

**SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF THE REGIONAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF
FORESTS, ROURKELA CIRCLE, ROURKELA**

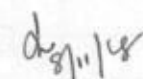
1.	Name of the Project.	Banspani Iron Mines of M/s OMC Ltd. (Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/28732/2017, State Sl.No.OR-045/2017 dt. 11.09.2017.)
2.	Name of District/ Division.	Keonjhar/ Keonjhar Forest Division.
3.	Date of Inspection.	06.11.2018
4.	Name and designation of Inspecting Officer.	Sri Lingaraj Otta, IFS, Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle.
5.	Name and designation of the Officers who attended the Inspection including representative of user agency.	1. Sri Santosh Joshi, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Division 2. Sri Ghanashyam Barik Dy.Ranger, I/c Champua Range. <u>Representatives of the User Agency.</u> 1. Sri Laxminarayan Ghana, Regional Manger, OMC, Barbil. 2. Sri Dilip Kumar Pattnaik, DGM(F&E) HO, OMC Ltd. 3. Sri Nishikanta Samal, Manager (Mining), Bansapani
6.	Legal Status of the Forest land with area Proposed for diversion	Reserved Forest : 126.220 ha Revenue Forest : 10.344 ha DLC Forest land : 44.149 ha Sabik Kissam Forest : 2.505 ha Total: : 183.218 ha
7.	If area required for diversion has been demarcated on the ground.	Yes

8. Purpose wise break up of forest land proposed for diversion as per the Diversion Proposal.

Sl. No	Pattern of Utilisation	Forest Area (in Ha)					Non forest Area (in Ha.)			Grand Total (in Ha.)
		R.F.	Revenue Forest	Sabik Kissam Forest	As per DLC	Total	Govt.	Private	Total	
I	a) Mining	98.5251	3.7672	0.6640	25.9058	128.8621	0.4421	0.7280	1.1701	130.0322
	b)Overburden Dump	0.0091	1.5808	-	13.1506	14.7405	-	-	-	14.7405
	c)Subgrade stack yard	12.0520	0.3646	-	0.5035	12.9201	-	-	-	12.9201
	d)Mineral storage & processing	8.4593	2.3861	0.3490	1.7291	12.9235	0.1840	-	0.1840	13.1075
	e)Infrastructure	-	-	-	-	-	5.3833	-	5.3833	5.3833
	f)Green belt	-	0.0749	0.5850	-	0.6599	-	-	-	0.6599
	e)Road	-	0.0619	-	-	0.0619	4.3327	-	4.3327	4.3946
II	Safety zone	7.1745	2.1085	0.9070	2.8600	13.0500	5.1354	39.9516	45.0870	58.1370
	Total	126.220	10.3440	2.5050	44.1490	183.218	15.4775	40.6796	56.1571	239.3751

9.	Condition of vegetation and type of forest in the applied area.	<p>Major portion of the forest area applied for diversion is situated in Baitarani RF. The Reserved Forests come under the group 3C/C2e (iii) Moist Peninsular Valley Sal. The prevailing vegetation consists of Sal and its associates. The principal associates of Sal include <i>Terminalia alata</i>, <i>Lagerstroemia parviflora</i>, <i>Anogeissus latifolia</i>, <i>Terminalia belerica</i>, <i>Syzygium cumini</i>, <i>Mangifera indica</i>, <i>Schleichera oleosa</i>, <i>Adina cordifolia</i>, <i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i>, <i>Bombax ceiba</i>, <i>Bridelia retusa</i>, <i>Madhuca indica</i>. The middle storey is represented by <i>Syzygium cumini</i>, <i>Ougeinia ougenensis</i>, <i>Careya arborea</i>, <i>Trema orientalis</i>, <i>Embllica officinalis</i>, <i>Cassia fistula</i> etc. The shrubs and undergrowth viz. <i>Indigofera pulchella</i>, <i>Ardisia solenaceae</i>, <i>Flemingia chhapar</i>, <i>Helicteres ixora</i> and <i>Clerodendron viscosum</i> etc. are seen in the applied area. The prevailing climbers include <i>Bauhinia vahlii</i>, <i>Combretum decandrum</i> and <i>Beutia parviflora</i>. The grasses over the forest floor include <i>Chrysopogon aciculatus</i>, <i>Imperata cylindrica</i>, <i>Dicanthium carricosum</i>, <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> etc.</p> <p>Eco Value Class of the applied forest has been taken as "Eco Value Class-I" based on Eco Value Class of Baitarani Reserved Forest falling within the lease area. The canopy density of the applied area varies from 0.2 to 0.8 and the average canopy density is taken as 0.5.</p>
10	Position of Wildlife	No rare or endangered species is available in the applied area but movement of wild elephants is often noticed in the applied area and adjoining forest. The other wildlife seen in the area include Barking deer, Wild Pig, Porcupine, Indian hare, Peacock etc. The applied site falls under elephant habitat zone-2 as mentioned by ORSAC, Bhubaneswar.
11	Whether the applied area involves any Eco-Sensitive Zone / National Park / Sanctuary.	The applied area does not involve any Eco-Sensitive Zone / National Park / Sanctuary.
12	No. of trees to be felled and its impact on the eco-system.	As per the report of the DFO, Keonjhar Division, 14760 nos. of sound & 36294 Nos. of unsound trees in the virgin forest land over 137.226 ha and 349 nos. of sound & 1291 nos. of unsound trees in the broken up forest land over 45.992 ha have been enumerated. The felling of the trees from the forest area will induce soil erosion.

13	Details of broken up land and reclamation done if any.	Broken up forest land-45.992 ha. No reclamation has been done.
14	Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation, if any.	Not applicable.
15	Position of rare and endangered species available and importance of the applied area from archeological point of view.	No rare or endangered species are available in the applied area but movement of wild elephants is often noticed in the applied area and adjoining forest. There is no archaeologically important monument situated in the area as per the report of the DFO, Keonjhar Division.
16	Non-forest land selected for Compensatory Afforestation has been included in the D.L.C. report or not.	As per the report of the DFO, Kalahandi South Division, the non-forest land selected for Compensatory Afforestation has not been included in the D.L.C. report.
17	Suitability of the identified non-forest land/ degraded Forest land for Compensatory Afforestation.	Necessary suitability certificates have been furnished by the DFO, Kalahandi South Division in respect of the Non-Forest Govt. land identified for Compensatory Afforestation.
18	Violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 if any and action taken thereon.	<p>As per first report of illegal mining of Iron and Manganese Ores in the state of Odisha of Justice M.B. Shah Commission of Inquiry, Banspani Iron Ore Mines (380.4 ha.) of M/s OMC Ltd finds place at Sl. No. 35 of Annexure-IVA (i.e. Details of the mining leases having production without obtaining approval under FC Act, 1980 at all during subsisting lease period and deemed extension period but leases were allowed to operate illegally) and from the said mines there was illegal production of 148242 tonnes of Iron Ore for the period from 2002-03 to 2004-05 without obtaining approval under FC Act, 1980.</p> <p>Action taken – As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, for the illegal production of mineral, OR case No.164CH of 2014-15 has been booked. Prosecution has been sanctioned and submitted in the Court of JMFC, Badbil vide PR No. 31 of 2014-15 dated 12.02.2015. The case is sub-judice.</p>


Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Rourkela Circle