

F. No. 8-22-2016-FC

Sub: Diversion of balance forest land 162.42 ha including 24.150 ha of forest land to be maintained safety zone (as per Sabik settlement record as on 25.10.1980 and after 25.10.1980) excluding the 104.79 ha forest land already diverted pertaining to total ML area of 382.709 ha of Sukurangi Chromite Mines of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd spread over villages like kamarda, ostapal, Saruabil, Sukurangi, Tailangi and Forest block No. 27 of Mahagiri DPF in Sukinda Tehsil of Jajpur Tailangi and Forest Block No. 27 of Mahagiri DPF in Sukinda Tehsil of Jajpur district (under Cuttack Forest Division), Odisha during extended period of mining lease up to 31.3.2020 as per MMDR Amendment Act, 2015.

1. The State Government of Odisha vide their letter No. 10F (Cons) 195/2016/13965/F&E dated 29.07.2016 submitted the above mentioned proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
2. The proposal was placed before the **FAC in its meeting held on 09.11.2016** and the FAC, after examination of the proposal and discussion with user agency, **observed as below:**
3. The project is located in the Cuttack Forest Division, District Jajpur, Odisha
4. The legal status of the forest land is

Revenue forest 147.811 ha

DPF 14.609 ha

5. It is reported that the proposed area is not vulnerable to erosion and do not form a part of severely eroded area.

The area falls under Eco-class I and the vegetation density is 0.4. Main species in the area are Sal (*Shorea robusta*), Sisoo (*Dalbergia Sisoo*), Asana (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Chhatian, Mahula (*Madhuca indica*), Harida, Teak (*Tectona grandis*) Kendu (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), Tamarind (*Tamarindus indica*), Palash (*Butea monosperma*), Kusuma, Jack Fruit, Dhaura (*Anogeisus latifolia*), Baheda (*Terminalia belerica*) etc.

6. It is reported that 18,808 trees are enumerated to be felled in the proposed area. The detail is as follow
Above 30 cm girth : 11,166
Below 30 cm girth : 7,642
7. The proposed area do not form part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc
8. **The project area proposed for diversion comes within a distance of 10 Km from the proposed Tiger Corridor in Daitary DPF of Sukinda Forest Range in Jajpur District.**
9. The major faunal species found in the area are Migratory elephant, Wild Boar, Ratel, Sloth Bear, Peacock, Porcupine, Pangolin, Python, King Cobra found in the
10. No protected archaeological/ heritage site/defence establishment or any other important monuments is located in the area.
11. No work of in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been carried out

12. It is reported that the requirement of land is unavoidable and barest minimum for the Mining purpose.
13. Environment Clearance has been granted vide this Ministry's letter no.J-11015/409/2008-IA-II (M) dated 18.02.2010.

14. The Compensatory Afforestation has been proposed over 156.771 ha of non-forest land with total financial outlay of Rs. 5,38,83,000/- in the followings villages.

Balangi Village: 52.395 ha.

Barakaudi Village: 35.610 ha.

Jubang Village: 68.766ha.

15. DFO, Cuttack Forest Division has given the suitability certificate for CA land.

16. The compliance of Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 along-with resolution of Gram Sabha has been submitted by the State Government. The certificate submitted to MoEF&CC are photocopies and not in original form.

17. Cost benefit ratio of the project has been calculated as 1:11.7. Total cost of the project is Rs 3202 (Rupees in lacs)

18. The proposal has been recommended for approval under section 2(ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 by DFO, PPCF and the State government.

19. RCCF has recommended the proposal with following conditions:

- I) RCC wall to be constructed by the User Agency along the Damsola nallah which is a tributary of Brahmani River to avoid water contamination and pollution.
- II) The safety zone area around the proposed mining & dumping area needs to be planted by the user Agency to maintain a green belt.

20. Site inspection has been carried out by R. K. Samal IFS, Conservator of Forests ©, Eastern Regional office, Bhubaneswar on 09.09.2016.

