



**OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, KEONJHAR DIVISION**  
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**Memo No. 08 / 6F-Mining-29/2021**  
**Dated, Keonjhar the 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2025**

To

The Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Rourkela Circle, Rourkela.

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

Ref: 1. Memo No.32529 dated 03.11.2025 of OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government, FE&CC, Department, Govt. of Odisha.  
2. Letter No.19377 dated 10.12.2025 of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Limited.

With reference to the memo cited above on the captioned subject, the OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government, FE&CC Department, Government of Odisha has raised discrepancies under four (04) points in respect of the aforesaid forest diversion proposal. The point-wise compliance to the said discrepancies is furnished below for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

***Discrepancies No. (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.***

Compliance:-

The user agency i.e. M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Limited has submitted the proposal for diversion of 22.551 ha forest land for mining and its ancillary activities. Hence, the purpose of above proposal may be taken into consideration for mining and its ancillary activities.

***Discrepancies No. (2)***

***The breakup of the forest land proposed for diversion has not been provided.***

Compliance:-

The breakup of forest land proposed for diversion for mining and its ancillary activities is furnished below:

Sl. No.	Pattern of Utilization	Forest Area (ha)	Forest As on 25.10.1980 (ha)	Total forest Area in (ha)
1	Mining	13.167	4.933	18.1
2	Infrastructure	0	0.01	0.01
	<b>Sub-Total (A)</b>	<b>13.167</b>	<b>4.943</b>	<b>18.11</b>
3	Safety Zone (7.5 m strip along the ML boundary)	0.788	0.708	1.496
4	Safety Zone (50 m on either side of NH-215)	2.602	0.343	2.945
	<b>Sub-Total (B)</b>	<b>3.39</b>	<b>1.051</b>	<b>4.441</b>
	<b>Total (A+B)</b>	<b>16.557</b>	<b>5.994</b>	<b>22.551</b>

**Discrepancies No (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.*

Compliance:-

The revised Part-II dated 19.07.2025 and Site Inspection Report dated 09.07.2025 of the Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Division have been uploaded on the PARIVESH portal for kind perusal and consideration.

**Discrepancies No. (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 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 Rehabilitation 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.**

Compliance:-

It is submitted that, as per the land schedule furnished by the Tahasildar, Barbil, there is no Record of Rights (RoR) pertaining to tenanted holdings exists within the Rengalbeda (NE) Iron Ore Mining Lease area.

During the site inspection conducted on 09.07.2025, it was observed that 16-17 households have been residing in Nuagaon village, which falls within the lease area, for the last 30 years or more. As per the approved Mining Plan, at present, displacement of the said households is not required. However, the User Agency, i.e. M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd., has agreed to abide by the provisions of the Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plan, if required in future. An undertaking to this effect is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

This is for favour of information and necessary action.

**Encl: As above.**

  
**Divisional Forest Officer,  
Keonjhar Division.**

**Memo No. 09 /Dated 01.01.2026**

Copy forwarded to the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act, O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action.

  
**Divisional Forest Officer,  
Keonjhar Division.**

**UNDERTAKING**

I, Sudhansu Sekhar Khora, IFS, Executive Director (F&E), at Odisha Mining Corporation Limited (OMC) do hereby undertake to implement the R&R Plan as per the approved R&R framework and operative guidelines of the State Govt., in alignment with statutory obligations, if required, for furtherance of the forest diversion proposal over 22.551 ha for production of Iron Ore from Rengalbeda (NE) Iron Ore Mines of Odisha Mining Corporation Limited.

  
Executive Director (F&E)

**COUNTERSIGNED**

  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Keonjhar Division