

Government of Odisha  
Forest & Environment Department

No. 10F (Cons) 72/2014(pt) 9133 -0-  
From F&E, Bhubaneswar. dated. 04-5-17

Sri Debidutta Biswal, IFS,  
Special Secretary to Government.

To

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests,  
Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change  
(.F.C.Division), Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jor Bagh, Aliganj Road  
New Delhi -110003

Sub: Proposal for diversion of balance 87.09ha. of sabik kisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 in addition to already diverted forest land of 1225.78ha for iron ore mining in their Bolani Ore Mines of 1321.45ha.(5.1 Sq. miles) in Keonjhar District, Odisha by M/s Steel Authority of India Limited(SAIL). (Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/17936/2016).

Sir,

I am directed invite reference to MoEF&CC, GoI letter F.No. 8-17/2016-FC dt. 12.1.2017 on the above mentioned subject and to say that the Ministry vide para 2 of their above referred letter had made the following observations for compliance by the State Government/user agency. The point wise compliances of such observations area, as received from Addl. PCCF(Forest Diversion) & Nodal Officer, FC Act vide his letter No.10660 dt. 28.4.2017, are indicated below.

**Observation 2(i):** *After analysis the identified CA scheme through DSS, it is found that 22 ha land of Gudiali RF falls in MDF. Moreover the patches of Laing RF (31.336ha) and Pathuria RF (18.664ha) shows dense vegetation in Google Earth Imagery and would not be suitable for plantation and accordingly this identified CA need to be modified. The complete revised CA scheme and suitability certificate along with shape file may be furnished for consideration.*

**Compliance:** In this context, it is stated that the degraded forest land earlier identified over 169.82ha. comprising of three patches i.e. Gudiali RF(119.72ha.), Laing RF(31.336ha.) and Pathuria RF(18.664ha.) for the purpose of Compensatory Afforestation for this project has been modified again. It has now been reported by Addl. PCCF(Forest Diversion) & Nodal Officer, FC Act that degraded forest land to an extent of 169.72ha comprising of 70.72ha in Gurhiali RF and 99.00 ha

S/c

in Chhatam RF of Rourkela Forest division has been identified afresh to raise Compensatory Afforestation in lieu of 87.09ha. of forest land proposed for diversion. The DFO, Rourkela division has furnished the land suitability certificate pertaining to identified site. He has also prepared the site specific CA scheme in ANR mode of 200 plants per ha. at current wage rate of Rs. 200/- per manday including cost of maintenance of 10 years. The species selected to be planted under the revised scheme are Amla(*Embllica officinalis*), Neem (*Azadirachta indica*), Bahada(*Terminalia belerica*), Karanja(*Pongamia pinnata*), Jamu(*Sizium cumini*), Dhaura(*Anogeissus latifolia*), Sissoo(*Dalbergia Sissoo*), Harida(*Terminalia chebula*), Teak(*Tectona grandis*), Bamboo(*Dendrocalamus strictus*), Bija(*Pterocarpus marsupium*), Gambhar(*Gmelina arborea*) etc. The Addl. Pr. CCF(Forest Diversion)& Nodal Officer, FC Act has accorded technical approval to the revised CA scheme with financial outlay of Rs.2,40,64,000/-. A copy of duly approved CA scheme is appended herewith. The CA scheme is appended with map of CA sites shown in SoI topomaps No. F45G/12(Chhatam RF) and No.F45G/12 & F45G/8(Gurhiali RF). KML file of CA land in CD form is also attached. The duly approved revised CA area/Scheme with financial outlay & shape / KML file in CD form are enclosed as **Annexure-I**. The user agency had earlier furnished an undertaking to pay cost of compensatory afforestation. .

**Observation 2(ii):** *The detailed land use plan with map depicting Broken up land, virgin land in the mining lease area, OB dump area, Ore stack yard, Linear feature such as roads etc., area or plant machinery etc. area under colony/ buildings etc. and area other special features is not given.*

**Compliance:** In compliance to the above, the detailed land use plan with map depicting broken up land, virgin land in the mining lease area, OB dump area, Ore stack yard, linear features such as roads and conveyor etc, area of plant and machineries, area under colony and building etc, submitted by M/s.SAIL and authenticated by DFO, Keonjhar is enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

Observation 2(iii): *The complete compliance on Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 in accordance with the Ministry's Guidelines 03.08.2009 read with 05.07.2013 may be furnished.*

**Compliance:** It is ascertained that FRA compliance for this instant diversion proposal has not yet been completed. It was earlier reported that Collector, Keonjhar had earlier ensured that entire process of settlement of rights under FRA, 2006 in respect of the sabik forest land proposed for diversion under 5.1 Sq. miles Bolani Iron ore mines of SAIL, has been initiated and will be completed before this proposal is considered for Stage-II forest clearance. It is further ascertained from the letter dt. 13.4.2017 of user agency that Gram sabhas for Bolani and Balagoda village pertaining to this project <sup>have</sup> ~~has~~ been conducted on 4.11.2016 at 11 AM and 9.12.2016 at 10AM respectively. Proceedings of the Gram sabhas along with its English version have been furnished to the Sub-Divisional Level Committee for consideration. From the above documents, it is revealed that compliance of FRA as per GoI guidelines dt. 3.8.2009 read with guidelines dt. 5.7.2013 are under process and will be completed and the same will be furnished to the Ministry before the proposal is considered for grant of stage-II approval. Copy of letter dt. 13.4.2017 of user agency is enclosed as **Annexure-III**.

The above position of compliance of the observations made by the FAC/Ministry may kindly be considered and steps may kindly be taken to accord Stage-I forest clearance for the above forest diversion proposal for further action by the State Government/user agency.

Yours faithfully

Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 9134 /Dt.

04-5-17


Copy along with the copy of enclosures forwarded to the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, A/3, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action..

Special Secretary to Government

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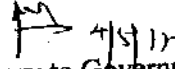
Memo No. 9135 /F&E., Dated- 04-5-17

Copy forwarded to the Pr.C.C.F., Odisha /Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(WL) & CWLW, Odisha for information & necessary action with reference to letter No. 10660 dt. 28.4.2017 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Odisha.

 4/5/17  
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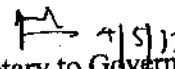
Memo No. 9136 /Dated. 04-5-17

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle/ Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Forest Division/DFO, Rourkela Forest Division for information and necessary action..

 4/5/17  
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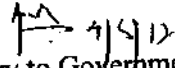
Memo No. 9137 /Dated. 04-5-17

Copy forwarded to the Steel & Mines Department/ Collector, Keonjhar for information and necessary action.

 4/5/17  
Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 9138 /Dated. 04-5-17

Copy forwarded to the General Manager, Bolani Ore Mines, SAIL, Dist. Keonjhar Pin 758037, Odisha for information and necessary action.

 4/5/17  
Special Secretary to Government