



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

Lr. No. **11262** /9F (MG)-83/2016
Dated, Bhubaneswar the **5th** May, 2017

To

The Principal Secretary to Government,
Forest & Environment Department,
Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub : Diversion of 124.313 ha of Sabik Kisam forest land as on 25th October 1980 (treated as non-forest land in hal record) out of total forest land of 723.312 ha (including sabik kisam forest land of 238.093 ha) located within the ML hold area over 1586.36 ha of Bolani Ore mines (6.9 sq. miles) of Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) in villages of Bolani, Balagoda, Limtur etc. and Karo Reserved Forests under Barbil Tahasil of Keonjhar District, Odisha during 2nd RML period.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to F&E Department Memo No. 1581/ F&E dated 21.01.2017 of the Special Secretary to Government, Forest & Environment Department on the mentioned subject, the following point-wise compliances on the issues raised by Government of India, MoEF & CC vide their letter F No. 8-87/1996- FC (Vol.I) dated 12.01.2017 are furnished below:-

1). On analysis through Decision Support System (DSS) and land schedule given by State Government, it is learnt that there is township on over 20.795 ha area. User Agency in its presentation observed that the township is constructed before 1980. Documentary evidence for its construction prior to 1980 shall be submitted.

In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela has reported that township is established on the strength of the surface right permission issued by the Collector, Keonjhar pursuant to order communicated vide letter dated 2nd /5th May, 1958 of the Deputy Secretary to Government of Odisha, Mining & Geology Department approving the grant of surface right and allowing for construction of staff and labour housing (Quarters/ Township) including other infrastructures. The copy of the said approval order of Govt. dated 2nd / 5th May, 1958 and subsequent grant order of surface right issued by Collector, Keonjhar, submitted by M/s SAIL and received from the RCCF, Rourkela through DFO, Keonjhar are enclosed as **Annexure-I and Annexure-II** series respectively.

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etc

2). *Safety zone of 2.687 ha has been reported to be broken. Action taken report against the officials for the violation shall be submitted by State Government.*

In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the non-forest land recorded as forest as on 25.10.1980, located in the safety zone, is 3.687 ha. The said area has been broken, prior to 1980 for establishment of workshop, layout of mine benches, construction of ore handling plant and other allied mining activities on the strength of surface right order issued prior to concept of safety zone came into force. The copy of the compliance dated 29.03.2017 of M/s SAIL on this count as received from the RCCF, Rourkela is enclosed herewith vide **Annexure-III**. In this regard, the DFO, Keonjhar has requested that the observation as regards action taken report against the officials for the violation may kindly not be insisted upon.

3). *In Site Inspection report (SIR) submitted by regional office it is reported that the total area has been mentioned 723.312 ha in the proposal whereas total comes to 725.07 as per DGPS survey and 744.233 ha as per revenue records. In this regards comments of State Government shall be sought.*

In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has informed that as per authenticated abstract of land schedule, Revenue forest is 166.93 ha whereas the actual sum of area of Revenue Forest Plots, reflected in the village wise land schedule is 170.05 ha. The Revenue Forest Plots included in the DGPS surveyed mining lease, as per scheduled RoR, comes to 146.009 ha. The differential area of 24.041 ha as regard to Revenue Forest land is due to inclusion and exclusion of some plots i.e. some plots not reflected in the land schedule, has been included in the mining lease and some plots reflected in the land schedule, fall outside the Mining Lease boundary. The details of Revenue plots is already appended in the Diversion Proposal vide Annexure-19. However, the explanation offered on this count by M/s SAIL is enclosed vide **Annexure-III**.

In view of the above, point wise compliance to the observations made by the Government of India, MoEF are submitted to Government for onward transmission to GoI, MoEF & CC for according necessary approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: Annexure-I to III
in triplicate

ahmuyah 5/5/17
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, F.C. Act

Memo No. *11263* /Dt. *5-5-17*

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No. 1026 dated 19.04.2017.

ahmuyah 5/5/17
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Forest Diversion, Nodal Officer, F C Act

Memo No. *11264* /Dated. *05-5-17*

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to memo no. 1027 dt. 19.04.2017 of RCCF, Rourkela Circle to his address.

ahmuyah 5/5/17
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Forest Diversion, Nodal Officer, F C Act

o/c