



STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS, ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HoFF
PLOT NO. GD-2/12, ARANYA BHAWAN, CHANDRASEKHARPUR
BHUBANESWAR-751023

E-mail:- nodal.pccfodisha@gmail.com

No.

/9F (MG) – 18/2015

Dated, Bhubaneswar the

October' 2025

From

Dr. K. Murugesan, IFS

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests

(Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act)

O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar

To

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (F.C. Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road

New Delhi-110003

Sub:- Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2(1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of balance forest land of 89.961 ha (Fresh area 79.367 ha and 10.594 ha earlier diverted area for renewal and land use change) (Originally proposed area of 84.707 ha) in favour of Sri Avin Jain (Heir of Late Shri D.C.Jain) for mining of Iron and Manganese Ore in Dalpahar Iron and Manganese Ore mines located in Baitarani RF II, District Keonjhar (Odisha) – Compliance to Advisory Committee observations dated 06.10.2025 regarding.

Ref:- F.No. 8-31/2015-FC dated 06.10.2025 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Sir,

Apropos to the subject cited above, this is to inform that Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (FC Division), New Delhi has requested to furnish compliance to Advisory Committee observations vide letter dated 06.10.2025. The compliance is furnished below:-

Observation No. (i) :- The 10.594 hectare area which is already diverted is represented by multiple small, scattered patches throughout the proposed lease, rather than as a single consolidated block. Therefore, the State shall verify the precise location of the 10.594 hectares of diverted area and submit a detailed layout of the same supported by documentary evidence.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, it is to inform that the Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Mining lease, over 251.00 acres or 101.171 ha, was previously granted to M/s M.A. Tulloch & Co (P) Ltd, in Dec 1956, for the excavation of manganese ore, and for many years the mining was carried out by the lessees up to July 1972. Thereafter, the work was dispensed with. Surface Right was granted in a phased manner from 1956 to 1964. Number of quarries over an area of 16.464 ha were developed by M/s M.A. Tulloch & Co (P) Ltd. As the mining was carried out manually during those days, only float manganese ores visible at the surface were extracted and hence, the workings are found in small and scattered patches instead of a single consolidated block, as is generally observed in present-day mechanized mining of Iron and Manganese Ore.

This lease was subsequently granted for a period of 20 years and was executed on 09.06.1986 for Iron and Manganese Ore in favour of Shri D. C. Jain. The lease comprised a total forest area of 101.171 hectares. A forest diversion proposal over 97.084 ha (101.171 ha - 4.087 ha safety zone along the ML boundary) was submitted to the Government of India, MoEF, New Delhi for consideration vide F&E Department Letter No. 14739/F&E dated 14.09.2000. The areas already mined out (broken up) by M/s M.A. Tulloch & Co. (P) Ltd. prior to 1980 were jointly verified by officials from the Mining, Forest and Revenue Departments in September 1999 with detailed forward/ backward bearings, and distances from pillar to pillar were recorded for 10 blocks and shown in plan (Copy enclosed as **Annexure-I**), while filing the diversion proposal under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Based on the said report, final approval of Government of India, MoEF was obtained for 16.469 ha vide F.No. 8-103/2000-FC dated 14.11.2005 (Copy enclosed as **Annexure II**) only for the broken area.

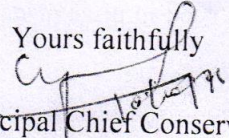
As per the FAC observations cited above, the total area of the present mining lease of M/s D C Jain is 89.961 ha, which comprises 79.367 ha of virgin forest land and 10.594 ha of already broken & diverted forest area in Baitarani RF under Keonjhar Forest division. The precise location of the area has been verified repeatedly in the past and present, not only by the State Government alone but by the Regional Office of Bhubaneswar. Surveys were carried out by joint teams, and the DGPS survey has been vetted by the Odisha Space Application Center. The documents in support of the above are as below:-

- A) The area was jointly verified in September 1999 by mining and forest officials, with detailed forward and backward bearings. A copy of the same alongwith the authenticated map duly signed by all concerned is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.
- B) A copy of the Stage-I/in-principle letter dated 28.11.2002 and Final approval order dated 14.11.2005 of 16.469 ha of diverted land (broken up) by Govt. of India, MoEF, New Delhi is enclosed as **Annexure II Series**.
- C) The map showing the details of the diverted land (broken up) totaling to 10.594 ha within the Mining Lease of Dalpahar Iron & Mining (Block-A) over 89.961 ha duly signed by all concerned is enclosed as **Annexure-III**. Further, the user agency has submitted a drone survey map showing the mining lease area of Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Ore mines over 89.961 ha with superimposing of already diverted area over 10.594 ha (already broken up) which is enclosed as **Annexure-III A**.
- D) The map showing DGPS survey and joint verification by Forest, Revenue and mining officials with vetting by ORSAC in 2014 is enclosed as **Annexure IV**.
- E) A copy of the Site Inspection Report by DFO Keonjhar on dated 11.04.2015 attached as **Annexure-V**.
- F) A copy of the Site Inspection Report of the Regional Office, Govt. of India, MoEF & CC, Bhubaneswar on 07.01.2025 is enclosed as **Annexure-VI**.

In view of the above, the compliance to the Advisory Committee observations of GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi dated 06.10.2025 is sent herewith for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Encl: Compliance in one set

Yours faithfully


Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)

Memo No. /Dt.

Copy forwarded to the Dy. Director General of Forests (Central), MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to F.No. 8-31/2015-FC dated 06.10.2025 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Memo No.

20747

/Dt.

10.10.2025
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy alongwith the compliance report forwarded to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to F.No. 8-31/2015-FC dated 06.10.2025 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Encl: Compliance in one set

Memo No.

/Dt.

10/10/2025
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle for information and necessary action.

Memo No.

/Dt.

10/10/2025
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Forest Division for information and necessary action.

Memo No.

/Dt.

10/10/2025
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to Avin Jain, POA, C/o Dharamchand Jain (Mining Lessee), Dharam Villa, 12-A, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Ring Road, Lajpat Nagar IV, New Delhi-110024 for information and necessary action with reference to F.No. 8-31/2015-FC dated 06.10.2025 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

10/10/2025
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

HS 82

55-10-450

**BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION OF THE BROKEN UP AREAS WITHIN THE M.L. AREA OF
DHARAMCHAND JAIN OVER 250.00 ACRES OR 101.171 HECTS. IN FIVE BLOCKS IN
DALPAHAR (BAITARNI R.F. NO. III) P.S. JODA IN CHAMPUA SUB-DIVISION OF
KEONJHAR DISTRICT.**

block-I (AREA - 5.095 HECTS.)

