

By Speed Post/ e-mail

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
FOREST, ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT**

No.FE-DIV-FLD-0069-2025- 32527 /FE&CC, Date 03 NOV 2025
10F (Cons)-52/2025

From

Shri Lingaraj Otta,
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

To

The PCCF & HoFF, Odisha,
Bhubaneswar

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 22.551 ha of Forest land of Rengalbeda (NE) iron ore mine under Barbil Tahasil, Barbil Range of Keonjhar Forest Division in Keonjhar District within Mining Lease Block area of 24.203 ha by M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Limited under Section-2 (1) (ii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

Proposal No.FP/OR/MIN/142246/2021, Sl. No.OR-036/2021 dated 03.06.2021.

Ref: Your Office Letter No.21377/9F-(MG)-68/2021, dtd.22.10.2025.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to the captioned subject, I am directed to inform that on scrutiny of the proposal the following discrepancies have been noticed.

1. In the first & last paras of the forwarding letter the purpose for which the forest diversion proposal has been submitted to this Department has not been mentioned.
2. The break up of the forest land proposed for diversion has not been provided.
3. Upon perusal of the Parivesh portal it is seen that the Part-II dtd.06.11.2021 & Site Inspection Report dtd.06.10.2021 of DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division and Part-III dtd.17.11.2021 of RCCF, Rourkela Circle have been uploaded in the Parivesh portal but the Part-II dtd.19.07.2025 & SIR dtd.09.07.2025 of DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division and Part-III dtd.07.08.2025 of RCCF, Rourkela Circle available in the Diversion proposal have not been uploaded in the Parivesh portal.
4. The DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division in Site Inspection Report dtd.06.10.2021 had reported that there is an encroachment by 10 nos. of house holders inside mining lease area. In this regards the Collector, Keonjhar has been requested to take appropriate legal action against the encroachers vide his office letter No.7860 dt.06.11.2021. But in the SIR report dtd.09.07.2025 of the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division there is no mention of encroachment. However, in the SIR report dtd.09.07.2025 under the Column 14 i.e. Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation, if any, the DFO has reported that during the site inspection, it is observed that, 16 to 17 nos. households are staying in Nuagaon village, coming within the lease area since last 30 years or more. Hence, Resettlement of the above households are essential. So, the user agency should

prepare the Re-habilitation Plan for the above purpose and get it approved by the competent authority. But in the earlier SIR dtd.06.10.2021 of DFO, Keonjhar under Column 14 it was reported that the project does not involve displacement of any human habitation and therefore the re-settlement and rehabilitation plan is not warranted.

Necessary clarification/ compliance on the above observation may please be submitted for further action at this end.

Yours faithfully,

ds
31/11/2025

Memo No. 32528 /FE&CC, Date 03 NOV 2025
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Copy forwarded to the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FD&NO, FC Act), O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha for information and necessary action with reference to his letter No.21377, dtd.22.10.2025.

ds
31/11/2025

Memo No. 32529 /FE&CC, Date 03 NOV 2025
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forest, Rourkela Circle/ Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Forest Division for information and necessary action.

ds
31/11/2025

Memo No. 32530 /FE&CC, Date 03 NOV 2025
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Copy forwarded to the Chief Vigilance Officer & Land Officer, OMC Ltd., OMC House, Bhubaneswar, Dist-Khordha, Odisha-751001 for information and necessary action.

ds
31/11/2025

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

