



Government of India/ भारत सरकार  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change/ पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
Eastern Regional Office/ पूर्वी क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय  
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No.5-ORB387/2019-BHU

27<sup>th</sup> July, 2020

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary,  
Forest & Environment Deptt.,  
Govt. of Odisha,  
Bhubaneswar.

Sub:-

Diversion of 0.654 ha of forest land (under jurisdiction of Keonjhar Division) for laying of 32" dia Iron Ore Slurry Pipeline system for transportation of 30 MTPA Iron Ore concentrate within total 4.970 Km of Non-RoW alignment passing through 0.654 ha of forest land and 4.937 ha of non-forest spread over Two Revenue Districts (Keonjhar & Jagatsinghpur) from the proposed Grinding, De-sliming Plant & Slurry pumping station at Joda under Barbil Tahasil in Keonjhar District to the proposed Integrated Steel Plant near Paradeep in Erasama Tahasil, Jagatsinghpur District and Construction of Approach/exit road corridor to Joda unit from NH-520 at Beleipada of M/s JSW Utkal Steel Ltd.

Madam,

I am to refer to State Govt. letter No. No10F(Cons)5/19-11575/F&E dated 21.06.2019, wherein prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for diversion of 0.654 ha of forest land (under jurisdiction of Keonjhar Division) for laying of 32" dia Iron Ore Slurry Pipeline system for transportation of 30 MTPA Iron Ore concentrate within total 4.970 Km of Non-RoW alignment passing through 0.654 ha of forest land and 4.937 ha of non-forest spread over Two Revenue Districts (Keonjhar & Jagatsinghpur) from the proposed Grinding, De-sliming Plant & Slurry pumping station at Joda under Barbil Tahasil in Keonjhar District to the proposed Integrated Steel Plant near Paradeep in Erasama Tahasil, Jagatsinghpur District and Construction of Approach/exit road corridor to Joda unit from NH-520 at Beleipada of M/s JSW Utkal Steel Ltd., was sought in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After due consideration of the proposal by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, the in-principle approval for diversion of the said forest land was accorded by Ministry vide this office letter of even number dated 12.07.2019, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The Nodal Officer (FCA) of the State Government has furnished the compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and has requested to grant final approval of the proposal.

2. In this connection, I am to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Odisha vide their letter No.12295/9F (Misc)-29/2019 dated 26.06.2020 and uploading of the Stage-I compliance report in *Parivesh* web portal on 22.07.2020, **Stage-II/final** approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change is hereby granted under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.654 ha of forest land (under jurisdiction of Keonjhar Division) for laying of 32" dia Iron Ore Slurry Pipeline system for transportation of 30 MTPA Iron Ore concentrate within total 4.970 Km of Non-RoW alignment passing through 0.654 ha of forest land and 4.937 ha of non-forest spread over Two Revenue Districts (Keonjhar & Jagatsinghpur) from the proposed Grinding, De-sliming Plant & Slurry pumping station at Joda under Barbil Tahasil in Keonjhar District to the proposed Integrated Steel Plant near Paradeep in Erasama Tahasil, Jagatsinghpur District and Construction of Approach/exit road corridor to Joda unit from NH-520 at Beleipada of M/s JSW Utkal Steel Ltd., subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:-

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- i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- ii) Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over to the user agency.
- iii) The State Govt. shall carry out plantation of ten times the number of trees likely to be felled from forest areas towards compensatory afforestation at project cost.
- iv) The user agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the forest land to be diverted and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling shall be deposited by the user agency with the Forest Department.
- v) The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- vi) The pipeline shall be laid down 1.2 meter below the ground as proposed by the State Govt. and after lying down of pipe line the ground will be leveled.
- vii) The State Govt. shall ensure/emphasize that the width and depth of trench of pipeline should not exceed 1.00 meter and 2.00 meter respectively in forest areas of non-RoW and RoW areas.
- viii) The user agency shall obtain Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- ix) No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for any activity related to the project work.
- x) No labour camp shall be allowed in the forest area.
- xi) The user agency shall provide LPG, to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/tree felling and ensure no fuel wood use.
- xii) The user agency while executing works, shall not fell any tree or damage forest growth in the surrounding forest area in any manner.
- xiii) The boundary of the forest land to be diverted shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- xiv) The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease granted in favour of user agency or the project life, whichever is less.
- xv) The layout plan of the proposed forest land shall not be changed without the prior approval of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- xvi) The user agency to take necessary measures so that there is less soil erosion due to the slurry pipeline.
- xvii) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and under no circumstances be transferred to any other user agency, department or person without the prior approval of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.

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- xviii) Any other conditions that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the user agency.
- xix) The user agency shall submit annual self monitoring report on compliance of stipulated conditions to the Nodal Officer (FCA) of the State and Eastern Regional Office of this Ministry.
- xx) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, NGT Order (s) & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
- xxi) Violation of any of these conditions will be dealt as per Para 1.21 (iii) of Chapter-1 of Handbook of Guidelines issued under F.C. Act, 1980 vide Ministry's letter No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.

Yours faithfully,


*Padma Mahanti*

(Padma Mahanti)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)

Copy to:-

1. The PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar.
2. The Director, M/s JSW Utkal Steel Limited, Plot No.3, Forest Park, Sisubhawan Square, Bhubanewar-751009, Odisha.

  
Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)