

Government of Odisha
Forest & Environment Department

No.10F (Cons) 255/2016
From

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F&E, Bhubaneswar, dated. 10/5/17

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 124.313ha. of sabik kisam forest land as on 25th October 1980(treated as non-forest land in hal record) out of total forest land of 723.312ha. (including sabik kisam forest land of 238.093ha), located within the Mining Lease hold area over 1586.36 ha of Bolani Ore Mines (6.9sq.miles) of Steel Authority of India Ltd. in villages of Bolani, Balagoda, Limtur etc. and Karo Reserved Forests under Barbil Tahasil of Keonjhar District, Odisha during 2nd RML period(FP/OR/MIN/20126/2016)

Sir,

I am directed invite reference to MoEF&CC, GoI letter F.No. 8-87/1996-FC (Vol.I) dt. 12.1.2017 on the above mentioned subject and to say that the Ministry vide 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.11262 dt. 5.5.2017, are indicated below.

Observation 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..*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, based on information provided by the user agency, it has been reported by PCCF, Odisha that township was established on the strength of the surface right permission issued by the Collector, Keonjhar in compliance to orders issued 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 within the leasehold area. The copy of the said approval order to Govt. dated 2nd /5th May, 1958 and subsequent grant

order of surface right issued by Collector, Keonjhar, as provided by M/s. SAIL are enclosed as **Annexure-I and Annexure-II** series respectively.

Observation 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.*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, it is stated that it was earlier reported while furnishing the diversion proposal that 3.687ha.(not 2.687ha.) of sabik kism forest land out of 14.748ha.in safety zone has been broken up as on 25.10.1980 and is being used for different ancillary activities for mining and has also been proposed to be used in future for facilitating mining. The said Pre-1980 broken up sabik kism forest is now reported to be used 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 letter dated 29.03.2017 of M/s. SAIL explaining details of infrastructure activities taken up on such sabik kism forest land and circumstances thereof is enclosed herewith vide **Annexure-III**. It is revealed from this letter of user agency that infrastructures developed over the surface rights granted area including sabik kism forest land in safety zone is meant for facilitating mining operation in two adjoining mining leases i.e. 5.1 Sq. miles and 6.9sq. miles.


Observation 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.*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, it has been reported by PCCF, Odisha that as per authenticated abstract of land schedule, Revenue forest is 166.93 ha whereas the total extent area of Revenue forest Plots reflected in the village wise land schedule is 170.05ha. However, the Revenue forest plots included in the DGPS surveyed mining lease, as per scheduled RoR, comes to 146.009ha. The differential area of 24.041 ha in 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, falling outside the Mining Lease boundary. The details of Revenue plots is already

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appended in the Diversion Proposal vide Annexure-19. However, the explanation offered on this count by M/s.SAIL is enclosed vide **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

 19/5/17
Special Secretary to Government


Memo No. 9609 /Dt. 10/5/17

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..

Memo No. 9610 /F&E., Dated- 10/5/17

 10/5/17
Special Secretary to Government


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. 11262 dt. 5.5.2017 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Odisha.

 10/5/17
Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 9611 /Dated. 10/5/17


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

Memo No. 9612 /Dated. 10/5/17


 10/5/17
Special Secretary to Government

Copy forwarded to the Steel & Mines Department/ Collector, Keonjhar for information and necessary action with reference to F&E Department letter No. 1580 dt. 21.1.2017 to Steel & Mines Department.

Memo No. 9613 /Dated. 10/5/17

 10/5/17
Special Secretary to Government

Copy forwarded to Sri Paresh Chandra Naik, General Manager(Mines), Steel Authority of India Ltd, RMD, Bolani, Dist. Keonjhar, Odisha, Pin 758037 for information and necessary action.

 10/5/17
Special Secretary to Government

