

Government of Odisha
Forest and Environment Department

10F (Cons) 228/2016/ 17975/F&E dated ⁻⁰⁻ 28-9-16

From
Sri Debidutta Biswal, IFS
Special Secretary to Government

To
The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central),
Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate Change,
Eastern Regional Office, A-3, Chandrasekharpur,
Bhubaneswar

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 23.80 ha. of forest land (as per Sabik records as on 25.10.1980) including 2.240ha. of forest land in safety zone area for chromite ore mining from their Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines by M/s Ferro Alloys Corporation Ltd. (FACOR Ltd.) in Cuttack Forest Division coming under jurisdiction Sukinda Tehsil of Jajpur district, Odisha (**Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/16453/2015**)

Sir,

I am directed to invite reference to letter No.5-ORC288/2016-BHU dt. 12.8.2016 of Eastern Regional office, MoEF&CC, Government of India on the above mentioned subject and to say that Eastern Regional Office after receipt of the above forest diversion proposal, had made some observations and sought for information from the State Government for further processing the proposal. The PCCF, Odisha was requested for required compliance in this context vide this department Memo No.15388 dt. 20.8.2016. The Addl. PCCF(Forest Diversion) & Nodal Officer, FC Act, O/O PCCF, Odisha vide his letter No.17724 dt. 17.9.2016 has furnished point wise compliance, details of which are as under.

Observation (1)

The State Government has reported that the reclamation and biological reclamation of this mining project has not been provided by the user agency. The same may be furnished.

In compliance to the above, the User Agency has submitted the Biological Reclamation Plan of this mining project which has been enclosed herewith as **Annexure-I**. The Plan prepared by user agency, has been countersigned by DFO, Cuttack. This Plan shall be implemented at project cost.

Observation (2)

The FRA certificate along with Gram Sabha resolution has not been furnished.



In compliance to the above, the Collector, Jajpur has furnished relevant certificate in prescribed format complying with provisions of FRA guidelines. Proceeding of DLC Meeting held on 12.7.2016, Proceedings of SDLC dt. 1.6.2016 deliberating upon the forest diversion proposal are also enclosed herewith. Gram sabha resolution dt. 6.5.2016 of Kalarangiatta village and English version thereof have also been furnished by the Collector, Jajpur. Copy of the FRA certificate along with copy of the Gram Sabha resolution and all other relevant documents mentioned above, are enclosed herewith as **Annexure-II**.

Observation (3)

The shape files of forest area and CA area has not been submitted.

In compliance to the above, the soft copy of shape files of forest area proposed for diversion and Compensatory Afforestation area in CD form are enclosed as **Annexure-III**.

Observation (4)

Since, the entire area is now broken, thereof, the State Government may inform the basis on which the forest area has been classified as Eco-Class-I with density of 0.4.

Based on the report of the DFO, Cuttack, it has been submitted that the entire ML area of 23.80 ha was non-forest land as per Hal Settlement record and accordingly, lease deed was executed and mining operation was continuing. But as per Sabik Settlement record as on 25.10.1980, the entire ML area was found to be of forest kizam. Since entire mining lease area has been broken up in course of mining and in order to ascertain the vegetation/density of sabik kizam forest in the ML area, the density of vegetation/ category of forest/ forest type and canopy density of adjacent mining lease areas Viz.-Sukinda Chromite Mines of M/s Tata Steel Ltd., Jindal Chromite Mines of M/s. Jindal Stainless Ltd., Kaliapani Chromite Mines of M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd., Mahagiri Chromite Mines of M/s IMFA Ltd. etc. were taken into consideration. Since the vegetation of the above mining leases in Sukinda Valley have been assessed to be of Eco Class-I type with canopy density below 0.4, the vegetation/density/forest type pertaining to Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines of M/s. FACOR Ltd. over an area of 23.80 ha has been considered to be of Eco Class-I & density below 0.4.

Observation (5)

Latest compliance of the Environmental Clearance conditions granted by the Ministry also be submitted.

In compliance to the above, the user agency has submitted latest compliance report for the period from October 2015 to March 2016 of conditions imposed in Environmental Clearance order by the Government of India, MoEF & CC which is enclosed as **Annexure-IV**.

In view of the above position of compliance of the observations of Eastern Regional office, it is requested that proposal for diversion of 23.80 ha. of forest land (as per Sabik records as on 25.10.1980) including 2.240ha. of forest land in safety zone area for chromite ore mining from their Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines by M/s Ferro Alloys Corporation Ltd. (FACOR Ltd.) in Cuttack Forest Division coming under jurisdiction Sukinda Tehsil of Jajpur district, Odisha may be considered and in-principle approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act.1980 in favour of the User Agency be conveyed to this department for further follow up action.

Encl: Annexure in two sets

Yours faithfully

[Signature]
28/9/16

Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17976 /F&E., Dated- 28.9.16

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. 17724 dt. 17.9.2016 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Odisha.

[Signature]
28/9/16

Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17977 /Dated. 28.9.16

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

[Signature]
28/9/16

Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17978 /Dated. 28.9.16

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

[Signature]
28/9/16

Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17979 /Dated. 28.9.16

Copy forwarded to the Director(Mines), M/s FACOR Ltd, Laxmi Bhawan, Kuans, Bhadrak 756100, Odisha for information and necessary action..

