

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,  
New Delhi-110003

Dated: 5th January, 2021

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
State Government of Odisha,  
Bhubaneswar

**Sub: Proposal seeking prior approval under Section 2 (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 360.01 ha of forest land (160.838 ha of Sabik Kisam land and 199.1720 ha of RF& KFD land) within the total lease area of 403.3238 ha in favour of M/s Tata Steel Limited for Katamati Iron ore mining Project in Keojar District (Odisha) – reg.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Odisha's letter no. 20151/9F (MG)-26/2007 dated 18.11.2020 on the above subject forwarding a report on compliance of conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval dated 13.03.2019 and to say that examination of said compliance report in the Ministry it has been observed that the State Government has recommended the proposal for Stage-II approval without ensuring complete compliance of conditions. Such deficiencies in the conditions are as follows:

- i. In compliance to conditions no. (iii) of the Stage-I approval an amount of Rs. 2,06,87,517/- has been realized from the User Agency towards SMC works in the CA, however, detail pertaining to deposition of the same into the account CAMPA has not been provided in the compliance. The State Government needs to intimate the same.
- ii. Similarly, an amount of Rs. 16,59,000/- has been earmarked for implementing a scheme in compliance of condition no. (vii) of Stage-I approval to supplement green cover of 50 meter wide along the periphery of southern boundary of mining lease, however, detail pertaining to deposition of the same into the account CAMPA has not been provided in the compliance. The State Government needs to intimate the same.
- iii. Cost benefit analysis indicating a ratio of 1:46.15 has been submitted. Examination of the same revealed that detailed cost benefit analysis in compliance to condition no. (iv) of the Stage-I approval has not been submitted. Final estimated values of parameters may be supported with parameter wise detailed techno economic procedures followed in carrying out the cost-benefit analysis.
- iv. Documentary evidences in support of settlement of rights viz. records of consultations and meetings of the Forest Rights Committee (s)/Gram Sabha(s), Sub-Divisional Level Committee and District Level Committee have not been submitted along with the compliance. The Same needs to be submitted, along with their English version, duly certified by the competent authority of the State.

- v. In compliance to condition no. (viii) of Stage-I approval, area of safety zone of the mining lease has been reported to be worked out as 5.3349 ha as per MoEF&CC's guidelines while the underlying scheme and corresponding estimate have been estimated for an area of 4.9083 ha. A justification in this regard need to be furnished by the State Government.

State Government is requested to furnish the information/documents as listed above so as to enable the Ministry to consider the proposal for Stage-II approval.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

**(Sandeep Sharma)**

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), State Forest Department, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
2. Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office of MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar
3. Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF and CC, New Delhi
6. Guard File