

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

FOREST, ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT

128

No.FE-DIV-FLD-0017-2023- 4132 /FE&CC, Date 03.03.23

10F (Cons)-12/2023

From

Lingaraj Otta,
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

To

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests,
Govt. of India, MoEF&CC (F.C. Division),
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh, Aliganj Road,
New Delhi-110003

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) in respect of Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block of M/s Rungta Mines Ltd. of Bonai Forest Division & Keonjhar Forest Division under Sundargarh & Keonjhar District.

[Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/150048/2021, State Sl. No. OR-098/2021 dated 22.12.2021]

Sir,

I am directed to send herewith a proposal for diversion of 156.978 ha of forest land (147.803 ha in Bonai Forest Division & 9.175 ha in Keonjhar Forest Division) in respect of Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block of M/s Rungta Mines Ltd. of Bonai Forest Division & Keonjhar Forest Division under Sundargarh & Keonjhar District as received from the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha for consideration and approval of Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change under Section-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 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-49/2021/8716/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 Kedesahala village, Koira Tahasil, 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 at **Page No.90-93/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. Out of the total forest land of 156.978 ha, 147.803 ha is in PRF in Sundargarh District and 9.175 ha is of Revenue Forest in Keonjhar District and remaining 1.531 ha is of non- forest land in Keonjhar District.



Authenticated Land schedule of forest and non-forest land of Bonai and Keonjhar Forest Division is enclosed at **Page No.106-110/DP**.

The Land Schedule of the total Forest Land & Non-Forest Land involved in the project in Bonai and Keonjhar Division have been authenticated by the Revenue, Forest & Mining Department Officials and countersigned by both the DFOs which is enclosed at **Page No.106-110/DP**.

The validity of Lol is for a period of 3 (Three) years from the date of its issuance on 28.10.2021, within which all the conditions stipulated therein need to be fulfilled and the Mining Lease deed has to be executed between the Rungta Mines Ltd. and the Government of Odisha. Mining plan along with progressive Mine Closure Plan of Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block over an area of 158.509 ha has been approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), Bhubaneswar vide letter No. MP/A/18-ORI/BHU/2021-22 dated 24.11.2021 which is enclosed at **Page No.120-121/DP**.

As reported by both the DFOs of Bonai & Keonjhar Division, 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 (0.63 million TPA of waste) which is enclosed at **Page No.122-147/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 applied MI. 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 or defense establishment within the applied area. The total cost of this project is ₹38,000.00 Lakhs (**Page No.22-33/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. The area applied for diversion is hilly with cliff on one side. The area with slope is prone to soil erosion. Therefore, there should be a proper plan / design to arrest soil particles in the project area. The User Agency may be insisted upon to plan and implement this activity at project cost. The proposed site is about 0.5 Km distance from the Sarkunda and Nagaria PRF under Bonai Division. The applied area does not form part of any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc. However, movement of wild elephants occasionally in the proposed forest blocks applied for diversion is noticed. The project area is 20.95 Km distance from the Karo-Karampada Elephant Corridor as mentioned in the map vide **Plate No.XIII** appended in the DP.

The Mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No.73G/1 along with the seismic zone-II. The allotted mining lease area is bounded by Latitude- 21° 48' 54.81396" to 21° 47' 32.6228" N and Longitude- 85° 13' 25.32167" to 85° 12' 13.87352" E.

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2. Justification for locating the project in forest land:

M/s Rungta Mines Ltd has been declared as preferred bidder for grant of Mining Lease of Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block. The Letter of Intent (LoI) has also been issued by Government of Odisha, Steel & Mines Department vide No.8716/SM, Bhubaneswar, dated 28.10.2021. As per the data provided by Directorate of Mines, Steel & Mines Department, Government of Odisha, the total mining lease DGPS surveyed area is 158.509 ha, out of which 147.803 ha is in Sundargarh district and 10.706 ha is in Keonjhar district. The total forest land of 156.978 ha in which 147.803 ha is PRF in Sundargarh district and 9.175 ha is Revenue Forest in Keonjhar district and remaining 1.531 ha is non-forest Govt. land in Keonjhar district.

