



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

ବନଖଣ୍ଡ ଅଧିକାରୀ ତଥା ବନ୍ୟପ୍ରାଣୀ ଡ଼ଭାବଧାରକଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ, କଟକ ବନଖଣ୍ଡ , କଟକ

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Memo No 3619 / 5F/ (Forest Diversion) 37/2022

Dated, Cuttack the 09th May 2025.

To .

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

Sub: -

Proposal for diversion of balance forest land of 746.3325 ha in favour of M/s OMC Ltd. within total land of 846.3995 ha located within approved Mining lease area of 1018.3085 ha for Iron Ore Mining in Daitari Mining lease in Cuttack Forest Division of Jajpur District and Keonjhar (WL) Division of Keonjhar District, Odisha-reg.

Ref: -

Your good office Memo No.2026 dt.10.06.2024.

With reference to your memo cited above on the captioned subject, this is to inform you that, the point-wise compliance in respect of the observations raised by Govt. of India, MoEF & CC is furnished below.

Observation No.1- The revised KML of project area along with attributes of forest and non-forest area & ownership/managing agency;

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, the revised KML of project area over 405.26 ha [Forest: 344.25 ha (Diverted: 95.60 ha + Virgin: 248.65 ha) + Non-forest: 61.01 ha] is enclosed **Annexure-I**. The attributes of forest and non-forest area & ownership / managing agency is given below. The authenticated details of the same are enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

Sl. No.	Name of the area	Area in Ha	Managed by	Remarks
1	Daitari Protected Forest (PF)	102.25	Forest Dept.	PF part of area proposed for Diversion
2	Daitari PF	36.346	Forest Dept.	Approved by MoEF& CC
Total		138.596		

Observation No.2- Updated report on the number and species of trees affected after reassessment of the reduced area (forest as well as non-forest area) recommended by the ICFRE for taking up mining activities.

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, out of the reduced area of 405.26 ha recommended by ICFRE over an area of 138.596 ha of forest land is coming under Cuttack Forest Division.

(Contd....P/2)

As per the tree enumeration list carried out over 138.596 ha of forest land; 57501 no. of trees standing in area coming under in Cuttack Forest Division will be affected due to mining and ancillary activities. The detail tree enumeration has been is enclosed as **Annexure-III**

Observation No.3- A considered opinion on impact of mining operations on 28 rare, endangered and threatened species found in the area and mitigation measures proposed for their conservation and protection.

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, It is submitted that ICFRE vide F. No. 1-99/2019-ADG (EM)/IOM-DML (WL)-ICFRE/1101 dt. 15.07.2024 has submitted a suitable reply referring Chapter-7, Section 7.3.1.1 of their final report. The copy of the letter by ICFRE with enclosures is given as **Annexure-III** for kind perusal.

In the said letter, threat to 27 RET species (out of 28) has been suggested to be mitigated through in-situ conservation. One species named *Entada rheedai* has been suggested to be protected through *ex-situ* conservation and for this, a species-specific conservation plan is required to be prepared and implemented. Hence, in line with the suggestion, a request has been made before DFO, Keonjhar WL Division vide letter no. 7857 dt. 17.05.2025, copy of the letter is enclosed as **Annexure – IV**.

Observation No.4- *Comments and recommendations of the Water Resource Department on the impact of the mining on the local hydrological regime in the and around the lease area on the proposed mining may be submitted by the State.*

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, the Department of Water Resources, Govt. of Odisha has recommended on the local hydrological regime in the and around the lease area on the proposed mining vide his letter No. 35618, dt. 26.12.2024, which is enclosed as **Annexure-V** and an undertaking has been given by the user agency to adhere the recommendations made by Water Resource Department is enclosed as **Annexure-VI**.

Observation No.5- A summary of the total mining leases approved under the Adhiniyam vis-à-vis their approved peak capacity and production level actually achieved in general and in r/o OMC leases in particular. The State Government shall also submit its comments on opening of such a huge area having sensitive conservation issues vis-a-vis the target of production and estimated shortfall in coming years;

(Contd....P/3)

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, a summary of total mining leases approved under the Adhiniyam with their approved peak capacity and production level actually achieved during FY 2024-25 of mining leases of OMC is enclosed as **Annexure-VII**.

Further it is submitted that, the user agency vide letter No. 10642/OMC/F&E/2024 requested the Director of Mining & Geology, Department of Steel and Mines, Govt. of Odisha to share its comments on opening of such a huge area having sensitive conservation issues vis-a-vis the target of production and estimated shortfall in coming years to submit with MoEF & CC, Govt. of India to comply the condition. The Dept. of Steel and Mines, Govt. of Odisha has shared his comments on the justification of using the reduced area within Daitari ML considering the conservation issues and production and estimated shortfall in coming years. The copy of the letter is enclosed as **Annexure-VIII**. It has been clarified that following the Viksit Bharat Vision Document, the target for production of Iron Ore would be about 250 Million tonnes and 320 million tonnes by the end of 2036 & 2047 respectively. To achieve the huge target of 320 MMT by 2047, around 403 Sq. Kms of iron Ore bearing land would be required to be brought under mining operations. Currently, M/s OMC Ltd. contributes 20% of the total iron ore production in the State. Following, the same pace and ratio of production, the M/s OMC Ltd. would be required to produce at least 64 MMT of Ore annually in order to contribute towards the target production of 320 MMT by 2047.

Observation No.6- The revised mining plan for reduced area recommended by the ICFRE in its report, may be provided by the State Government.

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, It is submitted that the Mining Plan (MP) already approved by IBM vide letter No.BBS/JJP/ IRON/2197/MRMP/2022-23 dt 28.11.2022 over the ML area of 1018.3085 ha has been revised and approved vide letterNo. RMP-2308/2024-25-IBM_RO_BBSdt. 26.12.2024considering the mine working till conceptual period confined to the revised area of 405.26 ha recommended by ICFRE out of the total ML area over 1018.3085 ha. The copy of the revised approved MP by IBM showing mine working within the reduced area recommended by ICFRE is enclosed as **Annexure-IX**.

Observation No.7- The revised cost benefit analysis after accounting the EG & S being lost and net economic gains from project to be submitted by the State.

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, the revised cost benefit analysis accounting the EG & S being lost and net economic gains from project is enclosed as **Annexure-X**.


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Observation No.8- The ICFRE has recommended mining over reduced area which was further suggested to be reduced by the Sub-Committee of AC. The State Government and user agency may comment on the economic feasibility of mining operations over reduced area.

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, the comment on the economic feasibility of mining operation over reduced area is enclosed as **Annexure-XI**.

This is for favour of kind information & necessary action.


Encl: -As above.


Divisional Forest Officer,
Cuttack Forest Division.

Memo No. 5620 /dt. 09.07.2025
Copy submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act, O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 1027 dt. 10.06.2024 of RCCF, Angul Circle, Angul to his address.


Divisional Forest Officer,
Cuttack Forest Division.

Memo No. 5621 /dt. 09.07.2025
Copy submitted to the Managing Director, Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd., Odisha, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action with reference to his letter No.7917 dt. 19.05.2025.


Divisional Forest Officer,
Cuttack Forest Division.