

BY SPEED POST

**No. J-11015/206/2012-IA.1I (M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests**

**Paryavaran Bhavan,
C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-11 0 003.**

Dated: the 19th November, 2013

To,

M/s Rungta Sons (P) Ltd
Rungta Office, Main Road
Barbil, district Keonjhar
Odisha State-758035

**Subject: Sanindpur Iron & Bauxite Mine of M/s Rungta Sons(P)
Ltd. in village Sanindpur & Oraghat, Tehsil Koira,
Sundergarh district, Odisha State- Environmental
clearance regarding.**

Sir,

This has reference to your letter No. RSP/ED/GEO/2012-13/967 dated 28.05.2012 on the subject mentioned above and subsequent letter dated 28.06.2013. The terms of reference to the proposal for undertaking detailed EIA study were prescribed on 08.11.2012. The proponent submitted the EIA/EMP and public hearing documents which was considered by Expert Appraisal Committee in its meeting held during August 21-23, 2013. The Committee recommended the proposal for grant of environmental clearance.

2. The proposal is for increase in production of Iron Ore from 1.65 MTPA to 4.5 MTPA (2.85 MTPA ROM ore from the mine & 1.65 MTPA of low grade ore from old stacks/dump) & wet beneficiation plant of 1.44 MTPA capacity over an area of 147.10 ha. The proposed Iron ore mine is located in Village-Sanindpur & Oraghat, Tehsil-Koira, District- Sundergarh, Odisha. The geographical co-ordinates of the mine site are latitude 21°55'18" - 21°55'55"N, and longitude 85°17'19" - 85°18'30"E. The Reserve forests namely Kathamala, Mendhamaruni, Karo, and Siddhmath are located within the buffer zone of 10 km radius.

3. The present renewal of mining lease is under deemed extension from 06.09.2005 for a period of 20 years. A modification of Scheme of Mining is approved on 31.07.2013 vide letter No. 314(3)/2013/MCCM(CZ)/MS-01. The mine lease area is 147.10 ha out of which 126.324 ha is forest land and 20.776 ha is non forest land. The lessee has obtained Stage-II Forest Clearance for 52.742 ha of forest land vide letter no No.8-135/2003-FC dated 19.06.2006. In addition to this Stage-I has also been obtained by the lessee

for 15.393 ha vide letter No.8-135/2003-FC (vol) dated 21.12.2010. The lessee had reapplied renewal application for reduced area of 88.737 ha. The reduced mine lease area of 88.737 ha would comprise of 68.135 ha forest land and 20.602 ha of non forest land.

4. The mine will be worked by fully mechanized open cast method. Total Mineable Reserves are about 42.5 million tonnes. The anticipated life of the mine is 15 years. In this conventional opencast mine, mechanized drilling with 110mm dia drill machine, deep hole blasting, excavation by excavator, breaking of iron ore boulders by rock breaker (to avoid secondary blasting by plaster shooting), stacking/loading by loader shall be adopted. It is proposed to install a wet beneficiation Plant of 2 x 250 tph for processing of low grade ore. The feed material to the proposed Plant shall be -30mm low/sub grade iron ore material from above mines. The quantity of feed to the Plant, working at full capacity, shall be 1.44 million tonnes/annum. Total requirement of water for this wet beneficiation Plant will be 1599 m³/day. It is expected that 9,62,799 m³ of overburden and 2,16,000 m³ of tailing will be generated during scheme period. Overburden and tailing will be backfilled in exhausted quarry of 47.509 ha+6.662 ha.

5. Total water requirement is 2415 KLD, 1599 KLD for wet beneficiation Plant. The quantity of water will be met from Kundra nala (2265 KLPD) and from ground water (150 KLPD). Ground water approval for 805 KLPD has already been obtained from CGWA. Approval of surface water for 933.139 lakh gallon per year has already been obtained from irrigation Deptt and approval for remaining water is under process. The present working is at 619mRL and ultimate working will be at 542mRL. The water table (post monsoon) is at 538mRL. Therefore, water table will never intersect the ultimate pit bottom.

6. It was reported by Project Proponent that no wild life sanctuary/tiger Reserves/National Park is located within 10 km radius of the mine lease. For conservation of wildlife in the area, site specific Wildlife conservation plan has been prepared and approved by PCCF (wildlife) cum Chief Wildlife Warden, Odhisa. The proposed fund requirement for implementation of the plan has been deposited (Rs. 79 Lacs) to DFO Bonai. All other works within the lease area shall be undertaken by the company under the guidance of the monitoring committee and DFO and a budget of Rs. 35 Lacs has been kept by the company for implementation of the plan within lease area.

7. Baseline studies were carried out in October, November and December, 2012. Public Hearing was held on 14.05.2013 at, Oraghat under Koira Block as per provisions of EIA Notification 2006. The public hearing was chaired by Additional District Magistrate, Rourkela, Sundergarh. Issues raised & the action plan with budgetary allocation is: Plantation (7.5 lacs), Dust Suppression (Spent Rs.60 lacs, proposed yearly 10-15 lacs), Road infrastructure (Rs.3.0 crore), Health care (Rs.30 lacs), School Bus (Rs.5 lacs), Girls education (Rs. 7.5 lacs), School teacher (Rs. 50,000/annum), Bore well (Rs. 14 lacs) village pond (Rs. 3.0 lacs) & BSNL tower (Rs. 2.3 Lacs).