As per the Geological report provided by the Directorate of Mines, Steel & Mines Department, Government of Odisha, the net insitu iron ore resources of Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block is 140.277 million tonnes (Fe content >55% and Fe content between 55% and 45%). This ore body needs to be judiciously exploited in view of systematic mining with optimum exploitation of ore to meet the growing demand of raw materials for indigenous steel plant, sponge iron plant, pellet plants etc. for ultimate production of Steel and also for export to earn foreign exchange for development of our country.

Terms of Reference (ToR) has been issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Impact Assessment Division vide No. IA-J-11015/2/2022-1A-II (NCM) dated 18.02.2022 with peak production capacity of 3.35 million TPA iron ore with a total excavation of 3.98 MTPA.

Hence, diversion of 156.978 ha Forest land (147.803 ha PRF in Bonai division + 9.175 ha Revenue Forest in Keonjhar division) under section-2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is very much essential for grant of Mining lease of Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block in Sundargarh & Keonjhar district, Odisha and for systematic and scientific mining as well as optimum exploitation of iron ore in the project area. The justification is enclosed at **Page No.104/DP**.

3. Maps:

The PCCF & HoFF, Odisha has intimated that the User Agency has furnished the required maps as depicted in the following table in respect of Bonai Division.

Sl. No.	Description of the Map	Scale	Plate No.
01	Location Map of Jumka Pathiriposhi Iron Ore Block Shown on Topo Sheet No.F45N1.	1: 50,000	Plate-I
02	Lease Plan (DGPS Geo-reference Map) of the Iron Ore Block.	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	ORSAC vetted DGPS Map showing forest area proposed for diversion duly signed by Tahasildar and DFO, Bonai Division	1 : 3960	Plate-IX
10	CA area identified in village Deri under Banspal Tahasil showing the map in Topo sheet No.F45N2	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	Addl. CA area identified in Jadipada RF showing in Topo sheet No.F45N9	1 : 50000	Plate-XIII
14	Plan showing sample plots for tree enumeration over 147.803 ha.	1 : 4000	Plate-XIV

The User Agency has furnished the required maps as depicted in the following table in respect of Keonjhar Division as intimated by the PCCT & HoFF, Odisha.

Sl. No.	Description	Plate No.
1	Location map of Jumka Pathiriposhi Iron Ore Block Shown on Topo Sheet No.F45N1.	Plate – I
2	Lease plan (DGPS Geo-referenced map of the Iron Ore Block)	Plate – II
3	Lease plan showing forest and non-forest area	Plate – III
4	Present land use map	Plate –IV
5	Proposed land use map	Plate–V
6	Safety zone map	Plate – VI
7	Reclamation plan	Plate - VII
8	Geological map	Plate – VIII
9	DGPS map showing the forest area proposed for diversion	Plate –IX
10	Maps of Compensatory Afforestation land identified in Deri Village under Banspal Tahasil showing in Topo sheet No.F45N2 (NF)	Plate –X
11	Maps of Addl. Compensatory Afforestation land identified in Jadipada RF shown in Topo sheet No.F45N9 (DFL)	Plate- XA
12	Map of Compensatory Afforestation land in Village sheet	Plate – XI
13	DGPS map showing Compensatory Afforestation land	Plate – XII
14	Map showing the distance of project area from nearest National Parks/Sanctuaries/Tiger Reserve/Elephant Corridor etc.	Plate –XIII

4. Forest Land:

The DFO, Bonai and Keonjhar Division have reported that the total land involved in the grant of Lol for mining lease over 158.509 ha which includes 147.803 ha of PRF in Bonai Division and 9.175 ha revenue forest land & 1.531 ha non-forest land in Keonjhar Forest Division.

The village wise breakup of the forest and non-forest land involved in this project is given below.

