



By E-mail

ବନଖଣ୍ଡ ଅଧୀକାରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ : ବଣାଇଁ ବନଖଣ୍ଡ I

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER: BONAI FOREST DIVISION.

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Memo No. 10850/6F-(Mg.) Dt: 17-12.2022

To

The Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Rourkela Circle, Rourkela.

Sub: -

Proposal for diversion of 156.978 ha. of forest land (147.803 ha. in Bonai Forest Division & 9.175 ha. in Keonjhar Forest Division) forest land in respect of Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block of M/s Rungta Mines Ltd. in of Bonai Forest Division & Keonjhar Division under Sundargarh & Keonjhar District.

Ref: -

Proposal No.FP/OR/MIN/150048/2021 (State Sl. No.OR-098/2021) dated 22.12.2021.

A Proposal for diversion of 147.803 ha. of forest land (including 4.224 ha. of Safety Zone) under section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act'1980 in respect of Bonai Forest Division in village Batagaon and Kensara in Lahunipara Tehsil of Barsuan Range of Sundargarh District, Odisha, within the Block area of 158.509 ha. of Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block allotted to M/s Rungta Mines Ltd. in Sundargarh and Keonjhar District is sent herewith for onward transmission to Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for approval U/s-2 (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act'1980.

1. Brief Description.

Government of Odisha, pursuant to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 as amended from time to time, issued the notice inviting tender dated 07.07.2021 to commence the auction process for grant of mining lease for Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block over an area of 158.509 Ha. for Iron Ore located in Koira Mining Circle, district Sundargarh and Keonjhar Mining Circle, district Keonjhar, Odisha. The e-auction process was conducted in accordance with the tender document for the said mineral block on 24.09.2021 and Rungta Mines Ltd. was declared as the 'Preferred Bidder' under Rule 9 (9)(iii) or Rule 10 (1A) of Auction Rules, having quoted highest Final Price Offer vide letter No. MXIII(b) 46/2021/7738/DM Dated 05.10.2021 issued by Director of Mines Government of Odisha.

Accordingly, pursuant to Rule 10(2) of the Auction Rules and the terms of the Tender Document, the Government of Odisha issued Letter of Intent (LOI) bearing No. IV(B)SM-49/2021/2021/8716/SM, Bhubaneswar dated 28.10.2021 for grant of Mining Lease for Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block for Iron Ore located in 20 km south of Koira town in Kedeshala village Koira Tahsil, Sundargarh district on 158.509 Ha. area to Rungta Mines Ltd. for a period of 50 (Fifty) years. The copy of Letter of Intent (LOI) is enclosed as (Page-37-40/DP). Out of 158.509 Ha. DGPS surveyed lease area, 147.803 Ha. area is in Sundargarh District and 10.706 ha. is in Keonjhar District. The total forest land included is 156.978 ha. out of which 147.803 ha. is PRF in Sundargarh District and 9.175 ha. is Revenue Forest in Keonjhar District. Remaining 1.531 Ha. is non- forest land in Keonjhar District. Authenticated Land schedule is enclosed (Page-41-42/DP).

The Validity of LOI is for a period of 3 (Three) years from the date of its issuance on 28.10.2021, within which all the above conditions need to be fulfilled and the Mining Lease deed to be executed between the Rungta Mines Ltd. and the Government of Odisha.

Mining plan has been approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), Bhubaneswar vide letter No. MP/A/18-ORI/BHU/2021-22 dated 24.11.2021 **(Copy enclosed Page-48-49/DP)**.

Terms of Reference (ToR) has been issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Impact Assessment Division vide No: IA-J-11015/2/2022-IA-II (NCM) dated 18.02.2022 with production capacity of 3.35 Million TPA Iron ore with a total excavation of 3.98 MTPA **(Copy enclosed Page-50-62/DP)**.

As per Mining Plan, the mining operation will be fully mechanized opencast with development of benches of height upto 10m and width upto 20m. The conventional opencast method with utilization of excavator of capacity upto 4.5m³, dumpers of capacity upto 50 MT, rock-breakers, deep-hole drilling blasting will be adopted. During mining operation period from 2026-27 (27.10.2026 to 31.03.2027) to 2028-29, mining operation will be done in one quarry. The proposed mining area and other area of the lease is already proved mineralized at G2 level by 85 no. of boreholes completed by GSI & MECL as per G.R. provided with the Tender Document.

The entire Block area comprises of 158.509 ha., out of which an area of 156.978 ha. comes under forest land and remaining 1.531 ha. comes under non-forest land.

The Land Schedule of the total forest land applied for diversion in Bonai and Keonjhar Division authenticated by the Revenue, Forest & Mining Department has furnished at **(Page-44-46/DP)**.

