

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**

**FOREST, ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT**

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No.FE-DIV-FLD-0066-2021- 17353 /FE&CC, Bhubaneswar, dated the 27.09.22

10F (Cons) 16/2016

**ORDER**

Sub: Proposal for according permission for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total Mining Lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal Chromite Mining Lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) Forest Range of Dhenkanal Forest Division in Dhenkanal District for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" dia (40 boreholes @0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) by M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd for prospecting of minerals.

WHEREAS, the Managing Director, Odisha Mining Corporation Limited, OMC House, Bhubaneswar had applied for according permission for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total Mining Lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal Chromite Mining Lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) Forest Range of Dhenkanal Forest Division in Dhenkanal District for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" dia (40 boreholes @0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) for prospecting of minerals.

And whereas, the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi had accorded 'in-principle' approval for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total Mining Lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal Chromite Mining Lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) Forest Range of Dhenkanal Forest Division in Dhenkanal District for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" diameter (40 boreholes @0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) by M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd for prospecting of minerals vide its letter No.8-45/2016-FC dtd.19.12.2017 (**Annexure-I**) and modified Stage-I approval dtd.24.05.2018 (**Annexure-IA**) subject to certain conditions as laid down therein.

And whereas, the MoEF&CC, Government of India, New Delhi in consideration of the compliance of the conditions of the 'in-principle' approval, has accorded Stage-II/final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for according permission for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total Mining lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal Chromite Mining Lease located in Kankadahad



*d*



Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) Forest Range of Dhenkanal Forest Division in Dhenkanal District for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" dia (40 boreholes @0.02 ha each totalling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) by M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd for prospecting of minerals vide its letter File No.8-45/2016-FC dtd.16.09.2022 (**Annexure-II**) subject to certain conditions as laid down therein.

Now therefore, the Government of Odisha, do hereby allow M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total Mining lease of 264.466 ha in Kathpal Chromite Mining Lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) Forest Range of Dhenkanal Forest Division in Dhenkanal District for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" dia (40 boreholes @0.02 ha each totalling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) subject to having valid lease.

The Collector, Dhenkanal and Divisional Forest Officer, Dhenkanal Forest Division, as the case may be are authorized to handover the forest land, as has been allowed to be utilized for the purpose of prospecting, to the user agency subject to having valid lease following due procedure of law. Before handing over the forest land to the user agency, it shall be ensured that compensatory levies including NPV, as due, for this project is deposited, in full, at applicable rates.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Dhenkanal Forest Division is also directed to monitor compliance to the conditions stipulated for such use of forest land in the respective forest/ Wildlife clearance order and to report violations, if any, to the Nodal Officer, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha and to the Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department.

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

By order of Governor  
*(Signature)*  
(Lingaraj Otta)

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17354 /FE&CC, Date 27.09.22

Copy along with the copy of 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, Dhenkanal Forest Division and the user agency may be imparted for required follow up action at their



end. It may be ensured by the Divisional Forest Officer, Dhenkanal Forest Division that compensatory levies, as due, for this project of user agency, is deposited by them in appropriate head of account in full, at applicable rates. The user agency may also be instructed to furnish compliance to the conditions of forest clearance pertaining to the project in every quarter to the Divisional Forest Officer, Dhenkanal Forest Division for facilitating monitoring of compliances.

*d. 27/9/22*  
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17355 /FE&CC, Date 27.09.22

Copy along with the copy of Annexures forwarded to the Asst. Inspector General of Forests, Government 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, Government of India, IRO, A/3, Chandrasekharapur, Bhubaneswar for kind information and necessary follow up action in compliance to the order of the Hon'ble NGT dtd.07.11.2012 in Appeal No.7/2012 communicated by the MoEF, Govt. of India vide their F.No.7-23/2012-FC dtd.24.07.2013.

