

**SITE INSPECTON REPORT OF DFO, SUNDARGARH**

1	Name of Project	Diversion of <b>227.62 ha</b> of forest land of <b>Basundhara (Extension) Open cast Coal Mining Project of Mahalaxmi Area of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited</b>			
2	Proposal No	<b>FP/OR/MIN/20559/2016</b>			
3	Name of District / Division	Sundargarh/ Sundargarh Forest Division			
4	Date of Inspection	<b>11.05.2024</b>			
5	Name and Designation of Inspecting Officer	Sri Pradeep Mirase, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer, Sundargarh Forest Division, Sundargarh (Odisha).			
6	Name and Designation of other officers who attended the inspection including representatives of the user agency	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sri Dinesh Chandra Kundu, GM, Mahalaxmi Area of MCL.</li> <li>2. Sri Prabhanjan Nayak, PO, Basundhara (West) OCP of Mahalaxmi Area MCL.</li> <li>3. Sri Raji Joshua, Area Environment Officer, Mahalaxmi Area of MCL.</li> <li>4. Sri P.C Mishra, Area Survey Officer, Mahalaxmi Area of MCL.</li> <li>5. Sri Sujay Das, Nodal Officer ( E&amp;F) Mahalaxmi Area of MCL.</li> <li>6. Sri Harihar Patra, Range Officer, Gopalpur Range.</li> <li>7. Sri Mitrabhanu Patel, Forester, Duduka Section.</li> <li>8. Sri Ullasha Patel, Forester Gopalpur Section.</li> <li>9. Sri Lelin Kumar Patel, Forester I/C Gopalpur Beat.</li> </ol>			
7	Legal status of forest land with area proposed for diversion	Revenue Forest Land& Reserve Forest land& Revenue land.			
8	Item wise breakup of forest land proposed for diversion	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Reserve Forest (in ha)</b>	<b>Revenue Forest (in ha)</b>	<b>Total in (ha)</b>
		Diversion of forest land for non-forestry use in respect of B(W) Extension OCP.	<b>6.062</b>	<b>221.558</b>	<b>227.62</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>6.062</b>	<b>221.558</b>	<b>227.62</b>



9	Condition of vegetation and type of forest applied area	<p>Degraded Forest growth having density involved in the diversion proposal is as follows:</p> <p>1. Reserve Forest:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="620 409 1490 629"> <thead> <tr> <th>Reserve Forest</th> <th>Area in ha</th> <th>Canopy Density</th> <th>Eco-Class</th> <th>Forest growth</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Jamkani (RF)</td> <td>6.062</td> <td>0.5-0.6</td> <td>II</td> <td>VDF/DF</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:-</td> <td>6.062</td> <td>0.5-0.6</td> <td>II</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2. Revenue Forest:-</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="620 683 1490 1032"> <thead> <tr> <th>Village</th> <th>Area in ha</th> <th>Canopy Density</th> <th>Eco-Class</th> <th>Forest growth</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Gopalpur</td> <td>184.622</td> <td>0.3-0.4</td> <td>II</td> <td>Open Forest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ratansara</td> <td>36.936</td> <td>0.3-0.4</td> <td>II</td> <td>Open Forest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:-</td> <td>221.558</td> <td>0.3-0.4</td> <td>II</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Reserve Forest	Area in ha	Canopy Density	Eco-Class	Forest growth	Jamkani (RF)	6.062	0.5-0.6	II	VDF/DF	Total:-	6.062	0.5-0.6	II		Village	Area in ha	Canopy Density	Eco-Class	Forest growth	Gopalpur	184.622	0.3-0.4	II	Open Forest	Ratansara	36.936	0.3-0.4	II	Open Forest	Total:-	221.558	0.3-0.4	II	
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10	Position of Wildlife in general	Movement of Wildlife like Fox, Wild Boar, Rabbit, Jungle Cat, Jungle Hen etc, was reported by Forester as well as surveyors. However, there is spare presence & movement in the area.																																			
11	Whether the applied area is involved with any eco-sensitive area / national park/ sanctuary	No																																			
12	No. of trees to be felled and its impact on the systems	57113 trees are needed to be felled in phase manner at page-40(c) in D/P.																																			
13	Details of broken up area and reclamation done if any.	Not applicable																																			
14	Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation, if any.	The displacement of people like- 119nos. of ST, 60 nos. of SC & Others-40 nos. of Village Gopalpur & 70nos. ST, 35 nos. of SC & 12 nos. of Others of Village Ratansara involved in the Project at page-153 in D/P.																																			