The Land Schedule of the total forest land / non-forest land authenticated by the Revenue, Forest & Mining Department in Bonai and Keonjhar Forest Division has furnished at **(Page-41-42/DP)**.

The applied ML area has been delineated in Survey of India Toposheet No.F45N1 (73 G/1). This applied area does not form part of any National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve. There is no archaeological monument within the applied area. The total cost of this project is ₹38000.0 Lakhs **(Page-21-29/DP)**. This project will generate employment for 50 persons directly which shall mostly be tribes. It will also create indirect employment for about 195 persons (total 245). This will lead to peripheral development of surrounding villages on account of their socio-economic condition of the locals / tribals.

2. Maps.

The User Agency has furnished the following maps.

Sl. No.	Particulars	Scale	Plate No.
01	Location Map Shown on Topo Sheet.	1: 50,000	Plate-I
02	Lease Plan (DGPS Georeference Map).	1: 3,960	Plate-II
03	Lease Plan showing forest and non-forest land area.	1: 3,960	Plate-III
04	Present Land Use Map	1 : 4000	Plate-IV
05	Proposed Land Use Map	1 : 4000	Plate-V
06	Safety Zone Map	1 : 4000	Plate-VI
07	Reclamation Plan	1 : 4000	Plate-VII
08	Geological Plan	1 : 4000	Plate-VIII
09	DGPS Map showing forest area proposed for diversion.	1 : 3960	Plate-IX
10	CA area in village Deri showing in Topo sheet	1 : 50000	Plate-X
12	CA Map showing in village sheet of non-forest land in village Deri	1 : 3960	Plate-XI
12	DGPS Map of Compensatory Afforestation area identified in village Deri	1 : 3960	Plate-XII
13	CA area in Jadipada RF showing in Topo sheet	1 : 50000	Plate-XIII
14	Plan showing sample plots for tree enumeration over 147.803 ha.	1 : 4000	Plate-XIV

3. Forest Land

In the instant proposal, the User Agency has applied for diversion of 147.803 ha. of forest land (including 4.224 ha. of Safety Zone) U/s-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in Bonai Forest Division.

The total land required for the Project in Bonai Division along with proposed land use is furnished below.

Sl. No.	Item	Revenue Forest (in ha)	PRF (in ha)	Total Forest (in ha)	Total non-forest (in ha)	Grand Total (in ha)
1.	Mining (including Mobile Crushing and Screening Unit, Temporary Stack Yard)	-	113.739	113.739	-	113.739
2.	Overburden Dump	-	7.301	7.301	-	7.301
3.	Mine Road	-	7.616	7.616	-	7.616
4.	Infrastructure (Temporary Office, Rest Shelter, Work shop, Weigh Bridge etc.)	-	1.813	1.813	-	1.813
5.	Ore Processing Site	-	3.820	3.820	-	3.820
6.	Mineral Stack Yard	-	9.290	9.290	-	9.290
	Sub Total :-	-	143.579	143.579	-	143.579
7.	Safety zone	-	4.224	4.224	-	4.224
	Grand Total :-	-	147.803	147.803	-	147.803

Contd.4...

Total land required for the Project in Bonai and Keonjhar Forest Division of Sundargarh & Keonjhar Districts along with proposed land use is furnished below.

Sl. No.	Item	Revenue Forest (in ha)	PRF (in ha)	Total Forest (in ha)	Total non-forest (in ha)	Grand Total (in ha)
1.	Mining including Mobile Crushing and Screening Unit, Temporary Stack Yard	7.601	113.739	121.340	0.000	121.340
2.	Dumping of Overburden	0.000	7.301	7.301	0.000	7.301
3.	Mine Road	0.320	7.616	7.936	0.076	8.012
4.	Infrastructure (Temporary Office, Rest Shelter, Workshop, Weigh Bridge etc.)	0.000	1.813	1.813	1.187	3.000
5.	Ore Processing Site.	0.000	3.820	3.820	0.000	3.820
6.	Mineral Stack Yard.	0.000	9.290	9.290	0.000	9.290
	Sub-total :-	7.921	143.579	151.500	1.263	152.763
7.	Safety Zone	1.254	4.224	5.478	0.268	5.746
	Grand Total :-	9.175	147.803	156.978	1.531	158.509

4. Flora & Fauna

Sal (*Shorea robusta*), Sidha (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*), Kusum (*Schleichera oleosa*), Bara (*Ficus bengalensis*), Harida (*Terminalia chebula*), Bahada (*Terminalia belerica*), Char (*Buchanania lanjan*), Jamu (*Syzygium cuminii*), Asan (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Kendu (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), Kumbhi (*Careya arborea*), Mango (*Mangifera indica*) etc. are major species among flora available in the applied area.