*d. 27/9/22*  
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17356 /FE&CC, Date 27.09.22

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

*d. 27/9/22*  
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17357 /FE&CC, Date 27.09.22

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

It may be ensured by the Divisional Forest Officer, Dhenkanal Forest Division that compensatory levies, as due, for this project of user agency, shall be deposited by them in full at applicable rates in appropriate head of account before allowing use of the forest land by the user agency. Besides, funds, if any, due to be deposited by the user agency for this project shall also be deposited by the user agency before the forest land is allowed to be utilized for the purpose of prospecting. The user agency may also be instructed to furnish compliance to the conditions of forest clearance pertaining to the project in every quarter to the Divisional Forest Officer, Dhenkanal Forest Division for facilitating monitoring of



compliances by them.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Dhenkanal Forest Division is also instructed to ensure that the direction given to the user agency is executed immediately.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17358 /FE&CC, Date 27.09.22

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

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17359 /FE&CC, Date 27.09.22

Copy along with the copy of Annexures forwarded to the Private Secretary to Minister of Forest, Environment & Climate Change for kind information of Hon'ble Minister.

OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17360 /FE&CC, Date 27.09.22

Copy along with the copy of the Annexures forwarded to the Managing Director, Odisha Mining Corporation Limited, OMC House, Bhubaneswar 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.7/2012 communicated by the MoEF, Government of India vide their letter F. No.7-23/2012-FC dtd.24.07.2013.

- i. ***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 Divisional Forest Officer, Dhenkanal Forest Division/ Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,***



**Angul Circle/ Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha/  
Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department for reference.**

**Besides the above, the user agency is also asked to deposit  
Compensatory Levies, as due for the 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, Dhenkanal Forest Division in every quarter, for the purpose of  
monitoring by him.**

*d 27/9/2022*  
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17361 /FE&CC, Date 27.09.22

Copy with copy of 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.**

*d 27/9/2022*  
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 17362 /FE&CC, Date 27.09.22

Copy with copy of enclosures forwarded to the Under 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.

*d 27/9/2022*  
OSD-cum-Special Secretary to Government



ANNEXURE-I

No. 8-45/2016-FC  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change  
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,  
New Delhi - 110003.  
Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

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

Stage - I approval order

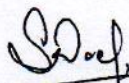
Sub: Proposal for according permission for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total mining lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal chromite mining lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) forest range of Dhenkanal forest division in Dhenkanal District for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" diameter (40 boreholes @ 0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) by M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. for prospecting of minerals.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. 10F (Cons) 16/2016/17627/F&E dated 21.09.2016 submitting the above subject proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government for according permission for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total mining lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal chromite mining lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) forest range of Dhenkanal forest division in Dhenkanal District for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" diameter (40 boreholes @ 0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) by M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. for prospecting of minerals 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.

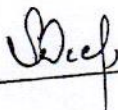
2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government of Odisha and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee, *In-principle* approval is hereby granted for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total mining lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal chromite mining lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) forest range of Dhenkanal forest division in Dhenkanal District for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" diameter (40 boreholes @ 0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) by M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. for prospecting of minerals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The User Agency shall be allowed exploratory drilling of a maximum of 40 bore holes of 4" diameter (40 boreholes @ 0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) over 264.466 ha of forest land.
- (ii) Compensatory afforestation shall be raised over equal the diverted forest land and at-least 1600 tall plants per hectare (3.606 hectares x 1600 = 5769.6 i.e. 5770 plants) shall be planted over identified non-forest land (3.6 ha) in pits of size 0.6m x 0.6m x 0.6m filled with imported soils and manure with provision for ten years on subsequent maintenance. Identified non-forest land for CA has been certified to be suitable for bald hill plantation by the state-government.
- (iii) 25% of revised CA cost will be deposited extra by the user agency for soil and moisture conservation (SMC) activities on the CA land.

