

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

1. **Name of the Project** A Proposal for diversion of the balance 41.819 ha. of forest land i.e. (32.425 ha. of DLC Forest land for mining and allied activities, Safety Zone area of 8.568 ha. and greenery of 0.826 ha.) in addition to the already diverted 567.087 ha. of Forest land in Joda East Iron & Manmora Manganese Mines in favour of M/s Tata Steel Ltd. in Keonjhar Forest Division of Odisha during 3rd RML period.
2. **Name of the District/Division** Keonjhar/Keonjhar Forest Division
3. **Date of Inspection** 7th July, 2014
4. **Name and Designation of Inspecting Officer** Shri Subash Chandra Swain, IFS
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Rourkela Circle, Rourkela.
5. **Name and Designation of other Officers ,who attend the Inspection including representative of User Agency** 1) Sri Rohit Kumar Lenka, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer,
Keonjhar Forest Division.
Sri S.R.A. Mishra, Range Officer, Champua
3) Representatives of TATA Steel Ltd.
6. **Legal Status of Forest land with area proposed for diversion.** D.L.C. reported area-32.782 Ha.
R.F. - 8.110 ha.
KF - 0.927 ha.
Total:- 41.819 Ha.
7. **If area required for diversion has been demarcated on the ground** Yes, the lease boundary area has been demarcated by RCC pillars and duly numbered. It occurs conspicuously in the ML area at visible distances.

8 **The item-wise break up of forest land proposed for diversion is as follows:**

Sl. No.	Pattern of utilization	Forest land (In ha.)			
		Reserve Forest	Khesra Forest	DLC Forest land	Total Forest land
i)	Mining and Stacking.			32.425	32.425
	SUB-TOTAL :-				
ii)	Safety Zone around of lease, road , and magazine.	8.11	0.101	0.357	8.568
iii)	Greenery	-	0.826	-	0.826
	Grand Total:-	8.11	0.927	0.357	41.819

9. **Condition of vegetation and Type of forest in applied area.** Sal(Shorea robusta) , Kusum (Scleichera oleosa) Assan (Terminalia tomentosa), Dharua (Anogeissus latifolia), Kendu (Diospyros melanoxylon), K.Kendu, Char (Buchanania lanzan), Mahul (Madhuca indica) Neem(Azadirachta indica), Siali(Bauhinia vahlii) and misc. species etc. . Sal (Shorea robusta) is the predominant species. The crop density is about 0.1 with Eco value Class-I in the applied area.

10. Position of Wild life in general
- The wild animals found in this area are mostly as Python(Python molurus) , Cobra(Naja naja naja), Krait(Bungarus caeruleus), vipers(Viper russeli) , rabbit(Oryctolagus cuniculus), pangolin(Manis cassicaudata), wild boar(Sus scrofa) etc. Rescuing of Python(Python molurus) by the forest Department is a regular phenomenon noticed in this area and no rare and endangered flora or fauna is noticed in this area.
11. Whether the applied area is involved with any eco sensitive Zone/National Park/Sanctuary
- The area does not form part of any National Park /Sanctuary /Biosphere reserve. It also does not come under any wild life corridor. This area is coming under Elephant habitat Zone-2 as per report of the ORSAC. Movement of wild elephants is noticed in the area nearby.
12. Number of trees to be felled and its impact on the system
- 11,125 Nos. of trees have been enumerated over the applied area. Out of this, 1436 number of trees above 30 cm girth and 4004 no. of trees below 30 Cm girth are required to be felled within the applied forest land and its impact on the eco-system will be minimal. The tree enumeration list is enclosed as Annexure-XX/DP. Further, the tree enumeration list in respect of SZ area is enclosed as Annexure-IV.
13. Details of broken up area and reclamation done, if any(Mining cases)
- Mining lease area – 671.093 ha
 - Broken area is 567.087 ha. based on the joint verification conducted by DFO, Keonjhar,DDM, Joda, Range Officer, Champua and the User Agency on 18.3.2004.(The authenticated map for broken up area duly enclosed vide Plate-III/DP)
 - No Reclamation has been done.
14. Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation ,if any
- Nil
15. Position of rare and endangered species available or importance of area from archeological point of view.
- No rare and endangered species are reported from the applied 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. Afforestation , if included in the DLC report or not
- The project involves 671.093 ha. of ML area which includes an extent of 608.906 ha of Forest land .
 - An extent of 87.252 ha. Non-Forest land used in the project has been included in the DLC report and subsequently treated as forest land.
 - The Non-Forest land to the extent of 32.425 ha. selected for Compensatory Afforestation has not been included in the DLC report and subsequently treated as Forest land.
17. Suitability of the identified non forest area for Compensatory Afforestation
- The Non- forest land identified in village Raba under Telkoi Tahasil of Keonjhar Forest Division is suitable for Compensatory Afforestation Accordingly, the non- forest land of 32.425 ha. has been allotted by the Collector, Keonjhar and suitability certificate is enclosed as Annexure—29/DP.

18. Violation of FC Act, if any, and action taken thereon

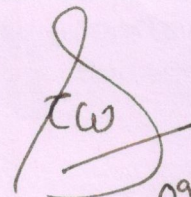
In addition to the violation observed by DFO,Keonjhar and intimated vide this office Memo No.2848 Dtd.29.10.2013 , the following observations have been made during Site Inspection conducted on 07.07.2014:

- The Safety Zone all along the periphery over a width of 7.5 mt has not been maintained. Only a part of the periphery covering the forest area has been fenced by barbed wire. The barbed wire and the RCC posts are in deplorable condition. So is the plantation taken up inside the Safety Zone.

- The compliance of Stage-II approval accorded in 2007 for 567.087 ha. has been inadequate even though seven years have elapsed in between. Neither the DFO Keonjhar nor the lessee has taken any step in this regard.

- The following additional conditions imposed by Regional Office, GoI,MoEF vide their Letter No.8-154/FCE Dtd.18.10.2007 still remain uncompleted.

- i) The User Agency shall submit an undertaking to contribute proportionately towards Elephant Depredation Scheme as required and to be prepared by the State Forest Department.
- ii) An undertaking from the User Agency shall also be obtained to the effect that the required funds or proportionate contributions for Biodiversity Conservation Plan of the district/zone shall be provided by the Project Authority to the Forest Department as per the requirement and as may be asked by the Forest Department.
- iii) The User Agency shall submit a land use map every year using the latest satellite imagery of highest resolution within a buffer of 5(five) Km around project site, prepared from ORSAC. The first reference land use map from ORSAC shall be furnished by the User Agency to this office within 6 months or before carrying out any mining operation whichever is earlier.


09.09.2014
Regional Chief Conservator of forests,
Rourkela Circle, Rourkela.

**Regional Chief Conservator of Forests
Rourkela Circle**