The broken up pillar No. 1 of block-I is itself the boundary line pillar No. 1 of Block-A

STATION POINT	BEARING		INTERIOR ANGLE		DISTANCE (IN MTRS.)
	DEGREE	MINUTE	DEGREE	MINUTE	
1 to 2	136	05		46 05	220.00
2 to 3				226 10	90.00
3 to 4				249 05	192.00
4 to 5				106 50	160.00
5 to 6				93 50	68.50
6 to 7				100 30	102.50
7 to 8				208 30	87.00
8 to 9				197 00	73.00
9 to 10				152 00	112.50
10 to 11				141 30	157.00
11 to 12				113 30	68.50
12 to 1				165 00	143.00

block-II (AREA - 1.598 HECTS.)

The broken up pillar No. 1 of block-I is situated at a distance of 16 Mtrs. From B.P. No. 17 of Block-A

STATION POINT	BEARING		INTERIOR ANGLE		DISTANCE (IN MTRS.)
	DEGREE	MINUTE	DEGREE	MINUTE	
1 to 2	177 00			93 00	24.00
2 to 3				136 00	58.00
3 to 4				156 30	68.00
4 to 5				147 00	80.00
5 to 6				219 00	58.00
6 to 7				125 30	47.00
7 to 8				53 30	129.00
8 to 9				197 30	38.00
9 to 10				120 00	40.00
10 to 11				273 00	20.00
11 to 1				99 00	89.00

Divisional Forest Officer
Kendughar Division

Chief Surveyor
& Mining Circle
JODA

ATTORNEY

Forest Officer
Champua Range

Deputy Director, Mines,
Joda, Dist-Keonjhar

block-III (AREA - 0.931 HECTS.)

The broken up pillar No.1 of block-III is situated with a bearing of 304 degree 30 minute at a distance of 88 metres from B.P.No.15 of Block-A.

STATION POINT	BEARING		INTERIOR ANGLE		DISTANCE (IN MTRS.)
	DEGREE	MINUTE	DEGREE	MINUTE	
1 to 2	261	00	102	30	88.00
2 to 3			82	30	110.00
3 to 4			91	00	95.00
4 to 1			84	00	98.00

block-IV (AREA - 0.202 HECTS)

The broken up pillar No.1 of block-IV is situated with a bearing of 277 degree 30 minute at a distance of 218 mtrs. From B.P. No.15 of Block-A.

STATION POINT	BEARING		INTERIOR ANGLE		DISTANCE (IN MTRS.)
	DEGREE	MINUTE	DEGREE	MINUTE	
1 to 2	358	00	90	00	40.00
2 to 3			90	00	50.50
3 to 4			90	00	40.00
4 to 1			90	00	50.50

block-V (AREA - 0.769 HECTS.)

The broken up pillar No.1 of block-V is situated with a bearing of 272 degree 30 minute at a distance of 185 mtrs. From B.P. No.14 of Block-A.

STATION POINT	BEARING		INTERIOR ANGLE		DISTANCE (IN MTRS.)
	DEGREE	MINUTE	DEGREE	MINUTE	
1 to 2	267	30	93	00	80.00
2 to 3			82	00	104.00
3 to 4			95	30	72.00
4 to 1			89	30	100.00

(containing 2m)

Division Forest Of.
Kandighat Divis

FOR DHARAMCHAND JAIN
6/9/99
Chief Surveyor
Joda Mining Circle
JODA

ATTORNEY

6/9/99
Forest Range Officer
Champur Range.

Deputy Director, Mines
Joda, Dist-Kecrajhar

block-VI (AREA - 0.769 HECTS.)

The broken up pillar No. 1 of block-VI is situated with a bearing of 245 degree 30 minute at a distance of 262 mtrs. From B.P. No. 14 of Block-A.

STATION POINT	BEARING		INTERIOR ANGLE		DISTANCE (IN MTRS.)
	DEGREE	MINUTE	DEGREE	MINUTE	
1 to 2	174	00	87	30	32.00
2 to 3			96	30	72.00
3 to 4			81	30	36.00
4 to 1			94	30	68.00

block-VII (AREA - 0.223 HECTS.)

The broken up pillar No. 1 of block-VII is situated with a bearing of 314 degree 30 minute at a distance of 172 mtrs. From B.P. No. 10 of Block-A.

STATION POINT	BEARING		INTERIOR ANGLE		DISTANCE (IN MTRS.)
	DEGREE	MINUTE	DEGREE	MINUTE	
1 to 2	22	00	86	00	50.00
2 to 3			75	30	69.00
3 to 4			93	00	28.00
4 to 1			105	30	62.00

block-VIII (AREA - 4.836 HECTS.)

The broken up pillar No. 1 of block-VIII is itself the B.P. No. 4 of Block-B2.

STATION POINT	BEARING		INTERIOR ANGLE		DISTANCE (IN MTRS.)
	DEGREE	MINUTE	DEGREE	MINUTE	
1 to 2	191	15	104	05	85.00
2 to 3			131	30	121.00
3 to 4			210	45	48.00
4 to 5			224	00	128.00
5 to 6			97	00	16.00
6 to 7			219	30	61.00
7 to 8			109	00	58.00
8 to 9			95	30	61.00
9 to 10			220	00	24.00
10 to 11			141	00	58.00
11 to 12			174	00	158.00
12 to 13			197	00	56.00
13 to 14			108	00	84.00
14 to 15			196	00	34.00
15 to 1			112	40	120.00

Divisional Forest Officer
Kendughar Division

Deputy Director, Mines.
Joda, Dist-Keonjhar

FOR DHARAMCHAND JAIN

[Signature]
49/99
Chief Surveyor
Joda Mining Circle
I O D A

ATTORNEY

[Signature]
Forest Range Officer
Champua Range.

block-IX (AREA - 0.607 HECTS.)

The broken up pillar No.1 of block-IX is itself the B.P. No.A of Block B1.

