



OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS; ANGUL CIRCLE,
AT/PO- HAKIMPADA, ANGUL- 759143, ODISHA, Phone-06764-296010 (O), 296011(Res),
Email Id: rccfangul@gmail.com.

Memo No. 424 /5F-FC-30/2025 dated. 21.1.25

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act)
O/o. the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha.

Sub: - Diversion of 23.80 ha of forest land (as per Sabik records as on 25.10.1980) including 2.240 ha forest land in safety zone area for Chromite ore mining of Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines of M/s Ferro Alloys Corporation Ltd. (FACOR) in Cuttack Forest Division coming under jurisdiction of Sukinda Tahasil of Jajpur District, Odisha.

Ref: - (i) Letter dated 23.12.2024 of GoI, MoEF & CC(FC Division)
(ii) Your Memo No. 424 /9F(MG)368/2016 dated 04.01.2025..

In inviting a reference to the above cited subject matter this is to inform that Govt. of India, MoEF & CC (FC Division) have communicated 3 nos. of EDS in respect of the above project. Accordingly, the DFO, Cuttack Division has submitted point-wise compliance vide his Memo No.328 dated 10.01.2025 (**Copy enclosed**).The point-wise compliance is furnished below :-

Observation No.1 KML file of Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines land-use and its safety zone is not available which shall be submitted.

Compliance In compliance to the above observation, the KML file of Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines land-use and its Safety zone is submitted in shape of **CD** which is enclosed as **Annexure-1**.

Observation No.2 The State shall give a detailed chronology of the mining lease /operations indicating the period during which the status-quo order was in force and the period during which mining was carried out without a valid order of the Court. The documentary evidence including the relevant orders of the court shall be provided.

Compliance In compliance to the above observation and as reported by the DFO, Cuttack Forest Division, the following chronological events is furnished hereunder :-

- i. The mining lease of Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines over 23.80 ha was granted by Deptt. of Steel & Mines vide proceeding No. IV(CR)SM6/2006/6177/SM dt.17.07.2007 as non-forest land (HAL Settlement).

- ii. The Lessee has applied for diversion of Forest land as per provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide Proposal No FP/OR/MIN/16453/2015 dt. 11.11.2015 (State Sl. No. OR-012/2016 dated 01.03.2016).
- iii. The user agency was asked to stop the mining operation as the land is forest KISSAM as per Sabik settlement and the forest land needs to be diverted as per Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for which the user agency has filed Writ Petition vide W.P. (C) No 19486 of 2016 before the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa for continuing the mining operation.
- iv. The Hon'ble High Court of Orissa has passed order for status quo vide order dt. **20.12.2016** that *"Accordingly, similar order of status quo as on date regarding mining operation shall be maintained by the parties till the next date."*
- v. The Hon'ble High Court passed the order on dt. 16.01.2017 that "interim order to continue till the next date of listing." And there was no listing happen from dt. **16.01.2017** to 24.01.2023.
- vi. Thereafter matter was listed on dt. 25.01.2023 & Hon'ble High Court disposed of the Writ Petition by its order No.05 with opinion that, *"in the above view of the matter, this court is not inclined to entertain this writ petition, as the quarry is going on without any forest clearance, which is the mandatory requirement for its operation. Accordingly, the writ petition stands disposed of"*.
- vii. The same was intimated to the Deputy Director of Mines, Jajpur Road Circle was asked to communicate that, whether the mining operation was continuing after the order of Hon'ble Court and present status of mining operation in case of Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines. The Deputy Director of Mines, Jajpur Road Circle has confirmed vide letter number 928 / mines dated 17.04.2023 the fact that no mining operation has been carried out by the user agency after vacation of the interim stay order of the Odisha Court i.e., dt. 25.01.2023.
- viii. As per certificate issued by Dy. Director Mines Jajpur Road, no Chrome Ore has been raised in the Kalarangiatta Mines w.e.f 25.10.2022 and no Chrome ore has been dispatched w.e.f 10.01.2023. It is evident that the user agency has not done any mining operation after vacation of interim order of Hon'ble High Court of Orissa. The copy of letter of DDM, Jajpur is attached as **Annexure 2B.**
- ix. The orders passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa in connection with the above W.P (C) are enclosed for kind reference. The copies of above relevant documents are enclosed as **Annexure-2C.**

Observation No.3 Comments / views of the State Govt. on the representation (copy enclosed) of the UA vide which they are seeking exemption under sub-section 1 (A) of Section 1 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 shall be submitted.

