

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL EASTERN ZONE AT  
KOLKATA  
MEMORANDUM OF APPEAL  
(Under Sections 16(e) read with 18(1) of the National Green  
Tribunal Act, 2010)**

**Appeal No. 15 of 2026**

Ajaya Muduli & Ors.

...Appellants

-Vs-

Union of India & Ors.

...Respondents

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//Certified to be True Copies of the respective originals//



Through

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## DATES AND EVENTS

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
30.12.2023	Application filed by the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Respondent for diversion of forest land.
04.01.2024	36 <sup>th</sup> Project screening committee meeting
18.01.2024	37 <sup>th</sup> Project screening committee meeting
30.01.2024	38 <sup>th</sup> Project screening committee meeting
29.05.2024	48 <sup>th</sup> Project screening committee meeting
08.11.2024	Allocation of 0.282 cusec of surface water from Jalaput reservoir
14.11.2024	Inspection conducted for Site Inspection Report
28.11.2024	10 <sup>th</sup> FAC meeting
23.12.2024	Grant of in principle approval- Stage I Clearance
19.12.2025	Compliance status filed by the project proponent
16.04.2026	Grant of Stage II clearance
07.05.2026	Final diversion order issued by the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Respondent
20.05.2026	Reply received along with the final diversion order in response to the application under the RTI Act, 2005.

**SYNOPSIS**

1. The present appeal is filed challenging the orders dated 23.12.2024 (stage -I), culminating in the order dated 16.04.2026 (stage-II) issued by the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent, culminating in the final diversion order issued by the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent dated 07.05.2026.
2. The 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent has not undertaken proper studies and have not reported the true biodiversity of the forests sought to be mined and has suppressed the presence of endangered fauna to obtain the impugned clearance, which would not have been granted otherwise.
3. The respondents have not even discussed FRA compliance before issuing the impugned clearance, which vitiates the clearances. The impugned clearances ought not to have been issued without settling FRA claims and without obtaining prior consent of the Tribal communities, as held by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Orissa Mining Corporation Ltd vs Ministry of Environment & Forest & Ors (2013 (6) SCC 476).
4. A reading of the minutes of the FAC and PSC meetings shows that there has been no application of mind, and the respondents have failed to do their duty under the law.
5. Hence, this Appeal.

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, EASTERN ZONE AT  
KOLKATA**

**MEMORANDUM OF APPEAL**

**(Under Sections 16(e) read with 18(1) of the National Green  
Tribunal Act, 2010)**

**Appeal No. of 2026**

1. Ajaya Muduli  
S/o Dhana Muduli  
Taintar, Bheja, Nandapur,  
Koraput, Odisha- 764037  
Email: yogeshwaranadv@gmail.com  
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2. Sunadhar Muduli  
S/o Budu Muduli  
Kumiguda hamlet, Banur Village,  
Attanda, Koraput- 764041  
Email: yogeshwaranadv@gmail.com  
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3. Rajendra Khara  
S/o Krupasindhu Khara  
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4. Gana Limikia,  
S/o Late Lalan Limikia  
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Koraput, Odisha- 764038  
Email: yogeshwaranadv@gmail.com  
Phone: 9566254546

....Appellants

Vs.

1. Union of India,  
Rep by its Secretary,  
The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,  
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Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department,  
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...Respondents

**TO,**

**THE HON'BLE CHAIRMAN AND HIS COMPANION MEMBER OF THE  
NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL.**

**HUMBLE APPEAL SUBMITTED  
BY THE APPELLANT ABOVE NAMED**

The Appellants are

1. Ajaya Muduli  
S/o Dhana Muduli  
Taintar, Bheja, Nandapur,  
Koraput, Odisha- 764037  
Email: [yogeshwaranadv@gmail.com](mailto:yogeshwaranadv@gmail.com)  
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2. Sunadhar Muduli,  
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Kumiguda hamlet, Banur Village,  
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3. Rajendra Khara,  
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4. Gana Limikia,  
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The 1<sup>st</sup> Appellant is a Parenga Paraja Adivasi leader from Taintar village located at the foothills of Balda hill. He is 29 years old and is a postgraduate in natural resource and governance from TISS, Hyderabad. He is also a farmer and cultivates paddy, millets, oilseeds and vegetables on his family's farm of about 8 acres. He is a member to the Nageswari Mali Dongar Surakhya Mancha, Balda, which is a community organisation of people inhabiting in and around Balda Hill. He is also trained in GPS mapping and has about 5 years of working experience in Odisha-based NGOs for the Forest Rights Act implementation. He has been documenting the religious and cultural practices of the Parenga Adivasi peoples who are the main priests who worship Nageswari and Mauli deities as their sacred deities protecting Balda and nearby hills and forests on which the Parenga, Bareng, Kotia, Kandha, Gouda, Domb, Rana and Paika communities depend on for forest produce and sustenance. The 1<sup>st</sup> Appellant has also filed Appeal 9 of 2025 challenging the environmental clearance dated 01.09.2025 issued to the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent herein for mining 4.0 MTPA of Bauxite (Run of Mine (ROM)) over an area of 144.945 Ha of forest lands in Balda village, Koraput district, Odisha and the same is also pending adjudication before this Hon'ble Tribunal.

## 6

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Appellant is a Parenga Paraja Adivasi residing in Kumiguda hamlet of Banur village under Attanda Gram Panchayat. He is actively involved in community leadership and presently serves as the chairperson of the Forest Rights Committee (FRC) of Banur Gram Sabha. In this role, he works for the protection of community forest rights, strengthening Gram Sabha governance, and safeguarding the traditional rights and forest-dependent livelihoods of villagers. By occupation, he is a farmer, and also collects Non-Timber Forest Produce from the Nagasari forest. He has long depended on agriculture and forest resources for the livelihood of his family and continues to contribute to the social and economic wellbeing of his community through his active participation in Gram Sabha activities and forest rights initiatives.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Appellant is a farmer from Balda village under Balda Gram Panchayat. He is an active member of the Balda Gram Sabha and has been associated with community-based activities and traditional livelihood practices in the region. His primary occupations include farming, working as a daily wage worker, and collecting Non-Timber Forest Produce from the Nagasari forest. He is dependent on the forest and agricultural resources for his livelihood. He maintains a close relationship with the local forest ecosystem and traditional community institutions. A writ petition has been filed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> appellant along with other residents, before the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa at Cuttack, challenging the gram sabha resolutions and the proceedings of the SDLC and DLC and the certificate dated 15.01.2026 highlighting the illegalities in the FRA process.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Appellant is a Parenga Paraja Adivasi. He is actively engaged in community governance and currently serves as the Secretary of the Forest Rights Committee (FRC) of Chilam Gram Sabha. As a functionary of FRC, he plays an important role in strengthening Gram Sabha processes, protecting community forest rights, and supporting the rights and livelihoods of forest-

dependent families. His primary occupation is farming, daily wage work, and the collection of Non-Timber Forest Produce from the Nagasari reserve forest. He and his family have traditionally depended on agriculture and forest resources for their livelihood. Through his active involvement in community affairs and forest rights initiatives, the 4<sup>th</sup> appellant continues to contribute to the welfare and development of his village and Gram Sabha. The 4<sup>th</sup> Appellant along with 3 others has filed W.P. 15315 of 2026 on the file of the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa, Cuttack, challenging the illegality in the FRA process in the claims of Taintar and Chilam villages.

The appellants are aggrieved by the orders of the 1st and 2nd respondents approving the proposal of the 3rd respondent for diversion of 157.212 Ha of forests lands for their proposed bauxite mine. The impugned clearances/approvals have been issued without application of mind and in violation of the law. Necessary studies have not been undertaken, and the true biodiversity of the area has not been reported. The forests sought to be mined hold immense cultural, religious and spiritual significance for the tribal communities living in the area. The subject diversion of their forests will destroy their way of life, practices and very sustenance and livelihood. Hence, they have filed the present appeal challenging the orders dated 23.12.2024 (stage - I) and 16.04.2026 (stage-II) issued by the 1st respondent and the diversion order passed by the 2nd respondent dated 07.05.2026.

