



भारत सरकार / Government of India  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय / Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change  
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, भुवनेश्वर / Regional Office, Bhubaneswar  
ए ३, चंद्रसेखरपुर / A/3, Chandrasekharpur  
भुवनेश्वर - ७५१ ०२३ / Bhubaneswar - 751 023



Telephone: 0674 - 2301213, 2301248, 2302452, 2302453. E-mail: roez.bsr-mef@nic.in

सं.5-ORA590/2023-BHU

दिनांक 01.09.2023

सेवा में,

अपर वन महानिदेशक (एफ.सी.),  
पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय,  
इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन,  
जोरबाग रोड, अली गंज,  
नई दिल्ली - 110 003

**बिषय :** Proposal seeking permission under Section 2(iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for grant of lease over 60.508 ha of forest land of Dholta Pahar Iron Ore Block allotted to M/s Kashvi Power & Steel Pvt. Ltd. through e-auction sale in Sarkunda RF in Bonai Forest Division under Sundargarh

**संदर्भ:** मंत्रालय पत्र सं. 8-15/2023-FC दिनांक 08.08.2023.

महोदय,

उपर्युक्त विषयक प्रसंगाधीन पत्र के आलोक में संबंधित प्रस्ताव का स्थल निरीक्षण अधोहस्ताक्षरी के द्वारा दिनांक 18.08.2023 को किया गया | स्थल निरीक्षण उपरांत स्थल निरीक्षण प्रतिवेदन इस पत्र के साथ संलग्न भेजा जा रहा है |

अनु : यथोक्त |

भवदीय,  
ए. टी. मिश्रा  
(ए. टी. मिश्रा)  
उप वन महानिदेशक (के)

**SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF PROPOSAL SEEKING APPROVAL UNDER SECTION-2 (iii) OF FOREST CONSERVATION ACT, 1980 FOR GRANT OF LEASE OVER 60.508 HA OF DHOLTA PAHAR IRON ORE BLOCK ALLOTTED TO M/S KASHVI POWER & STEEL PVT. LTD. THROUGH E-AUCTION SALE IN SARKUNDA RESERVED FOREST IN BONAI FOREST DIVISION UNDER SUNDARGARH DISTRICT, ODISHA.**

The site inspection of the above project was carried out by the undersigned on 19.08.2023 along with DFO, Bonai other officials from Forest Department and representative of the user agency.

**1. Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:**

The legal status of forest land is as follows:

<b>Legal Status</b>	<b>Forest Area (in ha)</b>
Reserved Forest	60.508
<b>Total</b>	<b>60.508</b>

**2. Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion.**

Not reported.

**3. Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof:**

Not applicable at present.

**4. Total cost of the project at present rates:**

The total cost of the project is reported to be Rs.12500 Crores.

**5. Wildlife:**

As reported by the DFO, Bonai Forest Division, wild animals such as Elephant (*Elephas maximus*), Wild Boar (*Sus scrofa*), Hanuman Langur (*Presbytes entellus*), Rhesus macaque (*Macaca mulatta*), Indian hare (*Lepus nigricollis*), Indian Palm Squirrel (*Funambulus palmarum*), Jungle Cat (*Felis chaus*), Mongoose (*Herpestes edwardsi*), Porcupine (*Hystrix indica*), Jackal (*Canis aureus*), Hyaena (*Hyaena hyaena*) and different types of snakes and birds have been recorded from the applied area.

**Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not:**

The DFO, Bonai Forest Division has reported that the applied area is not involved with any eco-sensitive zone/ National Park/Sanctuary.

**6. Vegetation:**

The density of vegetation is reported to be 0.6 (Eco Value Class-I).

**(a) Total number of trees to be felled.**

Not applicable at this stage.

**Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem in the area:**

Not applicable at this stage.

**(b) Important species:**

Sal (*Shorea robusta*), Sidha (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*), Kangada (*Xylia xylocarpa*), Siali (*Bauhinia vahlii*), Teak (*Tectona grandis*), Shisu (*Dalbergia sisoo*), Kusum (*Schleichera oleosa*), Bara (*Ficus bengalensis*), Harida (*Terminalia chebula*), Bahada (*Terminalia belerica*), Char (*Buchanania lanjan*), Jamu (*Syzygium cuminii*), Asan (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Kendu (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), Mahul (*Madhuca indica*), Kumbhi (*Careya arborea*), Mango (*Mangifera indica*) etc. are major species among flora observed during site inspection.

**Number of trees of girth below 60 cm.**

Not applicable at this stage.

**Number of trees of girth above 60 cm**

Not applicable at this stage.

**7. Background note on the proposal:**

As reported, M/s Kashvi Power & Steel Pvt. Ltd. is incorporated under Company Act, 1956 vide corporate identity No.U40100OR2009PTC011341/209-10 is a part of Kashvi Group. M/s Kashvi Power & Steel Pvt. Ltd. operates as a manufacturer of sponge iron, billet and ingots and exporter of minerals and the company has more than two and half decades of experience in the business of iron ore trading and exporting, manufacturing of sponge iron, billet and ingots.

