama should be to repent for your past misdeeds, else your hypocrisy is known to Basavanna's followers," he said.