The address for service on the Appellants is that of their counsels Yogeshwaran A (MS 1421/2011), Poongkhulali B. (MS 1373/2009), Santanu Chakraborty (KAR 2308/2012), Atindriya Chakraborty (F/1354/2012), Swetha S (MS/4373/2024), Smitha G.S (MS 5596/2025), Advocates, having office at M-1, Vadhula, No:18, Brindavan Street, Mylapore, Chennai- 600 004.

The Respondents are:

1. Union of India,  
Rep by its Secretary,  
The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,  
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2. Government of Odisha,  
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3. M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd.  
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Phone No: 91 (79) 2555 4412

The address for service of summons, processes and notices on the Respondents is the same as above.

**FACTS IN BRIEF:**

1. The present appeal is filed challenging the orders dated 23.12.2024 (stage -I), culminating in the order dated 16.04.2026 (stage-II) issued by the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent, culminating in the final diversion order issued by the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent dated 07.05.2026. The impugned orders are annexed herewith as **Annexure A1, A2** and **A3** respectively.
2. It is submitted that in fine, the impugned orders diverting the subject forests for the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent's mine have been issued without noticing the fact that the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent has suppressed the presence of

endangered species, biodiversity of the forests sought to be diverted, its nature, its significance to the local tribal population, their dependence, without the consent of the tribal communities mandated under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, without any assessment of the impact of the proposed mine and without any application of mind by the authorities. A reading of the proceedings leading to the grant of the impugned orders shows that there has been an absolute lack of discussion on the impacts of the project and the authorities have ticked boxes in a mechanical manner, leading to the grant of impugned orders.

**Balda hill & forests – habitat of endangered species – suppressed**

3. At the outset, it is necessary to bring to the notice of this Hon'ble Tribunal that the endemic endangered *Cryptodactylus* (*Geckoella*) *jeyporensis*, colloquially called Jeypore Ground Gecko or the Patinghe Indian Gecko has been found in the Balda Hills, which has been diverted for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Respondent's mining project. The impugned orders have been issued without reference to the fact that the Balda hill is an undisturbed repository of biodiversity and habitat for not only the Jeypore Ground Gecko but several other near-threatened/endangered/vulnerable Schedule I species like Indian Pangolin, Bengal Fox, Jungle Cat, Indian Crested Porcupine, Sloth Bear, Golden Jackal, Leopard Cat, Barking Deer, Common Sand Boa, Indian Grey Mongoose, Short-toed Snake Eagle, Black Eagle, Indian Courser, Besra- Sparrow hawk, Rufus Bellied Eagle, Crested Serpent Eagle, Barn Owl etc.
4. It is submitted that on 30.12.2023, an application was filed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent seeking diversion of 157.212 Ha of forest land for their

proposed bauxite mine. Copy of the application form is annexed as **Annexure A4.**

5. In part II of the application form, under entry 9 seeking information on the "Significance of the forest land proposed for diversion from wildlife point of view.", under 9.1, "Wild boar, jackal, sloth bear, Fox, Otter, Python, Jungle cat etc." have been listed as wildlife in and around the forests sought to be diverted.
6. Under 9.4, in response to query as to "whether any rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna are found in the area", the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent has stated "No".
7. The site inspection report submitted by DG Forest (C) based on visit on 27.10.2024 records the DFO, Koraput stating that "Wild boar, jackal, sloth bear, Otter, Python, Jungle cat, etc. are present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion." The inspection report however even fails to mention the endemic endangered Jeypore Ground Gecko. The site inspection report is annexed as **Annexure A5.**
8. A scrutiny of the documents uploaded on the Parivesh portal for the grant of impugned clearances shows that the impugned clearance has been granted without even a site-specific assessment of biodiversity and the impact of destruction of habitat/impact on wildlife due to the diversion of these forests for mining. A screenshot of Parivesh portal and excel sheet from the portal, containing list of documents pertaining to the subject proposal, are annexed as **Annexure A6.**
9. The wildlife conservation plan submitted as part of the environmental clearance process also makes no mention of the Jeypore Ground Gecko and other protected species, and the impact/consequence of the proposed mining project on the habitat of endemic, endangered species present in these forests now diverted.

10. It is submitted that the Nagasari reserve forest is home to numerous species of animals and birds, including near-threatened, endangered and critically endangered species.
11. The Jeypore Ground Gecko is endemic to the Eastern Ghats in southern Odisha and Andhra Pradesh, India. It is listed as 'endangered' in the IUCN list. It is a ground-dwelling species. The rediscovery of this species is monumental, and the fact that it has been found in the Balda hills has not been taken into account while issuing the impugned clearance. Peer-reviewed studies have been published on this important discovery.
12. In the article titled 'The Patinghe Indian Gecko, *Cyrtodactylus* (*Geckoella*) *jeyporensis* (Beddome, 1878) from Balda Hill of Koraput district, Odisha, India', the authors state,  
"...The Balda Hills, where the species was recently found, remain relatively undisturbed, providing a safe habitat. However, planned bauxite mining projects pose a significant risk to the area's biodiversity.... The Balda Hills, with their unique topography and relatively undisturbed habitat, are proposed as a potential protected area to safeguard *C. jeyporensis*...  
The Balda region, where the species resides, offers a relatively secure habitat due to its inaccessible forests and limited pathways leading into the area. Despite frequent tourist visits to the plateau, the forested slopes remain largely undisturbed, providing a refuge for the gecko. We propose designating this unique landscape as a protected area, especially since the habitat is under threat from a planned bauxite mining project."  
Copy of this study is annexed as **Annexure A7**.  
Copy of study titled 'Rediscovery of *Geckoella jeyporensis* (Squamata: Gekkonidae), with notes on morphology, coloration and habitat' published in Hamadryad, after the rediscovery of the gecko is annexed

as **Annexure A8**. Letters from herpetologists to the authorities are annexed as **Annexure A9**.

13. It is submitted that the Balda hill is the perfect habitat for this endangered gecko, which has only been found in areas with grassland on top and forests on the slopes. Mining the area will destroy this habitat of endangered species. Protection of this habitat on account of the Gecko will automatically protect the habitat of several other near-threatened and endangered species which inhabit the forests. Geo-tagged photographs of the endangered ground gecko are annexed as **Annexure A10**.

14. The fact that Pangolin, Fox, Sand Boa, etc., inhabit the forests sought to be mined is an admitted fact. It is submitted that all these species are protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the same list as the Tiger and Elephant. The habitat of these species is also entitled to the same protection under law.

15. It is submitted that the Balda hill is also the habitat of numerous birds, migrant and resident, including grassland specialists. A survey of avian diversity in the Balda hills recorded more than 120 species of birds, including several near-threatened and endangered species. This survey is not exhaustive, and a survey during the winter season is necessary to account for species that inhabit the area during winter season. It is submitted that in order to study/assess biodiversity of the subject area, the survey and monitoring is required during spring season from March to May, which is the breeding season, summer seasons from June to August, which is the nesting and fledging season, autumn season from September to November, which is post breeding migration season and in winter season from December to February, which will cover migration. List of birds and other fauna found at Balda is annexed as **Annexure**

**A11.** E-bird, the world's most reliable repository of data on birdlife also has lists of birds observed in this area by birders.