  
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- (iv) All conditions imposed by the state government in their letter no.10F (Cons) 16/2016/17627/F&E dated 21.09.2016 shall be complied.
- (v) No tree/ vegetation shall be allowed to be removed /felled during prospecting and no temporary road shall be constructed by the user agency for movement of equipment stated by the user agency. The user agency may use the existing forest roads for prospecting works.
- (vi) State government shall ensure that the concerns of NTCA are addressed properly and all mitigation measures suggested by NTCA as listed below shall be followed strictly:
- Since tiger corridor is on the northern side of the forest land hence infrastructural development activities viz. civil construction activities etc. associated with mining should not be allowed towards northern end of forestland.
  - No bio resources should be used from the neighbouring forests.
  - Labourers should strictly be prohibited from hunting. The mining company should hold responsible & the requisite legal action is to be taken if poaching is reported by its labourers and personnel.
  - No labour settlements should be allowed in the Forest.
  - No transportation should be permitted to transverse the delineated Similipal-Satkosia corridor.
  - The mitigation measures suggested by forest and environment department, Government of Odisha vide letter no. 105 (Cons)-16/2016-17627/F&E 21.09.2016 should be strictly adhered to.
- (vii) Initially the permission for prospecting will be granted for two years from the date of stage II approval which can be extended for one more year with convincing justification from the state government for extension.
- (viii) The permission for prospecting of chromite mineral in forest area will not grant any right to the user agency to claim permission under section 2(ii) of FCA 1980 for mining in the forest land.
- (ix) In case of violations of conditions by the user agency, the permission for prospecting of minerals shall be suspended by the DFO and enquired by the Nodal officer (FCA) of the State Government and report submitted to the Regional office for appropriate action.
- (x) The land identified for the purpose of CA shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India topo-sheet of 1:50,000 scale.
- (xi) The non-forest land to be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for raising Compensatory Afforestation shall be notified as reserved Forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act.
- (xii) The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising 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.
- (xiii) The samples collected during the prospecting shall be used purely for investigation purposes and shall in no case be used for trade or commerce purpose;
- (xiv) To minimize disturbance to the wildlife, user agency shall take all possible measures to minimize noise during prospecting operations and halt the prospecting activities during night and during such periods in the day as may be advised by the concerned Chief Wildlife Warden, concern State Forest Department ;
- (xv) The State Forest Department shall deploy adequate staff to supervise the activities to be undertaken by the user agency to prevent any damage to the flora (especially the fresh regeneration), fauna and also to prevent felling of trees during drilling of holes and movement of equipment;



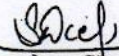
19.12.17



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- (xvi) After completion of the prospecting all bore holes shall be completely filled up and the ground restored back to its original position ;
  - (xvii) During transportation of Bore drilling Machine / rigs, no new road / permanent path in the forest area will be constructed.
  - (xviii) The State Government and the user agency shall comply with any other condition that the concern Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife; and
  - (xix) The user agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the Guidelines dated 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 issued by the Ministry regarding drilling in the forest land.
  - (xx) The State Government and user agency shall comply the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, NGT order & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project; and

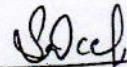
After receipt of the report on the compliance to the conditions stipulated in the paragraph-2 above from the State Government of Odisha, final/stage-II approval for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total mining lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal chromite mining lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) forest range of Dhenkanal forest division in Dhenkanal District for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" diameter (40 boreholes @ 0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) by M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. for prospecting of minerals of the said forest under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will be considered by this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Sandeep Sharma) 19.12.17  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

**Copy to:**

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Addl. PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC
6. Guard File

  
(Sandeep Sharma) 19.12.17  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)



ANNEXURE-IA

F. No 8-45/2016-FC  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change  
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,  
New Delhi - 110003

Dated: 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2018

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

**Sub: Proposal for according permission for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total Mining lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal chromite Mining lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) Forest Range of Dhenkanal Forest Division in Dhenkanal district for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" dia (40 boreholes @ 0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) by M/S Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. for prospecting of minerals.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter No. 10F(Cons)-16/2016-27036/F&E dated 30.12.2017 on the above subject proposal for requesting to modify the conditions No. 2(ii) and 2(v) of Stage-I approval dated 19.12.2017.

