



OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, KEONJHAR DIVISION

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Memo No. 2327 /Mining-44/2021

Dated, Keonjhar the 29 / 03 / 2022

To

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

Sub: Proposal for re-diversion of 0.181 ha (0.113 ha in Keonjhar Division and 0.068 ha in Bonai Division) Forest land towards 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.

Ref: Proposal No. FP/OR/TRANS/124910/2021, St. Sl. No. OR-021/2021 dt. 15.03.2021.

The proposal for re-diversion of 0.181 ha (0.113 ha in Keonjhar Division and 0.068 ha in Bonai Division) 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 involving change in land use by M/s. Rungta Mines Ltd has been received online from the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act. O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Odisha, Bhubaneswar vide No. FP/OR/TRANS/124910/2021, St. Sl. No. OR-021/2021 dt. 15.03.2021. The said proposal submitted over 0.113 ha for re-diversion of forest land (0.107 Ha Revenue forest + 0.006 Ha sabik kisam forest) coming under Keonjhar Forest Division in 4 sets and compact disc (CD), is sent herewith, after due scrutinization, for approval under section- 2(ii) of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (Amended).

A. Brief description of the Project Proposal

A1 - Brief description of the Project

Kamanda Steel Plant of M/s Rungta Mines Limited is an integrated steel unit having captive power plant. The existing plant is now proposed for expansion of its Steel production capacity as well as the power plant. For smooth operation of the Captive Power Plant, it requires to nullify the 7th & 13th harmonics by connecting to the Grid system with infinite bus. The user agency has proposed for laying of 132 KV transmission line from 132/33 KV Grid Substation at Barbil, District Keonjhar to Kamanda Steel plant at village Kamanda in Sundargarh district. The total length of the transmission line is 30.412 KM which is covering a total length of 23.485 km in Keonjhar Division + 6.927 km in Bonai Division. The technical Sanction order issued by OPTCL for construction of the 132 KV overhead transmission line from Barbil Grid to the Captive Power Plant of M/s Rungta Mines Limited at Kamanda village in Sundargarh district is enclosed as **Annexure-I**. The Topo Map showing the alignment of Transmission line is enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

In this context, the Stage-II approval has been obtained vide F. No 5-ORC418/2020-BHU dt 31.03.2021 for Diversion of 35.507 Ha forest land (31.806 Ha of forest land under Keonjhar Division & 3.701 Ha of forest land under Bonai Division) for construction of 132 KV transmission line from 132/33KV OPTCL Grid Station at Barbil, Keonjhar district to Kamanda Steel plant of M/s Rungta Mines Ltd. in village Kamanda in Sundargarh District. Odisha.

Part of the proposed 132KV transmission line, (6.353 KM length) is passing through the existing mining lease owned by other lessees. So the user agency has now proposed to change the part alignment from Tower no-87 to Tower no-92(3.013 Km involved in Keonjhar district) of the transmission line along the RoW of NH 520(earlier NH-215), inside RCC trench (1mtr width x 1.5mtr depth) along the NH-520 utility corridor (6.353 Km for re-diversion) The proposed forest land has been diverted earlier in favour of NHAI vide F. No. 5-ORA198/2014-BHU dt. 16.04.2019 of ERO, MoEF&CC, Govt. of India, Bhubaneswar and through the road that has been constructed by the user agency from NH-520 to Kamanda Steel Plant of M/S Rungta Mines Ltd (0.398km for re-diversion). The user agency has also obtained Stage-II Clearance from MoEF & CC, vide letter No5-0RB389/2019-BHU, dated 23.03.2020 for diversion of 0.28 ha of forest land in Bonai Forest Division for construction of approach road from NH-520 to Kamanda Steel Plant of M/S Rungta Mines Ltd. Copy enclosed as **Annexure-III**. The user agency has also obtained the NOC from NHAI vide letter No. NHAI/PIU/RKL /Access Permission /NH-215/5862/2021 dated 11.08.2021 for laying of underground power cable line in the RoW (Utility corridor). Copy enclosed as **Annexure-IV**.

The power cable line in NH utility corridor will pass from Tower No-87 in Village Topadihi to Tower No-92 in Village Nuagaon (length 3.013 Km) in Keonjhar district and from Tower No-106 in village Rengalbada, through Kasira & Kusumdihi villages in Bonai forest division of sundargarh District(Length 3.340 km along the ROW of NH-520 + 0.398 KM along the RoW of the approach road that is from NH-520 to Kamanda Steel Plant of M/S Rungta Mines Ltd). In kusumdihi Village the underground cable will finally pass through the ROW of the approach road (diverted 0.28 Ha forest land) from NH-520 to Kamanda Steel Plant of M/S Rungta Mines Ltd . Topo map showing the alignment of the layout of the underground power cable along the NH-520 utility Corridor as well as the RoW of approach road from junction of NH-520 to Kamanda Steel plant is enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

For laying of 132 KV the underground power cable over 0.113 ha diverted forest land (length 1.130Km) & 0.1883 Ha non forest land (length 1.883Km) that is total 0.3013 Ha (length 3.013 Km) in Keonjhar District, and 0.068 Ha diverted forest land (length 0.680 Km) & 0.3058 ha non forest land (length 3.058km) that is total 0.3738 Ha (length 3.738 Km) in Sundargarh District along the NH-520 RoW utility Corridor and the ROW of the approach road from NH-520 to Kamanda Steel Plant of M/S Rungta Mines Ltd will be utilised. Break-up of the Forest & Non-forest land involved in the re-diversion proposal as follows-

DIVISION WISE BREAK UP OF FOREST AND NON FOREST LAND							
Division	Location/Site	FOREST AREA (HA)	Non-Forest Area (Ha)	Total Area (Ha)	Length of Trench (Km)		
					Forest	Non-Forest	Total
Keonjhar	ROW of NHAI	0.113	0.1883	0.3013	1.13	1.883	3.013
Grand total		0.113	0.1883	0.3013	1.13	1.883	3.013

A.2. Physiography and Geological formation

The proposed alignment route will pass through from Tower No-87 of 132 KV transmission line in Village Topadihi to Tower No-92 in Village Nuagaon (length 3.013 Km) in Keonjhar district.

