

Manu
23/10/12



ODISHA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
Forest & Environment Department, Government of odisha

Letter No. 73

/OCZMA dated the 16.09.2017 Bhubaneswar

**DIRECTION U/S 5 OF THE ENVIRONMENT (PROTECTION) ACT, 1986
FOR PROTECTION OF NATURAL GROUND WATER RECHARGE
ZONES OF CHAKRATIRTHA (TALABANIA) AND BALIAPANDA IN
THE TOWN OF PURI**

Whereas, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) and clause (v) of Sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), the Central Government with a view to conserve and protect coastal stretches, its unique Environment and its natural resources marine area and taking into account the dangers of natural hazards in the coastal areas, have declared the coastal stretches of the country and the water area up to its territorial water limit, excluding the islands of Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep and the marine areas surrounding these islands up to its territorial limit, as Coastal Regulation Zone and have imposed restrictions in the CRZ area, which extends up to 500mts on the Landward side and further up to hazard line along the sea front from the high tide line and land area between HTL to 100 mts or width of the creek whichever is less and up to the hazard line on the landward side along the tidal influenced water bodies that are connected to the sea and the distance up to which development along such tidal influenced water bodies;

1. And whereas, the Coastal Regulation Zone areas within the boundaries of Sri Jagannath Sanskrit University in the East and Mangala River on the West, of Puri being a developed area, has been categorized as CRZ-II as per the provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991;
2. And whereas, Puri is a holy city and a major pilgrimage in India which is spread over an area of 16.84 sq.kms and bears a population of around 1.75 lakhs as

AP
23/10/12
23/10/12

per 2011 census and has a historical, archeological, cultural and religious importance from ancient time;

3. And whereas, the importance of the area was recognized first time in 1931 and the then Government published a Gazette Notification No. 25 dt. 24.06.1931 in the Bihar & Odisha Gazette for land acquisition of an area of 448 acres at the expense of Puri Joint waterworks Committee for Puri Water Supply Scheme, in the village Balukhand, Pragana Oladha in Puri District earmarking the boundaries of the plot Nos.;

4. And whereas, Housing and Urban Development Department of Government of Orissa published a press note in the Odisha Gazette on 27.11.2000 for protection and conservation of the sweet water zone of Puri Town of about 705.00 acres of area prohibiting sale/ lease/ transfer/ renewal of lease of the area by any authority i.e Municipality/Revenue Authority/anybody else in Chakratirtha area (about 448 acres as per 1931 Notification) and Baliapanda area of Puri Town (207.52 acres as per Press Note dated 27.11.2000) and that any construction made over the area would be treated as illegal & unauthorized, thereby the persons who have any land or made construction over the area would have no rights, title and interest over such land would be proceeded against under relevant law;

5. And whereas, the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, Bhubaneswar submitted a report on 12.09.2013 to the Member (SML), Central Ground Water Board, New Delhi regarding ground water scenario at Puri and remedial measures namely; (i) controlled withdrawal of ground water (ii) restricting encroachment and construction of new building (iii) Artificial recharge to ground water (iv) Planned sewerage system, etc. which are required to be initiated to protect sweet water of Puri town area to ensure sustainable supply of water to the township;

6. And whereas, the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa vide their order dt. 20.02.2015 in the O.J.C no. 2816 of 2000 set aside the press note dated 27.11.2000 issued by the Housing and Urban Development Department of the State Government for protection of the sweet water area of Puri Town with the

observation that the Housing and urban development Department has no jurisdiction in the matter and that Coastal Zone Regulatory Authority is competent in this regard;

7. And whereas, thereafter, the matter was placed before the Odisha Coastal Zone Management Authority for consideration after thorough examination, which deliberated on various connected issues including historical background, present scenario and future challenges in detail in its 27th meeting held on 31.01.2017 and decided that Authority would issue necessary direction under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for protection of “sweet water zone” of Puri which is coming within CRZ area and so far as the sweet water zone located outside the CRZ area, it would recommend the Government in Forest and Environment for taking action under the above Act;

Now therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 read with sub-rule 5 of rule 4 of the Environment (Protection) Rule, 1986, delegated to the Odisha Coastal Zone Management Authority vide para II(ii)(a) of the Notification No. S.O. 936(E) dated 1st April, 2015, the Authority, after careful consideration of all documents, records, information, recommendation of the District, Collector, Puri vide letter No. 782/C dated 12th March, 2015, Letter No 3433/C dated 22.12.2015 and Letter No 2469 dated 05.09.2017, the Authority hereby imposes the following prohibitions and restrictions in the identified underground drinking water sources otherwise called as, Sweet water zones in the Chakratirtha area and Baliapanda area of Puri (*) falling within the Coastal Regulation Zone as per Coastal Zone Notification 1991, 2011 and amendments thereof, from time to time for protection and conservation of the ecologically sensitive sweet water zones of coastal city of Puri to avoid drinking water scarcity in future,:

- i. Sale/ lease/ transfer/ renewal of lease of the area by any authority i.e Municipality/Revenue Authority or any individual
- ii. controlled withdrawal of ground water without permission from competent authority

iii. restricting encroachment by disallowing construction of any kind of structure including roads, new buildings both commercial and private

8. And that any construction made over the Government land of these areas would be treated as illegal & unauthorized, thereby the persons who have any land or made construction over the area would have no rights, title and interest over such land and would be proceeded against as violation, under this Act;

9. And necessary steps shall be taken to recharge the ground water of this area from external sources especially by diverting rain water or making artificial system to maintain ground water level; and install adequate and planned sewerage system.

10. These directions will come into force with immediate effect and remain in force until further orders. In case of any violation, appropriate legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be taken.

11. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(* Details of Khata No. and Plot No.s are available in the office of the Collector and District Magistrate, Puri

15/9/2017
Additional Chief Secretary to
Government, Forest & Environment
Department and Chairman, Odisha
Coastal Zone Management Authority

To

- i. Collector & District Magistrate, Puri
- ii. Executive Officer, Puri Municipality
- ✓ iii. Secretary, Puri Konark Decvelopment Authority
- iv. Tahasildar, Puri
- v. Executive Engineer, Public Health Division, Puri
- vi. Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha