

Sub:- Proposal for diversion of 86.479 ha of forest land for construction of overhead piped conveyor belt from Kurmitar ML Boundary of OMC Ltd to new proposed Railway siding at Barsuan for transportation of mineral with provision for one dispatch area in between the route and the other at terminal point at Barsuan.

1. The State Government of Odisha vide their letter No. FE-DIV-FLD-0049-2020-17053/F & E dated 02.11.2020 has submitted the above subject fresh proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section - 2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 .
2. The facts related to the proposal as contained in the State Government's letter dated 02.11.2020 are given below in the form of fact sheet:

FACT SHEET

1.	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for diversion of 86.479 ha of forest land for construction of overhead piped conveyor belt from Kurmitar ML Boundary of OMC Ltd to new proposed Railway siding at Barsuan for transportation of mineral with provision for one dispatch area in between the route and the other at terminal point at Barsuan.
2.	Location i. State ii. District	Odisha Sundergarh
3.	Particulars of Forests: i. Name of Forest Division and Forest area involved. ii. Legal status/Sy.No.	Bonai Forest Division, Sundergarh 86.479 ha RF :60.825 ha PRF :25.654 ha Total: 86.479 ha
4.	Vulnerability to erosion	The applied area is not vulnerable to erosion.
5.	i. Vegetation i. Density No. of trees enumerated/to be actually felled i. Species-wise and diameter class wise enumeration of trees.	-- 0.5 (Eco Value Class-I) 7447 nos. of trees The details of Species-wise and diameter class-wise are given
6.	Whether area is significant from wildlife point of view	-

7.	Whether forms part of National park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor, etc. (if so, details of the area and comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden	The applied area does not form part of National park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve or Elephant Corridor, etc.
8.	Whether any RET species of flora and fauna are found in the area. If so details thereof	No rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna are found in the area.
9.	Approximate distance of the proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest.	The proposed site for diversion is coming within Khandadhar RF, Toda RF and Khandadhar PRF of Bonai division.
10.	Whether any protected archaeological/heritage site/defence establishment or any other important monuments is located in the area.	No protected archaeological/ heritage site/defence establishment or any other important monuments is located in the area.
11.	Whether any work of in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been carried out (Yes/No). If yes details of the same including period of work done, action taken on erring officials. Whether work in violation is still in progress.	No violation has been reported under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
12.	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in col. 2 of Part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project, if no recommended area item-wise with details of alternatives examined.	The requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in Part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project.
13.	Whether clearance under the Environment (protection) Act, 1986 is required?	As reported by the RCCF, Rourkela Circle, Environmental clearance for the project proposal to establish Piped Conveyor System to transport iron ore will not be required.
14.	Compensatory Afforestation	
	i. Details of non-forest area/degraded forest area identified for CA, its distance from adjoining forest, number of patches, size of each patches.	The scheme for compensatory afforestation over 85.175 ha of Government non-forest land identified in village Champachuan under Thuamul-Rampur tehsil coming under Kalahandi District of Kalahandi (South) Forest Division.
	ii. Map showing non-forest/degraded forest area identified for CA and adjoining forest boundaries.	Submitted
	iii. Detailed CA scheme including species to be planted,	The detailed CA scheme is given

	implementing agency, time schedule, cost structure, etc.	
	iv. Total financial outlay for CA	Rs. 4,42,56,700/-
	v. Certificate from the competent authority regarding suitability of the area identified for CA and from management point of view.	Joint site inspection report
15.	Catchment Area Treatment	NA
16.	Rehabilitation of Oustees a. No of families involved b. Category of families c. Details of rehabilitation plan	Nil Nil Nil
17.	Employment likely to be generated a. Whether the project is likely to generate employment b. Permanent/ Regular Employment (Number of person) c. Temporary Employment (Number of person-days)	Yes 50 50
18.	Compliance of Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006	F RA certificate is not given and undertaking given to provide before Stage-II
19.	Site Inspection Report by DFO	The Site Inspection is carried by DFO , Bonnai and his report is placed in file
20.	Cost Benefit Ratio	1:20
21.	Total Cost of the Project	Rs. 713.92 (lacs)
22.	Recommendation i. DFO ii. RCCF iii. PCCF/Nodal Officer iv State Government	The project may be considered The project may be considered for its approval under Section 2 (ii) of FCA, 1980 Recommended Recommended