STATION POINT	BEARING		INTERIOR ANGLE		DISTANCE (IN MTRS.)
	DEGREE	MINUTE	DEGREE	MINUTE	
1 to 2		90 00		71 00	97.50
2 to 3				109 00	61.00
3 to 4				71 00	97.50
4 to 1				109 00	61.00

block-X (AREA - 0.678 HECTS)

The broken up pillar No.1 of block-X is situated with a bearing of 106 degree 30 minute at a distance of 127 Mtrs. From B.P.No.2 of Block-A.

STATION POINT	BEARING		INTERIOR ANGLE		DISTANCE (IN MTRS.)
	DEGREE	MINUTE	DEGREE	MINUTE	
1 to 2		193 30		90 00	70.00
2 to 3				98 00	68.50
3 to 4				151 00	35.50
4 to 5				85 30	75.00
5 to 1				115 30	68.00

[Signature]
6/9/99
Chief Surveyor
Joda Mining Circle
JODA
DHARAM CHAND JAIN
ATTORNEY

[Signature]
6/9/99
1999

[Signature]
6/9/99
Forest Range Officer
Champua Range.
Deputy Director, Mines.
Joda, Dist-Keonjhar

[Signature]

Divisional Forest Officer
Kendughur Division

Annex 1

ABSTRACT OF BROKEN UP AREA
LEASE BLOCK "A"

	QUARRY (IN Ha.)	O/B DUMP (IN Ha.)	CAMP (IN Ha.)	ROAD (IN Ha.)	TOTAL (IN Ha.)
block-I	4.185	0.910	NIL	NIL	5.095
block-II	0.931	0.596	NIL	0.071	1.598
block-III	0.536	0.331	NIL	0.064	0.931
block-IV	0.132	0.07	NIL	NIL	0.202
block-V	0.435	0.286	NIL	0.048	0.769
block-VI	0.142	0.091	NIL	NIL	0.233
block-VII	0.223	NIL	NIL	NIL	0.223
block-X	0.344	0.334	NIL	NIL	0.678
OUTSIDE	NIL	NIL	NIL	0.865	0.865
TOTAL	6.928	2.618	NIL	1.048	10.594

LEASE BLOCK "B1"

block-IX	NIL	NIL	0.607	NIL	0.607
OUTSIDE	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	NIL	NIL	0.607	NIL	0.607

LEASE BLOCK "B2"

block-VIII	1.770	3.002	NIL	0.064	4.836
OUTSIDE	NIL	NIL	NIL	0.261	0.261
TOTAL	1.770	3.002	NIL	0.325	5.097

LEASE BLOCK "B3"

OUTSIDE	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

LEASE BLOCK "C"

OUTSIDE	NIL	NIL	NIL	0.166	0.166
TOTAL	NIL	NIL	NIL	0.166	0.166

GRAND TOTAL	8.698	5.620	0.607	1.539	16.464
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(continued)

Divisional Forest Officer
Kendughar Division

FOR DHARAMCHAND JAIN
Surveyor
Mining Circle
JODA

ATTORNEY

6/19/99
Parent Auditor Office
JODA

Forest Range Officer
Champur Range

Deputy Director, Mines.
Joda, Dist-Keonjhar

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, KEONJHAR DIVISION.

NO.

DT.

99.

To

The Deputy Director of Mines,
Joda Circle, Joda.

Sub:-

Submission of map & boundary description of the broken
up forest land within the M.L. area over 101.171 ha.
in vill.-Dalpahar in Baitarani R.P. of Sri D.C.Jain.

Ref:-

Your letter No.13237 dt.9.9.99.

Sir,

It is to inform you that one copy of the broken up
forest area map submitted is countersigned & returned to you
for record.

Enclosure:- As above.

Yours faithfully,

2/11-
Divisional Forest Office
Keonjhar Division.

Memo No. 5358 dt. 10.9.99.

Copy alongwith a copy of broken up area map duly
countersigned forwarded to Sri D.C.Jain, Chaibasa for his informat
and to initiate diversion proposal under P.C.Act, 1980 (A).

1/10/99
Divisional Forest Office
Keonjhar Division.

F. No. 8-103/2000-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(F.C. Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi-110003

Dated : 14th November 2005

To
The Secretary (Forests),
Government of Orissa,
Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Diversion of 16464 ha of forest land (originally proposed 97,084 ha) for mining of iron and manganese ore in favour of M/s D. C. Jain in Keonjhar District, Orissa.

Sir,

Kindly refer to your letter No. 10F(Cons) 71/2000/14739/F&E dated 14.09.2000 and subsequent letter No. 10F(Cons) 65/2002/18564/F&E dated 27.10.2005 whereunder the above proposal was forwarded to this office seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with the Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, the Central Government hereby conveys its approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 16,464 ha of forest land for mining of iron and manganese ore in favour of M/s D. C. Jain in Keonjhar District, Orissa, subject to the fulfilment of following conditions :-

- (i) Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
- (ii) Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised over equivalent non-forest land, and shall be maintained at the project cost.
- (iii) The non-forest land identified for Compensatory Afforestation shall be declared as Reserved Forest/Protected Forest under Indian Forest Act, 1927.
- (iv) Penal Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised over degraded forest land double in extent to the area used in violation, i.e., over 32,928 ha, and shall be maintained at the project cost.
- (v) The mining lease period under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 shall be co-terminus with the current lease granted under MMRD Act, 1957.
- (vi) The State Government should transfer amount of NPV and other funds to Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), which has already been constituted and notified by the Central Government on 23.04.2004. Till such time, the CAMPA intimates the Head of Accounts for deposition of funds, the funds will be maintained in the form of fixed deposits in the name of Nodal Officer or concerned Divisional Forest Officer of the State Government. The funds realized towards the NPV shall not be utilized by the State Government.
- (vii) RCC pillars of 4 feet height shall be erected to demarcate the area by the user agency at the project cost and will be marked with forward and back bearings.

