

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.pccfodisha@gmail.com

Memo No.

2925

/9F(MG) -359/2016

Dated, Bhubaneswar the

G The February 2025

To

(5)

The Divisional Forest Officer Cuttack Forest Division

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 64.119 ha of Sabik Kisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 within total mining lease area of 64.463 ha for Chromite mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Limited, in Jajpur District, Odisha—(Online proposal no.FP/OR/MIN/11934/2015)—Stage-II final approval reg.

- Ref: (i) No.8-14/2015-FC dt.22.01.2025 of Asst. Inspector General of Forests (FC Division), GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
 - (ii) Memo No. 2356/FE&CC dated 27.01.2025 of OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government, FE&CC Department.

Enclosed, please find herewith a copy of Letter No.8-14/2015-FC dt.22.01.2025 of Asst. Inspector General of Forests (FC Division), GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi along with Memo No. 2356/FE&CC dated 27.01.2025 of OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government, FE&CC Department which is self-explanatory, for information and necessary action.

In this context, I am directed to request you to furnish the compliance to the conditions imposed by GoI, MoEF & CC, FC Division, New Delhi in their Final approval order issued vide No.8-14/2015-FC dt.22.01.2025 to this office immediately through RCCF, Angul Circle for onward transmission to the FE & CC Department.

Encl:- As above

Deputy Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Memo No. 2926 Dt 06.02.2025

Copy forwarded to the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Govt. of India, MoEF& CC (FC Division), Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh, Aliganj Road, New Delhi, Pin-110003/Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), MoEF & CC, Govt. of India, Regional Office, A/3, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar for information & necessary action with reference to FE & CC Deptt. Memo No. 2354/FE&CC dated 27.01.2025.

Deputy Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

06.02.2025 Memo No. 2927 Copy forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (WL) & CWLW, Odisha for favour of kind information & necessary action with reference to FE & CC Deptt. Memo No. 2355/FE&CC dated 27.01.2025. Deputy Conservator of Forests (Nodal) Memo No. 2928 06.02.2025 Copy forwarded to the FD,STR-cum-RCCF, Baripada Circle / RCCF, Angul Circle for information & necessary action with reference to FE & CC Deptt. Memo No. 2356/FE&CC dated 27.01.2025. O6,02, Deputy Conservator of Forests (Nodal) Memo No. 2929 Dt. Copy forwarded to the DFO, Balasore (WL) Division for information & necessary action with reference to FE & CC Deptt. Memo No. 2356/FE&CC dated 27.01.2025. Deputy Conservator of Forests (Nodal) Memo No. 2930 Dt. 06.02.2025 Copy forwarded to Steel & Mines Department / Revenue & Disaster Management Department/ Collector, Balasore /Collector, Jajpur for information & necessary action with reference to FE & CC Deptt. Memo No. 2357/FE&CC dated 27.01.2025 Deputy Conservator of Forests (Nodal) 06.02.2028 Memo No. 293 Dt. Copy forwarded to M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd, At/Po- Kaliapani, Dist-Jajpur for information & necessary action with reference to FE & CC Deptt. Memo No. 2358/FE&CC dated 27.01.2025. Deputy Conservator of Forests (Nodal) Memo No. 2932 Dt. 06.02.2081 Copy forwarded to the Head, State Portal, I.T. Centre, Odisha Secretariat, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action with reference to FE & CC Deptt. Memo No. Memo No. <u>9933</u> Dt. 06.02.2025

Deputy Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to Deputy Secretary to C 2359/FE&CC dated 27.01.2025. CC Department for information and necessary action with reference to FE&CC Deptt. Memo No. 2360/FE&CC dated 27.01.2025. Deputy Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

ded to OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Secretar Copy forwarded to OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government, FE & CC Department for information and necessary action with reference to FE&CC Deptt. Memo No.2353/FE&CC dated 27.01.2025. Deputy Conservator of Forests (Nodal)



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA FOREST, ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT

ODISHA

PHINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATION

2352 /FE&CC, Bhubaneswar dated the 24 07525 No. FE-DIV-FLD-0087-2022-10F (Cons) 381/2015

ORDER

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 64.119 ha of Sabik Kisam forest land as on 25:10:1980 within total mining lease area of 64.463 ha for Chromite Mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd in Jajpur District, Odisha-(Online Proposal No.FP/OR/MIN/11934/2015).