The Govt. of Odisha., Steel & Mines Department pursuant to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 as amended from time to time (the Auction Rule) issued the notice inviting tender dated 07.07.2021 for commencement of the auction process for grant the mining Lease for Dholta Pahar Iron Ore Block located in Koira Tahasil of Sundargarh District of Odisha. The e-auction process was conducted in accordance with the tender document and the mineral auction Rules, 2015 for the said Mineral Block and M/s Kashvi Power & Steel Pvt. Ltd. was declared as the preferred Bidder under Rule 9(9) (iii) or Rule 10 (A) of Auction Rules having quoted a final price offer of 126.55%.

Further, M/s Kashvi Power & Steel Pvt. Ltd. has made payment of Rs.6,99,89,587/- (Rupees Six Crore Ninety Nine Lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Seven) only on dated 22.10.2021 towards the first installment being twenty percent of the upfront money. Accordingly, the Government of Odisha has issued Letter of Intent (LoI) vide letter No. 87225/IV(II)SM-52/202 1/SM, Bhubaneswar, dated 28.10.2021 under Rule 10(2) of Mineral Auction Rules, 2015 to M/s Kashvi Power & Steel Pvt. Ltd. for grant of mining lease for Dholta Pahar Block for iron ore over 60.508 ha near Dengula village, Koira Tahasil of Sundargarh District of Odisha for a period of 50 years. This Letter of Intent is valid subject to the provision of the Act and the rules made there under, as amended from time to time and M/s Kashvi Power & Steel Pvt. Ltd. shall be designated as the Successful Bidder and subsequently granted the mining lease only upon satisfactory completion of all the requirements under the Act and Rules made there under.

Accordingly, M/s Kashvi Power & Steel Pvt. Ltd. has submitted the application for seeking permission under Section-2 (iii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for grant of forest land on lease over 60.508 ha within Dholta Pahar Iron Ore Block located in Sarkunda RF in Koira Tahasil under Bonai Forest Division of Sundargarh District, Odisha.

**8. Compensatory afforestation:**

As reported, the Compensatory Afforestation is not required for this proposal at this Stage.

**(a) Whether land for compensatory afforestation is suitable from plantation and management point of view or not:**

Not applicable.

**(b) Whether land for compensatory afforestation is free from encroachment/other encumbrances:**

Not applicable.

**(c) Whether land for compensatory afforestation is important from Religious/Archaeological point of view:**

Not applicable.

**(d) Land identified for raising compensatory afforestation is in how many patches, whether patches are compact or not:**

Not applicable.

**(e) Map with details:**

Not applicable.

**(f) Total financial outlay:**

Not applicable at this stage.

**9. Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials:**

As reported by the DFO, Bonai Forest Division, no violation has been reported under FC, Act 1980. During site inspection also, no violation was observed.

**10. Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not :**

As per report of the DFO, Bonai Forest Division, the project does not involve displacement of any human habitation. Hence, resettlement and rehabilitation plan is not required.

**11. Reclamation plan:**

The Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan of Dholta Pahar Iron Ore Block over an area of 60.508 ha has been approved by the Indian Bureau of Mines vide their Letter No. MP/A/21-ORI/BHU/2021-22/1414 dated 11.01.2022 and has been submitted.

**Details of financial allocation:**

Not applicable at this stage.

**12. Details on catchment and command area under the project:**

Not applicable.

**Catchment area treatment plan to prevent siltation of reservoir:**

Not applicable.

**13. Cost benefit ratio:**

As reported, the Cost-Benefit analysis is not required for this proposal at this stage.

**14. Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:**

Recommended by PCCF, Odisha/State Government.

**15. Conservator of Forests (Central) shall give detailed comments on whether there are any alternative routes/alignment for locating the project on the non-forest land:**

N.A.

**16. Utility of the project:**

The project will reportedly generate employment for about 100 nos. of persons directly which will be mostly local people. It will also create indirect employment for about 150 persons.

**Numbers of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes to be benefited by the project:**

Not reported.

**17.**

**(a) Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/ religious value:**

As reported, there is no Archeological/Heritage/Defence establishment or any other monuments located in the area.

**(b) Whether any sacred grove or very old growth trees/forests exist in the areas proposed for diversion:**

Not reported.

**(c) Whether the land under diversion forms part of any unique eco-system:**

The DFO, Bonai Forest Division has reported that there is no Archeological/



Heritage/Defence establishment or any other important monuments located in the area.

**18. Situation with respect to any Protected Area:**

The distance of project site from the nearest Protected Area (Badrama Wildlife Sanctuary) is 84.04 Km. The project site is 20.36 Kms away from the nearest Elephant Corridor (Karo-Karampada).

