

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi – 110 003.
Dated: 4th October, 2019.

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Odisha,
Bhubaneshwar.

Sub: Diversion of 465.62 ha of forest land (160.73 ha already broken up area + 37.25 ha unbroken are to be worked during first renewal period + balance 267.64 ha to be maintained as forest) in favour of M/s Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) for first renewal of their Bolani Ores Mines, Keonjhar District, Odisha.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Government's letter No. 11651/9F (MG)-78/2001 dated 02.07.2019 submitting compliance report on the conditions stipulated in Stage-I approval dated 24.02.1999 read with subsequent modification dated 24.07.2017. After examination of the compliance report, the following observation are made:

- i. As per DSS report, 46 ha of the area identified for CA falls in MDF above 0.4 density, which would not acceptable for CA purpose. *A copy of DSS report is given in Annexure-I.* Therefore, this 46 Ha area of proposed CA land may be verified through ground truthing / site visit and detailed report may be submitted accordingly.
- ii. It is not clear as to how much forest land from the mining lease area over 1586.36 ha of Bolani Ore Mines (6.9 sq. miles) of SAIL has been surrendered by the user agency. Please confirm if 267.64 ha area, which is being maintained as forest in instant lease, has been surrendered to State Forest Department.
- iii. As per details submitted by the State Government, it is learnt that 160.73 ha of forest land, in the instant lease is already broken up . As per para 2.4 (iv) of Handbook of guidelines of FCA, 1980 ***"Provisions of CA will be applicable for renewal of a mining lease, including the area broken up prior to 25.10.1980, if the same was not applied earlier"***. Accordingly, CA scheme for 160.73 ha of already broken up area and deposition of funds in this regard in CAMPA account is required. The shape file/KML file for revised CA sites may also be submitted.

In view of above, the State Govt. of Odisha is requested to send their response on the points as indicated at S. No.(i) to (iii) above, for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,


(Shrawan Kumar Verma)
Deputy Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneshwar.
2. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, Bhubaneshwar.
3. The Addl. PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneshwar.
4. The User Agency.
5. The Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

Annexure-I

CA as identified in Degraded forest land double in extent to the 304.89 ha unbroken forest land under Keonjhar Division & Rourkela Forest Division. The Forest cover in the proposed CA sites as per ISFR 2015 is given below:

S. N.	Forest Division	Forest Range	RF/PF	Patch Name	Area (Ha) Software Calculated	Area (Ha) DSS Calculated	VD F	MD F	O F	Scrub	NFL	No of Saplings/ ha considered for CA	Total No. of Saplings				
1	Rourkela Forest Division	Rajgangpur	Haldirani RF	Kumaria Block Patch-I	68.4287	68			38	7	23	600/Ha	322668				
2				Kumaria Block Patch-II	63.5289	63			55		8						
3				Sagjor Block	149.861	150		1	124		25						
4	Rourkela Forest Division	Kuarmunda	Rutkuperdi RF	Patch-IV	124.574	124			99		25			600/Ha	43200		
5				Jallangbera RF	Patch-V	62.9398	63		25	25						13	
6				Birmitrapur	Jaidegarf	Patch-VI	62.6325	63		14	3						46
7						Patch-VII	26.1067	21		3	2						16
8	Keonjhar WL Division, Anandapur	Brahmani pal	Rebena RF	One patch	72	73		3	28		42	600/Ha	43200				
Grand Total					630.0716	625		46	374	7	198		365868				