

**SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF THE REGIONAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,**  
**ROURKELA CIRCLE, ROURKELA**

1. Name of the Project :- **Proposal for diversion of 87.09 ha. Land recorded as forest as on/after 25th October 1980 inside the 1321.45 Ha (5.10 sq miles ML) of M/s SAIL, Bolani Ore Mines in Keonjhar District. (Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/17936/2016 State Sl. No. OR-013/2016 dated 08.03.2016)**
2. Name of the District / Division :- **Keonjhar District / Keonjhar Division.**
3. Date of Inspection :- **06 .06.2016**
4. Name and designation of Inspecting Officer :- **Sri Lingaraj Otta, IFS,  
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Rourkela Circle, Rourkela.**
5. Name and Designation of other officers who attended the inspection including representative of User Agency. :-
  1. Sri Rohita Kumar Lenka, IFS,  
Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Forest Division
  2. Sri Padmanava Rout, Range Officer, Barbil Range.

Representatives of the User Agency:

  1. Sri P.C. Naik, GM (Mines), Bolani Ore Mines of M/s SAIL.
  2. Sri P.K. Khare, GM (Env. & Lease), SAIL, RMD, Calcutta.
  3. Sri T.K. Roy, DGM (Mines), Bolani Ore Mines of M/s SAIL
  4. Sri R. Jena, AGM, (E&L), Bolani Ore Mines of M/s SAIL
  5. Sri Jagannath Sahoo, Asst. Manager (Survey), Bolani Ore Mines of M/s SAIL.
6. Legal Status of forest land with area proposed for diversion :- **Kissam-Forest (Non-Forest land recorded as forest as on/after 25.10.1980).  
Total Forest land proposed for diversion-87.09 ha.**
7. If the 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;

Sl. No.	Pattern of Utilisation	Broken forest recorded as forest 25.10.180 (in ha)	non-land as on (in ha)	Virgin forest recorded as forest 25.10.180 (in ha)	non-land as on (in ha)	Total non-forest land recorded as forest 25.10.180 (in ha)
1	Old mining and fines disposal areas	23.4		0		23.4
2	Storing of minerals/waste	0		10		10
3	Road and conveyors	1.9		0.98		2.88
4	Plants and machineries	4.41		26.4		30.81
5	Office and township	17.46		0		17.46
6	Unutilised land to be maintained as forest	0		0.31		0.31
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>47.17</b>		<b>37.69</b>		<b>84.86</b>
7	Safety Zone	1.25		0.98		2.23
	<b>Total</b>	<b>48.42</b>		<b>38.67</b>		<b>87.09</b>

9. Condition of vegetation and type of forest in applied area :-

The applied area is situated adjacent to and in continuum with Karo Reserve Forest which comes under 3C/C2e(iii) Moist Peninsular Valley Sal Forest type under Champion and Seth Classification with density 0.3 and site quality-III. The prevailing vegetation consists of Sal and its associates. The principal associates of Sal includes *Terminalia alata*, *Lagerstroemia perviflora*, *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Terminalia belerica*, *Syzygium cumini*, *Mangifera indica*, *Schleichera oleosa*, *Adina cordifolia*, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Bombax ceiba*, *Bridelia retusa*, *Madhuca indica*. The middle storey is represented by *Syzygium cumini*, *Ougeinia ougenensis*, *Careya arborea*, *Treema orientalis*, *Emblia officinalis*, *Cassia fistula* etc. The shrubs and undergrowth are characterized by *Indigofera pulchella*, *Ardisia solenacea*, *Flemingia chhapar*, *Helicteres ixora* and *Clerodendron viscosum* etc. The prevailing climbers include *Bauhinia vahlii*, *Combretum decandrum* and *Beutia parviflora*. The grasses over the forest floor include *Chrysopogon aciculatus*, *Imperata cylindrica*, *Dicanthium carricosum*, *Cynodon dactylon* etc. .

10. Position of Wildlife in general :-

The wildlife present in the Karo R.F. are also seen in the applied area. Karo Reserved Forest is the dwelling habitat for leopard(*Panthera pardus*), bear(*Melursus ursinus*), barking deer(*Muntiacus muntjack*),

hyena(Hyena hyena), porcupine (Hystrix indica) etc. . Frequent migration of wild elephants from the neighbouring State of Jharkhand are also noticed. This falls under elephant habitat Zone-2 as mentioned by ORSAC, Bhubaneswar. It is mentioned that Karo-Karampada Elephant Corridor passes through the mines in Karo RF over 317.0 ha. which has been considered for diversion and got diverted vide F No.8-17/1997-FC(pt) dtd.09.07.2013 and F No.8-17/1997-FC(pt.) dtd.12.11.2014.

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| 11. Whether the applied area is involved with any eco-sensitive zone / National Park / Sanctuary.                              | :- The area does not involve any Eco-Sensitive Zone / National Park/ Wild Life Sanctuary.   |
| 12. Number of trees to be felled and its impact on the eco-system  | :- Total 2957 No. of trees (Virgin-434 Nos. & broken up 2523 Nos.) and 1150 Nos. of poles (Approx.) are to be felled. The probability of soil erosion is likely to increase following felling on the undulating topography of the applied area. It is mentioned that presence of tree growth in the broken up land up to the tune of 2523 is due to afforestation measures taken up by the User Agency. |
| 13. Details of broken-up area and reclamation done, if any. (Mining cases)   | :- Not applicable.  |
| 14. Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation, if any  | :- Not applicable.  |
| 15. Position of rare and endangered species available or importance of area from archaeological point of view.                 | :- No rare or endangered species is available in the applied area, but elephant movement is often noticed in the area. The area is not important from archaeological 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. | :- Degraded Forest land over 169.72 ha. has been identified in Karo Reserved Forest under Barbil Range of Keonjhar Division.  |
| 17. Suitability of the identified non-forest land / degraded forest land for Compensatory Afforestation.                       | :- Degraded Forest land over 169.72 ha. has been identified in Karo Reserved Forest under Barbil Range of Keonjhar Division and the Compensatory Afforestation Scheme has been prepared by the DFO,Keonjhar Divison.  |

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

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the following violation has been committed in respect of the Mining Lease during 1<sup>st</sup> RML.

Illegal Production of Fe Ore during the following period-

- 1994-95 - 1718616 MT
- 1995-96 - 1637729 MT
- 1996-97 - 2197757 MT
- 1997-98 - 2506969 MT

Action taken by the DFO, Keonjhar Division:-

For the illegal production of Mineral, OR case No.41BL of 2014-15 dated 11.08.2014 has been booked. Prosecution has been sanctioned against the Mines Manager and submitted in the Court of JMFC, Barbil vide PR No.24 of 2014-15 dated 26.11.2014. The case is sub-judice.

**Observation of the DFO, Keonjhar Division as regards the land use in respect of the Mining Lease during 2<sup>nd</sup> RML.**

The proposed land use plan submitted during submission of the diversion proposal during 2<sup>nd</sup> RML does not depict the details of land use as regards mining operation and all activities associated with mining operation has been broadly reflected as Mining. However, the detailed land use verified during the year 2014-15 depicts each item of activity associated with mining operation. The respective maps showing land use are annexed herewith as **Annexure-18 and Plate No. XII** with the Diversion Proposal.

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9/6/16  
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Rourkela Circle, Rourkela.