

**Self-Contained Note as regards the violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 under  
Para- 1.9 of Forest Conservation Act Guideline in respect of Katamati Iron Ore Mines of  
M/s Tata Steel Ltd**

**Background information as regards Katamati Iron Ore Mines of  
M/s Tata Steel Ltd**

Katamati Iron Ore Mines of M/s Tata Steel Ltd was originally owned by the then Maharaja, Keonjhar Estate over an area of 12.17 Sq. Miles and was granted in favour of M/s Tata Iron & Steel Company Ltd. for a period of 30 years with validity from 17.01.1933 to 16.01.1963. The granted lease, consisting of three Blocks i.e. Block - A (Katamati), Block - B (Joda West) and Block - D (Khandbandh), was executed on dated 20.11.1933.

The First Renewal of Mining Lease has been granted for 20 years with validity from 17.01.1963 to 16.01.1983 over 12.17 Sq. Miles vide letter No. III(A) MG-87/73-11510 dt. 21.11.1973 of Mining & Geology Department, Govt. of Odisha and executed on dated 10.01.1978. The Second Renewal of Mining Lease has been granted for 20 years with validity from 17.01.1983 to 16.01.2003 vide letter no. III(A) MG-58/83-14879 MG dt. 24.12.1983 of Mining & Geology Department, Govt. of Odisha and executed vide letter no. III(A) MG-27/84-9026 MG dt. 01.09.1984. It is mentioned that the three different blocks forming the original lease, as aforementioned, have been separated during the Second Renewal of Mining Lease and renamed in the name and style as depicted hereunder-

I.	Katamati Iron Ore Mines	:	403.3238 ha.
II.	Joda West Iron & Mn Mines	:	1437.7190 ha.
III.	Khandbandh Iron & Mn Mines	:	1293.433 ha.

The Katamati Iron Ore Mines of M/s Tata Steel Ltd granted over 403.3238 ha. during the 2<sup>nd</sup> RML has been executed on dated 17.10.1984 and registered vide lease deed no. 67 dt. 27.11.1984.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> RML application dated 05.09.2001, in respect of Katamati Iron Ore Mines of M/s Tata Steel Ltd, has been executed through supplementary lease deed vide e-registration no. 11031600471 dt. 28.11.2016 under Section 8A of the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 and the validity of the mining lease stands extended till 31.03.2030 in concurrence with F. No. 11-51/2015-FC dated 01.04.2015 of MoEF&CC, Govt. of India.

Katamati Iron Ore Mines of M/s Tata Steel Ltd is located within latitude N- 22° - 05' and N-22° - 10' and longitude E- 85° - 25' and E- 85° - 30' of Survey of India Toposheet No. 73 F/8 & 73 G/12. The mining lease granted during 3<sup>rd</sup> RML over 403.3238 ha involves 57.552 ha Reserved Forest, 141.62 ha Revenue Forest and 204.1518 ha Non-Forest Land. In addition, an area over 160.838 ha Non-Forest land, out of total non-forest land of 204.1518 ha involved in the mining lease, has been certified by the Tahasildar, Barbil to be forest land as on 25.10.1980 as per Govt. record pursuant to the guideline F No. 8-78/1996-FC(pt.) dt.10.03.2015 read with F No. 8-78/1996-FC(pt.) dt.09.03.2016 of MoEF & CC, Govt. of India. The granted lease over 403.3238 ha during 3<sup>rd</sup> RML, thus in effect, involves 57.552 ha Reserved Forest, 141.62 ha Revenue Forest, 160.838 ha Non-Forest Land recorded as Forest as on 25.10.1980 and 43.3138 ha non-forest land.

**Violation Observed during field inspection in Katamati Iron Ore Mines of  
M/s Tata Steel Ltd-**

The lessee has carried out mining activities in violation of section-2 of FC Act, 1980 in Revenue Forest and Reserved Forest from 1983 to 2009 with production of Iron Ore for crushing and subsequent use in Nuamundi during 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> RML without requisite clearance for the Pre-1980 broken up forest land under FC Act, 1980. In addition, working in non-forest land, involved in the mining lease, in absence of approval under FC Act, 1980 in respect of the forest land also amounts to violation of Para- 4.4 of the Hand Book of guidelines issued under FC Act, 1980 and thus, amounts to violation of FC Act, 1980 for the period under question.

**Action taken**

Forest Offence case vide OR No. 4BL of 2017-18 has been registered for violation of FC Act, 1980 in respect of Reserved Forest and prosecution is to be sanctioned and submitted in the Court of JMFC, Barbil. The Collector, Keonjhar has been requested to take legal action as deem proper under prevailing act and rules for the fore-stated violation in the Revenue Forest Land vide this office Letter No. 2304 dated. 07.04.2017. Action taken report is awaited.

**Persons prima facie responsible for contravention of FC Act, 1980**

Sl. No.	Name of the Personnel	Designation and address
1	Mr. Vk Seth Mr. Rabindra Singh Garbyal Mr. Rajesh Patel Mr. Santosh Kumar Panda Mr. Sanjit Kumar Adhya	Mines Manager-Cum-Head Operation Katamati Iron Ore mines M/s Tata Steel Ltd AT/ P.O- Joda, Keonjhar
2	Dr. Rajendra Singh Mr. O.P.Mishra Mr. B.B.Pathak Mr. R.S. Garbyal Mr. M.C. Thomas Mr. B.B. Pathak Mr. D.B. Sundara Ramam Mr. R.R. Satpathy	Agent, Katamati Iron Ore mines M/s Tata Steel Ltd AT/ P.O- Joda, Keonjhar

**Supporting Documents as regards the violation committed in Katamati Iron Ore mines of  
M/s Tata Steel Ltd**

1. Original lease grant map of Katamati Iron Ore Mines.
2. DGPS map of Katamati Iron Ore Mines.
3. Existing land use map of Katamati Iron Ore Mines.
4. Letter No. 6672 dated 09.12.2009 of DFO, Keonjhar as regards stoppage of mining operation.
5. Letter No. 37842 dated 18.08.2011 of DDM, Joda Circle as regards of resumption of mining operation in respect of non-forest land.