15	Position of rare and endangered species available of importance of area from eco-social point of view.	Available important species in the area i.e Char, Mahul, Tentuli, Mango, Kendu & Bel, etc. The nearby forest dependent communities collect the seeds, fruits, leaves, etc, of these trees.
16	Non forest land used in the project and non-forest land selected for compensatory afforestation is included in the D.L.C. report or not.	Non-Forest land-45.010ha involved in the project. The Compensatory Afforestation land identify by the DFO, Koraput over 457.22Ha of degraded forest land in Sunki PRF-45.160Ha, Raledega-PRF(Patch-I)-100.229Ha, Raledega-PRF(Patch-II)-94.979Ha, Raledega-PRF(Patch-III)-21.090Ha of Similiguda Range, Bhimdol RF-107.078Ha, Kavidimal RF-41.006Ha of Balda Range & Chandalbuda RF-47.678Ha of Koraput Range in Kuraput Forest Division at page-94 in D/P.
17	Suitability of the identified non forest area for compensatory afforestation.	The DFO, Koraput Forest Division has provide the suitability certificate over 457.22Ha of degraded forest land at page-94 in D/P.
18	Violation of forest (Conservation) Act 1980 if any and action taken thereof	<p>1. No violation over the forest land by the User Agency, as such. However, during the field visit it was found that there were open pits from where coal was mined. There were, 12 nos. of illegal coal mining sites over the Revenue Forest area near village-Telendihi. It was observed that few of the areas were mined some 4-5 years back &amp; now those pits were not under mining. A few sites, fresh coal mining, mainly by manual mode and one coal dump was also observed. On further going inside, 2 nos. of red brick kilns were seen operating over Revenue Forest land of Gopalpur Range. Range Officer, Gopalpur range has intimated the matter to the concerned Tahasildar for necessary action at his end vide his Memo No.258 dt.11.05.2024.</p> <p>(The copy of Range Officer, Gopalpur report along with GPS Co-ordinate is attached separately).</p> <p>2. Drone survey was done to check different illegal mining sites &amp; it was found that at about 11 places, such mining pits were present.</p> <p>( Photos are attached herewith)</p>

Date: - 13/05/2024

Place: Sundargarh

  
 Signature  
 DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER  
 SUNDARGARH FOREST DIVISION





**OFFICE OF THE FOREST RANGE OFFICER GOPALPUR RANGE, GOPALPUR**

Email: -rangeofficergopalpur@gmail.com

Memo No- 258 <sup>(G)</sup> /Dt.11.05.2024

To

The Tahasildar Hemgir.

Sub: - Information regarding Illegal Coal-Mining operation work & Red Bricks production unit inside Gopalpur Revenue Forest area near village Telendihi.

Sir,

On the above captioned subject, It is to inform you that, while performing patrolling with my other Forest Staffs on dt.11.05.2024 inside Gopalpur Revenue Forest area near village Telendihi. We found approx 12 nos site where a huge quantity of illegal coal mining operation work done from previous 3-4 years and same is continuing till now & also 2 nos site found where a huge quantity of illegally red bricks making work is going on.

Since the area coming under revenue land it is requested to you that the matter needs further enquiry & action, as deem proper, may be taken to check such illegal activities against the involved persons. The Geo-Coordinates of the above 14 nos site has given below for your reference.

Enclosure :- Details of 14 nos site enclosed in separate sheet.

Yours faithfully

*Handwritten signature*  
11-5-24  
Forest Range Officer  
Gopalpur Range  
Forest Range Officer  
Gopalpur Range

**Memo No. 259 <sup>(G)</sup> / Dt.11.05.2024**

Copy forwarded to Divisional Forest Officer, Sundargarh Forest Division for favour of kind information and necessary action.



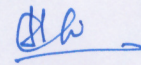
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*Handwritten signature*  
11-5-24  
Forest Range Officer  
Gopalpur Range  
Forest Range Officer  
Gopalpur Range



**Details of illegal coal-mining and illegal red bricks manufacturing unit found near village Telendihi inside Revenue Forest Land.**

S.N.	Latitude	Longitude	Remarks
1	22.069369	83.69991	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work
2	22° 04' 07"	83° 42' 0"	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work
3	22.069047	83.699305	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work
4	22.069533	83.698768	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work
5	22.069482	83.696649	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work
6	22.069296	83.694959	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work
7	22.067806	83.696529	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work
8	22.067514	83.699257	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work
9	22.068314	83.697336	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work
10	22° 04' 07"	83° 42' 07"	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work
11	22° 04' 01"	83° 42' 06"	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work
12	22.065316	83.680459	Illegal Red-Bricks Making unit
13	22° 04' 14"	83° 40' 34"	Illegal Red-Bricks Making unit
14	22° 04' 06"	83° 41' 27"	Illegal Coal-Mining Operation work



Forest Range Officer  
Gopalpur Range



Photographs of illegal coal mining area.



*Ghosh*  
Forest Range Officer  
Gopalpur Range