16. It is submitted that the habitat of threatened birds like the Indian Courser, a grassland specialist species which nests on the ground, Indian Roller, Rufus-bellied Eagle etc. will be completely destroyed by mining these forests. This aspect has not even been mentioned, much less studied and assessed prior to the issuance of the impugned clearances.
17. The document titled "scheme for creation and maintenance of alternate habitats / homes for the avifauna (birds), whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project" lists only 6 birds i.e., Peafowl, Jungle fowl, Indian great horned owl, Crow, Spotted dove and Mynah. A copy of the report submitted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent, based on which the impugned clearance has been issued, is annexed as **Annexure A12**.
18. In the wildlife management plan submitted as part of the EC process, only 51 birds were mentioned as present in the entire study area of the Koraput division. However, 122 bird species have been reported from the hill itself, from preliminary surveys. In fact, out of the 51 mentioned in the management plan, only 29 are reported on the hill. This report makes light of the impact on wildlife by suggesting the installation of artificial bird nests, fences to prevent animals from fall into the mine and awareness campaigns. Surprisingly, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have accepted these reports. It is necessary to reiterate that the documents available on the website of the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent do not include any wildlife management plan submitted for obtaining the subject forest clearance.
19. It is submitted that it is evident that the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent has not even conducted proper studies and reported the true biodiversity of the forests sought to be mined and has suppressed the presence of endangered fauna to obtain the impugned clearance, which would not have been granted otherwise.

**Impact on tribal communities – not assessed**

20. It is submitted that prior to diversion of forest lands, settlement of rights under the FRA and informed consent of the tribal communities are mandatory. The MoEF&CC issued an order dated 03.08.2009 to ensure that forest lands were not diverted without the consent of the tribal communities. Copy of the order dated 03.08.2009 is annexed as **Annexure A13.**

**Significance of the forests to tribal communities**

21. The Balda hill is the sacred abode of local Adivasi deities Nageswari, Mauli Ma, Dalkhai, Hatipakan, Jakar Gudi, Bimal Gudi and Dhangdi Duar. The Nageswari and Mauli Ma deities located inside the Balda cave are worshipped every day by two local priests from Soput and Chilam villages. The remaining deities are worshipped during the annual agriculture festival Chait Parab (mid-April). During the annual worship rituals, for which ingredients are collected from the forests, the tribal communities, along with other non-tribal groups, offer their rituals to the above deities associated with the local ecological biodiversity. Dalkhai deity is associated with the trees and shrubs on the hill and its forests, Hatipakan is associated with the local fauna, Jakar and Bimal Gudi are associated with the smaller hills in the Balda range and Dhangdi Duar is associated with the well-being of people who live around Balda. Nageswari and Mauli are the reigning deities of Balda hill. The Nageswari cave, Mauli Ma, Dalkhai Ma, Jakar Gudi, Bimal Gudi deities are located in the eastern part of the mining area, Hati Pakan is located in the Northern part and Dhangadi Duar is located in the South, all within the mining lease area. The pond in the hilltop is intrinsic to the sacred rituals of the tribals.

22. The people of the 82 villages living around the foothills of Balda not only depend on it for their cultural and religious sustenance but for their economic well-being as well. The tribal and non-tribal women of 82 villages climb Balda hill every day for collecting dry branches as fuelwood and collect roots, tubers, hillbroom grass, edible insects like sindhikeeda and leaves like siadi along with fruits like amla and char for their domestic consumption and selling at the local weekly market.
23. During the monsoons, they also collect bamboo shoots and different kinds of mushrooms for their own food and also to sell at the local weekly market. On the hill slopes, the tribal and non-tribal families also cultivate millets, pulses and oilseeds.
24. The forests are also sources of medicine for not just the local traditional healers called disaris, but most women also forage the forests for medicinal herbs, plants, leaves and roots to treat everyday common ailments. The disaris in particular, perform special rituals in the forests before beginning the collection of herbs and medicinal plants for preparing their medicines to treat several medical problems of the local populations.
25. The people of 82 villages around Balda depend on 22 major perennial streams, namely Mundri Jhola, Burichua Jhola, Bada Jhola, Dupa Buta Jhola, Band Jhola, Jamir Jhola, Taimal Jhola, Rabanguda Jhola, Kadam Jhola, Sriram Nandi Jhola, Kadika Jhola, Bada Jhola (Soput), Danga Gad Jhola, Mahu Aam Jhola, Damana Chua Jhola, Kalipasi Jhola, Duaram Jhola, Tamaka Jhola, Kumiguda Jhola, Dangadi Duar Jhola, Gada Gat Jhola and Katlaput Jhola for irrigation and domestic consumption and two big lakes, Bada Bandh and Sua Bandh, for water to the domestic animals grazing on the hilltop. The destruction of the hill will destroy these streams and in turn destroy the livelihood of the people.

26. The top of the hill is a plateau, which is the grazing lands for the cattle in the surrounding villages. The Balda hill top is used as a perennial grazing ground for cattle, sheep, lambs and buffaloes for people of 25 villages namely Taintar, Gayalput, Kadaput, Kantasaru, Kandhaguda, Kitba, Khanti, Katlaput, Samli, Banur, Badargad, Kumiguda, Bairpada, Atunda, Daleiput, Chilam, Balda, Soput, Madeiguda, Barengpalli, Sublar, Mali Sublar, Talgud, Dumriput, Bandaputnd and few from other villages bring their cattle for grazing as and when needed.
27. The Balda cave located on the southern part of the area proposed to be mined, is also a place of immense religious significance. The Balda cave is a complex structure of one big cave and three smaller caves and a maze of low lying tunnels connecting these caves. Dalkhai deity is worshipped inside one of these tunnels called Bayapaar.

### **FRA compliance claimed by the respondents**

28. It is submitted that the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent has submitted reply to 1st respondent's EDS on 30.01.2026, along with the certificate dated 15.01.2026, falsely certifying that the requirements under the 03.08.2009 order have been complied with. A reading of the SDLC and DLC proceedings leading to this certificate shows that they refer to a gram sabha meeting conducted by Balda and Attanda Gram Panchayats on 09.10.2025 for Balda and Banur villages, respectively, as consent under the FRA for the diversion of the subject forest lands. An extract of EDS reply dated 30.01.2026 is annexed as **Annexure A14**.

### **FRA not complied – tribal communities have not consented**

29. Firstly, the Gram Sabha meeting conducted by the Balda and Attanda Gram Panchayats on 09.10.2025 are illegal and void ab initio as

they were not the Gram Sabhas of tribals mandated under the FRA. The notice of the meeting dated 23.09.2025 was pasted on the afternoon of 08.10.2025 and people objected to the meeting on the very same day and were assured that the meeting would not be held. However, on 09.10.2025, they were shocked to see that meetings headed by Tehsildar, BDO, PEO and contractors/agents of the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent were held in the presence of strangers, without the participation of people from Balda and Banur villages. The people were even prevented from objecting or recording these illegal meetings. Thereafter, complaints were sent, and even the block chairman of Nandapur Block had written to the district collector and authorities that the people had raised valid objections to the said meeting. The Sarpanch of the villages had originally given letters stating that these meetings were illegal but now have backtracked. The people have also filed complaints with the police since the signatures on these two gram sabhas are forged and contain names of dead people, bedridden people and of those who were not even in the area. It is trite that gram sabha meeting held by the Panchayat is illegal and under the FRA, the gram sabha meetings can be convened and held only by the concerned village/hamlet.

30. Thus, the gram sabha meetings on 09.10.2025 were entirely illegal and the people learnt that these meetings were acted upon by the authorities only when the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent filed documents on the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent's portal. A writ petition has been filed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> appellant along with other residents, before the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa at Cuttack, challenging the gram sabha resolutions and the proceedings of the SDLC and DLC and the certificate dated 15.01.2026.
31. It is submitted that the tribal villages and hamlets of Sopot, Chilam, Balda, Kadaput, Kantasaru, Kandhaguda, falling within the Balda Gram Panchayat limits; Banur, Badargad, Atanda, Kumiguda, Barengpali,

Samili, falling within the Attanda Gram Panchayat limits; Taintar and Gayalput villages falling within the Bheja Gram Panchayat limits; Khanti, Katlaput, Kitba villages falling within the Badel Gram Panchayat limits; Malisublar, Dora Sublar, Talguda, Dumriput villages falling within the Kulabir Gram Panchayat limits, are among the villages having forest rights over the Balda hill and forest lands in question. In Malisublar, Dorasublar, Talguda, and Dumriput villages falling within the Kulabir Gram Panchayat and Balda village falling within the Balda Gram Panchayat, the process of settlement of claims under the FRA has not commenced yet. Map showing villages around the reserve forest and the CFR/CFRR area claimed is annexed as **Annexure A15**.

