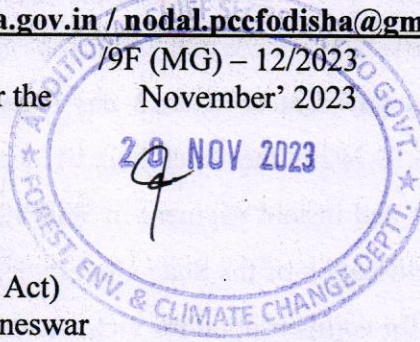




STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS, ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HoFF
PLOT NO. GD-2/12, ARANYA BHAWAN, CHANDRASEKHARPUR
BHUBANESWAR-751023

E-mail:- nodal.pccfhoff@odisha.gov.in / nodal.pccfodisha@gmail.com

No. /9F (MG) – 12/2023
Dated, Bhubaneswar the November' 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 Deputy 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 seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour M/s Raga Tradecon Pvt. Ltd. for non-forestry use of 66.242 ha (including 2.09 ha safety zone) of forest land for Mining of Iron Ore within Netrabandha Pahar (West) Iron Ore Block in villages Baldihi and Sanua under Bonai Forest Division of Sundargarh Odisha – Compliance to GoI observations.(Online Proposal No.FP/OR/MIN/153549/2022).**

Ref:- Letter No.8-14/2023-FC dated 20.09.2023 of the Deputy Inspector General of Forests, GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi letter cited above on the captioned subject, the compliance to the recommendation made under Agenda Item No.11 discussed in the AC meeting held on 17.07.2023 which will apply mutatis-mutandis to the extant proposal is furnished below:-

Observation (i):- Since many proposals of iron ore mining in this landscape are in the process at the Central Government level or being proposed for diversion. Therefore, there is a need to analyse the issue at the landscape level in order to conserve the forests and biodiversity. In this regard, detailed consultations with the State Govt. authorities and other stakeholders including mining lessees shall be carried out by the DDGF (C) Bhubaneswar by involving ministry officials and WII and report shall be submitted in 45 days.

Compliance: In this regard, detailed consultation with the State Govt. Authorities, Ministry Officials, WII and other stakeholders including mining lessees was carried out under the Chairmanship of DDGF (C) Bhubaneswar and PCCF (Nodal), Odisha on 17.10.2023. The copy of the minutes of the said meeting is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

Observation (ii):- Further, considering the present situation of mining in the area and rise in human elephant conflict, the compensation mechanism for the victims by the user agencies needs to be developed.

Compliance: The State Govt. of Odisha has revised the amount of compensation payment for different types of depredation vide Notification No.9128/FE&CC dated 03.05.2023 which is enclosed at **Annexure-II**. Further, to facilitate quick & hassle free payment, one online app i.e. "Anukampa" is in operation and direct payment to victims has been made. Further, the State Govt. vide Notification No.21763 dated 16.10.2023, the legal heir of deceased person was replaced by "Next of Kin" to facilitate easy, quick and instant payment in Wildlife depredation cases State Govt. has sufficient funds for this also. The notification of the State Government is enclosed as **Annexure-III**. Hence, at this stage further, mechanism for compensation for victims by UA may not be required.

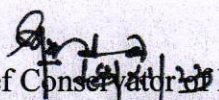
Observation (iii):- The CSIR-NEERI has given its recommendation on carrying capacity vis-à-vis pollution in these areas and the Suggested Ore Transportation Mode (SOTM) in 2014. After lapse of about 9 years, many changes in the landscape and fresh mining in the region, the State Govt. shall examine and report with justification, whether there is a need to revalidate the said study or a need to carry a fresh study in this regard.

Compliance: As per recommendation of CSIR, NEERI on suggested sustainable annual production in Odisha State on 2020-21 is 201 MT. Total Environmental Clearance capacity of 40 Mines (Joda-Koira Sector) is 155.519 MT whereas actual production was 48.087 MT (30.9%) which is much below than permitted dispatch. The Environmental Clearance capacity of 22 Iron Mines in (Joda-Barbil Sector) is 106.631 MT whereas production is 34.420 MT (32.3%) which is also much below than permitted dispatch. Thus, when suggested production will be achieved as per the report of NEERI on transportation ore as per recommendation, there might be a need to carry on fresh study.

In view of the above, the compliance to the observations dated 20.09.2023 of the GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi is sent herewith for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Encl: Compliance in one set


Yours faithfully


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

Memo No. / Dt.

Copy along with one set of compliance forwarded to the Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), GoI, MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023 for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference Letter No.8-14/2023-FC dated 20.09.2023 of the Deputy Inspector General of Forests, GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

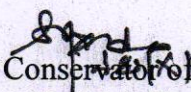
Encl: Compliance in one set


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

Memo No. 22595 /Dt. 18.11.2023

Copy along with one set of compliance forwarded to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to Letter No.8-14/2023-FC dated 20.09.2023 of the Deputy Inspector General of Forests, GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi and Memo No. 20372/FE&CC dated 26.09.2023 of OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Govt., FE&CC Department, Govt. of Odisha.

Encl: Compliance in one set


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


Memo No. /Dt.

Copy forwarded to the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha, Prakruti Bhawan, Plot No. 1459, Saheed Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007 for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 20373/FE&CC dated 26.09.2023 of OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Govt., FE&CC Department, Govt. of Odisha.


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

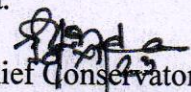
Memo No. /Dt.

Copy forwarded to the RCCF, Rourkela Circle for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No.20374/FE&CC dated 26.09.2023 of OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Govt., FE&CC Department, Govt. of Odisha.


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

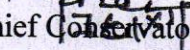
Memo No. /Dt.

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Bonai Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 20374/FE&CC dated 26.09.2023 of OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Govt., FE&CC Department, Govt. of Odisha.


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

Memo No. /Dt.

Copy forwarded to the Vice-President, M/s Raga Tradecon Pvt. Ltd. 1st floor, Shyam Residency, Flat No.101, Near Jharpada Jail, Bhubaneswar-751006 for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 20374/FE&CC dated 26.09.2023 of OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Govt., FE&CC Department, Govt. of Odisha.


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