WHEREAS, M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd., At/Po-Kaliapani, Dist-Jajpur had applied proposal for diversion of 64.119 ha of Sabik Kisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 within total mining lease area of 64.463 ha for Chromite Mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd in Jajpur District, Odisha.

And whereas, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (FC Division), Government of India, New Delhi had accorded 'Stage-I' approval for diversion of 64.119 ha of Sabik Kisam Forest Land as on 25.10.1980 within total mining lease area of 64.463 ha for Chromite Mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd. in Jajpur District, Odisha, subject to fulfilment of the conditions as laid down therein vide letter F. No.8-14/2016-FC dtd.18.11.2016 (Annexure-IA). Further, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (FC Division), Government of India, New Delhi vide their Letter dtd.25.07.2017 have granted for deletion of condition No.(ix) & (x) of para 2 and inclusion of two conditions in Stage-I Clearance Letter dtd.18.11.2016 (Annexure-IB).

And whereas, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (FC Division), Government of India, New Delhi in consideration of the compliance of the conditions of the Stage-I' approval, have granted "Final approval" under Section-2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of 64.119 ha of Sabik Kisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 within total mining lease area of 64.463 ha for Chromite Mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd in Jajpur District, Odisha, subject to fulfilment of the conditions as stipulated therein vide letter F. No.8-14/2016-FC dtd.22.01.2025 (Annexure-IIA) & issued subsequent Corrigendum thereon dtd.24.01.2025 (Annexure-IIB).

Now, therefore, the Government of Odisha, do hereby allow non-forestry use of 64.119 ha of Sabik Kisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 within total mining lease area of 64.463

ha for Chromite Mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd in Jajpur District, Odisha, as per approved land schedule.

The Collector, Jajpur & Divisional Forest Officer, Cuttack Forest Division, as the case may be are hereby authorized to handover the forest land coming within their jurisdiction, as has been finally diverted after necessary compliance following due procedure of law. Before handing over the diverted forest land to the user agency, it shall be ensured that Net Present Value of the forest land for this project for which approval has been obtained shall be deposited in full, at applicable rates.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Cuttack Forest Division and Divisional Forest Officer, Balasore (Wildlife) Division are directed to monitor compliance to the conditions stipulated for such diversion in the respective forest/ wildlife clearance order and to report violations, if any, to the Nodal Officer, O/o Principal Chief Conservator Forests & HoFF, Odisha and to the Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department.

Execution of project activities will be subject to availability of all other statutory clearances required under relevant Acts/ Rules for this project, deposit of requisite funds and compliance of Court's order, if any.

By order of the Governor

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OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2353 /FE&CC Date 27.01.25

Copy along with copy of the Annexures forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator

of Forests & HoFF, Odisha for kind information and necessary follow up action.

Appropriate instruction to the Divisional Forest Officer, Cuttack Forest Division, Divisional Forest Officer, Balasore (Wildlife) Division and user agency may be imparted for required follow up action at their end. It may be ensured by the Divisional Forest Officer, Cuttack Forest Division that Net Present Value of the forest land involved in this project of the user agency is deposited by them in appropriate head in full, at applicable rates. The user agency may also be instructed to furnish compliance to the conditions of forest/ wildlife clearance pertaining to the project in every quarter to the Divisional Forest Officer, Cuttack Forest Division and Divisional Forest Officer, (Wildlife) Division for facilitating monitoring of compliances.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2354 /FE&CC Date 27.01.25

Copy along with copy of the Annexures forwarded to the Asst. Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF&CC (FC Division), Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi, Pin-110003/ Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), MoEF&CC, Government of India, Regional Office, A/3, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar--23 for kind information and necessary follow up action in compliance to the order of Hon'ble



NGT dtd.07.11.2012 in Appeal No.07/2012 communicated by the MoEF, Government of India vide their letter F. No.7-23/2012- FC dtd.24.07.2013.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. <u>2355</u> /FE&CC Date <u>27.01.25</u>

Copy along with copy of the Annexures forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha/ Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FD&NO, FC Act), O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha for information and necessary action.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2356 /FE&CC Date 27.01.25

Copy along with copy of the Annexures forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Angul Circle/Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Baripada Circle / Divisional Forest Officer, Cuttack Forest Division/Divisional Forest Officer, Balasore (Wildlife) Division for information and immediate necessary compliance.