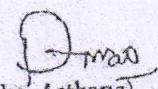
- (viii) The user agency shall raise, fence and maintain a safety zone around the mining area and will also raise and maintain the plantation over an area one and half times in extent of the safety zone at the project cost.
- (ix) The concurrent reclamation plan shall be executed by the user agency from the very 1st year and an annual report shall be sent to the Nodal Officer and the RCCF, Bhubaneswar. If it is found from the annual report that the concurrent reclamation plan is not being adhered to by the user agency, the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, the annual programme is completed for that year.
- (x) The top soil shall be protected at the project cost.
- (xi) Trees shall be felled only when it becomes necessary and that too under strict supervision of State Forest Department, and at the cost of the project.
- (xii) No labour camps shall be established on the forest land.
- (xiii) All necessary measures should be taken by the user agency to protect the environment.
- (xiv) Sufficient firewood shall be provided by the user agency to the labourers at the project cost after purchase from the State Forest Department/Forest Development Corporation.
- (xv) The user agency shall ensure that there should be no damage to the available wildlife.
- (xvi) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- (xvii) The forest land thus diverted shall be non-transferable. Whenever the forest land is not required, it shall be surrendered to the State Forest Department under intimation to this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

(Pankaj Asthana)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar.
2. The Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bhopal.
4. User Agency.
5. Guard file.
6. Monitoring Cell.


(Pankaj Asthana)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

F.No.8-103/2000-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(F.C.Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan, C.O.O. Complex,
Lodi Road, New Delhi-110001
New Delhi, the 28th Nov, 2002.

To The Secretary (Forests)
Govt. of Orissa, Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Diversion of 97.084 ha. of forest land for mining of iron
and manganese ore in favour of M/s D.C.Jain in Keonjhar
District, Orissa.

Sir. I am directed to refer to your letter No.10F(Cons)71/2000/
14739/F&E dated.14.9.2000 on the above mentioned subject seeking
prior approval of the Central Govt. under Section.2 of the Forest
(Cons) Act, 1980.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Govt.
the Central Govt. hereby agrees in principle, for diversion of
16,464 ha. of forest land (broken-up area) for mining of iron and
manganese ore till 08.06.2006 in favour of M/s D.C.Jain in Keonjhar
District, Orissa State, subject to fulfillment of following conditions.

1. Immediate transfer and mutation of equivalent non-forest
land shall be taken up by the User Agency in favour of the
State Forest Department.
2. The Compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained
over equivalent non-forest land at the project cost and the
cost of the same shall be deposited by the User Agency with
the State Forest Department.
3. The User Agency shall deposit the cost of raising and
maintaining the penal compensatory afforestation over the
degraded forest land double in extent i.e. $2 \times 16,464 = 32,928$
ha. at the project cost.
4. Other standard conditions.

After receipt of Compliance report on the fulfilment of the
above conditions from the State Govt. Formal approval will be
issued in this regard under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation)
Act, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till the
formal order is issued by the Central Govt. in this regard.

This issues in supersession of this Ministry's Letter
vide No.8-103/2000-FC dated 28.8.2002.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-

(ANURAG BAJPAI)
Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Orissa, BBSR
2. The Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Govt. of Orissa, BBSR
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office (E1)
Bhubaneswar
4. User Agency.
5. F.No.2-11012/10/2002-IA-II(H).
6. Guard file.

Sd/-
(ANURAG BAJPAI)
Asstt. Inspector General of Forests.

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Government of Orissa
Forest & Environment Department
...

Memo No. 107(Conn)65/02. /P&E.. Dated, BMR the

Copy forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Orissa for information and necessary action.

sd
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Memo No. 21053/P&E.. Dtd. 20.12.2002
Copy forwarded to the Conservator of Forests, Angul/Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar for information and necessary action.

sd
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Memo No. /P&E.. Dtd.

Copy forwarded to Steel & Mines Deptt. for information and necessary action.

sd
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Dwarika.

Annexure-XXVIII

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

1.	Name of the Project.	Dalpahar Iron and Manganese Mines of Sri. D.C. Jain.
2.	Name of District/ Division.	Keonjhar/ Keonjhar Forest Division.
3.	Date of Inspection.	11.04.2015
4.	Name and designation of Inspecting Officer.	Sri Rohita Kumar Lenka, I.F.S. Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Division.
5.	Name and designation of the Officers who attended the Inspection including representative of user agency.	Shri S.R.A. Mishra Range Officer, Champua Range. Representative of the User Agency. Sri S.K. Panda (Adviser)
6.	Legal Status of the Forest land with area Proposed for diversion	Reserve Forest - 101.171 ha. Total Lease area - 101.171 ha. Area proposed for diversion 101.171 ha.
7.	If area required for diversion has been demarcated on the ground.	Yes

8. Item wise break up of forest land proposed for diversion.

Sl. No.	Pattern of Utilization	Broken up forest Land (in ha)	Virgin Forest Land (in ha)	Total Forest Land (in ha)
1	Mining including mines road	10.889	71.795	82.684
2	Waste dump yard with environmental protective measures	2.855	2.685	5.540
3	Sub Grade ore Stacking with environmental protective Measure	0.000	2.348	2.348
4	Transporting Road	1.539	0.000	1.539
5	Camp, Office, Administrative building, Security camp, etc.	0.369	0.000	0.369
6	Magazine and Plantation area	0.000	0.000	0.000
7	Work shop, Crushing & Screening , Beneficiation Plant etc.	0.000	3.391	3.391
Sub Total		15.652	80.219	95.871
8	Safety Zone area 7.5 mtrs from ML Boundary line	0.812	4.488	5.300
Grand Total (Sub Total+8)		16.464	84.707	101.171

9.	Condition of Vegetation and type of forest in the applied area.	The applied area involves 101.171 ha. of Baitarani Reserve Forest. Baitarani Reserve Forest comes under 3C/C _{2c} (iii) moist peninsular valley Sal forest type under Champion & Seth classification with moderate to dense forest density. The growing stock in the said area mainly involves Misc. growth with Sal poles. The total nos. of trees based on sample enumeration comes to 7,168 (tree) and 11,555 (poles) over 101.171 ha. with average of 185 tree per ha.
10.	Position of Wildlife	The area does not form part of any National Park / Sanctuary / Biosphere reserve. It does not come under any wild life corridor. The area is coming under Elephant habitat zone-2 as per report of ORSAC. Movement of wild elephants is often noticed.