Sl. No	Name of the District	Name of the Tahasil	Name of the Division	Name of the Village	PRF in ha	Rev. Forest in ha	Total in ha	Non-forest Govt. land in ha	Grand Total
1.	Sundargarh	Lahunipada	Bonai	Batagaon	80.143	-	80.143	-	80.143
2.	Sundargarh	Lahunipada	Bonai	Kensara	67.660	-	67.660	-	67.660
3.	Keonjhar	Banspal	Keonjhar	Kadakala	-	9.175	9.175	1.531	10.706
Total					147.803	9.175	156.978	1.531	158.509

The total proposed land use of 147.803 ha of forest land in Bonai Division is furnished below:

Purpose wise break up of forest land for the project in Bonai, Division.

Sl. No.	Item	Revenue Forest	PRF (in ha)	Total Forest	Total non-forest	Grand Total
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		(in ha)		(in ha)	(in ha)	(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

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the above proposal involves 9.175 ha of Revenue Forest land and 1.531 ha of non-Forest land under Banspal Tahsil of Keonjhar District. The details of the forest & non-forest land involved in the project with the purpose of utilisation is furnished hereunder-

Purpose wise breakup of the forest land for the project in Keonjhar Division

Sl. No.	Item	Revenue forest (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	7.601	0	7.601
2	Mine Road	0.320	0.320	0.076	0.396
3	Infrastructure (Temporary Office, Rest Shelter, Workshop, Weigh Bridge etc.)	0	0	1.187	1.187
4	Mineral Stack Yard	0	0	0	0
	Sub-total	7.921	7.921	1.263	9.184
5	Safety Zone	1.254	1.254	0.268	1.522
	Grand Total	9.175	9.175	1.531	10.706

As per report of both the DFOs, total land required for the Project in Bonai and Keonjhar Forest Division of Sundargarh & Keonjhar Districts along with proposed land use are furnished as 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	121.340

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2.	Dumping of Overburden	0	7.301	7.301	0	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	1.813	1.813	1.187	3.000
5.	Ore Processing Site.	0	3.820	3.820	0	3.820
6.	Mineral Stack Yard.	0	9.290	9.290	0	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

The authenticated land schedule of the forest land over 156.978 ha and non-forest land of 1.531 ha involved in the instant project pertaining to Bonai and Keonjhar Division including status of forest land and non-forest land as on 25.10.1980 duly authenticated by Tahasildar Lahunipada and Banspal are enclosed at **Page No.106-119/DP**.

The User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by DFO, Bonai Division and Keonjhar Division that the forest area involved in this proposal is unavoidable and barest minimum forest area which has been proposed for diversion which is enclosed at **Page No.69-70/DP**.

The DGPS map of the proposed diversion of forest land of the project duly vetted by ORSAC, Tahasildar, Lahunipada, Banspal and countersigned by the DFO, Bonai Division and Keonjhar Division are enclosed as **Plate No.IX/DP**. The KML/ Shape file in CD form is appended to the DP.

5. Safety Zone:

An extent of 5.746 ha of land come under the Safety Zone area of the project which comprises with 5.748 ha of forest land & 0.268 ha of non-forest land. The detailed division-wise 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.	7.5 mt strip all along the Mining lease Boundary in respect of Bonai Division	4.224	-	-	4.224	-	4.224
2.	7.5 mt strip all along the Mining lease Boundary in respect of Keonjhar Division	-	1.254	-	1.254	0.268	1.522
	Total	4.224	1.254	-	5.478	0.268	5.746

Further, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to pay the cost of the Scheme for fencing, protection & regeneration of Safety Zone area and the scheme for 1.5 times area Safety Zone Afforestation, is enclosed at **Page No.71, 79/DP**.