It may be ensured by the Divisional Forest Officer, Cuttack Forest Division that Net Present Value of the forest land involved in this project of the user agency shall be deposited by them in full, at applicable rates in appropriate head before handing over of the forest land to the user agency. Besides, funds, if any, due to be deposited by the user agency for this project shall also be deposited by the project proponent before the forest land is handed over to them. The user agency may also be instructed to furnish compliance to the conditions of forest/ wildlife clearance pertaining to the project in every quarter to the Divisional Forest Officer, Cuttack Forest Division and Divisional Forest Officer, Balasore(Wildlife) Division for facilitating monitoring of compliances by them.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Cuttack Forest Division and Divisional Forest Officer, Balasore (Wildlife) Division are also instructed to ensure that the directions given to the user agency are executed immediately.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2357 /FE&CC Date 27:01:25

Copy along with copy of the Annexures forwarded to the Steel & Mines Department/Revenue & DM, Department/ Collector, Jajpur/Collector, Balasore for information and necessary follow up action.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2358 /FE&CC Date 27.01.25

Copy along with copy of the Annexures forwarded to M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd, At/Po-Kaliapani, Dist-Jajpur for information and immediate necessary action.

The user agency is asked to take following actions immediately as per orders of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal dtd.07.11.2012 in Appeal No.07/2012 communicated by the MoEF, Government of India vide their letter F. No.7-23/2012-FC dtd.24.07.2013.

- They shall publish the entire forest clearance granted in verbatim along with conditions and safeguards imposed by the Central Government in Stage-I/II forest clearance in two widely circulated daily newspapers, one in vernacular language and the other in English language so as to make people aware of the permission granted to the Project for use of forest land for non-forest purposes.
- ii. They shall submit the copies of forest clearance orders granted by the Central Government/State Government to the Heads of local bodies,

Panchayats and Municipal bodies along with the relevant offices of the State Government, who in turn, shall display the same for 30 days from date of receipt.

iii. Detailed action taken in compliance to the above order of State Government shall be intimated to the DFO, Cuttack Forest Division/DFO,

Government shall be intimated to the DFO, Cuttack Forest Division/DFO, Balasore (Wildlife) Division / RCCF, Angul Circle/ RCCF, Baripada Circle /PCCF & HoFF, Odisha/ Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department

for reference.

Besides the above, the user agency is also asked to deposit Net Present Value of forest land for this project in full, if not deposited yet, at applicable rates. Requisite funds due for deposit by the user agency on account of this project shall also be deposited under appropriate head.

The user agency shall furnish compliances to the conditions prescribed in the forest/wildlife clearance order to the Divisional Forest Officer, Cuttack Forest Division and Divisional Forest Officer, Balasore (Wildlife) Division in every quarter, for the purpose of monitoring by them

monitoring by them.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2359 /FE&CC Date 27:01:25

Copy along with copy of the Annexures forwarded to the Head, State Portal, I.T. Centre, Odisha Secretariat, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action. He is requested to upload this order along with its enclosures in the website of Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department immediately for information of all concerned. This is required in compliance to order of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal dtd.07.11.2012 in Appeal No.7/2012. Hence this may be done unfailingly.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 2360 /FE&CC Date 27.01.25

Copy along with copy of the Annexures forwarded to the Deputy Secretary to Government, Office Establishment Section, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department for information and necessary action with reference to their letter No.12939/F&E dtd.16.07.2016.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

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F. No. 8-14/2016-FC Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division)

> Indira Puryavaran Bhawan Aliganj, Jorbagh Road New Delhi -- 110003.

Dated: 18 November, 2016

To.