11.	Whether the applied area involves any Eco-Sensitive Zone / National Park / Sanctuary.	No
12.	No. of trees to be felled and its impact on the eco-system.	20930 Nos. of trees (Virgin- 18395 Nos. & broken up- 2535 Nos.) and 36628 Nos. of poles (appx) is to be felled. The probability of soil erosion is likely to increase following felling on the undulating topography of the applied area.
13.	Details of broken up land and reclamation done if any.	The details of broken up area is as follows. Pre-1980 broken – 16.464 ha. Post-1980 broken – Nil No reclamation has been done.
14.	Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation, if any.	Not applicable
15.	Position of rare and endangered species available and importance of the applied area from archeological point of view.	No rare or endangered species available in the applied diversion area, but movement of elephant is often noticed. There is no archaeologically important monument situated in the area.
16.	Non-forest land selected for Compensatory afforestation has been included in the D.L.C. report or not.	Non-forest land selected for Compensatory Afforestation has not been included in the D.L.C. report.
17.	Suitability of the identified non-forest land/ degraded Forestland for Compensatory afforestation.	The identified Non-forest land is suitable for Compensatory Afforestation.
18.	Violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 if any and action taken thereon.	<u>Violation.</u> Illegal Production of Fe Ore during the following Period- 1993-94---708 MT 1994-95---453 MT 1995-96---327 MT <u>Action taken.</u> For the illegal production of mineral, OR case No. 80CH of 2014-15 dated 01.08.2014 has been booked. Prosecution has been sanctioned against the Mines Manager and submitted in the Court of JMFC, Barbil vide PR No. 11 of 2014-15 dated. 15.11.2014

Divisional Forest Officer,
Keonjhar Division



भारत सरकार / Government of India

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय / Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, भुवनेश्वर / Regional Office, Bhubaneswar

ए/३, चंद्रसेखरपुर / A/3, Chandrasekharpur

भुवनेश्वर - ७५१ ०२३ / Bhubaneswar - 751 023

Telephone: 0674 - 2301213, 2301248, 2302452, 2302453. E-mail: roez.bsr-mef@nic.in

No.5-ORA265/2015-BHU

23rd January, 2025

To

The Addl. Director General of Forests (FC),
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi - 110 003.

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of balance forest land of 84.707 ha in favour of M/s D.C. Jain for mining of Iron and Manganese ore in Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Ore Mines located in Baitrani RF-II, District: Keonjhar (Odisha)

Sir,

As per decision of Advisory Committee meeting held on 28.11.2024, I am to inform that the site inspection of the above project was carried out by the undersigned on 07.01.2025 and the site inspection report along with recommendation is enclosed herewith for kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

(A.T. Mishra)

Dy. Director General of Forests (C)

Encl: As state above.

SITE INSPECTION REPORT IN RESPECT OF DIVERSION OF BALANCE 84.707 HA OF FOREST LAND FOR MINING OF IRON & MANGANESE ORE IN DALPAHAR IRON & MANGANESE MINES LOCATED IN BAITARANI RF-II OF KEONJHAR DISTRICT BY M/S D.C. JAIN

The site inspection of the above project was carried out by the undersigned on 07.01.2025 along with DFO, Keonjhar and representatives from the user agency.

1. Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:

The legal status of the forest land is Reserved Forest.

2. Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion.

As per PCCF (Nodal), Odisha's letter No.6233/9F (MG)-18/2015 dated 15.03.2024, the item wise break up of forest land as proposed by the State Govt. for this project is as below:

Sl. No.	Pattern of Utilization	Already obtained Forest Clearance in Ha (Broken up prior to 1980)	Proposed virgin Forest land required for diversion (in Ha)	Changes in land use pattern of diverted area (in Ha)	Total Forest land to be utilized within the lease area (in Ha)	Remarks
1	Mining including mines Road	6.928	72.179	(+) 2.618 * (-) 0.291** (+)0.183 ***	81.617	* 2.618 Ha already diverted for waste dump is proposed to be included in mining. ** Safety zone broken up area of 0.291 Ha will be maintained as safety zone along ML boundary. *** 0.183 Ha already diverted for road is proposed to be included in mining.
2	Waste Dump yard with Env. Protective measures.	2.618	0.000	(-) 2.618 *	0	(+) 2.618 Ha already diverted waste dump area is proposed to be included in mining.
3	Sub Grade ore stacking with Env. Protective measures.	0.000	0.975	-	0.975	
4	Transportation Road	1.048	0.000	(-) 0.183	0.865	(-) 0.183 Ha already diverted for road is proposed to be included in mining and out of 0.865 Ha, 0.025 Ha

						already diverted for road within safety zone.
5	Camp, Office Administrative building, security camp & etc.	0.000	0.000	-	0.000	
6	Magazine and Plantation Area	0.000	0.000	-	0.000	
7	Workshop, crushing and screening area	0.000	3.391	-	3.391	
Sub-Total		10.594	76.545	(-) 0.291	86.848	
8	Safety Zone/ Green Belt	0.000	3.113	-	3.113	
Grand Total		10.594	79.658	(-) 0.291	89.961	

3. Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof:

Yes, as mentioned at Sl.7 of the Table above.

4. Total cost of the project at present rates:

The total cost of this project is reported to be about 37.709 Crores.

5. Wildlife:

As reported by DFO, Keonjhar no rare or endangered flora or fauna is noticed in this area. The area is coming under Elephant Habitat Zone-2 as per ORSAC report. The movement of Wild elephant is often noticed in the area.

Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not:

The DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division has reported that the applied area does not form part of any National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Corridor. It was also reported that the proposed site for the project does not come under eco-sensitive zone of any protected area.

As elephant movement is observed occasionally in the nearby applied area and the area is coming under Elephant Habitat Zone-2 as per ORSAC report, in order to conserve and protect the wildlife and their habitat, a comprehensive Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan prepared by the user agency pertaining to this project and the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha vide letter No.13358 dated 14.12.2023 has approved with total financial outlay of Rs.491.46 Lakhs, out of which Rs.286.26 Lakhs will be incurred in Project Impact area of Keonjhar Division and Rs.205.20 Lakhs will be incurred in the Project Impact of Bonai Division. The user agency has deposited the said amount in Orissa CAMPA account.

Further, the user agency has deposited Rs.76,01,002/- towards proportionate contribution for implementation of Regional Wildlife Management Plan prepared for Keonjhar and Bonai Forest Division.

6. Vegetation:

The density of vegetation is reported to be 0.5 in virgin forest land and 0.2 in broken up forest area as per Site Inspection report of DFO, Keonjhar. However, density of vegetation in the

broken up area appears to be almost equal to that in the virgin area. Hence, average density of vegetation can be taken as 0.5 for the entire lease area.

