<u>Justification for prospecting in forest land of Birasal Chromite</u> <u>Mining Lease of Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd.</u>

The host rock for chromite is Dunite-Peridotite suit of Ultrabasics in Sukinda valley. These are later on altered to Limonite, Laterite, chromiferous laterite and soil cover. Though very less surface exposure of cromite ore body is found in the lease hold there are possibilities of subsurface mineralization, irrespective of the land pattern. Chromite is a strategic mineral and before a decision is taken on the balance land over the ML thorough examination by subsurface exploration is inevitable considering the site specific nature of the deposit.

(S.K. Das)

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