Compliance

In compliance to the above observation and as reported by the DFO, Cuttack Division the followings are given below :-

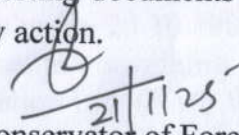
- (i) Steel & Mines, Govt. of Odisha has issued Grant Order on dt.03.11.2001 in favour of the user agency i.e., M/s FACOR Ltd. The user agency has applied an application on dt.19.10.1993 over an area of 39.318 ha in the village of Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines out of applied area 1261.476 ha. Copy of the Grant order is attached as **Annexure-3(A)**.
- (ii) The user agency i.e., M/s FACOR Ltd. has applied to split up the proposed mining lease area over 39.318 ha into two separate Blocks i.e., Block-I (23.800 ha of non-Forest area) and Block-II (15.518 ha of Forest & non-mineralized Area) on dt.18.06.2004 and the State Govt. vide letter No.6028/SM dtd.10.06.2005 has accepted the proposal to split the lease area. The copy of State Govt. letter & copy of application of User agency is enclosed at **Annexure-3(B)**.
- (iii) The letter No.III-S-7/99 13199/DM dt.24.12.2004 of Director of Mines, Orissa & Grant of Lease Proceeding No IV (CR) SM 6/2006/ 6177/SM dated 17.07.2007 issued by Steel and Mines, Govt. of Odisha indicate that the earlier lease Renewal Mining Lease in favour of TISCO Ltd. till 1993. It is observed that, the lease was granted during 1953 to TISCO. During 2001, the lease is granted in favour of M/s FACOR Ltd over 39.318 ha. retrieved from TISCO Ltd. The user agency had surrendered 15.518 ha and used balance 23.80 ha as non-forest land. The entire mining lease was broken up during the course of mining by the erstwhile mining lease company TISCO Ltd., as contained in the minutes of the 24th meeting of REC of Regional Office (EZ) MoEF & CC, Bhubaneswar held on 20.02.2018. Copy enclosed as **Annexure-3(C)**.
- (iv) The Provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was not applicable to this mining lease of Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines during execution of lease deed as the entire land is non-Forest Kissam and mining was carried out in the same mining lease up to dated 10.03.2015 as per circular published by MoEF & CC New Delhi. Land Schedule is enclosed as **Annexure-3(D)**.
- (v) Land certificate dtd.20.11.2014 issued by Tahsildar Sukinda state that the said 23.80 ha land is Sabik Kissam forest (Revenue) prior to 1980. The copy of land certificate is attached as **Annexure - 3(E)**.

(vi) There is no plot of Kalarangiatta mining lease is coming under the DLC report of Jajpur District. The copy of DLC report is attached as **Annexure -3(F)**.

(vii) As a part of land settlement process, Govt. of Odisha issued Record of Right (ROR) on 01.04.1993 pertaining to mining lease area of Kalarangiatta Chromite Mine. As per the above ROR, all the lease hold area of Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines of FACOR is coming under non-Forest Kissam i.e., much prior to 12th December 1996. The copy of RoR is enclosed as **Annexure -3(G)**.

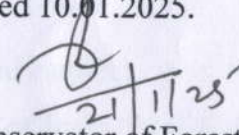
(viii) The Tahsildar, Sukinda vide his letter no.2863 dtd.21.08.2023 has issued Land Certified that the mining lease area over 23.80ha. of Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines has been changed from forest to non-Forest in the Hal Settlement record in the year 1993, i.e. much prior to 12th December 1996. The copy of letter is attached as **Annexure-3(H)**.

In view of the above compliances, the Annexures / supporting documents are forwarded herewith in three sets for favour of information and necessary action.


21/11/25
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Angul.

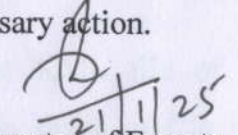
Memo No. 422 Dated- 21.1.25

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Cuttack Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to his memo No. 328 dated 10.01.2025.


21/11/25
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Angul.

Memo No. 423 Dated- 21.1.25

Copy forwarded to the Authorized Signatory, Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines, M/S FACOR Ltd., At /Po – Kalarangiatta, Dist- Jajpur for information and necessary action.


21/11/25
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Angul