As per DSS analysis, most of the proposed forest land comes under Moderately Dense Forest.

(a) Total number of trees to be felled.

Total 6388 nos. of trees above 30 cm girth and 15,779 nos. of trees below 30 cm girth have been enumerated over 89.961 Ha forest land proposed for diversion. Further, 2717 nos. of trees above 30 cm and 7520 nos. of trees below 30 cm girth have been enumerated over 10.594 ha of broken up forest land.

Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem in the area:

Felling of trees will affect the general ecosystem of the area. Trees should be felled in a phased manner when absolutely essential to remove to minimize the adverse impact on the eco-system.

(b) Important species:

As reported by the State Govt., the tree species available in the applied area are Sal (*Shorea robusta*), Piasal (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), Gambhar (*Gmelina arborea*), Jamun (*Syzygium cumini*), Kendu (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), Asan (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Dhaura (*Annogeissus latifolia*), Kurum (*Adina cordifolia*), Bandhan (*Ougeinia oojeinensis*), Kasi (*Bridelia retusa*), Sissoo (*Dalbergia latifolia*), etc. Sal is the pre-dominant species.

7. Background note on the proposal:

State Govt. reported that original mining lease was granted for a period of 20 years for iron ore in village Dulpahar in favour of Shri Dharam Chand Jain over an area of 101.570 Ha vide Govt. in the erstwhile Mining & Geology Department Proceedings No.III(A)MG.101/84-6179-MG dated 05.06.1984. The mining lease is located entirely in Baitarani RF near village Dulpahar village under Barbil Tahasil of Keonjhar District. The granted mining lease area was reduced to 101.171 Ha in five blocks following survey and demarcation which was communicated in letter No.III(A)MG.19/86/MG dated 10.04.1986 of Govt. of Odisha, Mining & Geology Department. Thereafter, the mining leases were executed on 09.06.1986 for five blocks separately such Block-A : 89.981 Ha, Block-B1 : 0.607 Ha, Block-B2 : 7.689 Ha, Block-B3: 1.012 Ha and Block-C: 1.902 Ha totaling 101.171 Ha for a period of 20 years with effect from 09.06.1986 to 08.06.2006. Manganese ore was later allowed to be included as 2nd mineral in the mining lease vide letter No.5(23)/95-M.IV dated 17.08.1995 of Govt. of India, Ministry of Mines which was subject to the condition that the lessee will have to obtain the approval of Govt. of India, MoEF for diversion of included forest land in the leasehold area before execution of the inclusion of lease deed. Govt. of Odisha, Department of Steel & Mines vide Proceeding No.III(A)SM-12/99-2376/SM had also ordered that manganese ore be included in the existing mining lease of iron ore already executed in favour of lessee for a period co-terminus by execution of a supplementary lease deed. Accordingly, supplementary lease deed for iron and manganese were also executed for all the five blocks separately on 25.05.2000 totaling over 101.171 Ha without obtaining prior approval of MoEF, Govt. of India.

During original mining lease period, a forest diversion proposal for diversion of 97.084 ha of forest land in this lease was filed/processed to MoEF for consideration excluding 4.087 Ha of forest land earmarked to be maintained as Safety Zone as per practice prevailing then vide F&E Department letter No.14739 dated 14.09.2000. However, MoEF, Govt. of India had considered the project for diversion of 16.464 Ha of pre-1980 broken up forest land of the mining lease only vide their letter No.8-103/2000-FC dated 14.11.2005.

Five separate Renewal of Mining Lease applications have been filed by the user agency in respect of five blocks on 01.06.2005 which is one year prior to expiry of mining period on 08.06.2006. Thus the leases are under deemed extension provision of Rule 24A(6) of MC Rules, 1960.

It is worth mentioning that the total lease area of 101.171 Ha has been declared lapsed by the State Govt. in Steel & Mines Department as per relevant provisions of MMDR Act and MC Rules, 1960. The lessee appealed before the Revisional Authority against the order of LAPSING of State Govt. The Revisionary Authority, Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India vide his interim order dated 27.09.2013 has directed the State Govt. not take any coercive measures against the revisionist/lessee. The Deputy Director Mines, Joda Circle has also clarified that the RMLLSs, as applied for stand valid till final disposal of the Revision Application by the Revisional Authority. In the meantime, the order of Govt. of India, Ministry dated 16.12.2014 addressed to the Secretary, Steel & Mines Department, Govt. of Odisha with copy to DFO, Keonjhar vide letter dated 06.01.2015 states that the Revisionists is a liberty to pursue its proposal of forest diversion before the concerned authority of the State Govt. and MoEF.

Further, the lessee challenged the Lapsing orders of State Govt. in Steel & Mines Department by filing a Writ Petition No.993/2015 before the Hon'ble High Court, Orissa. Hon'ble High Court vide their order dated 21.01.2015 in M.C. No.1081/2015 arising out of above Writ Petition have directed as interim measure that no final order shall be passed by the State on the RML application of the petitioner seeking renewal and further directed that auction policy decision dated 05.01.2015 published in extra ordinary Gazette dated 12.01.2015 shall be kept in abeyance till next date. Further the Hon'ble High Court vide their interim order dated 11.01.2015 in M.C. No.8894 of 2015 arising out of Writ Petition mentioned above, have directed that no coercive action shall be taken in the matter till next date.

In view of the above order of Revisional Authority as well as of the Hon'ble High Court, Orissa, the instant proposal for diversion has been processed for necessary approval under Section 2 of FC Act, 1980.

In the due course of time, as per order dated 26.02.2019 in WP No.993/2015, the Hon'ble High Court remanded back the matter to the State Govt. with a direction to "hear the matter at fresh in line with the order dated 04.04.2016 in WP (C) No.114 of 2014 by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and to dispose the matter. Further, on the basis. Further on the basis of hearing at Steel & Mines Department, Govt. of Odisha passed the order vide No.6610/IV (AB)SM-11/2015/S&M dated 06.09.2019 that "pleased to decided not to declare and record the Iron & Mn mining lease of Late D.C. Jain (power of attorney Sri Avin Jain) over an area of 89.961 Ha (Block-A) of Keonjhar district as lapsed.