32. It is submitted that on 06.01.2025, Gram Sabhas of Soput, Chilam, Taintar-Gayalput submitted Community Forest Rights (CFR) and Community Forest Resource Rights (CFRR) claims under the FRA to the SDLC. Copy of the proof of submission of claims (along with translation) is collectively annexed as **Annexure A16**. On 20.02.2025, Gram Sabhas of Samili, Banur-Badragad-Kumiguda, Khanti-Katlaput, Barengpali, Kitba and Kadaput-Kantasaru-Chandanbadi submitted CFR and CFRR claims under FRA to the SDLC. Copy of proof of submission of claims is collectively annexed as **Annexure A17**.

33. It is submitted that even assuming for the sake of argument that the gram sabha resolutions of Banur and Balda are valid (in arguendo), it is not sufficient for the diversion of the subject forest lands. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents ought to have seen that all the above villages have claim over the forests and consent from all these villages ought to have been obtained through gram sabhas of the concerned tribal village/hamlet as mandated by law.

34. However, without settling these claims and ensuring that claims of other villages which are yet to commence the process under FRA, a false

certificate has been issued and the impugned orders have also been issued, diverting the subject forest lands.

35. It is relevant to submit that the CFR and CFRR claims of Tainter and Chilam villages were illegally modified by the SDLC and DLC and a much-reduced area of 68.75 acres for Taintar as against the 564.56 acres claimed and 108 acres for Chilam as opposed to 364 acres claimed were approved. Shockingly, the proceedings state that the claim as submitted by the revenue and forest department were approved. Needless to state, the revenue and forest department have no role to play in submitting claims which is the sole prerogative of the gram sabha of tribals. The 4<sup>th</sup> Appellant along with 3 others has filed W.P. 15315 of 2026 on the file of the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa, Cuttack, challenging the above illegality.

36. It is submitted that the SDLC in its meeting dated 12.01.2026 has merely referred to alleged gram sabha resolutions of Balda and Banur villages and has recommended the diversion of forest lands for the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent's project by falsely stating inter-alia that the rights under FRA were settled. The DLC in its meeting dated 15.01.2026 have blindly accepted the said recommendation and granted the said diversion in the context of FRA. It is a matter of fact that the 15.01.2026 certificate, apart from being based on entirely false, fraudulent assertions and vitiated, does not even meet the requirements of the MoEF&CC order dated 03.08.2009. For example, an examination of the records filed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent and the certificate dated 15.01.2026, shows that even the certificate of gram sabha certifying that all rights are settled and gram sabhas has consented is not available. A reply dated 30.03.2026 received by the 1<sup>st</sup> Appellant under RTI Act in fact states that the SDLC does not have a copy of the resolutions dated 09.10.2025 referred to above. It is shocking as to how the SDLC went on to recommend the proposal for diversion without even a copy of the alleged gram sabha resolutions

available in their records. A copy of the reply is annexed as **Annexure A18.**

37. It is shocking that in the entire process leading to the grant of impugned clearances, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have not examined the validity and correctness of the documents submitted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent to claim compliance with the FRA and the order of MoEF&CC dated 03.08.2009. It is for the respondents to ensure that the condition imposed in Stage I clearance mandating compliance with the FRA was complied in letter and spirit before issuing stage II clearance and the final diversion order.

38. It is submitted that representation dated 31.01.2026 have been submitted to the 1<sup>st</sup> Respondent to bring to their notice the various illegalities in the FRA context and requesting them to refrain from granting the impugned clearance without mandatory compliance with the FRA and protection of the rights of tribal communities. However, no response was received. A reading of the FAC and other committee proceedings shows that this aspect has not even been discussed before issuance of the impugned clearance. A copy of the representation is annexed as **Annexure A19.**

39. In fact, the Gram Sabhas of nine villages have passed resolutions unanimously opposing and rejecting the environmental clearance and Stage I forest clearance granted for the subject project to the District authorities. However, no response was received and no action was taken. A copy of the letter to the District Collector and Magistrate is annexed as **Annexure A20.**

40. The very fact that the respondents have not even discussed FRA compliance before issuing the impugned clearance vitiates the clearances. The impugned clearances ought not to have been issued without settling FRA claims and without obtaining prior consent of the

Tribal communities, as held by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Orissa Mining Corporation Ltd vs Ministry of Environment & Forest & Ors (2013 (6) SCC 476)*.

41. It is submitted that the respondent authorities have made a mockery of the process of law in issuing the impugned orders.

### **Non-application of mind – arbitrary grant of clearance in violation of the Act**

42. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to apply their mind and have rewarded the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent with impugned clearances. The 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent's proposal was considered by FAC only in its 10<sup>th</sup> meeting on 28.11.2024 held between 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM, within which 12 items on the agenda were dealt with. The subject project was listed as agenda no. 10. A copy of the extract of the 10<sup>th</sup> FAC meeting is annexed as **Annexure A21**.

43. A reading of the minutes show that it contains recitals and extracts from the proposal submitted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent and verbatim extracts of the EDS and replies by the 2<sup>nd</sup> /3<sup>rd</sup> respondent. The decision of the FAC is limited to one paragraph at the end of the minutes, i.e., para 7. The contents of this paragraph merely record that the committee recommends the proposal for in principle approval in favour of the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent. No reasons whatsoever in support of the decision have been provided. The complete lack of reasons and reasoning vitiates these proceedings. The FAC decision also contains factually incorrect assertions concerning the water body on the mine top. The FAC has blindly accepted the false statements of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent that the water body at the hill top is man-made, created by the forest department during 2020-21. The pond is a natural water body and has been used by tribal communities from time immemorial. It is preposterous to contend it was

created during the year 2020-21. Even official communications from the district collector have recognized this water body as natural depression.

44. The FAC has blindly accepted the statements of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respondents and recommended the grant of the in-principle approval for diversion of the subject forest lands without considering any of the aspects detailed above, and the impact of diversion of the subject forest lands.
45. The grant of Stage II clearance is not preceded by any independent application of mind as to whether the subject forest lands is proposed to be diverted or not. The entire exercise is limited to the examination of whether compliance with the conditions imposed in stage I clearance has been demonstrated. Similarly, the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent's final diversion order is also granted by examining whether compensatory levies or other conditions in the stage II clearance are complied with.
46. Under rule 3 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, the advisory committee is constituted to advise the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent on the grant of approval for diversion of forest lands. Rule 5(5) imposes a duty on the advisory committee to "examine" the proposal. Rule 10(5)(ii)(c) & (e) mandates the FAC to specifically examine whether
- "(c) the State Government or the Union territory Administration, as the case may be, before making his recommendation, has *considered all issues having direct and indirect impacts on the diversion of forest land on the forest, wildlife and the environment*;
- (e) whether *adequate justification* has been given and appropriate mitigation measures have been proposed by the State Government or the Union territory Administration, as the case may be, *if the forest land proposed to be used for nonforest purposes forms part of a national park, wildlife sanctuary, tiger reserve, designated or identified tiger or wildlife*

corridor, or habitat of any endangered or threatened species of flora and fauna or of an area lying in the severely eroded catchment; and”  
(emphasis supplied)

47. In the present case, a reading of the minutes shows that the advisory committee has not examined the proposal at all. There is an absolute lack of any discussion on the merits of the proposal, its consequences and impacts, the nature of the forest, its biodiversity, impact on tribal life, and other factors. There is no examination as to whether impact on wildlife and the environment has been considered. The presence of endangered species and the fact that the forest proposed to be diverted are habitat for several near-threatened and endangered species has not even been mentioned. Thus, the entire process is vitiated and the respondents have played a fraud on their powers under the statute to reward the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent with the impugned clearance.
48. The project screening committee constituted under rule 8 is also bestowed with the duty to examine the proposal received before sending it to the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent for consideration. Under rule 9(13), consideration on impact on forest and wildlife is required and the PSC may even seek modification of the proposal. An examination of the records shows that they have also failed in their duty and the impact of the subject diversion for mining on wildlife and the environment has not even been mentioned. The impact of clearing the subject forest of trees and shrubs has also been ignored. A copy of the extract of 36<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup>, 38<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> PSC meetings are annexed as **Annexure A22**.
49. It is trite that the lack of reasoning vitiates proceedings and orders. In the present case, there is an evident failure to even comply with the minimum statutory mandate. The impugned clearances are thus liable to be quashed.