6. Flora & Fauna:

The DFO, Bonai Division in Site Inspection Report (**Page No.575-576/DP**) has reported

that the density of vegetation is **0.6** and **Eco-Value Class-I**. The major species among flora available in the applied area in respect of Bonai Division are Sal (*Shorea robusta*), Sidha (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*), Kusum (*Schleichera oleosa*), Bara (*Ficus bengalensis*), Harida (*Terminalia chebula*), Bahada (*Terminalia belerica*), Char (*Buchanania lanjan*), Jamu (*Syzygium cumini*), Asan (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Kendu (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), Kumbhi (*Careya arborea*), Mango (*Mangifera indica*) etc. 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.

Similarly, the DFO, Keonjhar Division, in Site Inspection Report (**Page No.577-579/DP**) has reported that the density of vegetation is **0.6** and **Eco-Value Class-I**. The prevailing vegetation in the forest land proposed for diversion includes Sal and its associates. The geological formation of this area is quite suitable for growth of Sal. Sal constitutes around 70 to 75% of the top canopy. As per tree enumeration list the floral species area Gamar (*Gmelina arborea*), Piasal (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), Sal (*Shorea robusta*), Sahaja (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Jamun (*Syzygium cumini*), Kendu (*Diospyros melanoxylon*) & other Misc. Species are present in the applied forest land.

Further, the DFO, Keonjhar Division has reported that the applied forest land in village Jumka Pathiriposi Pahar under Banspal Tahasil of BJP Range of Keonjhar Division is the dwelling habitat for Elephant, Bear, Barking Dear, Hyena, Porcupine etc. Wild Elephants often visit nearest Sarkunda and Nagaria PRF under Bonai Division and the adjoining Forest Blocks.

7. Tree enumeration:

The DFO, Bonai Division has reported that enumeration has been conducted in 30 nos. of sample plots of 1 ha each within 147.803 ha. of forest land (including 4.224 ha. of Safety Zone area) involved in Bonai Division. Trees which are above 30 cm girth have been enumerated in these sample plots and the total count from these sample plots comes to 6,619 nos. i.e. 220.63 nos. per ha.

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 to 32,610 nos. (which includes 932 nos. of trees within Safety Zone area). 4,651 nos. pole under 30 cm girth has been enumerated over the area.

The aforesaid enumerated number of trees are required to be felled from the project area (except the trees standing safety zone area) thereby the project will have some impact on the ecosystem in the area.

The species-wise, girth class-wise along with abstract of the tree enumeration have been enclosed at **Page No.276-443/DP**.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, there are 3,652 nos. Sound trees and 80 nos. of Un-Sound trees & 1,717 nos. of Poles under 30 cm girth standing on the forest land over 9.175 ha proposed for diversion in Keonjhar Division. Further, there are 360 nos. of Sound trees and 7 nos. of Un-Sound trees and 92 nos. of Poles under 30 cm girth standing over 1.531 ha. of Non-forest land involved in the Project. The species wise and diameter class wise abstract of total enumerated trees required to be felled is enclosed at **Page No.444-574/DP**.

8. Compensatory Afforestation:

As per the diversion proposal an extent of 156.978 ha forest land (Bonai Division- 147.803 ha. + Keonjhar Division- 9.175 ha) including 5.478 ha safety zone area is involved in the proposal. Accordingly, Compensatory Afforestation area has been identified over 156.978 ha of non-forest Govt. land in village Deri under Banspal Tahasil, BJP Range of Keonjhar Forest Division. The Land Schedule of 147.803 ha and 9.175 ha Non-Forest Govt. land have been allotted by the Collector, Keonjhar vide his letter No.273 dated 11.02.2022 (**Page No.192-193/DP**) and letter No.1872 dated 26.05.2022 (**Page No.249-250/DP**). The land schedule is furnished below.