23.	District Profile	
	i. Total Geographical area of the district/division	9712 sq km
	ii. Total Forest area/ Divisional Forest area	4957.32 sq. km
	iii. Total area diverted since 1980	6014.002 ha in 53 cases
	iv. Total CA stipulated since 1980 (Forest land)	
	a. Forest land including penal CA	
	b. Non Forest Land	8038.110 ha
	v. Progress of Compensatory Afforestation	1122.460 ha
	a. Forest land	
	b. Non Forest land	8038.110 ha
		1122.460 ha

3. State Government in their forwarding letter dated 02.11.2020 indicated the following:

- i. Brief description:** Steel has the widest range of application among all materials. The wide range of alloy composition, mechanical properties and product forms possible, make it a versatile material that is used in components & products that may be small or large. M/s OMC Ltd , a State Government undertaking, is mandated to ensure uninterrupted supply of iron ore to various Iron & Steel Industries of the State, especially to those, who have signed MoU with the State Government. The upcoming Steel Plants in Rourkela, Angul, Dhenkanal, Athgarh areas are located close to M/s OMC Ltd owned Kurmitar, Rantha Iron ore mines. In order to meet a part of the additional demand of ore for the upcoming Steel plants, M/s OMC Ltd envisaged augmentation of production of Kurmitar mines from 2.4 MTPA to 6.00 MTPA by installing Crushing & Screening Plant inside Kurmitar ML area. The User Agency has obtained Environmental clearance for production of 2.4 MTPA vide MoEF Letter dtd 02.09.2008 & ToR granted for production of 6.0 MTPA vide MoEF & CC letter dtd 16.1.2019 . At present, the production of ore from Kurmitar mines is evacuated by about 2000 trucks per day, using the only available 12 kms long cement concrete Barsuan- Kurmitar public utility road, passing through ghat terrain, which cannot cater evacuation of the additional production by truck. To overcome the cited evacuation constraint and in consonance to means of ore transport mode suggested by CSIR-NEERI communicated by Jt. Secretary in MoEF &CC, Govt of India to Chief Secretary, Govt. of Odisha vide DO letter dtd 13.2.2018 , M/s OMC Ltd , initiated the proposal to establish overhead conveyor belt from ML area of Kurmitar Mines to proposed new Railway siding at Barsuan.

The entire stretch of proposed **8.315 km** long Kurmitar-Barsuan piped overhead conveyor belt & Railway siding at Barsuan is bounded by Latitude **N 21° 45' 31.31"-21° 50' 08.16"** & Longitude **E 85° 07' 0.40" - 85° 09' 12.48"** of Survey of India Topo Sheet No F45N1 on 1:50 000 scale . The proposed corridor runs through an undulating topography with elevation varying from 403 mrt to 927 mtr above MSL. The nearest Railhead to the project is at Barsuan located on Rourkela- Barsuan Rly

line of S.E. Railway. Barsuan is located on NH 215 at about 27 km away from Koira and 35 Km away from Rajamunda.