50. The appellants have approached this Hon'ble Tribunal on the following among other

**GROUND**

- A. The impugned clearance has been issued in violation of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 the principle of sustainable development, precautionary principle and principle of eco – centrism.
- B. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have issued the impugned clearance without considering the fact that the forests diverted are the habitat of endangered fauna, including the Jeypore Ground Gecko, Pangolin, Jackal, which are also protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- C. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to see that the Jeypore Ground Gecko has been found on the Balda hill, which is now to be mined and the habitat of this endemic, endangered gecko has to be protected from destruction and it is illegal to divert it for mining.
- D. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to see that the discovery of the Jeypore Ground Gecko on the Balda hill, in the area to be diverted for mining, is monumental and its habitat has to be protected, as it is entitled to the same protection in law as the Tiger.
- E. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to see that the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent has suppressed the presence of the Jeypore Ground Gecko and other endangered species in the area and has committed fraud on the process.
- F. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to see that the forests sought to be mined, including the grasslands on the hill top, are habitat for more than 120 species of birds, including ground-nesting threatened birds, which has been suppressed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent.

- G. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to see that the impact of the diversion of the subject forest lands for mining on biodiversity has been suppressed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent.
- H. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to see that the religious, cultural, and livelihood significance of the forests to the tribal communities has been suppressed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent.
- I. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to see that the Balda hill is an undisturbed repository of biodiversity, critical to the survival of endangered species like the Jeypore ground Gecko and of immense significance to the tribal communities who are dependent on the forest for not just sustenance but for continuation of their traditional religious, cultural practices and their very way of life.
- J. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to see that the rights of tribal communities under the FRA have not been settled.
- K. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to see that mandatory prior consent of tribal communities has not been obtained as mandated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Orissa Mining Corporation Ltd vs Ministry of Environment & Forest & Ors (2013 (6) SCC 476)* and the diversion of forest land without complying with this mandate is vitiated.
- L. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to even examine the claimed compliance with the FRA and the certificate dated 15.01.2026.
- M. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to discharge their duties under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Act & Rules to examine the proposal for diversion of forests and its impacts.
- N. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents have failed to apply their minds, and the impugned clearance has been issued in a mechanical fashion, accepting the statements of the 3<sup>rd</sup> respondent as gospel truth.
- O. The impugned clearances are liable to be quashed as the diversion of the subject forests would sound the death knell to the endangered species

inhabiting the forests diverted and the tribal communities dependent on these forests.

## **LIMITATION**

The present appeal has been filed within the period of 30 days from the date of the impugned final diversion order/date of communication (vide RTI on 20.05.2026) dated 07.05.2026 issued by the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent, which is a culmination of the stage II clearance dated 16.04.2026 and stage I clearance dated 23.12.2024 issued by the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent. The final diversion order has not been placed on the website of the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent till date, and the appellants had to obtain a copy through RTI and have filed the present appeal. The present appeal is indisputably within limitation prescribed under Section 16 of the NGT Act.

## **INTERIM RELIEF:**

Pending disposal of the present appeal, the appellant prays that this Hon'ble Tribunal be pleased to:

- A. Issue an order of stay of the the "In-Principle" (Stage-I) clearance dated 23.12.2024 culminating in the "Final approval" (Stage II) clearance dated 16.04.2026 issued by the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent, culminating in the final diversion order dated 07.05.2026 issued by the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent in favour of 3<sup>rd</sup> Respondent for non-forestry use of 157.212 Ha of forest land within Nagasari reserve forest under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District, pending disposal of the present appeal.
  
- B. Issue such other orders as it deems fit in the interest of the case and render justice.

**PRAYER:**

It is therefore prayed that this Hon'ble Court be pleased to:

- A. Quash / set aside the "In-Principle" (Stage-I) clearance dated 23.12.2024 culminating in the "Final approval" (Stage II) clearance dated 16.04.2026 issued by the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent, culminating in the final diversion order dated 07.05.2026 issued by the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent in favour of 3<sup>rd</sup> Respondent for non-forestry use of 157.212 Ha of forest land within Nagasari Reserve Forest under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District.
- B. Pass such further order or orders as may be deemed fit, proper and necessary in the facts and circumstances of the case and thus render justice.



*J.*

COUNSEL FOR THE APPELLANTS

Signature Attested  
*[Signature]*  
 23/5/26  
 Prasant Ku. Patro  
 NOTARY PUBLIC, KORAPUT

Ajaya Muduli  
 Sunadhar Muduli  
 Rajendra Khara  
 ଠାକୁରାଣୀ ମୁଦୁଲି  
 APPELLANTS

**VERIFICATION**

We, Ajaya Muduli S/o Dhana Muduli, Sunadhar Muduli, S/o Budu Muduli, Rajendra Khara, S/o Krupasindhu Khara and Gana Limikia, S/o late Lalan Limikia, the appellants herein, do hereby verify that the contents of the above paragraphs and grounds are true to the best of our knowledge and based on legal advice and that nothing has been suppressed.

Signature Attested  
*[Signature]*  
 23/5/25  
 Prasant Ku. Patro  
 NOTARY PUBLIC, KORAPUT

Ajaya Muduli  
 Sunadhar Muduli  
 Rajendra Khara  
 ଠାକୁରାଣୀ ମୁଦୁଲି  
 APPELLANTS

**VAKALATNAMA  
BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL AT CALCUTTA**

State: Odisha

Appeal No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 2026

Ajaya Muduli & Ors.

Appellants

-Versus-

Union of India & Ors.

Respondents

Vakalatnama of behalf of Ajaya Muduli, Sunadhar Muduli, Rajendra Khara, Gana Limikia Knows all men be these presents that by this Vakalatnama We appoint the Advocates Pleaders noted below or any one of them as our lawful Advocate or Advocates for filing the memorandum of appeal or Petition in the above matter for appearing and conducting and arguing the same for depositing or withdrawing any money in connection therewith, for moving the Court in any matter connected therewith for preparing the paper Book in the case and for putting in papers, petition etc. on our behalf for filing or taking back any documents for withdrawing suits or appeals or petitions with permission to Institute fresh suits, appeals, petition, etc. for signing and filing the petitions of compromise in connection with the said matter and for taking copies of paper from the Record and We further say that any act done by our said Advocate or Advocates or by any one of them accepting this Vakalatnama, shall be considered as our true and lawful act.

And we further hereby agree and undertake to pay the said Advocate or Advocates his or their fees has settled and all others sums that may be necessary to carry out the requisition of the Court and otherwise to enable the said Advocate or Advocates to conduct the case properly, failing which the said Advocate or Advocates after notice to me/us will be at liberty to withdraw from the further conduct of the case.



Signature Attested  
Prasant Ku. Patra  
NOTARY PUBLIC, KORAPUT

Ajaya Muduli  
Sunadhar Muduli  
X ଠାକରା ଶରଣ  
Rajendra Khara

IN WITNESS WHEREOF We sign and execute this Vakalatnama on this

the \_\_\_\_ day of May, 2026

The contents of the Vakalatnama were read out and explained in Odia and Desia and understood by the signatories.

