

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, KEONJHAR DIVISION

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Memo No. 1488 / Mining-95/2017 Dated, Keonjhar the 45-02, 2022

To

The Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,

Rourkela Circle, Rourkela

Sub:

Proposal for diversion of 42.608 Ha of forest land (16.658 Ha in Keonjhar Forest Division and 25.950 Ha in Bonai Forest Division) within Kalmang West (Northern Part) Iron Ore Block in Keonjhar and Sundargarh District allotted to M/s TATA Steel BSL Ltd. (Formerly known as Bhusan Steel Ltd.)

u/s 2(ii) of FC Act, 1980.

(Proposal No - FP/OR/MIN/49169/2020, State Serial No- OR-058/2020,

dated-12.10.2020)

X-Sub:

Submission of compliance report.

Ref:

Memo No. 20893 dt. 06.12.2021 of Conservator of Forests (Nodal), O/O. the

PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

With reference to the aforementioned memo on the captioned subject, the point wise compliance report of the aforementioned mining block, observed by Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act, O/O. the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar is furnished hereunder for favour of information and necessary action.

1. The project proponent M/s TATA Steel BSL Ltd, has applied permission under Section-2 (iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 over 42.608 ha of forest land (16.658 ha in Keonjhar Forest Division and 25.950 ha in Bonai Forest Division). The above proposal has already been forwarded to Govt. of Odisha, FE & CC Dept. for permission under Section-2(iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide this office memo No. 19325 dated – 15.11.2021. The UA may be advised to submit proposal under Section-2(ii) of FC Act, 1980 instead of under Section-2 (iii) and 2(ii) both.

The user agency has applied for diversion of 42.608 Ha of forest land including safety zone over 2.382 ha forest land (16.658 Ha in Keonjhar Forest Division and 25.950 Ha in Bonai Forest Division) under section 2(ii) of F C Act 1980 and accordingly, the user agency has changed the Form - A, Part-I and Project Details, which is enclosed in the Forest Diversion Proposal.

2. As per para-7.9 of Chapter-7 of Handbook of Guideline dated 28.03.2019, all mining projects are required to have a 7.5 meter wide peripherial SZ within the mining lease area. But in this instant proposal, the UA has applied for diversion of 24.802 ha forest land under Section-2(ii) of FC Act, 1980 excluding SZ area of 1.148 ha in case of Bonai Division which is contradictory.

Relates to Bonai Forest Division

3. 512 number of trees have been enumerated over 16.658 Ha of forest land pertaining to Keonjhar Division. But the RCCF Rourkela Circle and DFO Keonjhar Division reported in Site Inspection Report that 433 number of trees have been enumerated.

Total 512 numbers of trees has been enumerated in applied forest area of 16.658 Ha under Keonjhar Forest Division above 30cm girth. Out of above 449 number of trees enumerated in the applied forest area, 63 number of trees comes within Safety Zone area of Keonjhar Forest Division.

4. The Site Specific CA and Additional CA scheme should be prepared as per the guidelines issued by the office Memo No. 18833 dated – 08.11.2021 and Memo No. 20566 dated 01.12.2021.

The CA Scheme over 42.608 ha in non-forest land & 44.002 ha in degraded forest land revised as per the revised CA Norms issued by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha vide his letter no – 18833, dated 08.11.2021 and Memo no – 20566, dated 01.12.2021 are enclosed in the Forest Diversion Proposal.

Divisional Forest Officer, WKeonjhar Division.

Memo No. 1489 /Dated 25 - 02 - 2022

Copy forwarded to the Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act, O/O. the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of information and necessary action.

Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Division.