21. The SIR is reproduced below:

1. Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion

Total balance forest land proposed to be diverted 162.42 ha. Which includes 14.609 ha.DPF (Demarcated Protected Forest) and 147.811 ha.Revenue Forest.

2. Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Forest land In ha	Non-forest land in ha.	Total lease land in ha
1.	Minig	67.362	2.885	70.247
	Dumping of overburden	54.700	0.00	54.700
	Infrastructure for site services	1.335	4.576	5.911
	Sub-grade ore storage	14.873	0.00	14.873
	Road	0.00	1.540	1.540
	Area earmarked for safety zone	24.150	2.100	26.250
	Total land proposed for diversion	162.420	11.101	173.521
II	Untouched tenanted land	0.00	88.849	88.9

III	Forest area already approved by MoEF, Gol for diversion date 21.07.2011	104.790	15.549	120.339
Grand Total		267.210	115.499	382.709

3. Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof:

Yes. Infrastructure for site services which involves establishment of township/housing colony for the workers in an area of 1.335 ha. As per Para 4.5 of Forest Conservation Act Guidelines, 2003 diversion of forest land for dwelling houses/residential accommodation is not permissible. This component of land use plan may not be accepted.

4. Total cost of the project at present rates: Rs. 32.02 crores

5. Wildlife: Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not: The proposed area not very important from wildlife point of view. However, the proposed area comes within a distance of 10 km from the proposed Tiger corridor in Daitary DPF of Sukinda Forest Range in Jajpur District. Wildlife such as migratory elephants, Wild Boar, Ratel, Sloth Bear, Peacock, Porcupine, Pangolin, Python, King Cobra, etc. found in the area.

6. Vegetation: Dry deciduous forest with mixed vegetation with Sal as dominant species.

(a) Total number of trees to be felled: 11,166 number of trees of different species above 30 cm girth and 7,642 number of poles under 30 cm girth have been enumerated for felling tram the area proposed for diversion.

Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem in the area: Removal of trees will have some bad effect in the ecosystem of the area.

(b) Important species: Species like Sal (*Shorea robusta*), Sisoo (*Dalbergia sisoo*), Asana (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Chhatian, Mahula (*Madhuca indica*), Harida, Teak (*Tectona grandis*), Kendu (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), Tamarind (*Tamarindus indica*), Palash (*Butea monosperma*), Kusuma, Jack Fruit, Dhaura (*Anogeisus latifolia*), Baheda (*Terminalia belerica*) etc.

Number of trees of girth below 60 cm: 7,643

Number of trees of girth above 60 cm: 3,523

7. Background note on the proposal: Sukurangi Chromite mine of OMC Ltd., is an ongoing mining project for extraction of Chromite ore within mining lease of 382.709 ha. spread over 5 revenue villages i.e. Kamarda, Ostapal, Saruabil, Sukurangi, Tailangi and Forest Block NO.27 in Sukinda Tahasi of Jajpur district of Odisha. Earlier Sukurangi Chromite mine was granted and executed in favour of M/s Serajuddin & Sons over a period of 20 years from 17.04.1959 to 05.12.1979. The mine was operated by the said lessee up to 05.12.1963. The mine was subsequently allotted to OMC Ltd. in the year 20.07.1970 and the lease was executed in the year 1980. Thus, the mine was not in operation from 06.12.1963 to 19.07.1970. A joint verification over the mining lease area showed 80.94 ha of forest land was broken by M/s Serajuddin & Sons and OMC for mining and ancillary activities prior to 25.10.1980. The first mining lease was executed on 20.09.1980 for a period of 20 years.