[Signature]
28/9/16

Special Secretary to Government

Government of Odisha
Forest and Environment Department

IQF (Cons) 228/2016/ 17975 F&E dated 28-9-16
From

Sri Debidutta Biswal, IFS
Special Secretary to Government

To

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central),
Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate Change,
Eastern Regional Office, A-3, Chandrasekharapur,
Bhubaneswar

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 23.80 ha. of forest land (as per Sabik records as on 25.10.1980) including 2.240ha. of forest land in safety zone area for chromite ore mining from their Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines by M/s Ferro Alloys Corporation Ltd. (FACOR Ltd.) in Cuttack Forest Division coming under jurisdiction Sukinda Tehsil of Jajpur district, Odisha (**Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/16453/2015**)

Sir,

I am directed to invite reference to letter No.5-ORC288/2016-BHU dt. 12.8.2016 of Eastern Regional office, MoEF&CC, Government of India on the above mentioned subject and to say that Eastern Regional Office after receipt of the above forest diversion proposal, had made some observations and sought for information from the State Government for further processing the proposal. The PCCF, Odisha was requested for required compliance in this context vide this department Memo No.15388 dt. 20.8.2016. The Addl. PCCF(Forest Diversion) & Nodal Officer, FC Act, O/O PCCF, Odisha vide his letter No.17724 dt. 17.9.2016 has furnished point wise compliance, details of which are as under.

Observation (1)

The State Government has reported that the reclamation and biological reclamation of this mining project has not been provided by the user agency. The same may be furnished.

In compliance to the above, the User Agency has submitted the Biological Reclamation Plan of this mining project which has been enclosed herewith as **Annexure-I**. The Plan prepared by user agency, has been countersigned by DFO, Cuttack. This Plan shall be implemented at project cost.

Observation (2)

The FRA certificate along with Gram Sabha resolution has not been furnished.



In compliance to the above, the Collector, Jajpur has furnished relevant certificate in prescribed format complying with provisions of FRA guidelines. Proceeding of DLC Meeting held on 12.7.2016, Proceedings of SDLC dt. 1.6.2016 deliberating upon the forest diversion proposal are also enclosed herewith. Gram sabha resolution dt. 6.5.2016 of Kalarangiatta village and English version thereof have also been furnished by the Collector, Jajpur. Copy of the FRA certificate along with copy of the Gram Sabha resolution and all other relevant documents mentioned above, are enclosed herewith as **Annexure-II**.

Observation (3)

The shape files of forest area and CA area has not been submitted.

In compliance to the above, the soft copy of shape files of forest area proposed for diversion and Compensatory Afforestation area in CD form are enclosed as **Annexure-III**.

Observation (4)

Since, the entire area is now broken, thereof, the State Government may inform the basis on which the forest area has been classified as Eco-Class-I with density of 0.4.

Based on the report of the DFO, Cuttack, it has been submitted that the entire ML area of 23.80 ha was non-forest land as per Hal Settlement record and accordingly, lease deed was executed and mining operation was continuing. But as per Sabik Settlement record as on 25.10.1980, the entire ML area was found to be of forest kism. Since entire mining lease area has been broken up in course of mining and in order to ascertain the vegetation/density of sabik kism forest in the ML area, the density of vegetation/ category of forest/ forest type and canopy density of adjacent mining lease areas Viz.-Sukinda Chromite Mines of M/s Tata Steel Ltd., Jindal Chromite Mines of M/s. Jindal Stainless Ltd., Kaliapani Chromite Mines of M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd., Mahagiri Chromite Mines of M/s IMFA Ltd. etc. were taken into consideration. Since the vegetation of the above mining leases in Sukinda Valley have been assessed to be of Eco Class-I type with canopy density below 0.4, the vegetation/density/forest type pertaining to Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines of M/s. FACOR Ltd. over an area of 23.80 ha has been considered to be of Eco Class-I & density below 0.4.

Observation (5)

Latest compliance of the Environmental Clearance conditions granted by the Ministry also be submitted.

In compliance to the above, the user agency has submitted latest compliance report for the period from October 2015 to March 2016 of conditions imposed in Environmental Clearance order by the Government of India, MoEF & CC which is enclosed as **Annexure-IV**.

In view of the above position of compliance of the observations of Eastern Regional office, it is requested that proposal for diversion of 23.80 ha. of forest land (as per Sabik records as on 25.10.1980) including 2.240ha. of forest land in safety zone area for chromite ore mining from their Kalarangiatta Chromite Mines by M/s Ferro Alloys Corporation Ltd. (FACOR Ltd.) in Cuttack Forest Division coming under jurisdiction Sukinda Tehsil of Jajpur district, Odisha may be considered and in-principle approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act,1980 in favour of the User Agency be conveyed to this department for further follow up action.

Encl: Annexure in two sets

Yours faithfully

[Signature] 28/9/16

Memo No. 17976 /F&E., Dated- 28.9.16

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. 17724 dt. 17.9.2016 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Odisha.

[Signature] 28/9/16

Memo No. 17977 /Dated. 28-9-16

Special Secretary to Government

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

[Signature] 28/9/16

Memo No. 17978 /Dated. 28 9-16

Special Secretary to Government

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

[Signature] 28/9/16

Memo No. 17979 /Dated. 28 9-16

Special Secretary to Government

Copy forwarded to the Director(Mines), M/s FACOR Ltd, Laxmi Bhawan, Kuans, Bhadrak 756100, Odisha for information and necessary action..

[Signature] 28/9/16

Special Secretary to Government

