

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

/3F(Misc)-817/2021 Date: 11-03-2022

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 22.697 ha of Sabik Kissam forest land within the total mining lease area of 456.037 ha (As per DGPS Survey) of Jilling-Langalota Iron Ore Mines of M/s OMC Ltd of Keonjhar District.

X-Sub:

Submission of compliance report.

Ref:

1. Your Memo No.22329 Dtd.24.12.2021.

2. This office Memo No.3917 Dtd.30.12.2021.

3. Memo No. 1587 Dtd.03.03.2022 of DFO, Keonjhar Division

With reference to the aforementioned Memos on the captioned subject, the DFO, Keonjhar Division vide his Memo No.1586 Dtd.03.03.2022 addressed to this office & copy thereof endorsed to you in the next Memo of even date has submitted the compliance with the deficiencies observed vide your Memo No. 22329 Dtd.24.12.2021 in respect of the aforementioned proposal which may kindly be perused.

The point wise compliance submitted by the DFO, Keonjhar Division is as follows:-

1. Detailed land schedule mentioning village wise Khata No, Plot No, Kissam of forest and non-forest land along with abstract coming within Mining lease area not furnished.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the detailed land schedule mentioning village wise Khata No., Plot No., Kissam of forest and non-forest land along with abstract coming within Mining lease area has been furnished vide Annexure-I.

2. Detailed land schedule mentioning village wise Khata No, Plot No, Kissam of forest and non-forest land along with abstract in respect of diversion proposal is wanting.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the detailed land schedule mentioning village wise Khata No, Plot No, Kissam of forest and non-forest land has been given at page No. 193 d & 193 e of Annexure-IX of the DP. There is no non-forest Govt. land included in the instant proposal for diversion.

3. Shape/ KML file of the DGPS survey of mining lease area vetted by ORSAC not furnished.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the shape/ KML file of the DGPS survey of mining lease area duly vetted by ORSAC has been given in the form of a CD and enclosed in the DRP.

4. Shape/ KML file of the identified non-forest government land for Compensatory Afforestation is wanting.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the shape/ KML file of the identified non-forest government land for Compensatory Afforestation has been given in the form of a CD and enclosed in the DRP.

Scheme for Compensatory Afforestation required to be prepared and resubmitted as per the guidelines issued vide O.O. No. 1109 dated 08.11.2021, Memo No. 20565 dated 01.12.2021 & Memo No. 21393 dated 13.12.2021 of the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the scheme for Compensatory Afforestation has been prepared and re-submitted as per the guidelines issued vide No. 1109 dated 08.11.2021, Memo No. 20565 dated 01.12.2021 & Memo No. 21393 dated 13.12.2021 of the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha. The copy of the scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-XIV** in the DP.

 Map showing Wildlife Sanctuary, National Park, Bioshpere Reserve, Elephant Reserve and Eco Sensitive Zone and their distance from the mining lease area is not enclosed in the diversion proposal.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the map showing Wildlife Sanctuary, National Park, Bioshpere Reserve, Elephant Reserve and Eco Sensitive Zone and their distance from the mining lease area is enclosed as **Annexure-II** in the DP.

7. Compliance to the stipulated conditions of Stage-II/Final approval accorded by the GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi on 08.10.2014 for diversion of 342.602 ha of forest land (excluding of forest land of the lease acquired for Daitari-Banspani-Rail Link from total 369.592 ha of forest land in the lease) for mining & allied activities including 65.108 ha of safety zone in mining lease area of 456.100 ha of Jilling Langlota Iron & Mn. Mines by M/s Essel mining Industries Ltd. in Keonjhar District duly signed by the DFO and RCCF not furnished.

The Compliance with the stipulated conditions of Stage-II/Final approval accorded by the Government of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi on 08.10.2014 for diversion of 342.602 ha of forest land (excluding of forest land of the lease acquired for Daitari-Banspani-Rail Link from total 369.592 ha of forest land in the lease) for mining & allied activities including 65.108 ha of safety zone in mining lease area of 456.100 ha of Jilling Langlota Iron & Mn. Mines by M/s Essel mining Industries Ltd. in Keonjhar District which has been duly signed by the undersigned and enclosed vide **Annexure-III**.

8. The status of forest clearance as regards to use of forest land for South Eastern Railway Line coming within the mining lease area not furnished. Further, the details of land schedule village wise, Khata No., Plot No., Kissam of forest and non-forest land along with abstract not furnished in respect of Railway line.

The DFO, Keonjhar Division has furnished the copy of the stage-II forest clearance accorded by MoEF &CC, Govt. of India vide letter No. 8-56/93 –FC dt. 09.03.1994 got diversion of 94.2642 ha of forest land in Phase-I from Bansapani to Jaroli in favour of South Eastern Railways for construction of railway line is for kind perusal. This 94.2642 ha of forest land includes the Railway acquired area coming within Jiling-Longalota Iron Ore Mines of OMC. The details of land schedule indicating name of the village, Khata No., Plot No., Kissam along with abstract has been furnished for kind information. The aforesaid letter of approval and the land details are enclosed as **Annexure-IV series**.

9. There is ambiguity as to whether 5.76 ha of forest kissam of land used for dumping and vehicle shed by the ex-lessee and is continuing for the same land use by the user agency without prior approval from MoEF &CC, GoI Under Section-2(ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is included in the present application for diversion proposal of 22.697 ha.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, during Site Inspection of the proposed forest land applied for diversion, it was found that Sabik Kissam forest land over 5.76 ha was used as dump and vehicle shed by the earlier lessee i.e. M/s Essel Mining & Industries Ltd. in absence of forest clearance under section 2(ii) of FC Act, 1980. The same land use is being continued by the new lessee i.e the present lessee, M/s OMC Ltd, since March, 2021. The same 5.76 ha of Sabik Kissam forest land is included in present application for diversion proposal of 22.697 ha.

Further, as reported him, the Collector & District Magistrate, Keonjhar has been requested to take necessary legal action as deem proper for the said violation vide his office letter No. 7856 dated 06.11.2021 (Copy enclosed).

Purpose wise breakup of the land use of forest and non-forest land 10. involved in the diversion proposal is wanting.

The DFO, Keonjhar Division has reported that the Purpose wise breakup of the land use of forest and non-forest land involved in the diversion proposal has been given at page No. 8 of the DP.

The authorized signatory of the user agency has not signed all the documents and maps. In view of the above, the diversion proposal is returned herewith for re-submission with necessary compliance at an early date.

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, the authorized signatory of the User Agency has signed all the documents and maps and resubmitted for kind recommendation.

The diversion proposal resubmitted by the DFO, Keonjhar Division is forwarded herewith in triplicate for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Encl: As above.

Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Rourkela Circle

Date: 11-03-2022 Memo No. 820

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Division for information and necessary with reference to his Memo No.1586 Dtd. 03.03.2021.

Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle