JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST LAND **RED MUD POND**

As the holding capacity of the existing Red Mud pond is almost exhausted, for the sustainability of the plant operation a new area is required for the development of a new Red Mud pond. Different possibilities have been worked out and a final decision was taken.

- 1. Towards the Northern side of the existing, red mud pond, filtration plant and main public road from Dahikhal to Lanjigarh is placed. So construction of new red mud pond is not possible
- 2. Towards the Eastern side of the existing pond Basantapada village is located. So, it is not possible to extend the pond towards the eastern side as it requires, shifting of villages and diversion of connecting road from Dahikhal to Lanjigarh.
- 3. Towards eastern side of the existing Red Mud pond, one village pond is situated and the main road from plant to township is passing. So extension of pond towards eastern side is not feasible.
- 4. Towards southern side of the existing pond, lot of vacant space is available and integration of the new pond with the existing pond is feasible. After construction of a new pond, old and new pond can be utilized as a single pond and handling of the pond is also easier during operation.
- 5. In all other areas, villages are situated surrounding the plant and vacant land is not available. If we go for new location then the entire pumping system and filtration plant need to be shifted which is not feasible.

So, taking the above points into consideration, it has been decided to take the land on the southern side of the existing pond for the development of the new pond. The new Red Mud pond will be developed over a total area measuring 159.24 acres out of which 37.72 acres (15-265Ha) is forest land (incl. the land recorded as forest land as per the sabik status as on 25/10/1980). As the proposed area is adjacent to the existing pond area & is unavoidable, diversion of the land is essential for the development of the new Red Mud Pond.

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