

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

1.	<b>Name of the Project</b>	Proposal for diversion of 120.838 ha. of forest land U/s-2 (ii), and for approval of 126.401 ha. of forest land U/s-2 (iii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act'1980, in village Sagasahi, Kalmang, Ghoraburhani and Mendhamaruni PRF-I in Koira Tehsil and Koira Range under Bonai Forest Division of Sundargarh District, Odisha within the lease area 139.165 ha. for Ghoraburhani-Sagasahi Iron Ore Block by M/s Essar Steel India Ltd. (Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/18611/ 2016, dt.4.8.2016)
2.	<b>Name of the District/ Division</b>	Sundargarh District / Bonai Division.
3.	<b>Date of Inspection</b>	03.01.2017
4	<b>Name and Designation of Inspecting Officer</b>	Sri Lingaraj Otta, IFS Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle
5.	<b>Name and Designation of other Officers ,who attend the Inspection including representative of User Agency</b>	<p>1. Sri Sudhansu Sekhar Khora, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer, Bonai Division.  2. Sri Baishnab Charan Patra, Range Officer, Koira Range.  3. Sri Tapas Kumar Satpathy, Forester, Koira Section.</p> <p><u>Representative of the User Agency</u>  Sri A. Bhattacharya, Sr. V.P., M/s Essar Steel India Ltd.</p>
6.	<b>Legal Status of Forest land with area proposed for diversion.</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>U/s-2 (ii)</b></p> <p>PRF - 73.953 Ha.  Rev. Forest. 3.434 Ha.  <u>DLC</u> - 43.451 Ha.  <b>Total :- 120.838 Ha.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>U/s-2 (iii)</b></p> <p>PRF - 76.666 Ha.  Rev. Forest. 3.794 Ha.  <u>DLC</u> - 45.941 Ha.  <b>Total :- 126.401 Ha.</b></p>
7.	<b>If area required for diversion has been demarcated on the ground:</b>	Yes
8	<b>The item-wise break up of forest land proposed for diversion is as follows:</b>	
	<b>U/s-2 (ii)</b>	
(A)	i) Mining with Haul Road	88.623 ha.
	ii) Waste dump with environmental safeguard	8.590 ha.
	iii) Mineral processing	23.215 ha.
	iv) Office, Site service, Parking and admn. building.	-
	v) Road	0.372ha.
	vi) Magazine	0.038 ha.
	<b>Sub Total:-</b>	<b>120.838 Ha.</b>
(B)	<b>i) Area under Sec. 2 (iii) of the F.C. Act, 1980</b>	<b>126.401 Ha. (Including SZ area of 5.563 ha.)</b>