2. After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee, the following approval for modification in the stage-I approval dated 19.12.2017 (Pg.187-189/c) in connection with the proposal for according permission for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total Mining lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal chromite Mining lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) Forest Range of Dhenkanal Forest Division in Dhenkanal district for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" dia (40 boreholes @ 0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) by M/S Odisha mining corporation Ltd. for prospecting of minerals are made:

- (i) The condition No. 2(ii) of Stage-I order i.e. *Compensatory afforestation shall be raised over equal the diverted forest land and atleast 1600 tall plants per hectare (3.606 hectares x 1600 = 3606 plants) shall be planted over identified non-forest land (3.6 ha) in pits of size 0.6m x 0.6m x 0.6m filled with imported soils and manure with provision for ten years on subsequent maintenance. Identified non-forest land for CA has been certified to be suitable for bald hill plantation by the state government* is as per recommendation of state government and no change should be allowed.



(3)

(ii) The condition no 2(v) of stage-I approval stated that:

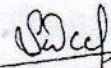
*"No tree/vegetation shall be allowed to be removed/felled during prospecting and no temporary road shall be constructed by the user agency for movement of equipment stated by the user agency. The user agency may use the existing forest roads for prospecting works"*

should be modified as

*"No tree shall be allowed to be removed/felled during prospecting. User Agency is allowed to use 2.806 ha. Forest land, for construction of temporary path for movement of equipment. No permanent road shall be constructed by the user agency. The temporary path shall be reverting back to forest department after completion of prospecting work."*

3. The other conditions as stipulated in Stage-I approval dated 19.12.2017 will remain the same.

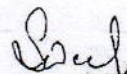
Yours faithfully,

  
(Sandeep Sharma) 24.5.18

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.
3. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office (Eastern Zone), Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.

  
(Sandeep Sharma) 24.5.18

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)



21/09/22

ANNEXURE-II



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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,  
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 16th September, 2022

To,

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

**Sub: Proposal for according permission for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total Mining lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal Chromite Mining lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) Forest Range of Dhenkanal Forest Division in Dhenkanal district for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" dia (40 boreholes @ 0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) by M/S Odisha mining corporation Ltd. for prospecting of minerals.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter No. 10F (Cons) 16/2016/17627/F&E dated 21.09.2016 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. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under section 3 of the said Act, 'in-principle' approval was granted vide this Ministry's letters of even number dated 19.12.2017 read with dated 24.05.2018 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Chief Conservator of Forests (FC & Nodal Officer, FCA), Government of Odisha vide their letter No. 13579/9F (MG) 407/2016 dated 11.07.2022, Stage-II/Final approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for according permission for use of 3.606 ha of forest land within total Mining lease area of 264.466 ha in Kathpal chromite Mining lease located in Kankadahad Tahasil and Kamakshyanagar (East) Forest Range of Dhenkanal Forest Division in Dhenkanal district for undertaking exploratory drilling of 40 no. of boreholes of 4" dia (40 boreholes @ 0.02 ha each totaling 0.80 ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) by M/S Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. for prospecting of minerals subject to following conditions:

A. Conditions which need to be complied and filed before handing over of

USC/DM  
21/9/2022

21/09/2022

BPS  
22/09/2022



**forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department**

1. KML file of the non-forest land identified for raising CA and subsequently notified as PF shall be uploaded on the e-Green Watch Portal by the user agency before handing over the forest land to the forest land to the user agency for carrying out prospecting.