The first renewal of this mining lease was applied by OMC in the year 1999. Pursuant to the provisions of MMDR Act 2015, the Steel and Mines Deptt. extended the lease period up to 31.03.2020. Initially out of the total 382.709 ha it contained 177.76 ha of forest land and remaining 204.949 ha of non- forest land. The lessee had then applied for diversion of 132.94 ha of forest land. However, MoEF, Govt. of India had accorded final forest clearance for 104.79 ha (80.94 ha of already broken up forest land and 23.85 ha of virgin forest land) of

forest land during 2011. As per MoEF&CC guidelines bearing NO.8-78/1996 -FC (pt) dated 10.03.2015 it has come to notice that out of 382.709 ha of mining lease area 267.21 ha afforested land is existing within the lease including 24.15 ha of forest land to be used as safety zone. The remaining 115.119 ha is non forest land. The 267.21 ha of forest land includes 246.689 ha forest land as on 25.10.1980 and 20.521 ha declared as forest land after 25.10.1980. The lessee has already obtained forest clearance for 104.79 ha of forest land in year 2011. In view of the above guideline dated 10.03.2015 they have now applied for diversion of 162.42 ha including 24.15 ha of forest land for safety zone of mining lease.

- 8. Compensatory afforestation:** 156.711 ha area to be afforested in three villages i.e. Balangi (52.395 ha.), Barakaudi (35.610 ha), Jubanga (68.766 ha) under Kalahandi South Forest Division, Thuamul Rampur Tahasil, Thuamul Rampur (South) & Thuamul Rafilpur (North) Ranges. Out of the total diverted area 7.5 metre along the mine lease boundary is considered as the safety zone area which comprises of 5.65 ha and has been deducted from the total diverted area of 162.42 ha for compensatory afforestation as per the decision of earlier FAC. Maintenance of vegetation of 50 metre on either side of perennial Nallah and 10 metres on either sides of public road have not been considered as safety zone and therefore have not been deducted from the total area of diversion for determining the quantum of compensatory afforestation. The 3 plots selected for compensatory afforestation mostly are non-forest and scrub except Balangi which contains only 5 ha. of medium density forest cover as per DSS analysis. Copies of DSS analysis are enclosed.
- (a) **Whether land for compensatory afforestation is suitable from plantation and management point of view or not:** Yes. Land suitability certificate has been given by DFO, Kalahandi South Forest Division.
 - (b) **Whether land for compensatory afforestation is free from encroachment/other encumbrances:** Yes. Non encroachment and non -encumbrance certificate has been given by the Tahasildar Thuamul Rampur. However, from the DSS report it is seen that some of the areas (about 30%) have been encroached for agriculture.
 - (c) **Whether land for compensatory afforestation is important from Religious/Archaeological point of view:** As referred from the compensatory afforestation scheme of DFO, the area selected for CA is not important from religious and archaeological point of view.
 - (d) **Land identified for raising compensatory afforestation is in how many patches, whether patches are compact or not:** They are in five patches. The patches are compact.
 - (e) **Map with details:** Submitted by the project.
 - (i) **Total financial outlay:** Rs. 5,38,83,000/-
- 9. Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials:** No violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been reported by the DFO Cuttack Forest Division or the RCCF, Angul Circle in their site inspection reports.
- 10. Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not:** The project does not involve displacement of human habitation. Hence Rehabilitation and resettlement plan is not necessary.
- 11. Reclamation plan:** The reclamation and afforestation scheme and biological reclamation for

the mining project has been provided by the user agency.