The project envisages installation of the conveyor belt in two segments with an interim stacking point in between. That place of interim stacking has been designated as Dispatch Area-1 (DA-1) & the ultimate designated delivery point of the conveyor project at Barsuan as Dispatch Area-2(DA-2). It has been designed to transport iron ore from Kurmitar mines to the tune of 6 MTPA after converting the ROM ore to desired size of Calibrated Lump Ore (CLO) & fines in crushing and screening plant, which is to be installed within the ML area of Kurmitar Mines of 651.0 ha. The converted CLO & fines from the crushing & screening point will be dispatched by conveyor belt to Dispatch Area-1 (DA-1) and the stock of CLO & fines received at DA-1 will either be transported to DA-2 directly through the conveyor belt or will be stored at DA-1 in bunkers for disposal from a truck loading point. There is provision in the project to ensure uninterrupted dispatch of produce from the crushing and screening unit & stack the ore at DA-1, when the DA-1 & DA-2 conveyor belt segment would be on maintenance. Thus, at DA-1 the conveyor project has both the inbuilt mechanical support system either to unload the received stock as per its grade in separate bunkers at DA-1 & to load them on trucks for disposal or to bypass DA-1 to carry forward the load to DA-1 -DA-2 conveyor to dispatch to DA-2 site , which is to be developed to a new railway siding near the existing Railway siding with provision for both mechanical wagon, truck loading system.

The conveying system is to run inside a fully covered steel galleries, erected upon 346 nos of steel trestles(pillars) at suitable interval on RCC pedestals. All galleries shall have maintenance walkway with clear headroom above floor level with provision of floor grating /chequered plates and floor of all transfer towers shall be provided with grating. The conveyor at receipt and discharge point will have dust suppressing system. At the end of the conveyor system at DA-2 provision of diverter gate will be provided for transfer of the received material either to wagon loading arrangement or to truck loading conveyor or to stock piling as per need. Both truck & wagon loading arrangement will be provided with reversible belt conveyor for directing the material into hoppers. Rail loading shall be done by flood loading or by loader loading arrangement with engine on load mechanism basis. **Out of proposed 346 steel trestles 344 will be erected on forest land and 02 in non-forest land.**

The User agency has furnished an undertaking to adopt latest technology to minimise generation of dust and noise during transportation of the ore as recommended by NEERI, Nagpur , enclosing copy of design of the pipe conveyor belt, As per the proposal, construction of the proposed Piped Conveyor System with two dispatch Areas as narrated above involves **86.606 ha of land, out of which 86.479 ha is Forest Land and 0.127 ha is of non-forest Govt land** . The forest land of 86.479 ha includes 2.184 ha of land of Khandadhar RF, 58.641 ha of Tohra RF, 25.654 ha of Khandadhar PRF. The non-forest Govt. land of 0.127 ha of Damalu village under Lahunipada Tahsil, involved in the project is of nallah kissam. As reported by the User Agency , the total forest land of 86.479 ha, required for the instant proposal , **includes 1.034 ha of forest land , which is a part of 11.912 ha forest land, for which Stage-II approval has been accorded by ERO MoEF & CC vide their letter dtd 29.05.2020** for infra-structure development to support mining at Kurmitar & Rantha ML in favour of the same User Agency i.e. M/s OMC Ltd. **The land schedule of forest land of 1.340 ha required for re-diversion for this project has been provided by the User Agency**, Besides this, it has been reported by RCCF, Rourkela that an area of 1.993 ha of forest land (i.e. Khandadhar RF -1.662 ha & Kandadhar PRF-0.331 ha) included under proposed forest area of 86.479 ha for diversion for the instant proposal, has also been included in another diversion proposal of Rantha ML initiated by M/s OMC Ltd, which is under processing . The instant proposal for diversion of 86.479 ha includes a satellite patch of Forest land of 0.983 ha (near Dispatch Area-1 , shown on map at Plate-VI), which is contiguous to previously diverted forest patch of 11.912 ha for infra-structure to support mining

at Kurmitar & Rantha ML in favour of M/s OMC Ltd, which has been projected for its use for development of Infra-structure for the instant project by the User Agency

The authenticated land schedule of forest and non-forest land involved in the project including status of forest and non-forest land as on 25.10.1980 duly authenticated by concerned Tahasildar, Lahunipda Tahsil and countersigned by DFO, Bonai Forest Division

Justification: As per the recommendation of CSIR-NEERI, M/s OMC Ltd came up with a proposal to set up a conveyor belt system to evacuate the enhanced production of iron ore of 6.0 MTPA up to nearest Railway head at Barsuan. In order to finalise the alignment of the proposed Conveyor Corridor, M/s OMC Ltd engaged M/s Engineering India Ltd, New Delhi and the said agency examining possible options recommended a corridor involving 217.927 ha of Forest Land, which was not acceptable to M/s OMC Ltd. Subsequently, engaging Mine Developer & Operator (MDO), ORSAC empanelled agency and other consulting Engineers, M/s OMC Ltd examined three feasible alternate routes for proposed conveyor corridors and finalised with the Alternate Route No-1, primarily for involvement of less Forest Area, gentle gradient of the route & less length of the conveyor belt.