LAND SCHEDULE (Table-I)

Tahasil	Village	Khata No.	Plot No.	Kisam	Total area (in	Area required for
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					Ha.)	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

LAND SCHEDULE (Table-II)

Tahasil	Village	Khata No.	Plot No.	Kisam	Total area (in Ha.)	Area required for CA (in Ha.)	Tenant
Banspal	Deri	53	459 (P)	Hudi	16.00	4.633	AAA
			460 (P)	Hudi	16.00	4.542	AAA
TOTAL						9.175	

As reported by the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, the DFO, Keonjhar Division has prepared the Compensatory Afforestation Scheme over an area of 156.978 ha of non-forest land at the current wage rate of Rs.333/- per man day as per the one-time cost norm having provision for ANR Plantation @500 plants per hectare over 50.00 ha and @1600 plants per ha over 5 ha with 10 years maintenance. As per joint verification carried out for identified non-forest land at village Deri in Khata No.53 (AAA) in 19 plots with Kisam of land as on 25.10.1980 has been furnished with certificates duly signed by Forest & Revenue authorities (**Page No.190/DP**). Further, for balance area 9.175 ha of non-forest land in the same village and Khata No. has also been identified with required certificates and due verification by both forest and revenue authorities.

Further, as reported by the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Addl.CA land has been identified by the DFO, Keonjhar Division over an area of 189.722 ha. of degraded Forest land in Jadipada RF of Keonjhar Forest Division and the scheme has been prepared at the wage rate of Rs.333/- per man day with 10 years maintenance as per the one-time cost norm to accommodate the balance number of seedlings. The scheme has been prepared for provision of AR Plantation @ 1000 seedlings/ ha

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over 92.946 ha, ANR Plantation @ 500 seedlings/ha over 74.237 ha and ANR Plantation @ 200 seedlings/ha over 8.00 ha. In the scheme there is provision for soil & moisture conservation over the entire area of 189.722 ha. The species to be planted in both cases as per site condition are Jamun, Kurum, Dhaura, Sisoo, Amla, Karanja, Gamar, Panas, Neem etc as proposed by DFO, Keonjhar.

The site suitability certificate of DFO, Keonjhar Division is enclosed at **Page No.190, 251 & 198, 256/DP**. The Compensatory afforestation scheme has been enclosed in the DP at **Page No.169-275/DP**. The DSS analysis report is enclosed duly signed by the DFO, Keonjhar and countersigned by RCCF, Rourkela at **Page No.189 & 223/DP**.

The PCCF & HoFF, Odisha has reported that, the financial outlay of CA scheme over 156.978 ha non-forest Govt. land identified in village Deri under Banspal Tahasil has been technically approved by PCCF (FD & NO, FC Act) for **Rs.3,16,01,200/-** (Rupees Three Crore Sixteen Lakhs One Thousand Two hundred) only as per approved one-time cost norm with 10 years maintenance, which is enclosed at **Page No.194 A/DP**.

It has also been reported by the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha that, the financial outlay of Addl. CA scheme over 189.722 ha degraded forest land identified in Jadipada RF of Keonjhar Forest Division has been technically approved by PCCF (FD & NO, FC Act) for **Rs.5,57,79,500/-** (Rupees Five Crore Fifty-seven Lakhs Seventy-nine Thousand Five hundred) only as per approved one-time cost norm with 10 years maintenance, which is enclosed at **Page No.275A/DP**. In all approved schemes as proposed by DFO, provision for SMC measures, fencing and watering are also included.

The identified CA land has been depicted in Survey of India Toposheet No.F45N2 of 1:50,000 scale and is enclosed in the DP at **Plate No.X/DP** and Addl. CA land in Toposheet No.F45N9. The DGPS map of CA area vetted by ORSAC is enclosed in the DP at **Plate No.XII/DP**. The KML file of CA land and Addl. CA land in CD form is also appended to the DP.

The UA has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by DFO, Bonai Division & DFO, Keonjhar Division to bear the cost of compensatory afforestation as per prevailing wage rate at the time of plantation which is enclosed at **Page No.72/DP & 77/DP** respectively.