A.3. Tree Enumeration

No tree will be felled for laying of 132 KV underground power Cable within the existing RoW of the roads. Un-felled Sal trees in diverted forest land of RoW of NH-215 will be maintained as Green belt. The user agency shall be laid transmission line in of 64 cm boreholes at 4m depth will not affect trees above and tree felling is involved.

A.4. Requisite Maps, Desired Certificates, Authenticated Documents and Undertakings

The requisite Maps, desired Certificates, authenticated Documents and Undertakings furnished by the Project Proponent is produced hereunder-

Sl. No	Particulars	Remarks
1	Location Plan in Toposheet	Plate No. I
2	DGPS Map showing the area proposed for diversion	Plate No. II

The details of land schedule and status of forest land required to be diverted for the project is produced hereunder-

Sl. No	Item	Forest (in ha)	Non Forest (in ha)	Total (in ha)
1	Laying Underground Cable	0.113	0.188	0.301
	Total	0.113	0.188	0.301

The required certificate/ document as regards underground laying of 132 KV Electric Cables along the RoW of NH 520(earlier NH-215), inside RCC trench (1mtr width x 1.5mtr depth) along the NH-520 utility corridor (6.353 Km) and through the road that has been constructed by the user agency from NH-520 to Kamanda Steel Plant of M/S Rungta Mines Ltd (0.398km) is enclosed herewith vide **Annexure IV (NOC furnished by NHAI)**.

A.5. Compensatory Levies-Compensatory Afforestation

As per Para 5.6 of the comprehensive Guidelines of FC Act, 1980 issued on 28.03.2019, if the cost of Compensatory Afforestation has not been recovered from primary user agency, the cost of Compensatory Afforestation for the forest land proposed to be re-diverted will be recovered from secondary user agency. The primary user agency i.e. PD, NHAI (NH- 215) has already deposited the cost of Compensatory Afforestation, hence cost towards Compensatory Afforestation is not applicable to the secondary user agency i.e. M/s Rungta Mines Ltd. The undertaking submitted by the User Agency to this effect is enclosed as **Annexure-VIII**.

A.6. Net Present Value.

NPV of the forest land proposed for re-diversion under FC Act, 1980 will be realised from the User Agency on receipt of Stage-I approval. The undertaking submitted by the User Agency to this effect is enclosed as **Annexure-VIII**.

A.7. Statutory Clearances- Environmental Clearance, WL Clearance and FRA Certificate

The said project does not require Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 and WL Clearance under the Wild life (Protection) Act, 1972 is not warranted. In addition, it is mentioned that underground laying of 132 KV Electric Cables will be confined within the existing RoW of the roads and Certificate of the Collector under FRA, 2006 has been provided by NHAI for diversion of the forest land located in the existing RoW of the road in respect of NH- 520. Therefore, the said certificate is not insisted upon for the instant project.

A.8. Cost- Benefit Analysis

The proposal involves re-diversion of 0.181 Ha forest land which is in plain land. As per the guideline issued by MoEF & CC, Government of India vide F. No.7-69/2011-FC(Pt.), dated 01.08.2017, cost benefit analysis is not applicable for this project, as the total area of diversion is less than 20 Ha. in plain land.

A.9. Wildlife

No rare or endangered species is available in the applied area for re-diversion of laying of 132 KV Underground Power Cables, but elephant movement cannot be ruled out.

A.10. Rehabilitation

Not applicable

A.11. Submitted Project Proposal under re-diversion proposal - Site Inspection of the DCF

The Site Inspection of the DCF is enclosed herewith as **Annexure- XII**.

A.12. Miscellaneous Information- Violation Committed, Action Taken and Pending Court Matter

No violation of the FC Act, 1980 is committed by the Project Proponent in respect of the forest land proposed for re-diversion for underground laying of 132 KV Electric Cable. There is no Court Matter Pending in respect of the submitted Proposal and the Undertaking furnished by the Project Proponent to this effect is enclosed herewith as **Annexure- VIII A**.

The submitted proposal over 0.113 ha diverted forest land (0.107 Ha Revenue forest + 0.006 Ha Sabik kisam forest) coming under Keonjhar Forest Division for underground laying of 132 KV Electric Cable by M/s Rungta Mines Limited beside the NH- 520 roads within the RoW passing through forest areas for laying underground 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 as per Para 5.6 of the comprehensive Guidelines issued on 28.03.2019 is submitted herewith for approval as per provision under section -2 (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (Amended).

Enclosure- Diversion Proposal along with requisite documents.


29/03/22
**Divisional Forest Officer,
Keonjhar Division.**

Memo No. 2328 /Dated 29-03-2022

Copy forwarded to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information.


29/03/22
**Divisional Forest Officer,
Keonjhar Division.**