The study report of three feasible routes, are as below:-

Alternate Route-1:- Involves 86.479 ha of forest land with relatively less vegetation, follows relatively gentle topographic gradient over a length of 8.315 km with limited other technical issues.

Alternate Route-2:- Involves 88.363 ha of forest land with relatively dense vegetation, follows more altitudinal difference along the route & steep gradient over a length of 9.471 km involving more other technical issues.

Alternate Route-3:- Involves 88.14 ha of forest land with relatively dense vegetation, follows more altitudinal difference along the route & steep gradient over a length of 10 km involving still more other technical issues.

No alternative suitable non-forest land is available for the project and this is the best location from among several alternatives considered and involving the barest minimum extent of forest land involved in the project. The User Agency has furnished page an undertaking to that effect

- iii. **Map:** The User Agency has furnished the necessary maps,
- iv. **Forest Land:** As per the application, construction of the Piped Conveyor Corridor Project from Kurmitar ML to the proposed new Railway Siding at Barsuan under Bonai Forest Division involves 86.606 ha of land, out of which 86.479 ha is of Forest Land.

The break-up of total land involved in this project under Bonai Forest Division is given below:

Forest land involved (in Ha.)					Non-forest land involved (in Ha.)			Grand Total (in Ha.)
RF	PRF	DLC	Rev. Forest	Total	Govt. land	Pvt. Land	Total	
60.825 (Khandadhar RF-2.184 & Tohra RF-58.641)	25.654- Khandadhar PRF	0	0	86.479	0.127	0	0.127	86.606

The village wise break-up of the total forest and non-forest land involved in this project under Bonai Forest Division, Lahunipada Tahasil, Sundergarh is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of Village/ Forest Block	Forest land involved (in Ha.)			Non-forest land involved (in Ha.)			Grand Total (in Ha.)
		RF	PRF	Total	Govt. land	Pvt. Land	Total	
1.	Damalu	0	2.258	2.258	0.127	0	0.127	2.385
2.	Rantha	0	20.983	20.983	0	0	0	20.983
3.	Sareikala	0	0.290	0.290	0	0	0	2.290
4.	Silguda	0	2.123	2.123	0	0	0	2.123
5.	Sub-Total	0	25.654	25.654	0.127	0	0.127	25.781
6.	Khandadhar RF	2.184	0	2.184	0	0	0	2.184
7.	Torha RF	58.641	0	58.641	0	0	0	58.641
14	Sub-Total	60.825	0	60.825	0	0	0	60.825
15	Grand Total	60.825	25.654	86.479	0.127	0	0.127	86.606

The component wise break-up of the total forest and non-forest land involved in this project is given below:

Land use Pattern details

S. N.	Pattern of utilisation	Forest land involved	Category of Forests in ha.			Non-Forest land in ha.			Grand Total in ha.
			RF	PRF	Total	Govt.	Pvt.	Total	
1.	Conveyor Corridor-1 including 0.623 ha. for construction of 127 nos. of trestle pillars (Khandadhar RF-63 & Khandadhar PRF-64)	Virgin Forest Land	1.018	1.142	2.160	0	0	0	2.160
		Re-diversion	0	0.031	0.031	0	0	0	0.031