12. **Details and financial allocation:** The User Agency stated that the mined out undulating areas and saturated dumps are to be reclaimed and stabilized by taking up tall plantation along the contours interspersed with staggered contour bonds and benches to be planted with soil binding short height species like Agave (to form the lower storey of vegetation) so as to check soil erosion and runoff as well as to increase the green vegetation and built up the eco-system. For this they will take up vegetative fencing, block plantation, soil conservation measures. They have given the cost estimate for each hectare of such activities.
13. **Details on catchment and command area under the project:** Not applicable.
14. **Catchment area treatment plan to prevent siltation of reservoir:** Not applicable.
15. **Cost benefit ratio:** 1: 11.7
16. **Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:** Recommended.
17. **Recommendations of Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) along with detailed reasons:** Annexed separately.
18. **Conservator of Forests shall give detailed comments on whether there is any alternative routes/alignment for locating the project on the non-forest land:** The Chromite ore occurs in a specific band under the Sukinda valley. It is site specific and it cannot be shifted to any other forest or non-forest land.
19. **Utility of the project: Numbers of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes to be benefited by the project:** The excavation of Chromite by OMC will give the State of Odisha much needed revenue and help the Steel Sector and industrialization of the State and the country. It is stated that 90% of the Chromite required in India is obtained from Sukinda valley. Most of the workers belong to the ST community. The proposed activities will provide the opportunity for continuation of the services of 200 workmen and 200 staff and officers (400 persons in total) already engaged in mining activities for exploitation of the mineral. Apart from the above direct employment, another 100 people are engaged in the allied activities like transporting ore/waste by trucks. Thus, around 500 people are engaged. The project provides livelihood to about 2500 persons in and around Sukurangi Chromite Mines.
20. (a) **Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious value:** No.
(b) **Whether any sacred grove or very old growth trees/forests exist in the Areas proposed for diversion:** No
(c) **Whether the land under diversion forms part of any unique eco-system:** No
21. **Situation with respect to any Protected Area:** The proposed diversion comes within a distance of 10 km from the proposed Tiger Corridor in Daitary DPF of Sukinda Forest Range in Jajpur District.
22. **Any other information relating to the project:** They have complied the earlier stipulated conditions during the Stage-II approval of 104.79 ha. In the year 201 J. The compensatory afforestation has been raised and growth of plants is appreciable.
23. **FAC recommendation:** The proposal was placed before FAC in its meeting held on 09.11.2016 and FAC recommended that:
 - (i) Plantation upto 100 meters from the bank of river on either side, to be done and maintained as green belt.

- (ii) On analysis through DSS, it is found that moderately dense forest is present on southern boundary of the mining lease. State Government to demarcate that area, submit shape files and it shall be kept intact as an additional safety zone.
- (iii) On analysis on DSS it is found some of proposed area for CA is seen under encroachment for agriculture. State Government shall submit comments on the status of encroachment.
- (iv) For compensatory afforestation (CA) equivalent non forest land (NFL) is to be earmarked and plantation has to be raised @1000 plants/ha, of forest land diverted. On analysis through DSS it is found that some area of the proposed non forest land for CA is having moderately dense vegetation over it, therefore 1000 plants/ha cannot be planted. The proposed non forest land for CA shall be accepted provided the number of plants which are not possible to be planted on proposed land, shall be planted on degraded forest land (crown density upto 40 % as per Forest Survey of India report) identified by the forest department. State Government shall identify degraded forest land (DFL) within its administrative control and submit the location of area and shape file with possible number of plants to be planted in the proposed degraded forest land. The compensatory afforestation scheme shall be for 1000 plants/ha of the forest land diverted under this proposal including maintenance cost for 10 years. The State Government shall submit the revised CA scheme
- (v) State Government shall submit original certificate of complete compliance of FRA.2006.
- (vi) The project area proposed for diversion comes within a distance of 10 km from the proposed tiger corridor in Diatarey DPF of Sukinda forest range on Jajpur District therefore comments of NTCA shall be sought in this regard.
- (vii) 1.335 Ha forest land diversion is proposed for construction of Infrastructure for site services. This shall not be allowed on forest land.

24. Ministry vide its letter dated 19.12.2016 requested the State Government to submit information and NTCA to submit their comments as per recommendation of FAC.

25. Deputy Inspector General of Forests (NTCA), National Tiger Conservation Authority vide their letter no. 7-17/2017-NTCA dated 26.04.2017 (Pg-1014-1016/c) has submitted their comments in response of this Division's letter dated 19.12.2016. **Comments of NTCA are under:**

