

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST AREA

Minerals are naturally occurring non-renewal resources to be explored from where it exists. Mining industries are an essential industrial activity that underpins the industrial development.

Mining activities are site specific. It is therefore, necessary to locate the area mineral resources exist.

Gorumahisani Iron Ore Block has been vested to M/s Ghanashyam Misra & Sons (P) Ltd by Government of Odisha through e-auctioned held on 10.02.2020 for mining of Iron Ore in villages Kuleisila, Badamouda, Sanamouda, Balitangri, Sundhal and Gorumahisani R.F. etc. over 349.50 Ha (ROR)/349.702 Ha (DGPS) area under Rairangpur Forest Division/Tahasil in Mayurbhanj District.

Pursuant to the Mines and Minerals (development and regulation) Act, 1957 and the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015, Government of Odisha issued the Notice Inviting Tender dated 06.12.2019 for commencement of the auction process to grant the mining lease under Non captive category in respect of Gorumahisani Iron Ore Block.

A resource of about 17.64 million Ton of +45% Fe grade mainly in forest area which cannot be avoided to tap the mineral potential required for the Steel Industry. In choosing various alternatives, it is not possible to avoid the minimum forest area required for the project.

It is proposed to develop the green belt/safety zone around the proposed diverted forest area. Efforts have been made to use minimum forest area for mining operation. The mined out area will be reclaimed and rehabilitated as per the proposal given in the progressive mine closure plan/environmental management plan and other conditions applied by the authority in consultation with the State Forest Department. After cession of mining operations the area will be reverted back to the Government.

The total forest land falling within the entire project is 90.50 Ha including safety Zone, such large and contiguous area is not available without the use of forest land.

The following factors were evaluated subsequent to the site selection on techno-economic, availability of iron ore and environmental consideration.

1. The forest as well as lease area is old and broken.
2. Mining activities are site specific; hence the project has to be located where the mineral resources exist.
3. Availability of suitable transporting road.
4. Availability of railway siding very close to lease area.
5. Zero probability of the land getting flooded.
6. Minimum environmental impact with reference to other environmental sensitive areas and socio-economic disturbances.
7. Minimum demand of forest land.

While planning for evacuation of ore every effort has been made to use existing road as far as possible. While carrying out the feasibility study/techno economic study and the method of sustainable mining also considered.

Date: 06.10.2020

Place: Gorumahisani



For Ghanashyam Misra & Sons (P) Ltd

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Binod Kumar Misra".

(Binod Kumar Misra)
Director