Fauna such as Elephant, Wild boar, Hanuman langur, Indian Hare, Indian Palm Squirrel, Jungle Cat, Rat and different types of Snakes and Birds got recorded from the applied area.

5. Wildlife Management.

(a) Regional Wildlife Management Plan:-

A comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan covering the entire forest area for wildlife management of Bonai & Keonjhar Division has already been prepared. Accordingly, the User Agency has to pay @ ₹ 82,000/- per hectare for the entire area of 158.509 ha. (Bonai Division-147.803 ha. + Keonjhar Division-10.706 ha.) as per revised norm approved by Govt. of Odisha communicated vide Memo No.26159/F&E dt.5.12.2018 of Forest & Environment Department. The User Agency has furnished undertaking to bear the cost of comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan (Page-66/DP).

(b) Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan : -

A brief note on flora and fauna in the proposed area has provided in the Para-4. Since 147.803 ha. of forest land is proposed to be diverted under the project is from PRF land in Bonai Division, impact of the Project on Wildlife and Wildlife habitat need to be addressed. The area proposed to be diverted under the project and neighboring forest areas are characterized by variety of flora and fauna. Hence, impact of this project on wildlife and wildlife habitat need to be studied and properly addressed. Protection and monitoring of wildlife, wildlife habitat management, support to local forest dependent communities through proper eco-development measures etc. are some areas which need specific attention. Since the area is characterized by the movement of elephants measures need to be adopted for its protection, monitoring, habitat management and mitigation of HEC issues. Surrounding Forest areas are vulnerable to fire and hence fire protection activities also need to be ensured.

In the above said context a Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan is suggested to be prepared and implemented. The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to bear the cost of the said plan (**Page-66/DP**).

6. Tree enumeration.

Enumeration has been conducted in 30 nos. of sample plots of 1.0 ha. each within 147.803 ha. of forest land (including 4.224 ha. of Safety Zone area). Trees which are above 30 cm girth have got enumerated in these sample plots and the total count from these sample plots is 6619 nos.

By extrapolation of the above said data total no. of trees (above 30 cm girth), over forest land proposed to be diverted (147.803 ha. X 220.63 nos. per ha.) has been calculated as 32610 nos. (which includes 932 nos. of trees within Safety Zone area).

Enumerated number of trees required to be felled in the project area (except safety zone area) implies that the project has some impact on the ecosystem in the area.

The trees enumeration list in forest area and species-wise, Class-wise grand abstract of tree enumeration have been enclosed (**Page-113-198/DP**). The average density of the vegetation has reported to be 0.6.

7. Compensatory Afforestation.

An extent of 147.803 ha. of forest land (including 4.224 ha. of Safety Zone) area has been proposed for diversion in Bonai Forest Division. Accordingly, Compensatory Afforestation Scheme has got prepared over 147.803 ha. of Govt. non-forest land identified in village Deri under Banspal Tehsil, BJP Range of Keonjhar Forest Division of Keonjhar District. The Land Schedule of 147.803 ha. of non-forest Govt. land is as follows.

Contd.6...

LAND SCHEDULE

Tehsil	Village	Khata No.	Plot No.	Kisam	Total area (in Ha.)	Area required for CA (in Ha.)
Banspal	Deri	53 (AAA)	17 (P)	Hudi	17.792	1.482
			441	Hudi	8.000	8.000
			442	Hudi	16.000	16.000
			443	Hudi	16.000	16.000
			444 (P)	Hudi	5.920	5.312
			445 (P)	Hudi	12.432	5.302
			446	Hudi	16.000	16.000
			447 (P)	Hudi	16.000	0.916
			458 (P)	Hudi	18.592	0.574
			459 (P)	Hudi	16.000	5.8180
			460 (P)	Hudi	16.000	5.4630
			461 (P)	Hudi	16.000	5.641
			488 (P)	Hudi	16.000	5.629
			489 (P)	Hudi	16.000	4.699
			17/533 (P)	Hudi	17.200	4.443
			17/534 (P)	Hudi	17.408	4.459
			17/535	Hudi	16.000	16.000
			17/536	Hudi	16.000	16.000
			17/537 (P)	Hudi	16.000	10.065
TOTAL :-						147.803

The Compensatory Afforestation Scheme has got prepared in Keonjhar Forest Division. The CA Scheme has provision of ANR Plantation @ 500 plants per hectare over 50.00 ha.

