F. No. 8-17/2016-FC

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Aliganj, Jorbagh Road **New Delhi – 110003**

Dated: February, 2019

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Dept. of Environment & Forests, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar

Sub: Proposal for diversion of balance 87.09 hectares of Sabik Kissam forest land as on 25.10.1980 in addition to already diverted forest land of 1225.78 ha for iron ore mining in their Bolani Ore Mines of 1321.45 ha. (5.1 Sq. Miles) in Keonjhar District, Odisha by M/s Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).

Sir.

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Odisha's letter no. No. 169/9F (MG)-67/2016 dated 04.01.2019 submitting compliance on the conditions stipulated in Stage-I approval dated 12.09.2017. on the points raised by this Ministry on the recommendation of FAC in its meeting held on 24.08.2016. After examining the compliance report, the following observations are made:

- i. The user agency has deposited the Net Present Value (NPV) of Rs.6,35,75,700/remitted on 08.03.2016, in compliance of condition no. (vi) of Stage-I approval dated 12.09.2017, and the same has been confirmed by CAMPA Office. But against the compliance of condition no. (xi) of Stage-I approval dated 12.09.2017, it is reported that Rs.76,73,38,280/-&Rs.12,74,81,120/-(Rs.89,48,19,400/) for NPV have also been deposited vide Cheque No. 597654 dt 08.04.2010 & 597672 dt 03.07.2010 respectively in CAMPA Account. Thus, there is no clarity in NPV deposits towards instant proposal and need clarification from State Govt. as to whether the admissible amount for NPV for entire area of forest land under instant lease has been deposited.
- ii. In compliance to condition no. (viii) for mitigative measures, condition no. (ix) for fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area, condition no. (xxiv) for gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities and condition no. (xxv) for desilting of village tanks and other water bodies as stipulated in Stage-I approval dated 12.09.2017, no scheme/plan has been submitted by the State Government stating that the schemes in compliance to these conditions have already been approved as per condition of Stage-I approval accorded vide F. No. 8-17/1997-DC (Pt) dated 12.11.2010 during diversion of 1152.58 ha. of forest land. In this regard, the State Government of Odisha may clarify as to whether the area proposed for diversion now i.e. 87.09 ha has been included while preparing schemes/activities earlier in the year 2010.
- iii. The funds for mitigative measures including gap planting have not been deposited in CAMPA Account.

iv. The revised SOI Topo-sheet showing all the proposed including newly identified and altered CA sites along with their DGPS maps may be provided. In addition, the user agency has to provide the KML file/ GPS Co-ordinates of existing village tanks. and other water bodies located within five km from the mine lease boundary.

In view of above, the State Govt. may be requested to provide the information/document/clarification on the points as indicated at S.N.(i) to (iv) above along with detail of funds deposited towards instant proposal in the prescribed format duly signed and verified by the Nodal Officer(FCA), Govt. of Odisha to this Ministry for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

(Sandeep Sharma) H3 | 15 Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

The PCCF, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar.

The Nodal Officer, O/o PCCF, Bhubaneswar.

- 3. The Addl PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.
- 4. User Agency,
- The Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi. 5.

Guard File. 6.

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)