



No. 5-ORB501/2022-BHU

18th September, 2023

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary,
Forest, Environment & CC Deptt.,
Government of Odisha,
Bhubaneswar-751 001.

Sub:- Proposal for re-diversion of 0.181 ha (0.113 ha in Keonjhar Forest Division and 0.068 ha in Bonai Forest Division) of Forest land for laying of 132 KV underground Power Cable over a distance of 6.751 Km along the RoW of NH-520 and the approach road from NH-520 to Kamanda Steel Plant for Change in Land Use by M/s Rungta Mines Ltd.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Govt. letter No. No.FE-DIV-FLD-0028-2022-7264/FE&CC dated 18.04.2022, wherein prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for diversion of re-diversion of 0.181 ha (0.113 ha in Keonjhar Forest Division and 0.068 ha in Bonai Forest Division) of Forest land for laying of 132 KV underground Power Cable over a distance of 6.751 Km along the RoW of NH-520 and the approach road from NH-520 to Kamanda Steel Plant for Change in Land Use by M/s Rungta Mines 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 22.04.2022, 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 directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Odisha vide their letter No.16854/9F (Trans)-58/2021 dated 21.08.2023 and uploading of the Stage-I compliance report in *Parivesh* web portal on 11.09.2023, **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 re-diversion of 0.181 ha (0.171 ha for re-diversion and 0.010 ha for change in land use) of Forest land for laying of 132 KV underground Power Cable over a distance of 6.751 Km along the RoW of NH-520 and the approach road from NH-520 to Kamanda Steel Plant for Change in Land Use by M/s Rungta Mines Ltd. subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:-

A: Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land.

- i) The State Govt. shall ensure that NPV of the above proposal has been realized from user agency as per Ministry's direction from time to time.
- ii) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required.
- iii) The State Govt. shall ensure that the KML files of the area to be re-diverted and shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details before handing over of the diverted forest land to the user agency.

- iv) The State Govt. shall ensure that the boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates.

B: Conditions which need to be complied after handing over of forest land to the user agency.

- i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- ii) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- iii) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall comply with the conditions stipulated in the final forest clearance granted to M/s NHAI for four/six laning, widening and strengthening of existing two lane of NH-215 (Rimuli-Rajamunda Section) in Keonjhar and Sundargarh District of Odisha vide Ministry's letter No.5-ORA198/2014-BHU dated 16.04.2019.
- iv) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall also comply with the conditions stipulated in the final forest clearance granted vide Ministry's letter No.5-ORB389/2019-BHU dated 23.03.2020 for construction of approach road from NH-520 to Kamanda Steel Plant of M/s Rungta Mines Ltd.
- v) The State Govt. and the user agency shall ensure that the underground cable will be laid 1.5 meter beneath the ground surface, having a strip of 1.0 meter width and after lying down of the cable the ground will be leveled.
- vi) The State Govt. and the user agency shall ensure that laying of power cable line should be done simultaneously with digging of trench.
- vii) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall take adequate safety measures for accidental leakage of power cable line.
- viii) The State Govt. shall ensure that no labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the user agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.
- ix) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that no additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for any activity related to the project work.
- x) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that while executing works, the user agency shall not fell any tree or damage forest growth in the surrounding forest area in any manner.
- xi) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that the layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- xii) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure that earth or any material shall neither be brought from nor the debris resulting during construction be disposed of in the adjoining forest area by the user agency.
- xiii) The State Govt. shall ensure that 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 prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- xiv) The State Govt. shall ensure that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.

- xv) The State Govt. shall ensure that the concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area.
- xvi) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall submit annual self monitoring report on compliance of stipulated conditions to the Nodal Officer (FCA) of the State and Integrated Regional Office of this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly.
- xvii) The State Govt. shall ensure that 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, which shall be complied by the user agency.
- xviii) 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.
- xix) Violation of any of these conditions will be amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per Para 1.21 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 Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003.
2. The PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharapur, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Authorized Signatory, M/s Rungta Mines Ltd., Main Road, Barbil-758035, Dist: Keonjhar, Odisha.

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)