2.	Inspection Path	Virgin Forest Land	1.166	1.273	2.439	0	0	0	2.439
		Re-diversion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Total			2.184	2.446	4.630	0	0	0	4.630
3.	Dispatch Area-1 (part of conveyor Corridor, Stack-yard, parking area Weigh-Bridge, Workshop, Rest Shelter, Canteen, Fire-Station, Electric Sub-Station and First Aid Centre)	Virgin Forest Land	0	13.329	13.329	0	0	0	13.329
		Re-diversion	0	1.273	1.273	0	0	0	1.273
4.	Dispatch Area-1 Infrastructure	Virgin Forest Land	0	0.983	0.983	0	0	0	0.983
Sub-Total			0	15.585	15.585	0	0	0	15.585
5.	Conveyor Corridor-2 including 1.073 ha. for construction of 219 nos. of trestle pillars (Torha RF-01 & Khandadhar PRF-216, Non-Forest land-02)	Virgin Forest Land	0.033	3.557	3.590	0.127	0	0.127	3.717
6.	Inspection Path	Virgin Forest Land	0.060	4.066	4.126	0	0	0	4.126
Sub-Total			0.093	7.623	7.716	0.127	0	0.127	7.843
7.	Dispatch Area-2 (part of conveyor Corridor, Stack-yard, parking area Weigh-Bridge, Workshop, Rest Shelter, Canteen, Fire-Station, Electric Sub-Station and First Aid Centre, Rail Infrastructure & Road)	Virgin Forest Land	58.548	0	58.548	0	0	0	58.548
Grand Total			60.825	25.65	86.479	0.127	0	0.127	86.606

- v. **Flora & Fauna:** In Part-II DFO, Bonai Forest Division reports that the applied forest area comes under **Eco-value-Class-I** with **canopy density of 0.5**, which has been reiterated by RCCF, Rourkela in his site inspection report. As per Site Inspection report of DFO, Bonai Forest Division and RCCF, Rourkela Circle, the forest comprises predominantly by Sal (*Shorea robusta*), Bija (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), Sisoo (*Dalbergia latifolia*), Char (*Buchnania /anzan*), Kumbhi (*Careya arborea*), Mango (*Mangifera indica*), Mahula (*Madhuca indica*), Jamu (*Syzigium cumin*), Ha rida (*Terminalia chebula*), Asa n (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Kendu (*Diospyrus melanoxylon*), Kusum (*Schleichera oleosa*), Ba hada (*Terminalia be/erica*), etc.

The wildlife like Common Langur, Rhesus Macaque, Squirrel, Jungle cats, Mongoose, Hare, Fox, Indian Mole Rat different kinds of snakes & birds are noticed in the proposed diversion area. No rare or endangered species of flora or fauna has been reported by DFO, Bonai Forest Division. However, DFO Bonai Forest Division and RCCF, Rourkela Circle reported that the proposed forest land for diversion is often frequented by wild elephants.

- vi. **Tree Enumeration:** In the Site Inspection Report of RCCF, Rourkela & DFO Boani Forest Division respectively, it has been reported that 7447 nos tree have been enumerated from the proposed forest land of 86.479 ha for diversion. The abstract of the tree enumerated duly signed by DFO, Bonai Forest Division. The girth class wise distribution of tree enumerated in Forest Land involved in the project has been tabulated below, which is enclosed with species wise details authenticated by DFO, Bonai Forest Division reports that there is no tree standing on the Govt. non-forest land involved in the project. DFO,

Bonai Forest Division & RCCF, Rourkela in their Site Inspection Report, have mentioned that 7447 nos trees enumerated in the Forest land involved in the project will be required to be felled and this will have some impact on the eco-system.