Further, an area of 183.722 ha. degraded Reserve Forest land has been identified in Jadipada RF of Keonjhar Forest Division and balance number of seedlings have been proposed to be planted over 167.183 ha. from this identified patch of degraded Reverse Forest, 1000 seedlings / hectare shall be planted over 92.946 ha. (AR mode), 500 seedlings / hectare shall be planted over 74.237 ha. (ANR mode) and 200 seedlings / hectare shall be raised over 2.00 ha. (ANR mode).

The total financial outlay of the scheme is ₹ 21,32,97,100/- (Non-Forest land- ₹8,27,75,000/- (+) Addl. C.A. Degraded Forest land- ₹13,05,22,100/-). The User Agency has furnished an undertaking to bear the cost of the Compensatory Afforestation (Page-66/DP & Check List Sl. No.17). The Compensatory Afforestation Scheme has furnished at (Page-77-112/DP).

8. Cost Benefit analysis.

As reported by the User Agency, the total benefit due to the proposed project comes to ₹ 4594.450 Crore. The total loss due to proposed forest diversion has been calculated to be ₹ 61.675 Crore (Page-64-65/DP).

9. **Safety Zone.**

An area of 4.224 ha. is the proposed Safety Zone area within the applied area for diversion. The details of area under Safety zone are as follows.

Sl. No.	Purpose of Utilisation	Forest land			Total forest land	Non-forest land	Grand Total
		PRF	Revenue Forest	DLC			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Safety Zone 7.5 mt along the boundary	4.224	-	-	4.224	-	4.224

Further, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to pay the cost of Safety Zone Scheme and 1.5 times Safety Zone Afforestation Scheme (Page-66/DP).

10. **Environmental clearance**

The User Agency has obtained Terms of Reference (ToR) vide No.IA-J-11015/2/2022-IA-II (NCM) dated 18.02.2022 of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Impact Assessment Division (Page-50-62/DP).

11. **Phase Reclamation Plan**

The Phase Reclamation Scheme has been furnished (Page-68-73/DP).

12. **Mining Plan**

The Mining Plan has got approved by the Indian Bureau of Mines vide their Letter No.MP/A/18-ORI/BHU/2021-22 dated 24.11.2021 (Page-48-49/DP).

13. **Lease profile**

The User Agency has furnished the lease profile (Page-67/DP).

14. **Violation**

No violation has got reported under the Forest (Conservation) Act'1980.

15. **Resettlement & Rehabilitation Plan.**

As reported by the User Agency, there is no displacement of people due to the project. Hence, no rehabilitation plan has been envisaged.

16. **Net Present Value.**

It is an applied Mining Lease. Hence, no demand has been raised to deposit Net Present Value (NPV). The User Agency has furnished an undertaking to pay NPV as and when demanded (Page-66/DP).

17. **Site Inspection Report.**

The Site Inspection Report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bonai Forest Division is enclosed vide Page-74-75/DP.

18. Certificate under the FRA'2006

The Collector, Sundargarh has issued Certificate under the Forest Rights Act'2006 over 147.803 ha. of forest land vide his Letter No.3798 dt.22.11.2022. The Certificate along with Gram Sabha Resolution are enclosed as (Page-199-212/DP).

19. DGPS Map

The DGPS survey map submitted by the ORSAC, Bhubaneswar and countersigned by the undersigned has been enclosed to the Diversion Proposal (Plate-IX).

20. Others.

The Basic Information of Bonai Division has been furnished (Page-(Page-76/DP).

The Check list as per prescribed format is duly filled in and enclosed to the Diversion Proposal (Page-1-14/DP).

The PDF file of the diversion proposal has been enclosed in CD form as per the guideline issued vide Letter No.10134/F&E dt.30.6.2020 of the Forest & Environment Department, Govt. of Odisha.

21. Recommendation.

In view of the above position, grant of approval under section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act'1980 for diversion of 147.803 ha. of PRF land which includes 4.224 ha. of Safety Zone in favour of Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block in village Batagaon and Kensara of M/s Rungta Mines Ltd. in Bonai Forest Division may be considered.

This proposal may kindly be transmitted further for approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Diversion Proposal is enclosed herewith.
Encl : As above.

Memo No. 10851 /6F-Dt: 17.12.2022

Copy forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, F.C. Act, O/O the P.C.C.F., Orissa, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Memo No. 10852 /6F-Dt: 17.12.2022

Copy along with copy of Part-I, Part-II and Site Inspection Report forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Wildlife), and CWLW, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action.

Memo No. 10853 /6F-Dt: 17.12.2022

Copy forwarded to M/s Rungta Mines Ltd. At/PO-Barbil, Dist-Keonjhar for information and necessary action.

Divisional Forest Officer,
Bonai Division.

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Bonai Division.

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Bonai Division.