- (i) It is intimated by the NTCA that the mining lease site is very close to the corridor between Similipal and Satkosia Tiger Reserves. Development activities in this region will have negative impact on the corridor especially if human impacts of resource bio-extraction or transportation increase.
- (ii) In this context, while recommending the project under section 38 O (1) (g) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, following mitigation measures are proposed for strict compliance:
 1. The mining company should reclaim the Forest land after the mining operation.
 2. Since the Tiger corridor is on the northern side of the forest land hence infrastructural development activities viz. civil construction activities etc. associated with mining should not be allowed towards northern end of Forestland.
 3. The user agency should bear the cost of Mitigation plan to be prepared by the concerned forest authorities as per the Regional Wildlife Management Plan being implemented at present.
 4. No bio resources should be used from the neighboring Forests.
 5. Labourers should strictly be prohibited from hunting. The mining company should be held responsible & the requisite legal action is to be taken if poaching is reported by its labourers and personnel.
 6. No labour settlements should be allowed in the Forest area.
 7. No transportation should be permitted to transverse the delineated Similipal-Satkosia Tiger corridor.
- (iii) The proposal has been analysed by the Tiger Cell, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

vis-a-vis Tiger dispersal corridors and the said assessment report is given which is reproduced below:

Assessment report of diversion of forest land for Chromite mining from Sukinda Forest range of Jajpur District:

Background: Odisha Mining Corporations has requested for diversion of balance forest- land 162.42 ha for extraction of chromite ore excluding the 104.79 ha forestland already diverted pertaining to total mining lease area of 382.709 ha. **This forested land is within 10 km from Simlipal and Satkosia tiger reserve corridor in diatary DPF of sukinda forest range in Jajpur district of Odisha.** MoEFCC, FC division via letter no. F.No. 8-22/2016-FC Dated 19th December 2016 has sought comments from NTCA. NTCA has asked Tiger Cell ((NTCA-WII) via letter no. F. No. 7-17/2017-NTCA to assess the above proposal in terms of tiger dispersal/corridor.

Assessment: The proposed forestland does not form any part of Tiger reserves corridors. During All India tiger estimation 2014, Tiger, Leopard, Gaur, Elephant and other Ungulates were not reported from this forest patch. However, it is clear that proposed site is very close to the connecting corridor between Simlipal and Satkosia Tiger Reserves. Both the tiger reserves have depressed tiger densities and are home to a unique lineage of tigress. Development activities in the region will have negative impact on the corridor especially if human impacts of bio-resource extraction, or transportation increases. Keeping in mind these concern, following mitigation measures are proposed which should be strictly imposed while granting approval for the project.

Recommendation: Mining of chromite ore can be permitted, with the following mitigation measures:

- i. The mining company should reclaim the forest land after the mining operation.
- ii. Since tiger corridor is on the Northern side of the forest land hence development activities associated with mining should not be allowed towards northern end of forestland.
- iii. The user agency should be charged a significant amount that should subsequently manage the weak links of the Simlipal-Satkosia tiger reserve corridor.
- iv. No bio resources should be used from the neighboring forest.
- v. Labourers should strictly be prohibited from hunting. The mining company should held responsible if poaching is reported by its labourer and personnel.
- vi. No labour settlements should be allowed in the forest.
- vii. No transportation should be permitted to transverse the delineated Simlipal-satkosia corridor.

26. State Government of Odisha vide their letter no. 10F (Cons) 195/2016/11962/F&E dated 05.06.2017 (**Pg-1017-1236/c**) has submitted compliance of the observations made by FAC in response of this Ministry's letter dated 19.12.2016. The summary of compliance are under:

Observation (i) Plantation up to 100 meters from the bank of river on either side, to be done and maintained as green belt.

Compliance: In compliance to this condition, the State Government has informed that the User Agency has submitted a scheme for undertaking plantation over 100 meters on either side of Damsalanallah which is to be maintained as green belt. The scheme has been technically approved by the RCCF, Angul Circle (**Pg-1204-1211/c**).

The user agency has furnished an undertaking to implement the scheme and maintain the green belt at the project cost (pg-1023/c).

Observation (ii) On analysis through DSS it is found that moderately dense forest is present on southern boundary of the mining lease. State Government should demarcate that area, submit shape files and it shall be kept intact as an additional safety zone.