**19. Any other information relating to the project:**

**Photographs of proposed site:**



**20. Recommendations of Dy. Director General of Forests (Central) along with detailed reasons:**

- 1) No violation of FC Act, 1980 has been reported by the DFO, Bonai.
- 2) The applied area is outside the Eco-sensitive Zone/National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary.
- 3) The distance of project site from the nearest Protected Area (Badrama Wildlife Sanctuary) is 84.04 Km. The project site is 20.36 Kms away from the nearest Elephant Corridor (Karo-Karampada).
- 4) The density of vegetation reported by DFO, Bonai is 0.6 with Eco Value Class-I. But as per DSS, it shows as Inviolate. There are two mines within 4 Km range in the North and West of the proposed site. During inspection very dense vegetation as well as blanks were observed. The photo of Google image is annexed.
- 5) No tree felling is required in the instant proposal as it is the case of approval under Section 2 (iii) of FC Act, 1980.

The proposed site falls in the major iron ore producing area (Koirra Section, Sundargarh district). Since, the mining is a site specific activity, so the proposal may be considered with the above observations under Section 2 (iii) of FC Act, 1980. The project proponent has also submitted detail proposal under Section 2 (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(A. T. Mishra)

**Dy. Director General of Forests (Central)**



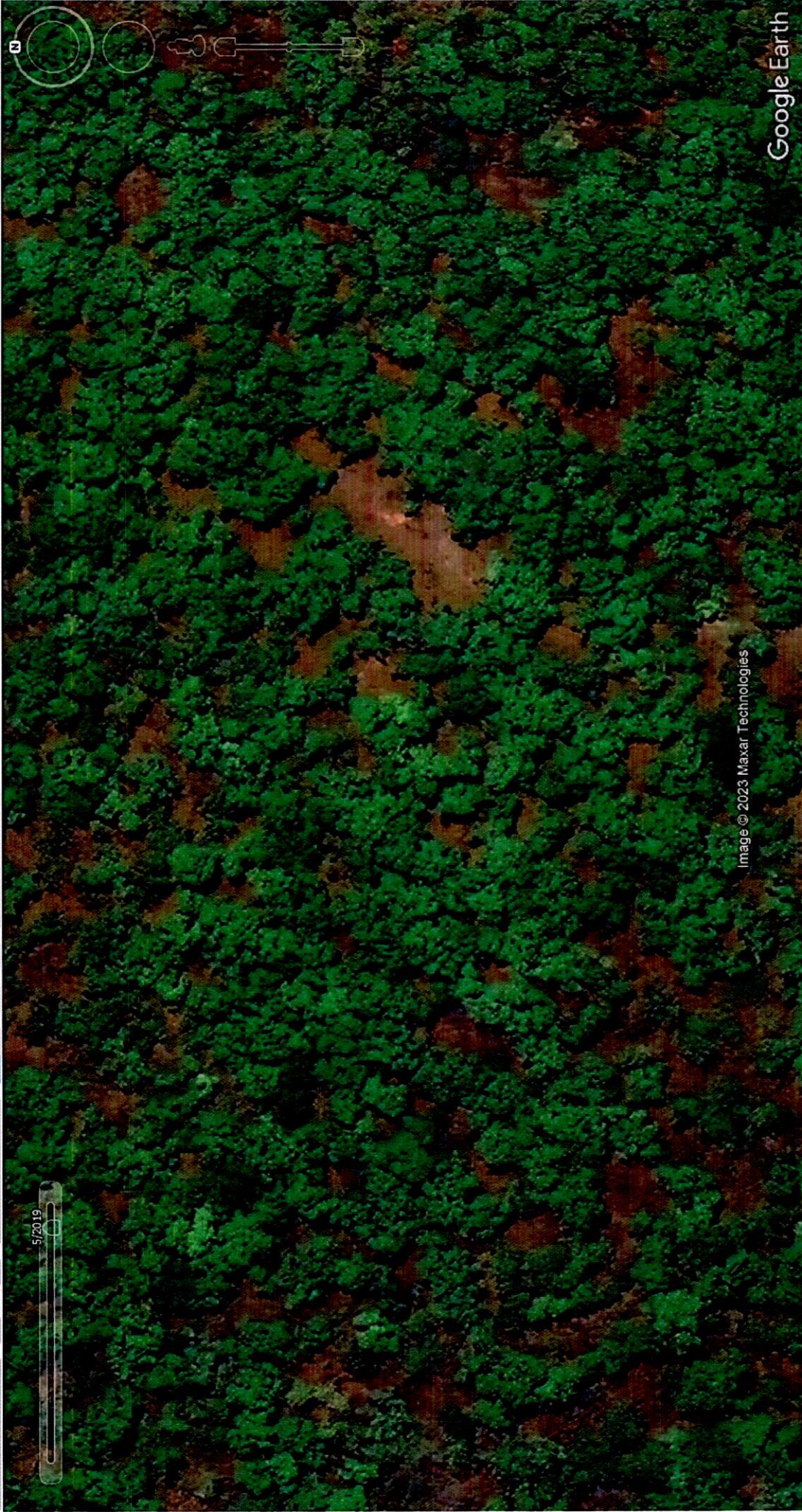


Image © 2023 Maxar Technologies

Google Earth

Imagery Date: 5/7/2019 21°50'31.32" N 85°11'08.94" E elev. 2693 ft eye alt. 3445 ft

ENG 4:11 PM 9/1/2023

32°C Cloudy



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