Girth Class wise distribution of trees enumerated standing on Forest Land involved in the Project							
Name of Division	31-59 cm	60-89 cm	90-119 cm	120-149 cm	150/-179cm	180 & Above cm	Total
Bonai	868	1520	1586	1577	1029	867	7447

Girth Class wise distribution of trees enumerated standing on Forest Land involved in the Project							
Name of Division	31-59 cm	60-89 cm	90-119 cm	120-149 cm	150-179 cm	180 & Above cm	Total
Bonai	Nil						

The Forest Block wise nos of trees enumerated in the forest land proposed for diversion is furnished below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Forest Block	Area proposed for diversion	Nos. of trees enumerated
	Khandadhara RF	2.184 ha	419
	Khandadhara PRF	25.654 ha	3436
	Tohra RF	58.641 ha	3592
	Total	86.479 ha	7447

- vii. **Environmental Clearance:** As reported by the RCCF, Rourkela Circle, Environmental clearance for the project proposal to establish Piped Conveyor System to transport iron ore will not be required. As per MoEF & CC, GOI circular vide F No J -11013/56/2004-IA-(ii)(i) dtd 14.09.2006 is silent on need of EC for such projects. However, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to obtain "Consent to Establish" (NOC) from State Pollution Control Board after grant of Stage-II approval.
- viii. **Cost-Benefit Analysis:** As submitted by the User Agency the total benefit of this project comes to Rs.99.04 Crore and as reported by DFO, Bonai Forest Division, the loss in forest including environmental loss, NPV cost etc. comes Rs.19.85 Crore. Hence, the cost benefit ratio is **1:20** .
- ix. **Compensatory Afforestation:** The forest land applied for diversion is 86.479 ha. As reported by DFO, Bonai Forest Division in his Part-II report and RCCF, Rourkela Circle in his Site Inspection Report, 85.175 ha of Govt. Non-Forest Land in village Champachuan of Thuamul- Rampur Tahsil in Kalahandi District under Kalahandi (South) Division has been identified for compensatory Afforestation. RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the instant proposal involves **86.479 ha of Forest land, which includes diversion of 85.175 ha of fresh Forest land and re-diversion of 1.304 ha.** MoEF & CC, Govt of India has accorded Stage-II clearance vide their letter 29.05.2020, for diversion of 11.912 ha of Forest land in favour of M/s OMC Ltd for Infrastructure development in Kurmitar & Rantha ML , which includes the presently proposed re-diversion of 1.304 ha for the instant proposal. As per the stipulation in Stage-I approval vide ERO MoEF & CC vide Letter dtd 29.11.2018, against the above diversion of 11.912 ha forest land, the cost of approved Compensatory Afforestation scheme over identified non-forest land 11.912 ha in village Barakaudi as demanded by DFO Bonai Forest division vide letter dtd 07.02.2019, has been deposited by

UA in full vide e-challan dtd 11.04.2019 . Hence, the area required for compensatory afforestation for the instant proposal comes to 85.175 ha i.e. (86.479 ha-1.304 ha). Accordingly, DFO, Bonai has enclosed the CA scheme for 85.175 ha area, prepared by by DFO, Kalahandi (South) Forest Division to be executed over identified Govt non-Forest land of 85.175 ha in village Champachuan under Thuamul-Rampur Tahsil of Kalahandi District. The identified Govt Non-Forest land of 85.175 ha as per the land schedule given below, has been allotted by Collector, Kalahandi district for the purpose of Compensatory afforestation against the instant project vide his Letter No 2173 dtd 03.06.2020.

Details of Govt Non-Forest land identified for Compensatory afforestation

Name of the Division	Name of the tahsil	Name of the village	Khata No.	Plot No.	Area of the plot identified		Kissam
					Total plot area in Ac.	For CA in Ac	
Kalahandi (South)	Th.-Rampur	Champachuan	114 (AAA)	01	41.73	19.39	Dangar
				75	38.45	30.66	Dangar
				86	27.63	21.85	Dangar
				173	23.38	17.59	Dangar
				186	12.35	7.68	Dangar
				413	20.33	10.96	Dangar
				414	21.93	15.66	Dangar
				425	19.10	8.25	Dangar
				581	36.83	31.60	Dangar
				582	53.70	46.83	Dangar
		Total (10 plots)				210.47 or say 85.175 ha	

