

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: ~~2nd April, 2023~~

May.

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests),
Government of Odisha,
Bhubaneswar

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s Raga Tradecon Pvt. Ltd. for non-forestry use of 66.242 (including 2.09 ha safety zone) ha of forest land for Mining of iron ore within Netrabandha Pahar (West) Iron Ore Block in villages Baldini and Sanua under Bonal Forest Division of Sundargarh District of Odisha (Online proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/153549/2022).

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter no. FE-DIV-FLD-0026-2023-5707/FE&CC dated 28.03.2023 on above subject, seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that examination of said proposal revealed the following:

- i. As per approved mining plan the forest area is 52.06 ha, whereas the forest area proposed for diversion is 66.242 ha. This discrepancy is required to be removed.
- ii. All the documents related to CA like CA scheme, KML file, DGPS Maps, SOI toposheets etc. have not been uploaded on the PARIVESH portal.
- iii. CA scheme for raising Compensatory Afforestation over non-forest land shall be provided/uploaded.
- iv. The copy of the ownership/revenue record and the documentary evidence regarding allotment of Non forest Govt land for the purpose of Compensatory Afforestation shall be submitted.
- v. There are some non-site specific activities like Waste dump, Mineral stacking yard / Mineral Storage/processing etc. which have been proposed on forest land. The justification for the same shall be provided.
- vi. Component wise breakup given in online application is not in conformity with that in the approved mining plan. State Govt shall ensure that the proposed component wise land-use is in conformity with the landuse in the approved mining plan. A comparative analysis of the same shall be made and submitted.
- vii. The Cost benefit ratio has been mentioned as 1:814 which is very high. The State govt. shall recheck the same. Further the CB analysis has to be prepared keeping in view the parameters and format prescribed in the FCA Handbook of guidelines.
- viii. Elephant Movement is reported in the area proposed for diversion. Therefore, comments of PCCF (Wildlife) and CWLW, Odisha needs to be provided by the State Government.
- ix. The KML file of the proposed area indicating the land use plan/component wise breakup/ mineralized and non-mineralized zonation shall be submitted.
- x. The proposal does not contain the details as to how the requirement of water,

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electricity and road will be met in the instant case. The mode of transportation has been mentioned as road, however it is not clear whether a new road will be constructed or an already existing road is to be utilized. The detail of additional forest land required(if any) for above shall also be intimated.

- xi. A copy of the approval of regional wildlife plan and the basis of calculation of the money proposed to be realized from the User agency in this regard shall be submitted.

In view of the above, the State Government is requested to submit the information/documents, as indicated above, to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,


Sd/-
(Suneet Bhardwaj) 02/05/23

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. DDGF (Central), Integrated Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar.
3. APCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Divisions, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.