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Diversion of 64.119 ha, of Sabik Kisam forest land as on 25,16,1980 within total minig lease area of 64.463 ha, for Chromite mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd. in Jajpur District, Odisha.

Sir.

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter No. No. 10F (Cons) 381/2015-12027 /F&E, Bhuhaneshwar, dated 29.06.16 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and to say that the said proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

- 2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government of Odisha and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee, the Central Government hereby agrees to accord Stage-I approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the diversion of 64.119 ha of Sabik Kisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 within total minig lease area of 64.463 ha for Chromite mining in their Kalinpani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Atloys Ltd. in Jajpur District, Odisha subject to the following conditions:
 - Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
 - Compensatory afforestation over the non-forest land equal in extent to the forest land being diverted shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency within three years of Stage -It Clearance;
 - (iii) The land identified for the purpose of CA shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India toposheet of 1:50,000 scalu;
 - (iv) The non-forest land identified for raising compensatory afforestation shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department before issue of the Stage-II clearance;
 - (v) The non-forest land identified for raising Compensatory Afforestation shall be notified by the State Government as RF under Section-4 or PF under Section-20 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act, as the case may be, within a period of six months. The Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation) shall report compliance in this regard;
 - (vi) The User Agency shall transfer the cost of ruising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation at the current wage rate in consultation with State Forest Department in the account of Ad-hoc Campa of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.

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- (vii) The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal into Ad-hoc CAMPA account of the State Concerned;
- (viii) At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall famish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
- (ix) The User agency shall pay NPV at the rate 20 per cent for each year since the violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 has commenced;
- User agency shall raise penal CA equivalent to the land utilised in violation of the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act 1986;
- (xi) Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area [7.5 meters strip all along the outer boundary of the mining lease area as recommended by the state govt.] shall be done within three year at the project cost from the issue of Stage-II Clearance. Busides this afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere measuring one & n half times the area under safety zone shall also be done at the project cost; The degraded forest land (DFL) so selected will be informed to the MoEF & CC with shape files and afforestation will be done within three years from the date of Stage-II clearance;
- (xii) Period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period coterminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as excepted and the Rules framed thereunder;
- (xiii) Any fund received from the user agency under the project and deposited in the State Forest Department account, except the funds realized for regeneration/ demarcation of safety zone, shall be transferred through online portal into Ad-hoc CAMPA account of the State Concerned;
- (xiv) The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- (xv) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- (xvi) The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
- (xvii) The boundary of the diverted forest land, mining lease and safety zone, as applicable, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by creeting four feet high reinforced coment concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates;
- (xviii) The User Agency shall undertake mining in a phased manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the User Agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Government and the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concernent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Offices of the Chief Consecution of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain

- (xix) The layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
- (xx) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- (xxi) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xxii) No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
- (xxiii) Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Perest Department;
- (xxiv) The user agency will abide by the applicable recommendations of the State Government;
- (xxv) Following activities, as per approved plan / schemes, shall be undertaken by the User Agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department:
 - (a) Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream shall be implemented within a period of three year with effect from the issue of Stage-II clearance in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department.
 - (b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds, in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion in accordance with the approved scheme;
 - (c) Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour in accordance with the approved scheme;
 - (d) Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching, in accordance with the approved scheme, so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 280; and
 - (e) No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan.
- (xxvi) The State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in terms of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted and submit the documentary evidence as prescribed by this Ministry in its letter No. 11-9/1998-FC (pt.) dated 03.08.2009 read with 05.07.2013, in support thereof;
 - (xxvii) User agency either himself or through the State Forest Department shall undertake gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests (having crown density less than 0.40), if any, located in the area within 100 m. from outer perimeter of the mining lease. The plan for plantation and SMC activities will be prepared and submitted to MoEF &CC before Stage-II Clearance;
 - (xxviii) The User Agency shall undertake mining in a phased manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mixed over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the User Agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be aubmitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Government and the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities area satisfactorily executed.

