



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

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No.

/9F (MG) – 51/2021

Dated, Bhubaneswar the

March' 2023

From

Sri Susanta Nanda, IFS
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 permission under Section 2(iii) of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for grant of lease over 112.621 ha forest land in village Baldihi of NetrabandhaPahar Iron Ore Block allotted to M/s Bhusan Power & Steel Limited under Bonai Forest Division of Sundargarh District-GoI, MoEF& CC, New Delhi observations regarding.

Ref:- LetterNo.8-03/2022-FC dated 26.12.2022 of Scientist "C", GoI, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to the subject cited above, a meeting was held on 13th February 2023 under the Chairmanship of PCCF & HoFF, Odisha for holistic & joint analysis of the observation and recommendation made in the report of the team of MoEF & CC and WII officials in context to entire landscape along with detailed deliberation of the recommendation of the sub-committee with due weightage to the measures envisaged in the report. The minutes of the meeting is enclosed as **Annexure-A.**

While analyzing the efficacy of individual site specific plans to address issues related to entire elephant landscape, it was observed that the Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan (SSWLCP) prepared for individual Mining as per approved guidelines of State Govt. prescribes specific interventions for protection of Forest and Wildlife, prevention of forest fire, Habitat Management, Mitigation of Human-Elephant Conflict, Public Awareness, Community Participation, Eco-Development activities, Immunization of domestic live-stock and surveillance of health of wildlife in the Zone of Impact around 10 kms radial distance of the project site. Besides the project proponent has also been mandated under the said plan to carry out fire prevention measures, public awareness and mitigation of Human Elephant interface in the Project area. The mitigative measures as per

SSWLCP address the impact of the project on wildlife including elephants in and around the project area. It is pertinent to state that the recommendations as per final report of the study conducted by CSIR-NERRI on Carrying Capacity vis-à-vis pollution in these areas and the Suggested Ore Transportation Mode (SOTM) will be implemented. This is likely to facilitate unhindered movement of elephants.

Also, the comprehensive Action Plan (CAP) for conservation of elephants and mitigation of Human-Elephant Conflict in Odisha prepared in consultation with Experts, Field Level Functionaries and NGOs as per the direction of the Hon'ble High Court, Orissa in Writ Petition (Civil) PIL No. 14706/2022 has already been approved by the High Power Committee (HPC) under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Odisha. Action Points under 10 Pillars strategy have been envisaged in the CAP with Short Term, Medium Term and Long Term mitigative measures. The Action Plan will act as a perspective plan for elephant management in the state in the years to come (enclosed as **Annexure-B**).

It is suggested that to address the issue of interstate movement of elephants in the larger landscape comprising of Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and South Western part of West Bengal; MoEF & CC (Project Elephant Division) may assign reputed organization/ institution to prepare Comprehensive Elephant Management Plan for the said Region.

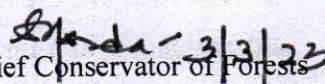
Lastly, it appears that there are some factual errors with respect to non-working mines and no. of proposals in pipeline and Stage-I. The Director of Mines, Odisha after examining the proposal submitted by the field officials has submitted a report which is enclosed at **Annexure-C**. As such, the land pertaining to any of the non-functional mining leases does not have any scope of being surrendered because of reasons mentioned therein by Director of Mines, Govt. of Odisha.

Hence, it is requested that the proposal for permission under Section-2 (iii) of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for grant of lease over 112.621 ha of forest land in village Baldihi of Netrabandha Pahar Iron Ore Block allotted to M/s Bhusan Power and Steel Limited under Bonai Forest Division of Sundargarh District, proposal for non-forestry use of 194.683 ha of forest land involved in the mining lease area over 358.258 ha of Guali Iron Ore Mines of M/s OMC Ltd. in Keonjhar District, Odisha and Proposal for non-forestry use of 42.608 ha of forest land within Kalmang West (North Part) Block for Iron Ore Mines in Keonjhar and Sundargarh District of Odisha, allotted to M/s Tata Steel BSL Ltd under Section-2 (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 may kindly be considered.

This is for favour of information and necessary action.

Encl:As above

Yours faithfully


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Division & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. /Dt.

Copy alongwith its enclosures forwarded to the Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, A/3, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023 for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to Letter No.8-03/2022-FC dated 26.12.2022 of Scientist "C", GoI, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Spand - 3/3/23
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. *4255* /Dt. *03-03-2023*

Copy alongwith its enclosures forwarded to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action with reference to Letter No.8-03/2022-FC dated 26.12.2022 of Scientist "C", GoI, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Spand - 3/3/23
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

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