9. Cost- Benefit Analysis:

As reported by the DFO, Bonai Division, the total benefit due to the proposed project comes to Rs.459445.601 Lakhs. The total loss due to proposed forest diversion has been calculated to be Rs.4034.53859 Lakhs which is enclosed at **Page No.148-149/DP**.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the total benefit due to the proposed project comes to Rs.459445.601 Lakhs. The total loss due to proposed forest diversion has been calculated to be Rs.1124.25389 Lakhs which is enclosed at **Page No.150-151/DP**.

The total cost of the project – Bonai Division	4034.53859 Lakhs
Keonjhar Division	1124.25389 Lakhs
	5158.79248 Lakhs
Total benefit of the project	459445.601 Lakhs

Hence, the Cost-Benefit Ratio is coming to **1:89.06**.

10. Environmental Clearance:

As reported by both the DFOs, the Terms of Reference (ToR) has already been issued 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 for obtaining the Environmental Clearance is enclosed at **Page No.122-147/DP**.

11. Mining Plan:

As reported by both the DFOs, the Mining Plan has been approved by the Indian Bureau of Mines vide their Letter No.MP/A/18-ORI/BHU/2021-22 dated 24.11.2021, which is enclosed at **Page No.120-121/DP**. The Mining plan with progressive mine closure plan is enclosed in the proposal as separate volume.

12. Phased Reclamation Plan:

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The DFO Bonai & Keonjhar Division have reported that the Phased Reclamation Plan has been furnished by the User Agency which is enclosed at **Page No.152-168/DP** duly countersigned by DFOs.

13. 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 as reported by both the DFOs of Bonai & Keonjhar Division.

14. Wildlife Management:

(a) Regional Wildlife Management Plan:

As reported by the DFO, Bonai Division, 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 Iron ore block 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 an undertaking to bear the cost of comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan in respect of Bonai & Keonjhar Division is enclosed at **Page No.71 & 79/DP** respectively.

(b) Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan:

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 needs to be addressed. The area proposed to be diverted under the project and neighbouring 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, mitigative measures need to be adopted for its protection, monitoring, habitat improvement and HEC issues. Surrounding Forest areas are vulnerable to fire and hence fire protection activities also need to be ensured for protection and conservation of flora and fauna.

In the above said context, a Site-Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan has been suggested to be prepared and implemented by the DFO, Bonai Division. The User Agency has submitted an undertaking duly countersigned by DFO, Bonai Division to bear the cost of the said conservation plan which is enclosed at **Page No.71/DP**.

Further, as per condition No.(A) (i) of Term of Reference (ToR) from State Environment Impact Assessment Division, MoEF & CC, Govt. of India vide F. No.IA-J-11015/2/2022-IA-II(NCM) dated 18.02.2022, the User Agency has to prepare and submit the Site Specific Wild Life Conservation Plan in respect of the instant diversion Proposal. In this regard, the user agency has submitted an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Division which is enclosed at **Page No.79/DP**.

15. Violation:

As per Part-II and the Site inspection report (**Page No.94-99/DP & Page No.575-579/DP**) of the DFO, Bonai and Keonjhar respectively, no violation under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been committed by the user agency in the applied area & it is agreed by the RCCF, Rourkela. No pending court matter against the User Agency in the instant case (**Page No.80/DP**).

16. Net Present Value:

As reported by the DFO, Bonai Division, it is an applied Mining Lease. Hence, no demand has been raised to deposit Net Present Value (NPV) and Addl. NPV. The User Agency has furnished undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Bonai and DFO, Keonjhar Division to pay NPV and additional amount of NPV of the above forest land, if so determined as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court which are enclosed at **Page No.71, 74 & 76/DP** respectively.

17. DGPS Map:

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India vide Letter F No.11-9/95-FC dated 08.07.2011 have issued guidelines that all applications seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose must be accompanied with Geo-referenced boundary in shape file pertaining to forest land proposed for diversion. As reported by the RCCF, Rourkela, the DGPS survey map submitted by the ORSAC, Bhubaneswar and countersigned by the DFO, Bonai and Keonjhar Division has been enclosed with the Diversion Proposal at **Plate No.IX**. The soft copy of KML/ Shape file in CD form is appended to the DP.

