



**STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS, ODISHA  
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HoFF  
PLOT NO. GD-2/12, ARANYA BHAWAN, CHANDRASEKHARPUR  
BHUBANESWAR-751023**

**E-mail:- nodal.pccfodisha@gmail.com**

No. /9F(MG)-65/2021

Dated, Bhubaneswar the June 2025

To

**The Deputy Inspector General of Forests (FC)**  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (F.C. Division)  
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road  
New Delhi-110003

**Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2(1) (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. for non-forestry use of 194.683 ha of forest land involved in the mining lease area over (365.026 ha as per RoR) / (358.258 ha as per DGPS) of Guali Iron Ore Mines under Keonjhar Forest Division and District Keonjhar, Odisha [Online Proposal No. (FP/OR/MIN/140713/2021)].**

Ref: - F. No. 8-96/1996-FC (PT-I) dt. 12.11.2024 of GoI, MoEF & CC, Govt. of India.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to the above mentioned subject, this is to inform that Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, GoI, New Delhi have accorded Stage-I/in-principle approval vide Letter F. No. 8-96/1996-FC (PTI) dt. 21.12.2023 for diversion of 194.683 ha of forest land of Guali Iron Ore Block within total Mining Lease area (365.026 ha as per RoR / 358.258 ha as per DGPS ha) of Odisha Mining Corporation Limited in Keonjhar District of Odisha under Section-2(1)(ii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The point wise compliance has been submitted to MoEF & CC, GoI from this office vide L.no.19632 dt. 27.09.2024. Further, the MoEF & CC, GoI have raised EDS on 05 points. The compliance to these 05 points is furnished below based on the compliance submitted by the RCCF, Rourkela circle and the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division.

*i. The status of the payment of Rs. 25, 38, 57,750/- is not showing paid on the PARIVESH portal. The State Government has informed that the user agency has deposited Rs. 47, 71, 18,107/- in CAMPA Account towards NPV over 332.100 ha forest land involved in the mining lease through PARIVESH portal. The details of the amount deposited towards NPV of Rs. 47,71,18,107/- shall be provided for confirmation of the funds from National Authority (CAMPA). The state shall ensure that the total NPV due is deposited as per the applicable Eco Class and density.*

The DFO, Keonjhar has stated that as per the guidelines issued vide letter dated 31.03.2020 by the MoEF & CC, Govt. of India, M/s OMC Ltd has followed the procedure for payment through online. The copy of the screen shot of PRIVESH portal showing payment of Rs.25,38,57,750.00 towards NPV by M/s OMC Ltd under "Payment status" as "Paid" is enclosed as **Annexure-I** for kind reference.

The DFO, Keonjhar has computed the NPV over total forest land of 332.100 ha for Rs.47,71,18,107/- taking appropriate canopy density and Eco-value class of the applied vegetation into account. After deducting the lump sum deposited amount of Rs.25,38,57,750/- out of the total computed NPV, DFO, Keonjhar has raised demand of Rs.22,32,60,357/- towards balance NPV.

Further, against demanded amount of Rs.22,32,60,357.00 towards NPV, M/s OMC Ltd has deposited a sum of Rs. 2,23,26,035/- vide UTR No. UBINJ24031709514 dt 31.01.2024 in first phase and the balance amount of Rs.20,09,34,322/- vide UTR No. UBINJ24033611565 dt 02.02.2024 in second phase. The copy of the screen shot of PRIVESH portal showing payment of Rs.22,32,60,357.00 towards NPV provided by M/s OMC Ltd under "Payment status" as "Paid" is enclosed as **Annexure-II** for kind perusal.

The detailed proof of the amount deposited towards NPV received from DFO, Keonjhar for Rs.47,71,18,107/- (Rs.25,38,57,750 + Rs.2,23,26,035 + Rs.20,09,34,322) are enclosed herewith as **Annexure-III series** to facilitate necessary confirmation.

*ii. As per condition no 5 of the Stage-I approval a holistic transportation plan is required to be prepared by the State Government aiming to have minimum impact in the landscape. The said plan has not been submitted. Further, the State shall also ensure that the said plan and the transportation of ore shall be as per the recommendation in the report submitted by CSIR-NEERI; Transportation of ore should be as far as possible through common conveyor belt, slurry pipeline, railways, etc. Transportation of ore through road should be minimized in a time bound manner.*

A Holistic Transportation Plan for the entire landscape of Natrabandha Pahar in respect of 5 nos. of mines including Guali Iron Ore Mines of OMC has been prepared by the RCCF, Rourkela Circle in consultation with the stake holders and the concerned DFOs based on the NEERI guidelines. The holistic transportation plan has been forwarded to MoEF &CC, GoI from this office vide I. No. 12295 dt.06.06.2025 involving all 05 mines of the Netrabandha Pahar land scape enclosed as **Annexure-IV series**. The user agency has furnished an undertaking to implement the holistic transportation plan enclosed as **Annexure-IV series**.