Yogeshwaran A  
Poongkhulali B  
Santanu Chakraborty

Atindriya Chakraborty  
Swetha S  
Smitha GS

G.S. Swetha (55/6/2025)  
Smitha GS (13/7/2025)  
Shakraborty (14/21/2022)  
Atindriya Chakraborty (6/5/2024)

**NAME OF THE ADVOCATES**

*Atindriya Chakraborty*

Address: M-1, Vadhula, No. 18, Brindavan Street, Mylapore, Chennai- 600004

**Authorization Letter**

We, Sunadhar Muduli, S/o Budu Muduli, Rajendra Khara, S/o Krupasindhu Khara and Gana Limikia, S/o late Lalan Limikia being Appellant No. 2, 3 and 4 respectively, in an Appeal before the National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone Bench, concerning challenge to the orders passed by the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respondents under Section 2(1)(ii) of Van (Sanrakshan Eva Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 Ha of forest land within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines, do hereby authorize Ajaya Muduli S/o Dhana Muduli, Appellant No. 1, to represent us. We hereby authorize him to sign petitions, affidavits and applications on our behalf, to pursue the said Appeal.

The contents of the above have been read over and explained in Odia and Desia to the undersigned.

X *Sunadhar Muduli*

Sunadhar Muduli  
(Appellant 2)

X *Rajendra Khara*

Rajendra Khara  
(Appellant 3)

X *ଗନା ଲିମିକିଆ*

Gana Limikia  
(Appellant 4)

*Signature Attester*  
*Prasant Ku. Patro*  
NOTARY PUBLIC, KORAPUT





## Government of India

## Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

## (Forest Conservation Division)



Online Proposal No.:  
FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023



Dated: 23/12/2024

To,

Additional Chief Secretary (Forests)  
Government of Odisha  
Bhubaneswar

**Subject:**

Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha.

**Sir/Madam,**

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter No letter No. FE-DIV-FLD-0052-2024-13003/FE&CC dated 19.07.2024 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and additional information submitted through online on PARIVESH 2.0 portal as sought by the Ministry and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section - 3 of the aforesaid Act.

2. After careful examination of the proposal of the Government of Odisha and on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, and approval of the same by the competent authority of the MoEF&CC, New Delhi, the Central Government hereby accords '*in-principle*' approval under Section - 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha. of Odisha subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

### 1. General Conditions

S.No	Conditions
1.1	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged
1.2	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
1.3	The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation, at the current wage rate, to the State Forest Department. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years
1.4	At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish 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
1.5	All the funds received from the user agency under the project, except the funds realized for regeneration/ demarcation of safety zone, shall be transferred to Ad-hoc CAMPA in the Savings Bank Account pertaining to the State concerned
1.6	The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required
1.7	The boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar
1.8	The User agency, if required, will undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures in the area being diverted at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department. A scheme of the same may be submitted along with the compliance report
1.9	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land
1.10	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
1.11	The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal
1.12	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government
1.13	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
1.14	No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused
1.15	Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department
1.16	The user agency in consultation with the State Government shall create and maintain alternate habitat/home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Bird's nests artificially made out of eco-friendly material shall be used in the area, including forest area and

S.No	Conditions
	human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project
1.17	The User Agency shall submit six monthly self-compliance reports as on 1st January and 1st July of every year to this office as well as to the Nodal Officer of the State
1.18	The State Government shall monitor compliance of conditions of Forest Clearance and shall submit in this regard yearly report as on 31st December of every year
1.19	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
1.20	The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project
1.21	The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal from the User Agency 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 (Pt.) dated 06.01.2022 read with the letter dated 22.03.2022 in this regard.
1.22	The non-forest land transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department or the revenue forest land, as the case may be, shall be notified by the State Government as Protected Forests under section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant section(s) of the local Forest Act, before issue of the 'Final' approval under the Adhiniyam. The Nodal Officer shall report compliance in this regard along with a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land as PF, along with compliance of 'in-principle' approval;
1.23	<p><b>Safety Zone Management:</b> 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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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;</li> <li>Boundary of the safety zone of the mining lease, adjacent to habitation/roads, should be properly fenced by the user agency;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>The State Government and the user agency shall ensure that safety zone is maintained as per the prescribed norms;</li> </ol>

## 2. Standard conditions

S.No	Conditions
2.1	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 & Regulating) Act, 1957, as amended or Rules framed there under, subject to a maximum period of 30 or 50 years.
2.2	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 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 are satisfactorily executed.
2.3	The user agency shall prepare a schedule for surrender of the mined out and reclaimed forest land in accordance with existing mining plan and submit the same along with an undertaking to surrender the mined out and reclaimed forest land as per such schedule to the MoEF&CC before grant of Stage-II approval under the FC Act for diversion of the said forest land;
2.4	In case of under-ground mines, areas on surface shall be fenced and afforested from the funds to be provided by the user agency.
2.5	The user Agency shall implement the R & R Plan as per the R & R Policy of State Government in consonance with National R&R Policy, Government of India before the commencement of the project work and implementation. The said R & R Plan will be monitored by the State Government/Regional Office of MoEF along with indicators for monitoring and expected observable milestones.
2.6	Adequate care shall be taken to check any rolling of overburden/dumps beyond diverted area and also to check soil erosion caused due to mining activities;
2.7	The user agency shall undertake de-silting of the village tanks and other water bodies located within five km from the mine lease boundary so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies, whenever required;
2.8	Following activities shall be undertaken by the User Agency at the project cost: (a) Preparation and implementation of a plan containing appropriate mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of streams; (b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion; (c) Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls along the contour to arrest sliding down of the excavated material; (d) Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28o;
2.9	The User agency will undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department. A scheme of the same shall be submitted to the Regional Office along with the Stage-I compliance report

S.No	Conditions
2.10	No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan;
2.11	A site-specific Wildlife Management Plan shall be prepared by the State Government in consultation with the PCCF (Wildlife) for the protection and conservation of wildlife of the area. A copy of approved Plan shall be submitted to the Ministry along with the compliance of Stage-I approval. Entire cost of implementation of the provisions of the Wildlife Management Plan shall be deposited into the account of CAMPA of the State;
2.12	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
2.13	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 concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the concern Addl. Principle Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities area satisfactorily executed;
2.14	The User Agency shall comply with the Hon'ble Supreme Court order on re- grassing, 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;
2.15	The user agency shall comply all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) including the complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 as per the Rules 11 (7) of the VSES Rules 2023 pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
2.16	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 dated 29.12.2023.
2.17	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;

### 3. Specific Conditions

S.No	Conditions
3.1	The State Govt. shall ensure that the area earmarked as green belt i.e. 48.56 ha shall be kept as

S.No	Conditions
	green or used as admissible as per the extant rules and guidelines and no change in the land use shall be affected without the prior approval of the Central Govt.
3.2	The shallow water body within the mine lease area is a manmade formation created by forest department. The said water body (admeasuring 76 m X 54 m X 1 m) was created under CAMPA by the Department of Forest during the year 2020-21. In order to compensate the construction made and to provide the alternative, the State shall create other such suitable waterbody in the nearby surrounding area at the cost of the user agency. The funds in this regard shall be deposited by the User Agency in NA CAMPA.
3.3	The State Govt. shall ensure that the User Agency will not carry out any mining activity near the caves as recommended by the State and Regional Officer and take suitable measure to provide safe passage for accessibility to the local people for their religious belief, rituals and worships, if any.

After receipt of the compliance report on the fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under section Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till final approval is granted by the Government in this regard.

**Copy To**

1. PCCF (HoFF), State Forest Department, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
2. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, State Forest Department, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. CEO, National Authority CAMPA, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
4. DDGF (Central), Regional Office of MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar.
5. User Agency.
6. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
7. Guard File.

