

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

1. Name of the Project :- Diversion of 11.912 ha. of forest land pertaining to Infrastructure Project for mining at Kurmitar and Rantha Mining Lease by the Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. in Sundargarh District.
(Proposal No.FP/OR/Others/14546/2015)

2. Name of the District / Division :- Sundargarh District / Bonai Division.

3. Date of Inspection :- 11.12.2015 & 17.12.2015

4. Name and designation of Inspecting Officer :- Sri Sudhansu Sekhar Khora, IFS Divisional Forest Officer, Bonai Division.

5. Name and Designation of other officers who attended the inspection including representative of User Agency. :-
1. Sri Ganesh Majhi, Range Officer, Barsuan Range.
2. Sri Jitendra Kumar Sahu, Manager, F&E, Kurmitar Iron & Mn. Ore mines, M/s OMC Ltd., Koira
3. Sri Kathi Pradhan, Manager (Mining) in charge, Kurmitar Iron & Mn. Mines, M/s OMC Ltd., Koira.
4. Sri Ajay Kumar Rout, Surveyor, Kurmitar Iron & Mn. Mines M/s OMC Ltd., Koira

6. Legal Status of forest land with area proposed for diversion :-
RF 0.941 ha.
PRF 10.971 ha.
Total :- 11.912 ha.

7. If area required for diversion has been demarcated on the ground :- Yes.

8. **Item-wise break-up of forest land proposed for diversion.**

The item-wise break-up of forest land proposed for diversion is as follows;

1. Creche and Anganwadi	0.045 Ha.
2. 51 Nos. of staff quarters, Hospital, Guest House, School, Temple, Market Complex, Office stores, Garage, Workshop, VT Centre, Club, Canteen, Generator house, and Play ground.	10.926 Ha.
3. Dadu Hutting (Part)	0.941 Ha.
Grand Total :-	11.912 Ha.

9. Condition of vegetation and type of forest in applied area :- The density of vegetation is 0.3 (Zero point three) (Eco value class-I. The applied area consists of Sal, Asan, Katha siali, Char, Kendu, Bahada, Harida, Bija, Kumbhi, Kadamba, Kasi, Mai, Mango, Khakada, Dhaura, Panasa, Chatian, Jamu, Acacia etc.

10. Position of Wildlife in general :- Rabbit, Monkey, Squirrel, Snake and different type of birds are occasionally seen in the applied area.

11. Whether the applied area is involved with any eco-sensitive zone / National Park / Sanctuary. :- The applied area is not involved with any eco-sensitive zone / National Park / Sanctuary.

12. Number of trees to be felled and its impact on the eco-system :- 517 nos. of trees have been enumerated in the applied area over 11.912 ha., which are required to be felled. Further, the tree felling will have little adverse impact on the eco-system.

13. Details of broken-up area and reclamation done, if any. (Mining cases) :- The applied area of 11.912 ha. has already been broken by the User Agency during currency of Silgoda ML of M/s OMC Ltd. within the period from 2.1.1964 to 1.1.1984. Since the structures already exist and it is an infrastructure project, there is no scope for reclamation.

14. Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation, if any :- The project does not involve displacement of people.

15. Position of rare and endangered species available or importance of area from eco-social point of view. :- There is no rare and endangered species, and the area has no importance from eco-social point of view.

16. Non-forest land used in the project, and non-forest land selected for Comp. Affn. is included in the D.L.C. report or not. :- The present diversion proposal does not involve any non-forest land.
Further, 11.912 ha. of non-forest land selected for Comp. Affn. is not included in the D.L.C report as per suitability certificate furnished by the Divisional Forest Officer, Kalahandi South Division in the Comp. Affn. Scheme.

17. Suitability of the identified non-forest land / degraded forest land for Comp. Affn. :- Non-forest land to an extent of 11.912 ha. has been selected in village Barkaudi under Thuamul-Rampur Tehsil of Kalahandi District of Kalahandi South Forest Division, which is suitable for Compensatory Afforestation as per suitability certificate furnished by the Divisional Forest Officer, Kalahandi South Division in the Comp. Affn. Scheme.

18. Violation of F.C. Act., if any,

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The applied area of 11.912 ha. comes under Silgoda Mining Lease. Silgoda ML over an area of 922.0334 ha. was granted in favour of M/s OMC Ltd. on 2.1.1964 for a term of 20 years (**Page-323/DP**). It appears from Note dt.21.4.1987 appended to the diversion proposal on **Page-73** that the Senior Mining Officer, Koira Circle took over possession of the surrendered mining lease at Silgoda in pursuance of Govt. Order No.11303/MG dt.11.10.1983, from which it is concluded that the Silgoda Mining Lease of M/s OMC Ltd. was surrendered vide Order dt.11.10.1983 of the Mining & Geology Department alluded to in the above Note (**Page-73/DP**).

It has been stated by the User Agency on **Page-2/DP** that the infrastructures were developed during the validity of the lease period of Silgoda ML. In other words, the infrastructures have been constructed after 2.1.1964 and within lease period of 20 years. Though the Note dt.21.4.1987 on **Page-73/DP** reveals that possession has been taken over by the Senior Mining Officer, but, it appears on inspection of the site on 11.12.2015 and 17.12.2015 that the structures still exist, and user agency also mentioned in the diversion proposal that the forest area of 11.912 ha. is under use (**Page-5/DP**).