*iii. With regard to conditions no. 7 of Stage-I approval the Integrated Regional Wildlife Conservation Plan shall be prepared for 10 years covering the forest Division of Sundargarh, Jharsuguda and Keonjhar Districts at the cost of UA. The works shall be executed as per APO and the regional plan shall have site species-specific wildlife sub plans/prescriptions. However, the State has neither submitted the copy of the plan, nor it has been clarified whether the site/species-specific wildlife sub plans/prescriptions have been included in the plan or not. The state shall do the needful and submit the plan accordingly along with the detail of funds deposited.*

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha has approved the Integrated Regional Wildlife Management Plan for the year from 2024-25 to 2033-34 for the Odisha State covering the forest Divisions of Sundargarh, Jharsuguda and Keonjhar Districts vide his Office Order No.11409/8WL-CAMPA-0002/2022 dated 23.09.2024 for better Protection, Management & Conservation of Wildlife. The activities as mentioned in the APO of the above Plan shall be taken up on receipt of required fund from the competent authority. Further, an undertaking submitted by M/s OMC Ltd is given at **Annexure-V** to follow the approved prescriptions made therein for its implementation. The approved copy of the Integrated Regional Wildlife Conservation Plan submitted by the DFO, Keonjhar Division is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-VI** for kind reference.

*iv. With regard to conditions no. 8 of Stage-I approval, State Government has not submitted the copy of approved Bio-diversity Conservation Plan for the entire landscape. The same needs to be submitted along with the detail of funds deposited.*

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the PCCF (FD & NO, FC Act) had requested IIFM, Bhopal to prepare a Biodiversity Conservation Plan for the entire landscape of five mines viz 1. *Netrabandh Pahar Iron Ore Block (area 112.621 ha)*, 2. *Netrabandha Pahar (West) area 66.242 ha*, 3. *Laserda Pacheri Manganese & Iron Ore Block (area 94.351 ha)*, 4. *Kalmang West (Northern Part) Block for Iron Ore Mines (area 42.608 ha)* and 5. *Guali Iron Ore Mines (area 194.683 ha)* vide letter No.1717 dated 30.01.2024 and to submit an estimate towards cost of preparation. In response, IIFM, Bhopal vide their letter No. IIFM/DIR/Aca-01/2024/74 dt 10.04.2024 intimated that they had submitted a proposal on "Bio-diversity Conservation Plan" for the entire Landscape of above 05 mines wherein they had requested to sanction Rs. 57,18,924/- for taking up the study.

On receiving the proposal, Conservator of Forests (Nodal) vide his letter No. 9236/9F (MG)-27/2022 dt 02.05.2024 intimated all the five lessees including M/s OMC Ltd to release 50% of the total consultancy amount to complete the study within a period of six months.

Accordingly, the DFO, Keonjhar had raised demand on M/s OMC Ltd. vide his office letter No.3792/6F-Mining dt 08.05.2024 to deposit the proportionate consultancy amount of Rs.10,90,517/- with IIFM, Bhopal. In pursuance of the same, M/s OMC Ltd. has deposited Rs.10,90,517/- in shape of a DD bearing No.862876 dt. 30.05.2024 in favour of the Director Indian Institute of Forest Management payable at Bhopal. The copy of the correspondences including the copy of proof of payment as above in this regard is enclosed as **Annexure-VII** series for kind reference.

Considering the above, M/s OMC Ltd has given an undertaking at **Annexure-VIII** to contribute proportionate amount towards payment of balance amount of IIFM, Bhopal and the implementation of aforesaid Biodiversity Conservation Plan and follow the approved prescriptions to be suggested in the final report by IIFM, Bhopal.

That, on receiving the funds, a team of Scientists of IIFM, Bhopal [Dr. Yogesh Dubey, Professor and Dr. Advait Edgaonkar, Associate Professor (Ecosystem and Environment Management)] has visited the site from 6th to 8th November, 2024 and discussed with five lessees including Divisional Forest Officer, Bonai and Keonjhar Forest Division.

The preparation of Bio-diversity Conservation Plan is under progress, and it needs inter & intra-seasonal data to arrive at comprehensive Biodiversity Conservation Plan. The same shall be submitted once it is received from IIFM, Bhopal as stated by the DFO, Keonjhar Division.

*v. A legible copy of the certificate issued by the collector under FRA, 2006 shall be submitted.*

A legible copy of the certificate under FRA, 2006 issued by Collector, Keonjhar vide his letter No.3981 dt. 21.10.2022 and submitted by the DFO, Keonjhar is enclosed as **Annexure-IX** for kind reference.

In view of the above, the compliance to the EDS by the Government of India, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi is sent herewith for according final approval of the Central Government under Section 2(1) (ii) of Van (Suraksha Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of in favour of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. for non-forestry use of 194.683 ha forest land involved in the total mining lease area over 365.026 ha as per RoR / 358.258 ha as per DGPS of Guali Iron Ore mines under Keonjhar Forest Division and Keonjhar District of Odisha.

**Encl: Compliance in one set**

Yours faithfully

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No.

**13693**

Date.

**26.06.2025**

Copy forwarded to the OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Odisha for information with reference to F. No. 8-96/1996-FC (PT-I) dt. 12.11.2024 of GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

*25/6/2025*  
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Memo No.

Date.

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle for information with reference to his office Memo No.3020 dt.09.06.2025.

*25/6/2025*  
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)



Memo No.

Date.

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Forest Divisions for information & necessary action with reference to his office Memo No.5615 dt.31.05.2025 and Memo No.3021 dt.09.06.2025 of RCCF, Rourkela Circle.

*25/6/2025*

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Memo No.

Date.

Copy forwarded to the Director, General Manager (Geo), M/s OMC House, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary with reference to F. No. 8-96/1996-FC (PT-I) dt. 12.11.2024 of GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), NewDelhi.

*25/6/2025*

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

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