**Your's faithfully**

(Suneet Bhardwaj)  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests



## Government of India

## Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

## (Forest Conservation Division)



Online Proposal No.:  
FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023



Dated: 16/04/2026

To,

Additional Chief Secretary (Forests)  
Government of Odisha  
Bhubaneswar

**Subject:** Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha.

**Sir/Madam,**

I am directed to refer to the proposal no. FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023 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. The proposal was accorded "In-Principle" (Stage-I) approval by the Central Government vide letter dated 23.12.2024. The Government of Odisha has reported/submitted the compliance report on the online PARIVESH portal to the conditions stipulated in the "In-Principle" approval and requested for grant of final approval.

After careful consideration of the compliance report furnished by the Government of Odisha on the proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023, I am directed to convey the "Final approval" under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha. subject to the following conditions:

### 1. General Conditions

S. No	Conditions
1.1	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;

S.No	Conditions
1.2	The non-forest land transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department shall be notified by the State Government as Protected Forests under section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant section(s) of the local Forest Act, before handing over the forest land to the user agency;
1.3	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;
1.4	The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
1.5	The boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar;
1.6	The User agency, shall undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures in the area being diverted at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department as per the approved scheme submitted along with the Stage-I compliance report;
1.7	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
1.8	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;
1.9	The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
1.10	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
1.11	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;
1.12	No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
1.13	Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
1.14	The user agency in consultation with the State Government shall create and maintain alternate habitat/home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project as per the approved scheme submitted along with the compliance report of the Stage-I approval. Bird's nests artificially made out of eco-friendly material shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project;
1.15	The User Agency shall submit six monthly self-compliance reports as on 1st January and 1st July of every year to this office as well as to the Nodal Officer of the State;
1.16	The State Government shall monitor compliance of conditions of Forest Clearance and shall submit in this regard yearly report as on 31st December of every year;

S.No	Conditions
1.17	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;
1.18	<p><b>Safety Zone Management:</b> 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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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;</li> <li>Boundary of the safety zone of the mining lease, adjacent to habitation/roads, should be properly fenced by the user agency;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>The State Government and the user agency shall ensure that safety zone is maintained as per the prescribed norms;</li> </ol>
1.19	The User Agency shall comply all the provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
1.20	Violation of any of these conditions will amount 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 issued under Van (Sanrakshan Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 29.12.2023;
1.21	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, in support thereof;
1.22	The State Government after receiving the 'Final Approval' of the Central Government under subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Adhiniyam, and after fulfillment and compliance of the provisions of the all other acts and rules made thereunder, as applicable including ensuring of settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes or Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act. 2006 (2 of 2007), shall issue order for diversion.

## 2. Standard conditions

S.No	Conditions
2.1	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 & Regulating) Act, 1957, as amended or Rules framed there under, subject to a maximum period of 30 or 50 years.
2.2	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, Van (Sanrakshan evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 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 Deputy Director General of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities are satisfactorily executed.
2.3	The user agency shall implement the schedule for surrender of the mined out and reclaimed forest land in accordance with the approved mining plan;
2.4	In case of under-ground mines, areas on surface shall be fenced and afforested from the funds to be provided by the user agency.
2.5	The user Agency shall implement the R & R Plan as per the R & R Policy of State Government in consonance with National R&R Policy, Government of India before the commencement of the project work and implementation. The said R & R Plan will be monitored by the State Government/Regional Office of MoEF along with indicators for monitoring and expected observable milestones.
2.6	Adequate care shall be taken to check any rolling of overburden/dumps beyond diverted area and also to check soil erosion caused due to mining activities;
2.7	The user agency shall undertake de-silting of the village tanks and other water bodies located within five km from the mine lease boundary so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies, whenever required as per the approved scheme as submitted along with the Stage-I compliance report;
2.8	<p>Following activities shall be undertaken by the User Agency at the project cost:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Preparation and implementation of the approved scheme containing appropriate mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of streams;</li> <li>(b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion as per the approved scheme;</li> <li>(c) Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls along the contour to arrest sliding down of the excavated material as per the approved scheme;</li> <li>(d) Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching so as to ensure that that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28 degree as per the approved scheme;</li> </ul>
2.9	The User agency will undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department as per the approved scheme as submitted along with the Stage-I compliance report;
2.10	No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency shall implement the

S.No	Conditions
	top soil management plan;
2.11	The site-specific Wildlife Management Plan as approved by the PCCF (Wildlife) shall be implemented by the State Govt. at the cost of the User Agency;
2.12	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;
2.13	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, Van (Sanrakshan evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 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 concerned Deputy Director General of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities area satisfactorily executed;
2.14	The User Agency shall comply with the Hon'ble Supreme Court order on re-grassing, 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;
2.15	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 Van (Sanrakshan Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 29.12.2023.
2.16	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 the approved scheme as submitted along with the Stage-I compliance report;

### 3. Specific Conditions

S.No	Conditions
3.1	The State Govt. shall ensure that the area earmarked as green belt i.e. 48.56 ha shall be kept as green or used as admissible as per the extant rules and guidelines and no change in the land use

S.No	Conditions
	shall be affected without the prior approval of the Central Govt.
3.2	The shallow water body within the mine lease area is a manmade formation created by forest department. The said water body (admeasuring 76 m X 54 m X 1 m) was created under CAMPA by the Department of Forest during the year 2020-21. In order to compensate the construction made and to provide the alternative, the State shall create other such suitable waterbody in the nearby surrounding area at the cost of the user agency as per the scheme submitted along with the Stage-I compliance report.
3.3	The State Govt. shall ensure that the User Agency will not carry out any mining activity near the caves as recommended by the State and Regional Officer and take suitable measure to provide safe passage for accessibility to the local people for their religious belief, rituals and worships, if any.

**Copy To**

1. PCCF (HoFF), State Forest Department, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
2. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, State Forest Department, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. CEO, National Authority CAMPA, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
4. DDGF (Central), Regional Office of MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar.
5. User Agency.
6. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
7. Guard File.

**Your's faithfully**Sd/-  
(Raja Ram Singh)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA  
FOREST, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT

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No.FE-DIV-RTI-0024-2026- 11084 /FE&CC, Date 20 MAY 2026

ANNEXURE A3

From

Shri Krutibas Parida,  
Deputy Secretary to Govt. & PIO (Diversion Section)

To

Sri Ajaya Muduli  
C/o:- Dhana Muduli  
At-Taintar, Bheja, Nandapur  
Dist:-Koraput, Odisha.

Sub: Supply of information under RTI Act, 2005 dtd.5.5.2026 of Sri Ajaya Muduli.

Sir,

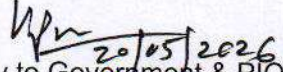
In inviting reference to this Department Letter No.9712/FE&CC dtd.06.05.2026 on the subject cited above, I am to furnish herewith the available information as sought for by you vide your RTI application dtd.05.05.2026 under RTI Act, 2005 (through e-mail: [nageswari.njss@gmail.com](mailto:nageswari.njss@gmail.com)).

1. Copy of the Govt. of India, MoEF&CC (FC Division), New Delhi letter dtd.16.04.2026 wherein the MoEF&CC have conveyed "Final approval" under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the VSSA, 1980 in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha.
2. Copy of the Reasoned Order issued by FE&CC Department vide Order dtd.07.05.2026 on the above matter.

This is for kind information and necessary action.


Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above

  
Deputy Secretary to Government & PIO

Memo No. 11085 /FE&CC, Dt. 20 MAY 2026

Copy forwarded to the RTI Cell (Nodal) of FE&CC Department w.r.t. this Department Letter No.9712/FE&CC, dtd.06.05.2026 for information & necessary action.

  
Deputy Secretary to Government & PIO



By Speed Post/e-mail

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
**FOREST, ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT**

\*\*\*\*\*

No. FE-DIV-FLD-0052-2024- 9751 /FE&CC, Bhubaneswar, dated the **07 MAY 2026**  
10F (Cons) 38/2024

**ORDER**

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha.

