

To,

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife)  
& Chief Wildlife Warden Orissa  
Bhubaneswar  
Orissa

Sub:- delay in notification of the Sunabeda-Khariar Tiger Reserve, reg..

Sir,

This is reference to the in principle approval accorded by the Government of India in 2008 for notifying the Sunabeda-Khariar forests as a Tiger Reserve. It is unfortunate that the said notification is yet to be issued. The delay in notifying the area as a Tiger Reserve is not only imperiling the tiger (*Panthera tigris*) but also the Wild Buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*). A communication in this regard is enclosed to this letter.

It is to mention in a similar instance Government of India had granted in-principle approval to the establishment of the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve with an area of 741.22 sq. km in the state of Maharashtra during 2008. In this case the reserve was notified in January 2010.

It is requested that a time bound plan may be put in place for an immediate notification of the Sunabeda-Khariar Tiger Reserve.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,

(MONALISA BHUJABAL)

**Secretary**  
Wild Orissa

Copy submitted for information and necessary action:-

1. Shri Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister Orissa, Bhubaneswar
2. Shri Jairam Ramesh, Union Minister for Environment and Forests (Independent Charge), New Delhi
3. Mr. Vijay Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, Delhi
4. Mr. T.K. Mishra, Chief Secretary, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar
5. Director General of Forests Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, Delhi
6. Additional Director General, Wildlife Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, Delhi
7. Dr. Rajesh Gopal, Member Secretary National Tiger Conservation Authority Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, Delhi
8. Shri S.C. Mohanty Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (General), Orissa, Bhubaneswar
9. Shri U.N. Behera, Secretary, Department of Forests Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar
10. Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhawanipatna Circle, Orissa
11. Divisional Forest Officer, Sunabeda Wildlife Division, Nuapada, Orissa
12. Divisional Forest Officer, Khariar Forest Division, Khariar, Orissa

(MONALISA BHUJABAL)

**Secretary**  
Wild Orissa