8. The cost of the project is Rs.300 crore and environmental cost towards EMP already incurred is Rs.211 lakhs & further proposed is Rs. 207.1 lakhs. Proposed recurring cost per year is Rs. 416.6 lakhs for peripheral development expenditure/CSR proposed recurring expenditure per year is Rs.12.64 lakhs.

9. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has examined the application in accordance with the EIA Notification, 2006 and hereby accords environmental clearance under the provisions thereof to the above mentioned proposal of M/s Rungta Sons (P) Ltd. for enhancement of Iron Ore production from 1.65 MTPA to 4.5 MTPA (2.85 MTPA ROM ore from the mine & 1.65 MTPA of low grade ore from old stacks/dump) and installation of Wet Beneficiation Plant of 1.44 MTPA capacity over mining lease area of 88.911 ha [68.135 ha (forest area for which FC is available) + 20.776 ha (non-forest area)]. This environmental clearance is subject to implementation of the following conditions and environmental safeguards:

A. Specific Conditions

- (i) The project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate from the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
- (ii) Environmental clearance is subject to obtaining clearance under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from the competent authority, as may be applicable to this project.
- (iii) No mining activities are allowed in forest area for which the FC is not available.
- (iv) As per the guidelines issued by the Forest Conservation Division in this Ministry vide F. No. 11-362/2012-FC dated 1st February, 2013 the project proponent shall seek and obtain approval under the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of the entire forest land located within the mining lease on or before 31st January 2015, failing which the mining lease area will be reduced to the non forest area plus the forest area for which the project proponent has been able to obtain the FC at the end of this time period. In the case of reduction in mine lease area, the project proponent will need to get a revised mining plan approved from the Competent Authority for reduced area and enter into a new mining lease as per reduced lease area. The EC will be construed to be available for the mining lease area as per the revised mining lease deed.
- (v) The project proponent shall obtain prior approval of the competent authorities for drawl of requisite quantity of surface water and ground water for the project before commencing the mining activity.

- (vi) Lease area is near Sona river therefore PP shall ensure the mitigative measures to protect the Sona river.
- (vii) Green barrier (five stratified rows) should be raised on the boundary of ML area towards Sona river.
- (viii) 10-15% of plantation/green belt should be of endemic/endangered species, if present in lease area.
- (ix) Traffic density on the route of mineral transportation shall be regularly monitored and report shall be submitted along with compliance report.
- (x) As part of ambient air quality monitoring during operational phase of the project, the air samples shall also be analysed for their mineralogical composition and records maintained.
- (xi) Mineral handling plant shall be provided with adequate number of high efficiency dust extraction system. Loading and unloading areas including all the transfer points should also have efficient dust control arrangements. These should be properly maintained and operated.
- (xii) Effective safeguard measures such as conditioning of ore with water, regular water sprinkling shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having high levels of particulate matter such as around crushing and screening plant, loading and unloading point and transfer points. It should be ensured that the Ambient Air Quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board in this regard.
- (xiii) The project authority shall implement suitable conservation measures to augment ground water resources in the area in consultation with the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.
- (xiv) Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out in and around the mine lease by establishing a network of existing wells and installing new piezo meters during the mining operation. The periodic monitoring [(at least four times in a year- pre-monsoon (April-May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January); once in each season)] shall be carried out in consultation with the State Ground Water Board/Central Ground Water Authority and the data thus collected may be sent regularly to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Regional Office Bhubaneswar, the Central Ground Water Authority and the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board. If at any stage, it is observed that the groundwater table is getting depleted due to the mining activity; necessary corrective measures shall be carried out.
- (xv) The project proponent shall ensure that no natural watercourse and/or water resources shall be obstructed due to any mining operations.

- (xvi) The project proponent shall regularly monitor the flow rate of the Karo and Sona River flowing adjacent to the mine lease and maintain the records.
- (xvii) The reclaimed and rehabilitated area shall be afforested. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas shall continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests and its Regional Office located at Bhubaneswar on six monthly basis.
- (xviii) Dimension of the retaining wall at the toe of temporary over burden dumps and OB benches within the mine to check run-off and siltation shall be based on the rain fall data.
- (xix) Plantation shall be raised in an area of 86.141 Ha. including a 7.5m wide green belt in the safety zone around the mining lease, backfilled and reclaimed area, around the higher benches of excavated void to be converted in to water body, roads etc. by planting the native species in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. The density of the trees should be around 2500 plants per Ha.
- (xx) Effective safeguard measures such as regular water sprinkling shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having high levels of SPM and RPM such as haul road, loading and unloading point and transfer points. It shall be ensured that the Ambient Air Quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board in this regard.
- (xxi) Process water discharge and/or any waste water shall be properly treated to meet the prescribed standards before reuse/discharge. The runoff from temporary OB dumps and other surface run off shall be analyzed for iron and in case its concentration is found higher than the permissible limit, the waste water should be treated before discharge/reuse.
- (xxii) The decanted water from the beneficiation plant and slime/tailing pond shall be re-circulated within the mine and there shall be zero discharge from the mine.
- (xxiii) Regular monitoring of the flow rate of the springs and perennial nallahs shall be carried out and records maintained.
- (xxiv) Regular monitoring of water quality, upstream and downstream of Sona and Karo River shall be carried out and record of monitoring data should be maintained and submitted to Ministry of Environment and Forests, its Regional Office, Bhubaneswar, Central Groundwater Authority, Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, State Pollution Control Board and Central Pollution Control Board.

