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ANNEXE 2.4

F. No. 8-63/2007-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(F.C. Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110510.
Dated: 29th December, 2009.

Direct 2.5

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Orissa,
Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Diversion of 1253.225 ha of forest land for establishment of Integrated Steel Plant and Captive Port by POSCO-India Pvt. Ltd., Jagatsinghpur district of Orissa.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Government's letter No. 10F (Cons)-54/20076-10240/F&E dated 26.06.2007 on the above-mentioned subject wherein prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of 1253.225 ha of forest land for establishment of Integrated Steel Plant and Captive Port by POSCO-India Pvt. Ltd., Jagatsinghpur district of Orissa, was sought, in accordance with section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the said Act, in-principle approval for the said diversion was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 19th September, 2008, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government vide letter No. 10F(Cons)-54/2007-20393/F&E dated 03.12.2009, approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 1253.225 ha of forest land for establishment of Integrated Steel Plant and Captive Port by POSCO-India Pvt. Ltd., Jagatsinghpur district of Orissa, subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:-

1. Legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency i.e. M/s. POSCO-India Pvt. Ltd., shall undertake afforestation measures in the blanks within the proposal area (if the density is less than 0.4, area shall be afforested) as well as along the roads in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.
3. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
4. The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to the clearance under the Environmental Protection Act, 1986 and all other Acts, Rules / Regulations applicable to such project.
5. No labor camps are set up inside the forest area.

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6. M/s. POSCO-India Pvt. Ltd. will make arrangement for free supply of coal / alternate fuel to laborers and staff working on the project site so as to avoid any pressure on the adjacent forest areas.
 7. Demarcation of lease area will be done on the ground at project cost using four feet high wall / reinforced cement concrete pillars with serial numbers, forward and back bearings and distance from pillar to pillar at every 20 meters.
 8. M/s. POSCO-India Pvt. Ltd. shall take up Afforestation inside the forest area in 100 m. radius from the permitted lease area in consultation with the Forest Department.
 9. No damage to the flora and fauna of the area shall be caused.
 10. The recommendations of the Committee constituted by Hon'ble Supreme Court to examine mitigative measures to be taken to protect this area from cyclone and other natural calamities shall be implemented as and when available at the user agency's cost.
 11. The period of approval under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 shall be 30 years subject to possession of valid lease by M/s. POSCO-India Pvt. Ltd..
 12. The fishing community of Nolia Sahi will be given financial aid and access to the sea by M/s. POSCO-India Pvt. Ltd..
 13. The resettlement and Rehabilitation for the project affected families will be as per the R&R Policy, 2006 of the Govt. of Orissa and as per the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP(Civil) No. 202 of 1995, The affected families to be suitably compensated.
 14. The rights of the tribal people will be settled as per the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Forest (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 before implementation of the project.
 15. Any other condition that the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar may impose from time to time for protection and improvement of flora and fauna in the forest area, shall also be applicable.


Yours faithfully,


(C.D. Singh)

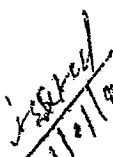
Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar.
2. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.
4. The User Agency.
5. The Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.


(C.D. Singh)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forest


01/01/10