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- (xxix) The User Agency shall prepare a list of existing village tanks and other water bodies with GPS co-ordinates located within five km. from the mine lease boundary. This list is to be duly verified by the concerned Divisional Forest Officer. The User Agency shall regularly undertake desliting of these village tanks and other water bodies so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies. A detailed plan for desilting of identified ponds and water bodies to be prepared in consultation with forest department and shall be submitted to MoEF & CC before Stage-11 approval;
- The User Agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above (XXX) stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year,
- Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from (xxxi) time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildtife; and
- The user agency shall comply all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, (xxxii) Guidelines & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if my, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project
- 3. After receipt of the report on compliance to the conditions stipulated in the paragraph-2 above from the State Government of Odisha, final/stage-II approval for diversion of the said forest under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will be issued by this Ministry. Transfer of to the said forest land to the user agency shall not be affected by the State Government of Odisha till final/stage-II approval for its diversion is issued by this Ministry.

Yours faithfully.

(Sundeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar

2. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office (Eastern Zone), Bhubaneswar

User Agency.

Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF, New Delhi.

Guard File.

(Sandeep Sharmd)

Assistant inspector General of Forests (FC)



F.No.8-14/2016-FC

Government of India

nistry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aligani. New Delhi: 110003. Dated: 25th July, 2017

The Principal Secretary (Focests), Government of Odisha,

Bhubaneswar.

Diversion of 64.119 ha, of Sabik Kisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 within total mining lease area of 64.463 ha. for Chromite mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd. in Jajpur District, Odisha

Sir.

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. 10F(Cons)381/2015-20394/F&E dated 05.11.2016 requesting to modify the following conditions no. (ix) & (x) of para 2 of In-principal approval/Stage-I Clearance dated 18.11.2016 for penal charges in connection with diversion of 64.119 ha, of Sabik Kisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 within total mining lease area of 64,463 ha, for Chromite mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines' by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd. in Jajpur District, Odisha:

(i) The User agency shall pay NPV at the rate 20 per cent for each year since the violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 has commenced.

(ii) User agency shall raise penal CA equivalent to the land utilised in violation of the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.

- After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government for modification of above stated conditions of Stage-I approval dated 18.11.2016 and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee held on 25,04,2017 and acceptance of the same by the competent authority, the approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is hereby granted for deletion of condition No. (ix) & (x) of para 2 and inclusion of the following conditions in Stage-I Clearance letter of even no. dated 18.11.2016 for penal charges:
 - (i) A committee under that chairmanship of Sh Tejender Singh PCCF, Regional Office, Bhopal with members sh Kanwarjeet singh APPCCF RO Nagpur, Sh Reddy APCCP RO Chennai ,Sh Sanjay Deshmukh Member FAC and Sh Deepak kumar sinha IG (FC) MoEF&CC is formed to decide a policy frame work and quantum of penalty to be imposed in deliberate and unavoidable violations of provisions of FCA 1980.
 - (ii) Since the User agency has violated the provisions of FC Act and Rules made thereof. the quantum of penalty shall be imposed and realised as per the recommendations of the committee, constituted for this purpose by the FAC and accepted by the competent authority in the ministry.

Soce - 25/4/10

 The remaining conditions as stipulated in Stage-I Clearance letter of even no. dated 18.11.2016 remain the same.

After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned at para (2) and (3) above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully.

(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

2. The Nodal Officer, Office of the PCCF, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

3. The Addl. PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.

4. User Agency

5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi

6. Guard file.

(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

8-14/2016-FC

Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division)

> Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aligani, New Delhi: 110003. Dated: 22-01-2025



The Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 64.119 ha of Sabk Kisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 within total mining lease area of 64.463 ha for Chromite mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd in Jajpur district, Odisha- (Online proposal no. FP/OR/MIN/11934/2015). Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter No 0F (Cons) 381/2015-12027/F&E dated 29.06.2016 on the above-mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. After careful examination of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee, constituted under Section-3 of the said Adhiniyam, 'in-principle' approval to the proposal under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 18.11.2016 read with the letter dated 25.07.2017 and temporary working permission granted vide letter dated 04.12.2023 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions prescribed therein. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval and temporary working permission granted on 04.12.2023 and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government vide letter No. 24978/9F (MG)-359/2016 dated 08.12.2022 and vide letter No. 1459/9F (MG) -359/2016 dated 18.01.2025, 'final approval' of the Central Government is hereby granted Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of 64.119 ha of Sabk Kisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 within total mining lease area of 64.463 ha for Chromite mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd. in Jajpur district, Odisha., subject to following conditions:

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;

2. Compensatory Afforestation:

a. The State Government shall ensure that compensatory afforestation over the 63.949 ha of non-forest land which has already been notified as "Rahadpur Protected Forest", vide Notification No. 19893/ FE & CC dated 07.11.2022, under Section 33 of Odisha Forest Act, 1972 shall be



raised within two years from the date of issue of final approval. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided. The compensatory afforestation scheme, as approved, shall be implemented by the State Forest Department. The CA will be maintained at least for 10 years;

b. The State Government shall ensure that penal compensatory afforestation over 7.4703 ha of non-forest land identified in village Balgopalpur under Remuna Tahasil of Balasore District and already notified as "Rahadpur Protected Forest", vide Notification No.FE-DIV-FLD-0087-2022(10F) (Cons)-381/2015-1500/FE&CC dated 15.01.2025, under Section 33 of Odisha Forest Act, 1972 shall be raised within two years from the date of issue of final approval.

3. Net Present Value:

- a. The State Government has realized the NPV of the forest area diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the Judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008 & 09.05.2008 in IA No. 566 in WP (C) No. 202/1995 and guidelines issued by this Ministry in this regard. Additional NPV if becomes due as per final order of Hon'ble Supreme Court, shall be paid by the User Agency;
- b. The user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- 4. Compensatory levies for this project, if any to be realized in future from the User Agency, shall be deposited to into the account of CAMPA of the State concerned through e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.in);
- 5. The State Govt. shall ensure that user agency either himself or through the State Forest Department shall undertake gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests (having crown density less than 0.40), if any, located in the area within 100 m. from outer perimeter of the mining lease as per scheme submitted along with the compliance report;
- 6. The State Govt. shall ensure that user agency shall prepare a list of existing village tanks and other water bodies with GPS co-ordinates located within five km. from the mine lease boundary. This list is to be duly verified by the concerned Divisional Forest Officer. The User Agency shall regularly undertake desilting of these village tanks and other water bodies so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies;
- 7. The State Government shall ensure that process for settlement of rights, in term of the Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, has been completed in accordance with the relevant guidelines prescribed by this Ministry's letter No. 11-9/1998-FC (Pt.) dated 03.08.2009 read with 05.07.2013;
- 8. The State Govt. shall ensure that user agency either himself or through the State Forest Department shall undertake appropriate mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of drains as per scheme submitted along



with the compliance report. Observations and recommendation contained in the inspection report of the Regional Office should be taken into consideration. Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds in the appropriate area within the mining lease area to arrest soil erosion shall be enforced. Construction of check dam, retention wall/ toe walls to arrest sliding down of excavated materials along the contours shall be implemented;

- State Government shall ensure that the project authority needs to take up works for construction and cleaning of garland drains, stabilizing retaining walls, proper terracing of OB dumps and checking gully formation resulting in erosion;
- 10. State Government shall ensure that plants which are having lowest translocation factor can be preferred under afforestation on the OB dumps and fruit trees to be avoided in planting during biological stabilization of OB dumps;
- 11. State Government shall ensure prevention of fall of wild animals into mining pit by fencing the open pit area;
- State Government shall ensure that the angle of repose in OB dumps to be maintained to ensure stability and safety;
- 13. State Government shall ensure that vetiver grass can be planted at the lower reaches of the dump to bind the soil and prevent soil erosion giving better stability to the dump;
- State Government and user agency shall ensure that trees should be felled in phased manner as per requirement in the approved Mining Plan with prior permission of concerned DFO;
- 15. The State Government shall ensure that the user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- 16. The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall carry out mining in a phased manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the User Agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Government and the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities area satisfactorily executed;
- 17. Following activities, as per approved plan/ schemes, shall be undertaken by the User Agency at project cost under the supervision of the State Forest Department:



- a. Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream shall be implemented in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department.
- Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds, in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion in accordance with the approved scheme;
- Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls to arrest sliding down
 of the excavated material along the contour in accordance with the
 approved scheme;
- d. Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching, in accordance with the approved scheme, so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28°; and
- e. No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan.
- 18. Safety Zone Management: Following activities, at project cost, shall be undertaken by the user agency for the management of safety zone as per relevant guidelines issued by the Ministry's guidelines:
 - i. User agency shall ensure demarcation of safety zone (7.5-meter strip all along the inner boundary of the mining lease area), and its fencing, protection and regeneration by erecting adequate number of 6 feet high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates with barbed wire fencing and deploying adequate number of watchers under the supervision of the. State Forest Department;
 - Boundary of the safety zone of the mining lease, adjacent to habitation/roads, should be properly fenced by the user agency;
 - iii. Safety zone shall be maintained as green belt around mining lease and to ensure dense canopy in the area, regeneration shall be taken up in this area by the user agency at project cost under the supervision of the State Forest Department;
 - iv. Afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone, shall also be done at the project cost under the supervisions of the State Forest Department.
 - v. The State Government and the user agency shall ensure that safety zone is maintained as per the prescribed norms.
- 20. The User Agency shall comply with the Hon'ble Supreme Court order on regrassing, and re-grass the mining area and any other areas which may have been disturbed due to mining to restore them to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna, etc. in a timely manner;
- 21. The State Govt. shall ensure that the period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals



(Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;

22. The user agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;

23. The State Govt. shall ensure that No labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;

24. The State Govt. shall ensure that the boundary of the diverted forest land, mining lease and safety zone, as applicable, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS coordinates; The layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;

25. The State Govt. shall ensure that the forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government; No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;

26. The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency and the State Forest Department shall create and maintain from funds to be provided by the user agency alternate habitat/ home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project as per the plan duly approved by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) and the Chief Wildlife Warden Odisha. Bird nests artificially made out of eco-friendly materials shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project;

27. The State Government shall ensure that the Site Specific Wildlife Management Plan (SSWMP) for mitigation the impact of project on wildlife of the area will be implemented by the state Government in consultation with the PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden of State at Project cost deposited by the UA as per approved plan;

28. The State Govt. shall ensure that the User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and this Ministry by the end of March every year;

29. Any other condition that the concerned Integrated Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, with the approval of competent authority, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife:

30. The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall comply all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project; and

31. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.16 of Chapter 1 of the Consolidated Guidelines and Clarifications on Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980



as issued by this Ministry's letter dated 29.12.2023.

32. The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval letter dated 18.11.2016 for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency and also the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court Order (S) and NGT Order (S), if any, or the time being in force, including compliance of the Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act, 2006, before handing over the forest land to the user agency.

33. The monitoring report shall be uploaded on e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.in/)

regularly.

Signed by Dheeraj Mittal

Yours faithfully,

Date: 22-01-2025 08:52:00

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal) Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

2. DDGF (Central), Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar.

3. PCCF cum Nodal Officer, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneshwar.

4. User Agency.

5. Monitoring Cell of FC Divisions, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

6. Guard file.



Government of India

National Strain Government, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bag Road, New Delhi - 110003. Dated: 24-01-2025

To The Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Corrigendum

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 64.119 ha of SabkKisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 within total mining lease area of 64.463 ha for Chromite mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd in Jajpur district, Odisha- Submission of Stage-I compliance regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even no. dated 22.01.2025 conveying the final approval of the Central government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 on the above mentioned subject proposal and to say that word appeared as "*Rahadpur*" in condition no. 2 (b) shall be read as "*Balgopalpur*".

The rest part of the approval letter shall remain unchanged.

Signed by

Yours faithfully,

Dheeraj Mittal

Date: 24-01-2025 11:38:27

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

- 1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- The DDGF (Central), Regional Office of MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar.
- 3. The Nodal Officer, Department of Forest, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- 4. User Agency.
- Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.