Justification for locating the project in forest area (Khandbandh Iron Ore Mines of Odisha Mining Corporation Limited)

Mining of a particular ore deposit is always site specific irrespective of the land classification. Khandbandha Iron ore mines of OMC covers an area of 366.311 Ha out of which 345.189 Ha is forest area which is about 94% of the total ML area. The exploration results proved substantial resource of iron ore. The exploration further substantiated the fact that most of the potential (marketable ore) deposits are confined to the forest areas of the lease. To make the cost of the project viable, the potential ore deposits in the forest areas are proposed for mining.

The annual production target is envisaged to be around 10, 00, 000 MT which would cater the need of the Sponge Iron Plants and forthcoming Steel Plants inside and outside the State of Odisha. This demands continuation and expansion of the mining operation on a large scale in these mines. The forest area proposed for mining is required for exploitation of resources over 22 years at the rate of 1.0 MTPA. The continuation and expansion of the mining operations, as proposed, is going to enhance the revenue earnings both for the State and the Central Government. This project will also be a major source of earnings for the local tribal community.

(S.K. Das)

Dy. General Manager (Geo)
Power of Attorney Holder
Odisha Mining Corporation Limited