8. Compensatory afforestation:

In lieu of 79.367 Ha of virgin forest land (89.961 Ha – 10.594 Ha already diverted forest land) fresh proposed for diversion, State Govt. has identified 81.545 Ha of non-forest land in village Gundula (66.745 Ha), Champajhar (9.80 Ha) under Banspal Tahasil and in village Binida & Delenga (5.00 Ha) under Ghatgaon Tahasil of Keonjhar District for raising compensatory afforestation.

(a) Whether land for compensatory afforestation is suitable from plantation and management point of view or not:

The DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division has furnished land suitability certificate in respect of 81.545 ha of non-forest Govt. land in village Gundula (66.745 Ha), Champajhar (9.80 Ha) under Banspal Tahasil and in village Binida & Delenga (5.00 Ha) under Ghatgaon Tahasil of Keonjhar District for raising compensatory afforestation.

The proposed site has been visited and found to be suitable to accept for compensatory afforestation.

Further to accommodate the balance seedlings, State Govt. has identified 83.49 ha of degraded forest land in Bansuli RF (16.00 Ha) and Jyotipur RF (67.49 Ha) under Keonjhar Forest Division.

Whether land for compensatory afforestation is free from encroachment/other encumbrances:

The Tahasildar, Banspal and Tahasildar, Ghatgaon have certified that non-forest C.A. land is free from encroachment and encumbrances and not covered under DLC report.

(b) Whether land for compensatory afforestation is important from Religious/Archaeological point of view:

It has been reported that the land for CA is not important from Religious/Archaeological point of view.

(c) Land identified for raising compensatory afforestation is in how many patches, whether patches are compact or not:

The non-forest land identified over 81.545 ha for raising compensatory afforestation is comprising three patches. Two patches are close to each other. The third patch is in a different place.

(d) Map with details:

The DGPS map and SoI Toposheet indicating location of identified non-forest land has been submitted by the State Govt.

(e) Total financial outlay:

The PCCF (Nodal), Odisha has technical approved the CA Schemes for Rs.2,24,49,300/- over 66.745 Ha of non-forest land, Rs.49,67,000/- over 9.80 Ha of non-forest land and Rs.77,70,800/- over 5.00 Ha of non-forest land.

The PCCF (Nodal), Odisha has also technically approved the Additional CA Schemes for Rs.87,23,000/- over 16.00 Ha of degraded forest land and Rs.2,62,44,200/- over 67.49 Ha of degraded forest land.

9. Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials:

As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar and RCCF, Rourkela, illegal production of Iron (Fe) Ore has been taken place in the mining lease during the following period:

1993-94	-	708 MT
1994-95	-	453 MT
1995-96	-	327 MT

For the illegal production of mineral made in the ML area, as above OR case No.80CH of 2014-15 dated 01.08.2014 of Champua Range of Keonjhar Forest Division has been booked. Prosecution has been sanctioned against the Mines Manager and submitted in the Court of JMFC, Barbil vide PR No.11 of 2014-15 dated 15.11.2014. As reported by the user agency no penalty has been imposed by the Steel & Mines Department against this lease as per Hon'ble Supreme Court judgement dated 2nd August, 2017.

MoEF&CC vide letter No.8-103/2000-FC dated 14.11.2005 has granted approval (Stage-II) for diversion of 16.464 Ha of forest land and imposed Penal CA over 32.928 Ha of degraded forest land (double in extent to the area used in violation). The DFO has reported that the Penal CA has been raised in Barbanka RF during 2009-10.

10. **Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not:**

The project does not involve displacement of any human habitation. Hence, Resettlement & Rehabilitation Plan is not required.

11. **Reclamation plan:**

The RCCF, Rourkela has reported that since mining operation is closed and no pit has been fully exhausted yet, concurrent reclamation is not feasible at this stage. Reclamation & Rehabilitation will be carried out as per the progressive mine closure plan approved by IBM. The user agency has furnished an undertaking to implement the phased reclamation plan.

The Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan has been approved by the Regional Controller of Mines, IBM, Bhubaneswar over an area of 89.961 ha in respect of Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Ore Mines of D.C. Jain vide letter No.MRMP-2273/2023-24-IBM-RO-BBS dated 27.05.2024 which is valid upto 31.03.2026.

12. **Details on catchment and command area under the project:**

Not reported.

13. **Cost benefit ratio:**

As reported, the total benefit of this proposal has been assessed at Rs.85.50 Crores. The loss on forests including environmental loss, NPV cost and other mandatory payments comes to Rs.3.0246839 Crores. Hence, the cost benefit ratio comes to 1 : 28.27.

14. **Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:**

The forest area proposed for diversion has been duly recommended by PCCF.

15. **Utility of the project:**

As reported by State Govt., the project will generate employment for more than 250 people directly and 500 nos. of people indirectly.

Numbers of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes to be benefited by the project:

Not reported.

16. (a) **Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/ religious value:**

Not reported.

- (b) **Whether any sacred grove or very old growth trees/forests exist in the areas proposed for diversion:**

Not reported.

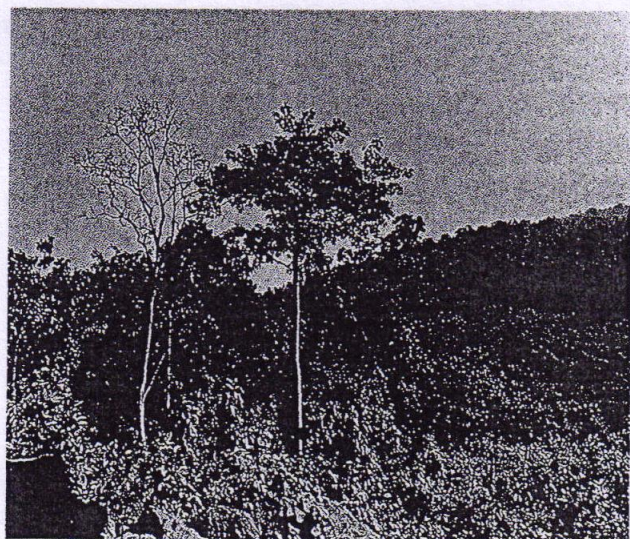
- (c) **Whether the land under diversion forms part of any unique eco-system:**

No such report available.