The joint verification of the above identified Govt Non-Forest land has been conducted by staff of Forest & Revenue Deptt and the report . The non- encroachment, non-encumbrances, not being a DLC land certificate for the above identified CA land has been furnished by Tahsildar concerned in the joint verification report. The suitability certificate for the identified CA land has been furnished by DFO, Kalahandi (South) Division. DFO, Kalahandi(South) Division has prepared the compensatory Afforestation Scheme over the identified Govt Non-Forest CA land of 85.175 ha with provision of Plantation in bald hill mode @ 1600 plants/ha having provision for plantation of local species like Neem (*Azadirachta Indica*), Karanja (*Pongamia pinata*), Ba hada(*Terminalia belerica*), Harida (*Terminalia chebula*) Kano(*Mangifera indica*), Amla (*Emblica officinalis*), Sisoo(*Dalbergia sisoo*) Asan(*Terminalia tomentosa*), Arjun(*Terminalia arjuna*), Sunari (*Cassia fistula*) etc. and with in-built provision of SMC works in the plantation and 10 years maintenance. The Compensatory afforestation Scheme submitted by DFO, kalahandi has been accorded Technical approval by PCCF(FD, Diversion & Nodal Officer , FC Act) with total Financial out lay of **Rs 4,42,30,400.00** at prevailing minimum wage rate of Rs 303.40/MD

The map of non-forest land of 85.175 ha identified for compensatory afforestation in village Champachua under Thuamul-Rampur tahsil under Kalahandi (South)Forest division in the district of Kalahandi , on Cadastral sheet No 4 duly signed by DFO Kalahandi(South) Forest Division and Tahsildar Thuamul-Rampur Tahsil has been enclosed as **Plate-V**. GPS coordinate of boundary pillars of the identified CA land , forward & backward bearing of pillar points and inter-pillar distance has been furnished. Location of the identified CA land has been shown on reduced photocopy of Survey of India **Topo sheet No.**

E44E15, not on scale, countersigned by DFO, Kalahandi(South) Division and Tahasildar, 'Thuamul-Rampur Tahsil has been enclosed

The User Agency has furnished an undertaking to pay entire amount of compensatory afforestation, in lieu of diversion of 86.479 ha (including re-diversion of 1.304 ha) of forest land for construction of Conveyor Corridor from boundary of Kurmitar ML of M/s OMC Ltd to proposed new Railway siding at Barsuan, under Lahunipada Tahsil of Bonai Forest Division by M/s OMC Ltd in , Sundergarh District in the State of Odisha as per prevailing wage rate at the time of plantation .

- x. **Wildlife Management Plan:**
- a. **Regional Wild Life Management Plan:-** DFO, Bonai Forest Division in his site Inspection Report has mentioned that the area is often frequented by wild elephants. Accordingly, RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that although the proposed area for diversion for the project does not come under any National Park, Sanctuary or Eco-Sensitive zone of PA but for protection of the wild animals using the forest to be diverted, the User Agency will have to contribute for implementation of the comprehensive Wild Life Management Plan prepared for the forest area of Bonai & Keonjhar, as would be decided by the State Government. The User Agency has furnished an undertaking to bear the cost of contribution towards Regional Wildlife Management Plan as would be decided by the State Government & demanded by DFO, Bonai for this project
 - b. **Site Specific Wild Life Conservation Plan:-** RCCF, Rourkela has suggested for submission of a Site Specific Wild Life Conservation Plan by the Project Proponent for the instant proposal and reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to bear the cost towards Site Specific WL Conservation Plan, as would be decided by the State Government.
- xi. **Certificate under Forest Right Act, 2006:** The User Agency has submitted that the process of obtaining the required certificate has been initiated and furnished an undertaking to the effect that the required FRA certificate under FRA-2006, over 86.479 ha of Forest land involved in the proposed instant overhead conveyor Project will be submitted before grant of Stage-II forest clearance.
- xii. **Resettlement & Rehabilitation:** The instant project does not involve displacement of any people, hence resettlement & rehabilitation plan is not required.
- xiii. **Violation:** As reported by the DFO, Bonai Forest Division & RCCF, Rourkela Circle in their part-II & Part-III reports respectively, no violation has been committed by the User Agency under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- xiv. **Net Present Value (NPV):** The User Agency has furnished an undertaking to pay the NPV of the forest land proposed to be diverted and also to pay the differential amount on upward revision of rate of NPV against the proposed diversion of Forest land for the instant project. It is pertinent to mention here that the User Agency, M/S OMC Ltd has already paid the NPV against the Forest land of 11,912 ha already diverted in their favour for Infra Structure development for Kurmitar & Rantha ML as per the demand raised by DFO, Bonai vide his letter dtd 24.12.2018 . This instant proposal involves re-diversion of 1.304 ha of forest land out of above mentioned diverted 11.912 ha forest land.
4. The State Government has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:
- i. The user agency shall pay the evaluated royalty of trees existing over forest land before commencement of work on final forest clearance.
 - ii. Trees should be felled only when it is absolutely necessary and in a phased manner.
 - iii. In case, separate environmental clearance/ CTE/ CTO are required for this infrastructure project, the same shall be obtained by the user agency from the competent authority.
 - iv. The user agency shall bear the cost of contribution towards Regional Wildlife Management Plan.