9.	<b>Condition of vegetation and type of forest in applied area.</b>		The applied area consists of Sal ( <i>Shorea robusta</i> ), Sidha ( <i>Lagerstroemia parviflora</i> ), Sisoo ( <i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> ), Bandhan ( <i>Ougeinia oojeinensis</i> ), Char ( <i>Buchanania lanjan</i> ), Dhaura ( <i>Anogeissus latifolia</i> ), Kurum ( <i>Adina cordifolia</i> ), Asan ( <i>Terminalia tomentosa</i> ), Karanja ( <i>Pongamia pinnata</i> ), Mango ( <i>Mangifera indica</i> ), Kendu ( <i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> ), Bahada ( <i>Terminalia belerica</i> ) Jamu ( <i>Syzygium cumini</i> ), Kusum ( <i>Schleichera oleosa</i> ), Gambhari ( <i>Gmelina arborea</i> ), Mahul ( <i>Madhuca indica</i> ), Teak ( <i>Tectona grandis</i> ) etc. The canopy density of vegetation is taken as 0.6 (Eco value class-I).
10.	<b>Position of Wildlife in general</b>		Monkey ( <i>Macaca mullata</i> ), Jungle cat ( <i>Felis chaus</i> ), Indian Hare ( <i>Lepus nigricollis</i> ), Sloth Bear ( <i>Melursus ursinus</i> ), Barking Deer ( <i>Muntiacus muntjack</i> ) and different types of Snake and Birds are seen in the applied area. Movement of wild elephants are also seen in the area.
11.	<b>Whether the applied area is involved with any eco sensitive Zone/ National Park/ Sanctuary</b>		The applied area is not involved with any eco-sensitive zone / National Park / Sanctuary.
12	<b>Number of trees to be felled and its impact on the system</b>		As per sample enumeration, 4999 nos. of trees have been enumerated in 25 Nos. of sample plots of 1.0 ha. each within 120.838 ha. of forest land applied for diversion under Sec. 2 (ii) of FC Act, 1980 Thus, the number of trees per hectare comes to 200 nos.  By extrapolation, 24168 nos. of trees are to be felled over 120.838 ha. applied for diversion under Sec. 2 (ii) of FC Act, 1980, and 5.563 ha of forest land located in the Safety Zone is required to be maintained as such, which will have some impact on the eco-system.
13.	<b>Details of broken up area and reclamation done, if any</b>		—
14.	<b>Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation ,if any</b>		The project does not involve displacement of people.
15.	<b>Position of rare and endangered species available or importance of area from archaeological point of view.</b>		As reported by the DFO, Bonai Division, no rare and endangered species are available in the area. The area has no importance from archaeological point of view.
16.	<b>Non-Forest land used in the Project and non-forest land selected for Comp. Afforestation, if included in the DLC report or not</b>		The non-forest land over 12.764 ha. involved in the Project is not included in the DLC report.  The non-forest land over 120.838 ha identified for Compensatory Afforestation in village Podadihi under Keonjhar Forest Division is not included in DLC report as per certificate furnished by the Tehsildar, Banspal, and DFO, Keonjhar Division in the C.A. Map (Plate No-IX of the Diversion Proposal)
17.	<b>Suitability of the identified non forest area for Compensatory Afforestation</b>		Non-forest land to an extent of 120.838 ha has been selected in village Podadihi of Banspal Tahasil of Keonjhar Forest Division, and necessary suitability certificate has been furnished by the DFO, Keonjhar Division.

18.	<b>Violation of FC Act, if any, and action taken thereon</b>	<p>The Director of Mines, Odisha, Bhubaneswar vide his Letter No. 9691 dtd. 28.10.2016 addressed to the Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar, DFO, Bonai Division &amp; Deputy Director, Mines, Koirā informed that, a clarification on the part of the area of over 0.5 hecta indicated to have been mined out has been sought from the State Govt. by the MoEF &amp; CC, GoI in connection with grant of Environment clearance for the proposed leasehold area of M/s Essar Steel India Ltd. and requested them to carry out field inspection and furnish their considered views on the above issue for further action.</p> <p>As reported by the DFO, Bonai Division, in above context, it has been intimated to the Director of Mines, Odisha, Bhubaneswar vide his Letter No.10499 dt.18.11.2016 that, Ghoraburhani-Sagasahi Iron Ore Block having an area of 139.165 ha. in the village Ghoraburhani, Sagasahi and Kalmang awarded through auction in favour of M/s Essar Steel India Limited was inspected and during field inspection, very old small excavations were found covered with overgrowth of bushes and vegetation, which appears to have been caused by scraping, though it is very difficult to ascertain the genesis at this point of time.</p> <p>During the Site Inspection of the undersigned, it was observed that, these excavated pits found in the forest area are old excavations now covered with bushy vegetations. These excavations appear to have been made in the past for unauthorized collection of float ores as evidenced by presence of some left over materials. These old excavations in the forest areas i.e. in PRF &amp; DLC land have been indicated in the Plan (Plate No. IV of the Diversion Proposal) showing the existing land use of Ghoraburhani-Sagasahi Iron Ore Mines over an area of 139.165 ha. allotted to M/s Essar Steel India Ltd. prepared by the User Agency and countersigned by the DFO, Bonai Division.</p>
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*d.6.1.18*  
 Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,  
 Rourkela Circle