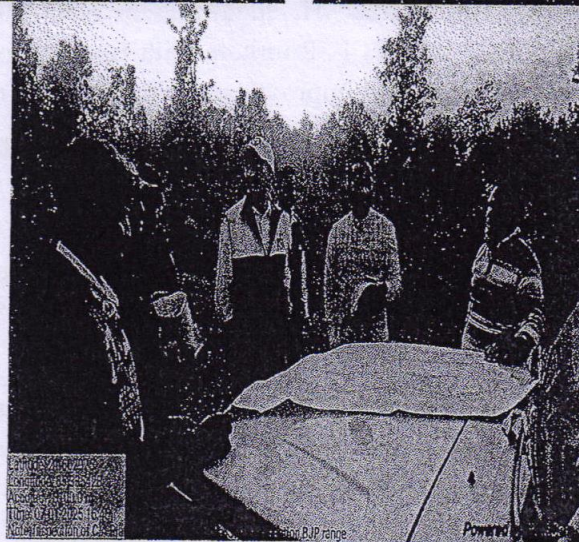
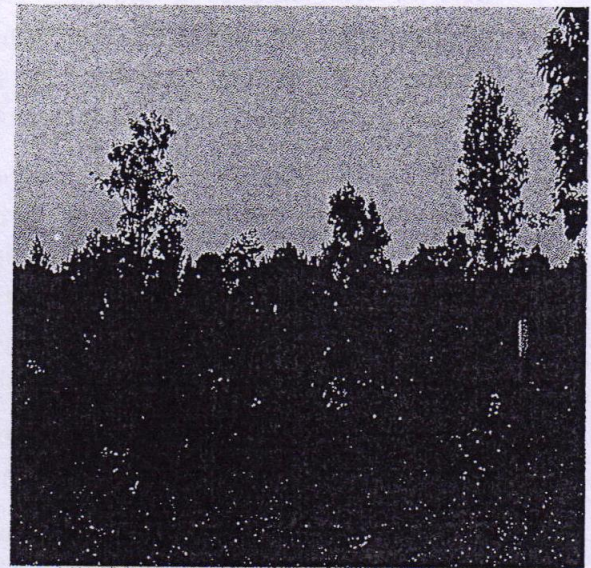
17. **Situation with respect to any Protected Area:**

The DFO, Keonjhar has reported that the distance of project site from the nearest Protected Area (Similipal Wildlife Sanctuary) is about 80.10 Km.

18. Any other information relating to the project:



Photographs of proposed site for diversion

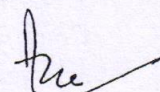


Photographs of proposed CA site.

19. **Recommendations of Dy. Director General of Forests (Central) along with detailed reasons:**
 1. Total land involved in this mining lease is 89.961 Ha (101.171 Ha – 11.21 Ha) of RF. Out of which 79.367 Ha of virgin forest land and 10.594 ha of already diverted forest land. (11.21 Ha area was not considered while assigning the present lease)
 2. The Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan has been approved by the Regional Controller of Mines, IBM, Bhubaneswar over an area of 89.961 ha in respect of Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Ore Mines of D.C. Jain vide letter No.MRMP-2273/2023-24-IBM-RO-BBS dated 27.05.2024 which is valid upto 31.03.2026.
 3. The State Govt. has reported that the project does not involve displacement of any human habitation. Hence, Resettlement & Rehabilitation Plan is not required.
 4. The density of vegetation is reported to be 0.5 in virgin forest land and 0.2 in broken up forest area as per Site Inspection report of DFO, Keonjhar. The density of vegetation in the broken up area appears to be almost equal to that in the virgin area. Hence, average density of vegetation can be taken as 0.5 for the entire lease area. However, as per DSS analysis, most of the proposed forest land comes under Moderately Dense Forest.

5. Total 6388 nos. of trees above 30 cm girth and 15,779 nos. of trees below 30 cm girth have been enumerated over 89.961 Ha forest land proposed for diversion. Further, 2717 nos. of trees above 30 cm and 7520 nos. of trees below 30 cm girth have been enumerated over 10.594 ha of broken up forest land. Felling of trees will affect the general ecosystem of the area. Trees should be felled in a phased manner when absolutely essential to remove to minimize the adverse impact on the eco-system.
6. The proposed site does not come under any Protected Area or within the Eco-Sensitive Zone. As there is occasional movement of elephant in this area. The user agency has deposited Rs.491.46 Lakhs towards implementation of Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan in Orissa CAMPA account. Further, the user agency has also deposited Rs.76,01,002/- towards proportionate contribution for implementation of Regional Wildlife Management Plan prepared for Keonjhar and Bonai Forest Division.
7. As reported by the State Govt. the user agency has deposited Rs.9,49,99,569/- /- towards NPV entire forest area involved in the mining lease.
8. As reported, the scheme for afforestation in degraded forest land to the extent of 1.5 times the area of Safety zone over 8.0625 Ha identified in Naibuga RF under Keonjhar Forest Division has been approved by RCCF, Rourkela with financial outlay of Rs.24,42,000/-. The user agency has deposited the above approved amount in Orissa CAMPA account.
9. Out of total Mining Lease area of 101.171 Ha, Steel & Mines Department, Govt. of Odisha has declared 11.21 Ha as lapsed vide Proceedings dated 09.07.2013. The area declared as lapsed consists of 4 nos. of mining blocks viz. Block-B1 (0.607 Ha), Block-B2 (7.689 Ha), Block-B3 (1.012 Ha) and Block-C (1.902 Ha). Ministry vide letter No.8-103/2000-FC dated 14.11.2005 has accorded final approval for diversion of 16.464 ha of forest land in this mining lease.
10. Out of 16.464 ha of diverted forest land vide Ministry's letter No.8-103/2000-FC dated 14.11.2005, 5.87 ha of forest land is within the lapsed area of the above mining blocks. The balance 10.594 Ha which is having approval by the Ministry is in 8 patches distributed in the lease area.
11. The Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhubaneswar vide letter No.5-ORA265/2015-BHU dated 01.07.2020 had recommended the proposal to Ministry.

This diversion proposal is for mining of Manganese and Iron ore, which is site specific. The user agency has identified 81.545 Ha of non-forest land for raising Compensatory Afforestation. The diversion of 79.367 Ha of virgin forest land and change in land use of 10.594 Ha of already diverted forest land is recommended with standard conditions and observation made during inspection.



(A.T. MISHRA)

DY. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FORESTS (C)