- (xxv) The project proponent shall obtain necessary prior permission of the competent authorities for drawl of requisite quantity of surface water for the project. Ground water shall not be used for the mining operations.
- (xxvi) Suitable rainwater harvesting measures on long term basis shall be planned and implemented in consultation with Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.
- (xxvii) Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. Measures shall be taken for maintenance of vehicles used in mining operations and in transportation of mineral from mine face to the beneficiation plant. The vehicles shall be covered with a tarpaulin and shall not be overloaded.
- (xxviii) Sewage treatment plant shall be installed for the colony. ETP shall also be provided for workshop and wastewater generated during mining operation.
- (xxix) Digital processing of the entire lease area using remote sensing technique shall be carried out regularly once in three years for monitoring land use pattern and report submitted to Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.
- (xxx) Pre-placement medical examination and periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the project shall be carried out and records maintained. For the purpose, schedule of health examination of the workers should be drawn and followed accordingly.
- (xxxi) Implementation of Action plan on issues raised during Public Hearing.
- (xxxii) The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures during mining operation for conservation and protection of endangered fauna spotted in the study area. Action plan for conservation of flora and fauna shall be prepared and implemented in consultation with the State Forest and Wildlife Department. Necessary allocation of funds for implementation of the conservation plan shall be made and the funds so allocated shall be included in the project cost. All the safeguard measures brought out in the Wildlife Conservation Pan so prepared specific to the project site shall be effectively implemented. A copy of action plan shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.
- (xxxiii) A Final Mine Closure Plan along with details of Corpus Fund shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests 5 years in advance of final mine closure for approval.

B. General Conditions

- (i) No change in Iron Ore Processing/Beneficiation technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including Processing/Beneficiation of mineral iron ore and waste should be made.
- (iii) At least four ambient air quality-monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for RSPM (Particulate matter with size less than 10 micron i.e., PM₁₀) and NO_x monitoring. Location of the stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets and frequency of monitoring should be undertaken in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board. The data so recorded should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional office located at Bhubaneswar and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.
- (iv) Measures should be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in operations of HEMM, etc. should be provided with ear plugs / muffs.
- (v) There will be zero waste water discharge from the plant.
- (vi) Personnel working in dusty areas should wear protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.
- (vii) Occupational health surveillance program of the workers should be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.
- (viii) A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel should be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.
- (ix) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure should be reported to the Ministry and its Regional Office located at Bhubaneswar.
- (x) The project authorities should inform to the Regional Office located at Bhubaneswar regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- (xi) The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bhubaneswar shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project

authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.

- (xii) The project proponent shall submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated environmental clearance conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, its Regional Office Bhubaneswar, the respective Zonal Office of Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Board. The proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the environmental clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and shall update the same periodically. It shall simultaneously be sent to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Bhubaneswar, the respective Zonal Officer of Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Board.
- (xiii) A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zila Parisad/ Municipal Corporation, Urban Local Body and the Local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/ representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the website of the Company by the proponent.
- (xiv) The State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industry Centre and the Collector's office/ Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- (xv) The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated to be submitted by the project proponent to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Bhubaneswar by e-mail.
- (xvi) The project authorities should advertise at least in two local newspapers of the District or State in which the project is located and widely circulated, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned, within 7 days of the issue of the clearance letter informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and a copy of the clearance letter is available with the State Pollution Control Board and also at web site of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in> and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bhubaneswar.

10. The Ministry or any other competent authority may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.

11. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

12. The above conditions will be enforced inter-alia, under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules made there under and also any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India/ High Court of Odhisa and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.

13. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

(Dr. Saroj)
Director

Copy to:

- (i) The Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (ii) The Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Odhisa, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar.
- (iii) The Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Odisha, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar.
- (iv) The Secretary, Department of Forests, Government of Odisha, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar.
- (v) The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032.
- (vi) The Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional Office (EZ), Ministry of Environment and Forests, A-3 Chandrashekharpur, Bhubaneshwar-751023.
- (vii) The Chairman, Odisha State Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, A/118 Nilakantha Nagar, Unit-VIII, Bhubaneshwar-751012.
- (viii) The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440 001.
- (ix) The Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, A2, W3 Curzon Road Barracks, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001.

- (x) The District Collector, Sundergarh District, Government of Odhisa.
- (xi) Record File.
- (xii) MoEF Website

(Dr. Saroj)
Director