  
**Divisional Forest Officer  
Keonjhar Division.**

**Certificate as regards the violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 under Para 4.10 (i) of Forest (Conservation) Act Guide Line in respect of Katamati Iron ore Mines of M/s Tata Steel Ltd.**

This is to certify that the violations under FC Act, 1980 as depicted hereunder is committed by the Project Proponent M/s Tata Steel Ltd in respect of Katamati Iron ore Mines.

**Violation-**

The lessee has carried out mining activities in violation of section-2 of FC Act, 1980 in Revenue Forest and Reserved Forest from 1983 to 2009 with production of Iron Ore for crushing and subsequent use in Nuamundi during 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> RML without requisite clearance for the Pre-1980 broken up forest land under FC Act, 1980. In addition, working in non-forest land, involved in the mining lease, in absence of approval under FC Act, 1980 in respect of the forest land also amounts to violation of Para- 4.4 of the Hand Book of guidelines issued under FC Act, 1980 and thus, amounts to violation of FC Act, 1980 for the period under question.

**Action Taken**

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Divisional Forest Officer  
Keonjhar Division.

**Detailed Report on the violation committed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 under Para 4.10 (i) of Forest (Conservation) Act guideline in respect of the Katamati Iron ore Mines of M/s Tata Steel Ltd.**

Katamati Iron Ore Mines of M/s Tata Steel Ltd was originally owned by the then Maharaja, Keonjhar Estate over an area of 12.17 Sq. Miles and was granted in favour of M/s Tata Iron & Steel Company Ltd. for a period of 30 years with validity from 17.01.1933 to 16.01.1963. The granted lease, consisting of three Blocks i.e. Block - A (Katamati), Block - B (Joda West) and Block - D (Khandbandh), was executed on dated 20.11.1933.

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The 3<sup>rd</sup> RML application dated 05.09.2001, in respect of Katamati Iron Ore Mines of M/s Tata Steel Ltd, has been executed through supplementary lease deed vide e-registration no. 11031600471 dt. 28.11.2016 under Section 8A of the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 and the validity of the mining lease stands extended till 31.03.2030 in concurrence with F. No. 11-51/2015-FC dated 01.04.2015 of MoEF&CC, Govt. of India.

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### **Violation-**

The lessee has carried out mining activities in violation of section-2 of FC Act, 1980 in Revenue Forest and Reserved Forest from 1983 to 2009 with production of Iron Ore for crushing and subsequent use in Nuamundi during 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> RML without requisite clearance for the Pre-1980 broken up forest land under FC Act, 1980. In addition, working in non-forest land, involved in the mining lease, in absence of approval under FC Act, 1980 in respect of the forest land also amounts to violation of Para- 4.4 of the Hand Book of guidelines issued under FC Act, 1980 and thus, amounts to violation of FC Act, 1980 for the period under question.

### **Action Taken-**

Forest Offence case vide OR No. 4BL of 2017-18 has been registered for violation of FC Act, 1980 in respect of Reserved Forest and prosecution is to be sanctioned and submitted in the Court of JMFC, Barbil. The Collector, Keonjhar has been requested to take legal action as deem proper under prevailing act and rules for the fore-stated violation in the Revenue Forest Land vide this office Letter No. 2304 dated. 07.04.2017. Action taken report is awaited.

### **Observation of Hon'ble Shah Commission and Action taken thereof**

#### **Observation –**

- ML area-403.3238 ha comprising RF-56.6373 ha, Rev Forest-142.5347 ha, Non forest(Govt.)-204.0750 ha and Non forest (Pvt)-0.0768 ha.
- Forest Diversion proposal submitted on 28.04.2010. Approval from MOEF not yet obtained.
- EC granted on 06.05.2005 raising the production to 2 MTPA and then on 26.11.2010 raising the production from 2 MPTA to 8 MPTA.
- Working in the Rev forest area from 1983-2003 and from 2003 to 2007 is illegal. Working in the Forest area has been stopped from 2007 by the DFO. Now the work is confined to Non forest area alone. DFO is to find out the extent of working in the Rev forest and intimate Collector for appropriate action.
- The lumps from the mines is transported to Jharkhand for crushing and subsequent use in Nuamundi.

#### **Action taken –**

Action is being taken to ascertain the extent of forest land (Revenue and Reserved Forest) worked in violation of FC Act, 1980 during 2nd and 3rd RML and register appropriate legal action under appropriate act in respect of Revenue and Reserved Forest.

Non-Forest use of pre- 1980 broken up forest land, during subsequent renewal i.e. 2nd and 3rd RML after expiry of the validity of the 1<sup>st</sup> RML on 16.01.1983, without prior approval of the Central Govt. under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 amounts to violation of the said Act.

  
**Divisional Forest Officer**  
**Keonjhar Division.**