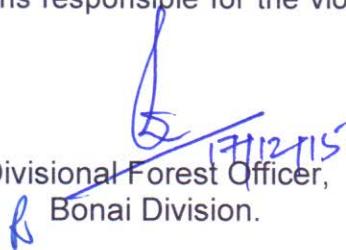
Use of the applied area by User Agency even after passing of Order of surrender of the Mining Lease by the Mining & Geology Deptt. on 11.10.1983 without obtaining prior approval of the Central Government is a violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act'1980.

The following persons were in-charge of the applied area during the period from 11.10.1983 to till date.

Sl. No.	Name of the General Manager / Regional Manager/ Mines Manager	Period of work done		Area of forest land involved in violation (in ha.)	Designation & Address of the persons responsible for violation	Remark
		From	To			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Sri P. Vanjo	11.10.1983	31.5.1986	11.912 ha.	GM, M/s OMC Ltd., At/Po-Koira, Dist-Sundargarh (Odisha)	The infrastructures were being used without FC Clearance even after surrender of Mining Lease, which constitutes violation under the F.C. Act'1980.
2.	Sri P.K. Nanda	31.5.1986	30.7.1986	-do-	-do-	
3.	Sri D.C. Mahanta	30.7.1986	8.9.1987	-do-	-do-	
4.	Sri P.K. Ratha	8.9.1987	31.7.1990	-do-	-do-	
5.	Sri G.D. Das	31.7.1990	9.8.1990	-do-	-do-	
6.	Sri S.N. Mishra	9.8.1990	31.3.1993	-do-	-do-	
7.	Sri P.K. Ratha	31.3.1993	27.5.1993	-do-	-do-	
8.	Sri H. Sahu	27.5.1993	12.7.1996	-do-	-do-	
9.	Sri G.C. Mishra	12.7.1996	26.8.1997	-do-	-do-	
10.	Sri D.C. Mahanta	26.8.1997	31.7.1999	-do-	-do-	
11.	Sri G.C. Mishra	31.7.1999	2.8.2000	-do-	-do-	
12.	Sri G.D. Das	2.8.2000	28.5.2001	-do-	-do-	
13.	Sri P.K. Bhattacharya	28.5.2001	27.6.2003	-do-	-do-	
14.	Sri M. Maharathi	27.6.2003	16.10.2006 (Upto 31.5.2006	-do-	The violation is continuing.	
15.	Sri Nabakishore Sahoo	1.6.2004	17.6.2005	RM, M/s OMC Ltd., At/Po-Koira, Dist-Sundargarh (Odisha)		
16.	Sri Gobinda Ch. Behera	18.6.2005	10.2.2006	-do-		
17.	Sri Bijay Kumar Nayak	11.2.2006	24.10.2006	-do-		
18.	Sri Dillip Ku. Mohanty	25.10.2006	15.7.2009	-do-		
19.	Sri Laxmi Narayan Ghana	16.7.2009	28.2.2011	-do-		
20.	Sri Abhiram Sahu	1.3.2011	31.1.2014	-do-		
21.	Sri Shyama Sundar Barik	31.1.2014	3.12.2014	-do-		
22.	Sri Prasaana Kumar Swain	3.12.2014	Continuing	-do-		
23.	Sri D.C. Biswal	11.10.1983	29.6.1985	Mines Manager, Kurmitar Mines, M/s OMC Ltd., At/PO-Koira, Dist-Sundargarh (Odisha)		
24.	Sri R.C. Panda	5.7.1985	31.7.1989	-do-		
25.	Sri G.C. Behera	26.7.1989	1.1.1991	-do-		
26.	Sri K.K. Mishra	23.1.1991	28.5.1993	-do-		
27.	Sri D.C. Biswal	7.7.1993	20.7.1994	-do-		
28.	Sri K.R.C. Rao	20.7.1994	4.9.1996	-do-		
29.	Sri S.C. Patra	3.9.1996	10.4.2000	-do-		
30.	Sri Gangadhar Nayak	8.12.2003	10.6.2008	-do-		
31.	Sri Gouranga Ch. Rout	1.6.2008	16.1.2012	-do-		
32.	Sri Prasanna Kumar Swain	1.2.2012	3.12.2014	-do-		
33.	Sri Kathi Pradhan	10.12.2014	Continuing	-do-		

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The Range Officer, Barsuan Range was directed vide this office Memo No.8714 dt.12.12.2015 to issue show cause notice for the irregularities in the present Project. Further, he was directed vide this office Memo No.8864 dt.18.12.2015 to stop further use of the infrastructures in violation of Forest (Conservation) Act'1980, and Orissa Forest Act'1972. The Range Officer, Barsuan Range has issued show cause notice to the User Agency (Regional Manager, M/s OMC Ltd., Koirala) vide Letter No.35 dt.16.1.2016 for the above irregularities / violations. The Range Officer, Barsuan Range was directed vide this office Memo No.1121 dt.9.2.2016 to issue show cause notice to other staff of M/s OMC Ltd. who were prima facie responsible for the violation. Besides, the Range Officer, Barsuan Range has been directed vide this office Memo No.1122 dt.9.2.2016 to initiate necessary action against the persons responsible for the violation as per provisions of the Orissa Forest Act'1972.


Divisional Forest Officer,
Bonai Division.