- v. The user agency shall submit a Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan for its implementation at the project cost.
5. The KML file of the instant proposal has been examined by the DSS Cell and their report is placed in file and major observation are :

a. In Case of Land proposed for Diversion:

- i. Proposed forest area for diversion falls under Sundargarh district of Odisha State.
- ii. The calculated area through KML file available on the parivesh portal is found 78.84 Ha. instead of 86.479 ha Forest area. A table showing the comparison among the various segment area figures in (Ha) as mentioned in the Parivesh portal and the area of the same segment in (Ha) as calculated through KML file of the instant project is furnished below:

<i>Segments</i>	<i>Segment Area (in ha.) as mentioned in Form-A PART-I of Parivesh</i>	<i>Segment Area (in ha.) as calculated through GIS Software</i>
1	4.63	4.62
2	14.602	14.60
3	0.983	0.98
4	7.693	0.07
5	58.571	58.57
Total	86.479	78.84

- iii. Proposed area for Diversion classified as Inviolable area or In High Conservation value (in HCV) based on Decision Rule No. 1 & 2. As per the DSS Rule-1 the instant project is falling on Very Dense Forest layer and as per the DSS Rule-2, total 9 grids of 1x1 sq km is covering the instant project and out of these 9, total 8 grids are having average score above 70. Thus the instant project is falling on inviolable category on both DSS Rule-I & Rule-II parameters.
- iv. Forest Cover: Out of total 79 Ha (as per DSS Calculated) forest area proposed for diversion, 6 ha of land is characterized with Very Dense Forest, 65 ha of land as Moderately Dense Forest, 2 ha. of land as Open forest and 6 ha. of land as Non Forest (land devoid of tree cover) in terms of forest classes (as per the ISFR 2019) based on the interpretation of satellite data period 2017-2018.
- v. Forest Types details: 3C/2e (iii) Moist Peninsular Valley Sal Forest 57 Ha, 5B/C1 c Dry Peninsular Sal Forest: 16 ha, 5B/C2 Northern Dry Mixed Deciduous Forest: 2 ha, & Non-Forest: 4 ha.

b. In Case of Compensatory Afforestation Land:

- i. The CA has been proposed in total two patches and these CA patches are proposed under Khata No. 114, Champachuan Village of Kalahandi district of Odisha State.
- ii. CA has been proposed in revenue land equal in extent to the forest land being diverted and calculated area of CA land is found 85.175 Ha (DSS calculated).
- iii. Out of total 85 ha area proposed for CA, 9 ha. of land is having Scrub and remaining 76 ha. of land is Non-Forest (land devoid of tree cover) in terms of forest classes (as per the ISFR 2019)

based on the interpretation of satellite data period 2017-2018.

- 6.** The area discrepancy in the KML file submitted by state government also clarified by state forest Department and revised KML file has been submitted for entire 86.479 ha. of forest land by the state forest department through email.
