

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

1.	Name of the Project.	Proposal for diversion of 227.62 ha of forest land of Basundhara (West) Extension Coal Mining Project of Mahalaxmi Area of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited. (Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/20559/2016, State Sl. No. OR-024/2018 dated 26.04.2018)
2.	Name of District/ Division.	Sundargarh/ Sundargarh Forest Division.
3.	Date of inspection.	24.05.2024 & 03.07.2024
4.	Name and designation of Inspecting Officer.	Shri Ramasamy P., IFS, Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle, Rourkela.
5.	Name and designation of the Officers who attended the inspection including representatives of the User Agency.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sri Pradeep Mirase, IFS, DFO, Sundargarh</li> <li>2. Sri Harihar Patra, Range Officer, Gopalpur Range.</li> <li>3. Sri Mitrabhanu Patel, Forester, Duduka Section.</li> <li>4. Sri Ullasha Patel, Forester Gopalpur Section.</li> <li>5. Sri Lelin Kumar Patel, Forester I/C Gopalpur Beat.</li> </ol> <u>Representatives of the User Agency:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sri Dinesh Chandra Kundu, GM, Mahalaxmi Area of MCL.</li> <li>2. Sri Prabhanjan Nayak, PO, Basundhara (West) OCP of Mahalaxmi Area MCL</li> </ol>
6.	Legal Status of the Forest land with area Proposed for diversion	Reserved Forest = 6,062 ha Revenue Forest = 221.558 ha <b>Total = 227.620 ha</b>
7.	If area required for diversion has been demarcated on the ground.	The forest land over 227.62 ha applied for diversion has been demarcated with RCC pillars and DGPS Coordinates have been mentioned in the pillars.
8.	<b><u>Item-wise break-up of forest land proposed for diversion.</u></b>	

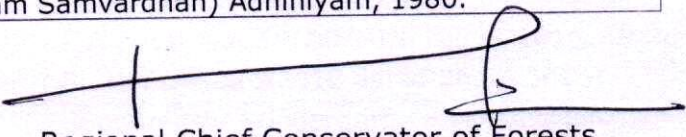
Sl. No	Purpose of Utilization	Forest Land (in Ha)	Non-Forest Land (in Ha)	Total area in Ha)
1	Mining	206.014	94.217	300.231
2	7.5m Safety Zone	5.169	1.941	7.11
3	Infrastructure	16.439	0.142	16.581
<b>Total</b>		<b>227.62</b>	<b>96.3</b>	<b>323.92</b>



9.	Condition of vegetation and type of forest in the applied area.	<p>As per the report of the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the canopy density of the degraded forest alnds involved in the diversion proposal are detailed below:</p> <p>1. Reserved Forest:</p> <table><tr><th>Reserve Forest</th><th>Area in ha</th><th>Canopy Density</th><th>Eco-Class</th><th>Forest growth</th></tr><tr><td>Jamkani (RF)</td><td>6.062</td><td>0.5-0.6</td><td>II</td><td>VDF/DF</td></tr></table> <p>2. Revenue Forest:-</p> <table><tr><th>Village</th><th>Area in ha</th><th>Canopy Density</th><th>Eco-Class</th><th>Forest growth</th></tr><tr><td>Gopalpur</td><td>184.622</td><td>0.3-0.4</td><td>II</td><td>Open Forest</td></tr><tr><td>Ratansara</td><td>36.936</td><td>0.3-0.4</td><td>II</td><td>Open Forest</td></tr><tr><td>Total:-</td><td>221.558</td><td>0.3-0.4</td><td>II</td><td></td></tr></table>	Reserve Forest	Area in ha	Canopy Density	Eco-Class	Forest growth	Jamkani (RF)	6.062	0.5-0.6	II	VDF/DF	Village	Area in ha	Canopy Density	Eco-Class	Forest growth	Gopalpur	184.622	0.3-0.4	II	Open Forest	Ratansara	36.936	0.3-0.4	II	Open Forest	Total:-	221.558	0.3-0.4	II	
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10	Position of Wildlife	As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, movement of Wildlife like Fox ( <i>Vulpes bengalensis</i> ), Wild Boar ( <i>Sus scrofa cristatus</i> ), Rabbit( <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i> ), Jungle Cat ( <i>Felis chaus affinis</i> ), Jungle Hen ( <i>Gallus gallus</i> ) etc, is seen in the applied area.																														
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.	The DFO, Sundargarh Division has reported that 57113 nos. of trees are required to be felled due to above project in phased manner as indicated at page-40(c)/DP.																														
13	Details of broken up land and reclamation done if any.	Not applicable																														
14	Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation, if any.	As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the project involves displacement 219 nos. of families of Gopalpur village which includes 119nos. of ST, 60 nos. of SC & 40 nos. of Others categories of people. Similarly, 117 nos of families of village Ratansara will be displaced which include 70 nos. of ST, 35 nos. of SC & 12 nos. of Others categories of people. Thus, the project involves displacement of 336 nos. of families of both the aforesaid villages comprising of 189 nos. of ST, 95 nos. of SC & 52 nos. of Others categories of families. The detailed in this regard has been furnished vide checklist Sl. No.26 at <b>page-153 /DP</b> . The User agency has furnished an undertaking to submit the approved R&R Plan before the final approval which is enclosed at Page No. 154/DP. The draft R& R plan is enclosed at <b>154 to 159/DP</b> .																														
15	Position of rare and endangered species available and importance of the applied area from archeological point of view.	No rare and endangered species is available in the area applied for diversion. There is no archaeologically important monument situated in the area as reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division.																														
16	Non-Forest land used in the project and Non-Forest land selected for	Non-Forest Govt. land over 45.010 ha is involved in the project.																														



	Compensatory Afforestation has been included in the D.L.C. report or not.	
17	Suitability of the identified non-forest land/ degraded Forestland for Compensatory afforestation.	The suitability certificate is enclosed in the Compensatory Afforestation Scheme.
18	Violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 if any and action taken thereon.	As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, no violation has been noticed under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

  
 Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,  
 Rourkela Circle