**B. Conditions which need to be complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department**

1. State Government shall ensure that the User Agency shall be allowed exploratory drilling of a maximum of 40 bore holes of 4" diameter (40 boreholes Cry 0.02 ha each totaling 0.80ha and 2.806 ha for construction of road) over 264.466 ha of forest land.
2. **Compensatory Afforestation:**
  - i. The State Government shall ensure that compensatory afforestation over the non-forest land equal in extent to the forest land being diverted shall be raised within three years from the date of issue of Stage II Clearance and maintained thereafter as per approved plan by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency. At least 1600 tall plants per hectare (3.606 hectares x 1600 = 5769.6 i.e 5770 plants) shall be planted over identified non-forest land (3.6 ha) in pits of size 0.6m x 0.6 m x 0.6m filled with imported soils and manure with provision for ten years on subsequent maintenance. In such cases CA cost will be revised and duly approved by the competent authority and deposited online in the CAF managed by the CAMPA; and
  - ii. 25% of the CA cost additionally will be spent towards soil and moisture conservation activities in the proposed CA area as per site requirement and deposited in CAF;
3. The non-forest land of 3.66 ha notified as Protected Forest vide Notification No. FE-DIV-FLD-0066-2021-7875/F&E dated 19.04.2021 shall be kept free from encroachment and afforested as per approved CA Scheme to keep it ecologically productive;
4. State Government shall ensure that all conditions imposed by the State Government in their letter no. 1OF (Cons) 16/2016/17627/F&E dated 21.09.2016 shall be complied;
5. State Government shall ensure that no tree/ vegetation shall be allowed to be removed /felled during prospecting and no temporary road shall be constructed by the user agency for movement of equipment stated by the User Agency. The User Agency may use the existing forest roads for prospecting works;
6. State Government shall ensure that the concerns of NTCA are addressed properly and all mitigation measures suggested by NTCA as listed below shall be followed strictly:
  - i. Since tiger corridor is on the northern side of the forest /and hence infrastructural development activities viz, civil construction activities etc. associated with mining should not be allowed towards northern end of forest land;
  - ii. No bio resources should be used from the neighbouring forests;
  - iii. Labourers should strictly be prohibited from hunting. The mining

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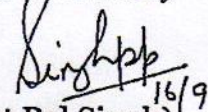
- company should hold responsible & the requisite legal action is to be taken if poaching is reported by its labourers and personnel;
- iv. No labour settlements should be allowed in the Forests;
  - v. No transportation should be permitted to transverse the delineated Similipal-Satkosia corridor; and
  - vi. The mitigation measures suggested by forest and environment department, Government of Odisha vide letter no. 105(Cons)-15/2016-17627/F&E, dt 21.09.2016 should be strictly adhered to;
7. Initially the permission for prospecting will be granted for two years from the date of Stage II approval which can be extended for one more year with convincing justification from the State Government for extension;
  8. The permission for prospecting of chromite mineral in forest area will not grant any right to the user agency to claim permission under section 2 of FCA 1980 for mining in the forest land;
  9. In case of violations of conditions by the user agency, the permission for prospecting of minerals shall be suspended by the DFO and enquired by the Nodal officer (FCA) of the State Government and report submitted to the Regional office for appropriate action;
  10. The State Government and user agency shall ensure that the samples collected during the prospecting shall be used purely for investigation purposes and shall in no case be used for trade or commerce purpose;
  11. To minimize the disturbance to wildlife, user agency shall take all possible measures to minimize noise during prospecting operations and halt the prospecting activities during night and during such, periods in the day as may be advised by the concerned Chief Wildlife Warden, concern State Forest Department;
  12. The State Forest Department shall deploy adequate staff to supervise the activities to be undertaken by the user agency to prevent any damage to the flora (especially the fresh regeneration), fauna and also to prevent felling of trees during drilling of holes and transportation of equipment;
  13. The State Government and user agency shall ensure that after completion of the prospecting all bore holes shall be completely filled up and the ground restored back to its original position;
  14. The State Government and user agency shall ensure that during transportation of Bore drilling Machine/rigs, no new road/ permanent path in the forest area will be constructed;
  15. The State Government and the user agency shall comply with any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife, with the prior approval of MoEF&CC, New Delhi;
  16. The user agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the Guidelines dated 4th July, 2014 issued by the Ministry regarding drilling in the forest land.
  17. The State Government and user agency shall comply the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, NGT order & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force as applicable to the project; and
  18. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC



File No.8-45/2016-FC

dated 28.03.2019.

Yours faithfully



(Preet Pal Singh)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

**Copy to:**

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. The Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Bhubaneswar
3. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC
6. Guard File

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