Compliance: In this regard, the State Government informed that the DFO, Cuttack has reported that the moderately dense vegetation existing in the southern boundary of the ML area has been demarcated and shall be kept intact as an additional safety zone area. **The shape file of ML area in the form of CD submitted by OMC is given.**

In the view of observations of FAC for keeping the above mentioned vegetation in the southern boundary intact and plantation to be taken up over 100 mt on either side of Damsalanallah, the land use plan proposed while forwarding the instant diversion proposal, has been modified as under which needs to be approved:

Sl. No.	Pattern of Utilization	Forest Area (ha)			Non-Forest Area (ha)	Total Area (ha)
		DPF	Revenue Forest	Total		
I	Mining	0.841	65.937	66.778	2.885	69.663
	Dumping of overburden	-	37.513	37.513	-	37.513
	Infrastructure for site services	-	-	-	4.576	4.576
	Sub-grade ore storage	-	9.993	9.993	-	9.993
	Road	-	-	-	1.540	1.540
	Area earmarked for safety zone (7.5mt strip along ML boundary and 10mt on either side of the road)	1.011	2.689 1.950 0.500 5.139	6.150	2.100	8.250
	Area earmarked for safety zone up to 100mt on either side of the Damsalnala	-	11.229 18.000 29.229	29.229	3.071	32.300
	Additional safety zone area to be kept intact and maintained on southern boundary of the ML	12.757	-	12.757	-	12.757
	Total	14.609	147.811	162.420	14.172	176.592
II	Untouched tenanted land	-	-	-	85.778	85.778

III	Forest area earlier finally approved by MoEF, Govt. of India dt. 21.07.2011	-	104.790	104.79	15.549	120.339
	Grand Total	14.609	252.601	267.210	115.499	382.702

The revised land use map as submitted by the user agency is placed at (Pg-1203/c).

Observation (iii) On analysis on DSS it is found some of proposed area for CA is seen under encroachment for agriculture. State Government shall submit comments on the status of encroachment.

Compliance: In this regard, the State Government informed that the DFO, Cuttack has reported that the area found to be under encroachment for agriculture through DSS is due to Podu cultivation practice by the local tribal population. This extent of area under encroachment over 2.0934 ha has been excluded from the total CA area. The revised Compensatory Afforestation land over a reduced area of 114.284 ha would also accommodate the required no. of plants to be raised as against diversion of forest land in this project.

Observation (iv) For compensatory Afforestation (CA) equivalent non forest land (NFL) is to be earmarked and plantation has to be raised @1000 plants/ha, of forest land diverted On analysis through DSS it is found that some area of the proposed non forest land for CA is having moderately dense vegetation over it, therefore 1000 plants/ha cannot be planted. The proposed non forest land for CA shall be accepted provided the number of plants which are not possible to be planted on proposed land, shall be planted on degraded forest land (crown density upto 40% as per Forest Survey of India report) identified by the forest department. State Government shall identify degraded forest land (DFL) within its administrative control and submit the location of area and shape file with possible number of plants to be planted in the proposed degraded forest land. The compensatory afforestation scheme shall be for 1000 plants/ha of the forest land diverted under this proposal including maintenance cost for 10 years. The State Government shall submit the revised CA scheme.

Compliance: In this regard, the State Government informed that the non-forest land earlier identified for compensatory afforestation pertaining to this project was over 156.771 ha comprising of three patches in three different villages i.e. Balangi (52.395 ha), Barakundi (35.610 ha) & Jubanga (68.766 ha) under Thuamul- Ranpur Tehasil of Kalahandi District. In view of observations of FAC with regard to safety zone & additional safety zone to be maintained in this mining project, total virgin forest area of the mining lease for which equivalent extent of non-forest land is required to be identified has been reported by the DFO, Cuttack which is as under. **Total Compensatory Afforestation area as has been recalculated as 114.284 ha.:**

