

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, ROURKELA CIRCLE, AT/P.O. PANPOSH, ROURKELA-769 004.

Memo No. 782 /3F(Misc)791/2021 Date: 08-03-2022

To

The Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act), O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub:

Proposal for diversion of 42.608 ha. of forest land (16.658 ha. in Keonjhar Division and 25.950 ha. in Bonai Division) within Kalmang West (Northern Part) Iron Ore Block in Keonjhar and Sundargarh District allotted to M/s TATA Steel BSL Limited (Formerly known as Bhushan Steel Limited) u/s 2(ii) of FC Act, 1980, (Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/49169/2020, State Sl. No. OR-58/2020 dated 12.10.2020)

Ref:

- 1) Your Memo No. 20893 Dtd.06.12.2021.
- 2) Memo No. 1733 Dtd.25.02.2022 of the DFO, Bonai Division

3) Memo No.1489 Dtd.25.02.2022 of the DFO, Keonjhar Division.

With reference to the aforementioned Memos on the captioned subject, both the DFO, Bonai & Keonjhar Division vide their Memo No.1732 Dtd.25.02.2022 & 1488 Dtd.25.02.2022 respectively addressed to the undersigned and copies thereof endorsed to you in the next Memos of even date has submitted the compliance with the deficiencies pointed out vide your aforecited.

The point wise compliance submitted by the DFO, Bonai & Keonjhar Division are as follows:-

1. The project proponent M/s TATA Steel BSL Ltd. has applied permission under Section-2(iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 over 42.608 ha of forest land (16.658 ha in Keonjhar Forest Division and 25.950 ha in Bonai Forest Division). The above proposal has already been forwarded to Govt. of Odisha, FE & CC Dept. for permission under Section-2 (iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide this office memo No.19325 dated 15.11.2021. The UA may be advised to submit proposal under Section-2(ii) of FC Act, 1980 instead of under Section-2(iii) and 2(ii) both.

As reported by both the DFO's of Bonai & Keonjhar Division, the user agency has applied for diversion of 42.608 Ha of forest land including safety zone over 2.382 ha forest land (16.658 Ha in Keonjhar Forest Division and 25.950 Ha in Bonai Forest Division) under section 2(ii) of F C Act 1980 and accordingly, the user agency has changed the Form–A, Part-I and Project Details, which is enclosed in the Forest Diversion Proposal.

2. As per para-7.9 of Chapter-7 of Handbook of Guideline dated 28.03.2019, all mining projects area required to have a 7.5 meter wide peripherial SZ within the mining lease area. But in this instant proposal, the UA has

applied for diversion of 24.802 ha forest land under Section-2(ii) of FC Act, 1980 excluding SZ area of 1.148 ha in case of Bonai Division which is contradictory.

As reported by the DFO, Bonai Division, the User Agency has applied for diversion of 42.608 ha. forest land (16.658 ha. in Keonjhar Division and 25.950 ha. in Bonai Forest Division including 1.148 ha. towards Safety Zone) under section-2 (ii) of FC Act,1980. Necessary change in the application has been made online. Part-II of the application & Site Inspection Report have also been revised by the DFO, Bonai Division. Revised Site Inspection Report has also been uploaded in the portal.

3. 512 number of trees have been enumerated over 16.658 ha of forest land pertaining to Keonjhar Division. But the RCCF Rourkela Circle and DFO Keonjhar Division reported in Site Inspection Report that 433 number of trees have been enumerated.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, total 512 numbers of trees have been enumerated in the applied forest area of 16.658 Ha in Keonjhar Forest Division which are above 30cm girth. Out of the above 512 nos of trees, 449 nos. of trees have been enumerated in the applied forest area and the rest 63 number of trees comes within the Safety Zone area of Keonjhar Forest Division.

4. The Site Specific CA and Additional CA scheme should be prepared as per the guidelines issued by this office Memo No 18833 dated 08.11.2021 and Memo No 20566 dated 01.12.2021.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the CA Scheme over 42.608 ha in Non-Forest land & over 44.002 ha in degraded forest land has been revised as per guidelines issued by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha vide his Letter No.18833, dated 08.11.2021 and Memo No.20566, dated 01.12.2021 which are enclosed in the Forest Diversion Proposal.

The aforesaid diversion proposal re-submitted by the DFO, Keonjhar & Bonai Division are submitted herewith in triplicate for taking further necessary action at your end.

Encl: As above.

Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Rourkela Circle

Memo No.

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Date: 08-03-2022

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Bonai & Keonjhar Division for favour of information and necessary action with reference to their Memo No. 1732 Dtd.25.02.2022 & 1488 Dtd.25.02.2022 respectively.

Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Rourkela Circle