

# Decks cleared for Jindal Power project in Chhattisgarh

**By Staff**  
**News Bureau**

**Mumbai, Aug 28:** The environment ministry has restored the terms of reference (ToR) for Jindal Power Limited's (JPL) project in Chhattisgarh, paving way for the firm to go ahead with development activities at the site. JPL is a subsidiary of Jindal Steel and Power Limited (JSPL).

The expert committee recommended that the project might be appraised, based on its review of the matter, by following the original ToRs, an environment ministry announcement said.

After giving the initial clearance or ToR to the proposed Rs 13,000-crore 2400-MW project in Tamnar in the state last year, the Union environment and forest ministry had revoked it in June. Jindal Power officials made a pre-

sentation before the committee at its meeting held on August 10, 2010, a release said. They said that the project would come up at 456 hectare of land and also maintained that there was no change in the location of the power plant, the release added.

According to the presentation, for the 1000 MW plant, 614 Ha was approved out of which 360 Ha is for the main plant but the company has managed to accommodate all the 4x250MW units commissioned in 2008 in 245 Ha only and the balance 115 Ha is available. The main plant will be set up in this 115 Ha land. This will be possible because it will now be sharing most of the facilities with the existing plant. The JPL management team further pointed out that there was no change in the location of the proposed 4x600

MW plant. Only land use optimisation was carried out due to scarcity of availability of land and which is also a requirement of the ToR issued on March 31, 2009.

Land use for the entire expansion project has been optimised from 1041 ha to 456 Ha (and not 62 Ha as was mentioned by MoEF while withdrawing the ToR). The proposed project is to entail an investment of Rs 13,410 crore, of which over Rs 10,000 crore debt has been tied up. The proposed plant is apart from the 1000MW plant already functional at Tamnar in the same area with an investment of Rs 4,338 crore and has a plant load factor (PLF) of 93.1%. Jindal Power had already placed order with Bhel for procuring equipment worth over Rs 5000 crore and paid an advance of Rs 765 crore in this regard.