

F. No. 8-81/2010-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi – 110 003

Dated: 4th January, 2017

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Chhattisgarh,
Raipur.

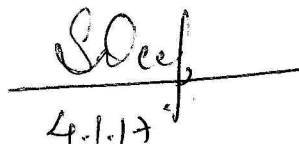
Sub: Diversion of 79.56 ha of forest land for iron ore mining in East Bhanupratapur Forest Division in favour of M/s Monnet Ispat & Energy Limited in Kanker district of Chhattisgarh.

Sir,

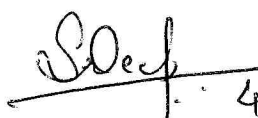
I am directed to refer to the Government of Chhattisgarh letters No. F-5-68/2008/10-2 Raipur dated 03.08.2016 for grant of stage –I approval for diversion of 79.56 ha of forest land for iron ore mining in East Bhanupratapur Forest Division in favour of M/s Monnet Ispat & Energy Limited in Kanker District of Chhattisgarh was sought in accordance with Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The said proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Addl. Pr.Chief Conservation of Forests & Nodal Officer (FCA), State Government of Chhattisgarh vide his letter No. BHU-Parbandh/Khanij/247/3009 dated 15.12.2016, **Stage-II/final** approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 79.56 ha of forest land for iron ore mining in East Bhanupratapur Forest Division in favour of M/s Monnet Ispat & Energy Limited in Kanker district of Chhattisgarh subject to following conditions:

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) Compensatory afforestation over the degraded forest land, twice in extent to the area of forest land proposed to be diverted, shall be raised within a period of three years with effect from the date of issue of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department at the cost of the user agency;
- (iii) from funds already provided by the user agency;
- (iv) Following activities, as per approved plan/schemes, shall be ensured by the user agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department:
 - (a) Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream shall be initiated to be implemented within a period of three years with effect from the date of issue of Stage-II clearance in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department.


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- (b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds, in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion in accordance with the approved scheme;
 - (c) Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour in accordance with the approved scheme;
 - (d) Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching, in accordance with the approved scheme, so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28° ; and
 - (e) No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan.
- (v) 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;
 - (vi) The User agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986;
 - (vii) The user agency shall ensure biologically reclaimed forest land is surrendered to the State Forest Department as per the land surrender schedule prepared by them in accordance with the existing mine plan and progressive mine closure plan;
 - (viii) Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area [7.5 meters strip all along the outer boundary of the mining lease area as recommended by the state govt.] shall be done within three years at the project cost as per approved scheme. Besides this afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere measuring one & a half times the area under safety zone shall also be done at the project cost;
 - (ix) User agency either itself or through the State Forest Department shall ensure afforestation on degraded forest land, one and half times in extent to the area used for safety zone as per the approved scheme;
 - (x) Period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;
 - (xi) The State Govt. and the User agency shall ensure de-silting of the village tanks and other water bodies located within five km from the mine lease boundary for which GPS coordinates given so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies, whenever required preferably within five years ;
 - (xii) The State Govt. and the User agency shall ensure mining in a phased manner and take due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan shall be executed by the User Agency as per the approved mining plan/scheme and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Chhattisgarh and the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office , Nagpur . If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the user agency, the Nodal Officer or the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining

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activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities are satisfactorily executed;

- (xiii) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- (xiv) User agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;
- (xv) Boundary of the mining lease and safety zone shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS Co-ordinates;
- (xvi) Forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- (xvii) The user agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and this Ministry regularly.
- (xviii) Any other condition that the Regional Office , Nagpur of this Ministry, may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife; and
- (xix) The State Government and User Agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency and also the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

Yours faithfully,


(Sandeep Sharma) 4.1.17

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
2. The Addl. PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Nagpur
3. The Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
4. User Agency.
5. Forest Conservation Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.


(Sandeep Sharma) 4.1.17

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)