REVISED ASSESSMENT OF CA LAND (ha)		
1	Total Forest land in the ML	267.21

2	Forest area approved under section 2 (ii) by MoEF& CC, Govt. of India	104.79
3	Forest area earmarked for safety zone (100 mtr on either side of DamsalNala + Additional safety zone to southern side of ML)	23.986
4	Safety zone area already as per already granted stage-IT approval over 104.79 ha of forest land earlier.	22.20
5	7.5 mtr strip along the ML boundary to be maintained as safety zone which bears common boundary with South Kaliapani ML of OMC Ltd.	1.95
6	Balance forest Area for which CA is required (1-2-3-4-5)	114.284

The DFO, Kalahandi (South) Division has carved out 114.284 ha of non-forest land out of two patches earlier identified for this project for the purpose of raising compensatory afforestation which is comprising of 45.518 ha in village Balangi out of total extent of non-forest land identified (52.395 ha), & 68.766 ha in village Jubang excluding the non-forest area having Moderately Dense Forest growth as per DSS analysis. **The DFO has accordingly furnished a modified site specific Compensatory Afforestation scheme for raising bald hill plantation of indigenous species @1600 seedlings per ha. Besides the CA scheme** beside the CA Scheme, the land schedule of non-forest land identified at village Balangi and Jubang duly authenticated by the Tahasildar, Thuamul-Rampur, Survey of India topo-map indicating the sites for raising CA, co-ordinates of CA area, Cadastral mouza map of two villages duly authenticated by Tahasildar showing the CA area are also attached to the scheme. The CA scheme has provision for raising indigenous species like Neem, Karanja, Ainla, Harida, Bahada, Sissoo, Gambhari, Salia bamboo, Chakunda, Tentuli, Maim!, Teak, Mango etc, Besides plantation, scheme has also provision of barbed wire fencing. **The CA scheme has been approved by Addl. PCCF (Forest Diversion) & Nodal Officer, FC Act with a total financial outlay of Rs. 3,97,65,200/- at current wage rate of Rs. 200/- per Man-day including cost of maintenance for 10 years. As per the revised CA scheme approved, 1,82,854 no. of plants are to be raised within an area of 114.284ha. @ 1600 plants per ha. As per observations of FAC, only 1,14,284 no. of plants are necessary to be planted over the identified CA area of 114.284 ha. @ 1000 plants per ha. In case, 1,14,284 no. of plants cannot be planted within the identified area, the balance no. of plants are to be raised in degraded forest and having crown density of 40% as per FSI report. Since the identified CA area is going to be accommodate 1,82,854 no. of plants which is much more than the no. of plants essentially required to be planted, further identification of degraded forest land for the CA for this project is not required. A copy of duly approved/revised CA scheme is placed at (Pg-1025-1046/c). The user agency had earlier furnished an undertaking to pay the cost of Compensatory Afforestation.**

Observation (v) State Government shall submit original certificate of complete compliance of FRA-2006.

Compliance: In this regard, the State Government has submitted original certificate as per FRA guidelines of MoEF&CC signed by the Collector, Jajpur & other documentary evidences in support of complete compliance of FRA guidelines pertaining to forest land proposed for diversion (**Pg-1048-1202/c**).

Observation (vi) 1.335 ha forest land diversion is proposed for construction of infrastructure for site services. This shall not be allowed on forest land.

Compliance: In this regard, the State Government has informed that 1.335 ha of forest land earlier proposed for diversion for construction of infrastructure has already been dropped. Accordingly, the revised proposed land use plan and map thereof as submitted by the user agency are placed at (**Pg-1203/c**).

DSS analysis Report: The shape file as provided has been analysed by DSS cell and their comprehensive report may kindly be seen at F/R-1. The major observation stated in the report are as follows:

- (i) Undecided (Decision Rule 2 requirement not fulfilled)
- (ii) In terms of density classes: MDF: 5 ha, Open forest: 50 ha and Non Forest: 115 ha
- (iii) As per DSS Forest type present: Moist peninsular Low Level Sal Forest
- (iv) **For CA land:** a) CA land is free from encroachment and no such dense vegetation present.

The facts related to the above proposal may be placed before FAC in its forthcoming meeting to be held on 20.07.2017 for their examination and appropriate recommendation.