18. Certificate under the FRA, 2006:

As reported by the DFO, Bonai Division, 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 both in Odia and English, proceeding of SDLC and DLC meeting have been enclosed at **Page No.586-648/DP**.

Also, the DFO, Keonjhar Division has reported that the Collector, Keonjhar has provided Certificate under Forest Right Act, 2006 along with Gram Sabha Resolution both in Odia and English along with DLC & SDLC Resolution vide his letter No.26 dt.10.01.2023 over 9.175 ha of forest land which is enclosed at **Page No.649-694/DP**.

19. Others:

Part-II and Site Inspection Report of DFO, Bonai & DFO, Keonjhar are enclosed at **Page No.94-99/DP & Page No.575-579/DP** respectively in the diversion proposal. The Part-III of RCCF, Rourkela Circle is enclosed at **Page No.100-101/DP** and Site Inspection report is enclosed at **Page No.583-585/DP**. The Division Profile, District profile and State Profile of Bonai Division and Keonjhar Forest Division are enclosed at **Page No.696-700/DP** respectively in the diversion proposal. The KML file of the applied area and the identified CA land has been provided in CD appended to the DP.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha has recommended the proposal.

In view of the above, it is requested that Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may kindly consider this proposal for diversion of 156.978 ha of forest land (147.803 ha. in Bonai Forest Division & 9.175 ha in Keonjhar Forest Division) in respect of Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block of M/s Rungta Mines Ltd. of Bonai Forest Division & Keonjhar Forest Division under Sundargarh & Keonjhar District respectively and convey their approval under Section-2 (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of the User Agency subject to the following conditions.

- The User Agency shall pay the cost towards felling, logging and transportation charges of the enumerated trees due to be felled during the course of implementation of the mining project.
- Trees should be felled only when it is absolutely necessary and in a phased manner and under supervision of concerned DFOs.
- Safety zone shall be maintained as such and in no circumstances be used for mining purpose.
- Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan duly approved by Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha

shall be implemented at project cost.

- The User Agency shall pay towards cost of Regional Wildlife Management Plan for the entire ML area as per approved norm of State Govt.
- The User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance.
- The User Agency shall obtain Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate from SPCB.
- The User Agency shall plan and implement appropriate Soil and Moisture Conservation Measures in the project area at project cost.
- The User Agency shall undertake demarcation of the lease area, forest area proposed for diversion and Safety Zone area on the ground at the project cost by erecting 4 feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars embedded 2 feet inside the soil, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and backward bearing and distance from pillar to pillar and GPS Co-ordinates. The User Agency shall also submit the map of lease area showing different kinds of forest land using DGPS survey data and latitude and longitude of each pillar to DFOs concerned for their reference before commencement of work on final forest clearance.

Yours faithfully,

Encls.: Diversion Proposal in 3 volumes.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 4133 /FE&CC, Date 03.03.23

Copy forwarded to the Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, A-3, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023 for information and necessary action.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 4134 /FE&CC, Date 03.03.23

Copy forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha with reference to his letter No.3226, dt.17.01.2023/ Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha/ Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FD&NO), FC Act, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha for information and necessary action.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 4135 /FE&CC, Date 03.03.23

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forest, Rourkela Circle/ Divisional Forest Officer, Bonai Forest Division/ Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Forest Division for information and necessary action.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 4136 /FE&CC, Date 03.03.23

Copy forwarded to the Steel & Mines Department/ Revenue & Disaster Management Department/ Director, Environment-cum-Special Secretary to Government, FE&CC Department/ Member Secretary, SPCB, Odisha/ Collector, Sundargarh/ Collector, Keonjhar for information and necessary action.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 4137 /FE&CC, Date 03.03.23

Copy forwarded to the Director, Rungta Mines Ltd., At/P.O.-Barbil, Keonjhar, Odisha, Pin-
758035 for information and necessary action.

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3/3/2023

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government