

## STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest and Environment Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Minutes of the meeting held on 07.02.2018 by Addl.PCCF (Central), MoEF & CC with State Government and Mining Department in Eastern Regional Office, BBSR: Taking a holistic view on operating mines in the Daitari Mining areas of Jajpur district and its impact on corridor connectivity and bio-diversity of the areas with reference to Daitari Iron Ore proposal of OMC.

Ref: Memo No. 5074/F&E dated 03.03.2018 and 8470/F&E dated 12.04.2018 of the Special Secretary to Government, F&E Department.

Sir.

In inviting a reference to F&E Department memos cited above on the captioned subject, the following point-wise compliances as sought for are furnished below:-

<u>Condition No.(i):-</u> State Government in consultation with Regional Office shall take a holistic view of all mines existing in that area and analyse how this mine along with other existing mines in the area will affect the corridor connectivity and biodiversity value of the area.

In compliance to the above, the minutes of the meeting held on 07.02.2018 by Addl.PCCF (Central), MoEF & CC with State Government and Mining Department in Eastern Regional Office, BBSR, communicated by the Government in F&E Department vide No.10F (Cons)37/2018 -5074 dated 03.03.2018where in necessary compliance was sought for basing on Point No. 11 of GoI, MoEF & CC, ERO, BBSR Letter dated 12.02.2018, the PCCF(WL) & CWLW, Odisha Bhubaneswar vide his Memo No. 2685 dated 21.03.2018 addressed to this office and copy thereof endorsed to the Special Secretary to Government, F&E Department vide next memo of even date has furnished the expenditure of funds under CAMPA (Regional Wildlife Management Plan and Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan (Wildlife Management) which is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

Similarly, the RCCF, Angul Circle vide his Memo No. 1964 dated 10.04.2018 addressed to this office has enclosed a copy of memo No. 3256 dated 09.04.2018 of DFO, Cuttack Forest Division wherein the DFO has furnished a statement showing allotment & expenditure of Regional Wildlife Management Plan under CAMPA Funds (WL) of Cuttack Forest Division as

well as allotment & expenditure statement of CAMPA APO wise Site-Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan (Item wise) is enclosed as Annexure-II Series.

As regards Point No. 12 of the GoI, MoEF & CC, ERO, BBSR Letter dated 12.02.2018, the DFO, Cuttack Forest Division vide his memo no. 3256 dated 09.04.2018 addressed to the RCCF, Angul Circle (Copy enclosed as Annexure-II Series) has reported that there is no Elephant and Tiger Corridor passing through or nearby Daitari Mining Lease area of M/s OMC Ltd. Further, the area has been inspected by the DFO, Cuttack Forest Division on 08.04.2018. The only non-forest patch available in the village limit of Talapada is mostly agriculture in nature used by local tribe. The villagers of the said village depend on the crop for most part of the year towards their livelihood. Hence, such area shall not be allowed to be covered under plantation. The entire area proposed for corridor comes under Rebena Reserved Forest having very high density of trees. There is no scope for any plantation in this part of the area adjoining Daitari Mining Lease.

Condition No.(ii): - It is reported that a big patch of Gramya Jungle was found without vegetative cover, which was abnormal considering the dense canopy of the adjacent forest, the area is adjacent to village Talapada. Approximately 28.67 ha of Gramya Jungle coming within the lease area. The State Government shall enquire the reason for less vegetation in the lease area under the control of the user agency and submit the report to the ministry.

In compliance to the above, the DFO, Keonjhar (WL) Division, Anandapur vide his memo no. 257 dated 01.02.2018 (Copy enclosed as Annexure-III) has reported that the area is adjacent to village Talapada. During field inspection, the area was verified in detail and approximately 28.67 ha of Gramya Jungle coming within the lease hold area was found to be podu/jhoom/shifting cultivation ravaged. So, it amounts to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as podu/jhoom/shifting cultivation within the lease hold area is a non-forestry activity which has already been mentioned in the diversion proposal.

In view of the above, the point wise compliance in 3(three) sets is sent herewith for consideration and onward transmission to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change for according necessary approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Encl: As above

8

Yours faithfully,

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,

Odisha

164

Memo No. 9270 /Dt. 27 4-18

30

Copy forwarded to the FD, STR-cum-RCCF Baripada/RCCF, Angul/RCCF, Bhawanipatna/DFO, Cuttack/DFO/Kalahandi(South)/DFO, Keonjhar(WL) divisions for information and necessary action with reference F&E Department Memo No. 8472/F&E dated 12.04.2018 to their address.

Deputy Conservator of Forests, (Nodal)

Memo No. 927 /Dt. 27-4-18

Copy forwarded to the Managing Director, OMC Ltd, OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001 for information and necessary action with reference F&E Department Memo No. 8473/F&E dated 12.04.2018 to his address.

Deputy Conservator of Forests, (Nodal)