WHEREAS, the Associate Vice President, Kalinga Alumina Limited, Adani Corporate House, Near Vaishno Devi Circle, S.G. Highway, Khodiyar, Ahamedabad, Gujrat, Pin-382421 had applied for diversion of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District, Odisha of Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha in respect of Kalinga Alumina Pvt. Ltd.

And whereas, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi had accorded '**in-principle**' approval in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha of Odisha subject to fulfilment of the conditions as laid down therein vide letter dtd.23.12.2024 (**Annexure-I**).

And whereas, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi in consideration of the compliance of the conditions of the 'in-principle' approval, have granted "**final approval**" under Section-2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha subject to fulfilment of the conditions as stipulated therein vide letter dtd.16.04.2026 (**Annexure-II**).

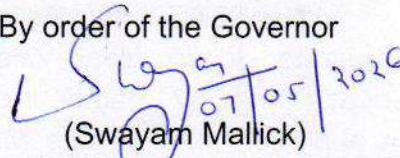
Now, therefore, the Government of Odisha, do hereby allow non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited, as per approved land schedule.

The Collector, Koraput & Divisional Forest Officer, Koraput 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, Koraput Forest Division is also 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

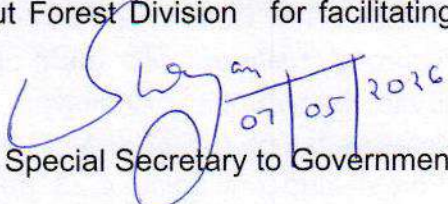
  
(Swayam Mallick)

Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 9752 /FE&CC Date 07 MAY 2026

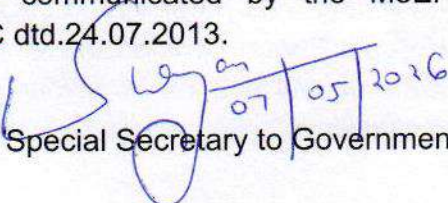
Copy along with copy of the Annexures forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha for kind information and necessary follow up action.

Appropriate instruction to the Divisional Forest Officer, Koraput Forest Division and user agency may be imparted for required follow up action at their end. It may be ensured by the Divisional Forest Officer, Koraput 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, Koraput Forest Division for facilitating monitoring of compliances.

  
Special Secretary to Government

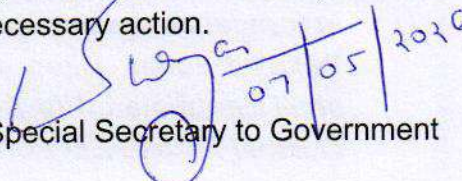
Memo No. 9753 /FE&CC Date 07 MAY 2026

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, Jor Bagh 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.

  
Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 9754 /FE&CC Date 07 MAY 2026

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

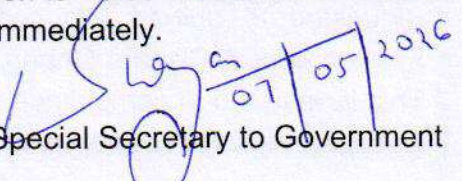
  
Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 9755 /FE&CC Date 07 MAY 2026

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

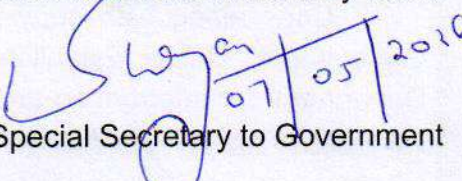
It may be ensured by the Divisional Forest Officer, Koraput Forest Division that Net Present Value of the forest land involved in this project of the user agency shall be deposited by them in full, at applicable rates in appropriate head before handing over of the forest land to the user agency. Besides, 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, Koraput Forest Division for facilitating monitoring of compliances by them.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Koraput Forest Division is also instructed to ensure that the directions given to the user agency are executed immediately.

  
Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 9756 /FE&CC Date 07 MAY 2026

Copy along with copy of the Annexures forwarded to Steel & Mines Department/ Director, Environment-cum-Special Secretary to Government, FE&CC Department/ Member Secretary, SPCB, Odisha/ Collector, Koraput for information and necessary follow up action.

  
Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 9757 /FE&CC Date 07 MAY 2026

Copy along with copy of the Annexures forwarded to the Associate Vice President, Kalinga Alumina Limited, Adani Corporate House, Near Vaishno Devi Circle, S.G. Highway, Khodiyar, Ahmedabad, Gujrat, Pin-382421 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.

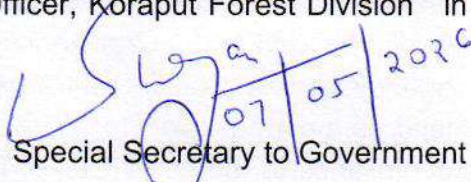
- i. ***They shall publish the entire forest clearance granted in verbatim along with conditions and safeguards imposed by the Central Government in Stage-I/II forest clearance in two widely circulated daily newspapers, one in vernacular language and the other in English language so as to make people 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 DFO, Koraput/ RCCF, Koraput Circle/ PCCF & HoFF, Odisha/ Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department for reference.**

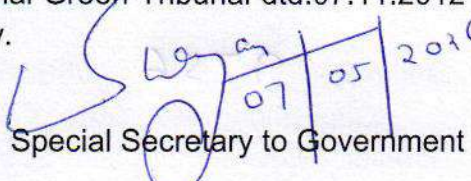
Besides the above, the user agency is also asked to deposit Net Present Value of forest land for this project in full, if not deposited yet, at applicable rates. Requisite funds due for deposit by the user agency on account of this project shall also be deposited under appropriate head.

The user agency shall furnish compliances to the conditions prescribed in the forest/wildlife clearance order to the Divisional Forest Officer, Koraput Forest Division in every quarter, for the purpose of monitoring by him.

  
Special Secretary to Government

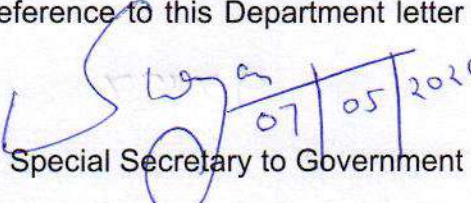
Memo No. 9758 /FE&CC Date 07 MAY 2026

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 unflinchingly.

  
Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 9759 /FE&CC Date 07 MAY 2026

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 this Department letter No.12939/F&E dtd.16.07.2016.

  
Special Secretary to Government



<b>Project Name:</b>	Ballada Bauxite Mining Project	<b>Single Window Number:</b>	SW/139582/2023
		<b>Proposal Number:</b>	FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023
<b>State:</b>	ODISHA	<b>Current Status:</b>	Final Diversion Order Issued
<b>Submission Date:</b>	23/01/2024	<b>Area ( in ha):</b>	157.212

[View Agenda](#) [View MoM](#)

**PARIVESH**  
 Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
 Government of India

[View Proposal Revision Summary](#)

### Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land

[Back](#)


#### Common Application Form

##### Project Details

###### 1. Details of Project

1.1. Name of the Project	Ballada Bauxite Mining Project
1.2. Project Proposal For	New
1.3. Project ID (Single Window Number)	SW/139582/2023
1.4. Description of Project	Ballada block is a virgin bauxite block located in Nandapur Tehsil of Koraput district in Odisha. Total mining lease area is 144.945 Ha, located entirely within Nagasari reserve forest. The project contemplates to develop the mine and surrounding infrastructures for commercial production of bauxite @ PRC of 4 MTPA using opencast mining.

###### 2. Details of the Company/Organization/User Agency making application

2.1. Legal Status of the Company/Organization/User Agency	Company
2.2. Name of the Company/ Organization/User agency	KALINGA ALUMINA LIMITED

###### Registered address

2.3. Address	Adani Corporate House, Nr. Vaishno Devi Circle, S.G. Highway, Khodiyar, Ahmedabad-382421
2.4. Village /Town / City	Khodiyar
2.5. State	GUJARAT
2.6. District	AHMADABAD
2.7. Pin Code	382421
2.8. Landmarks	Adani House
2.9. E-mail address	Kalinga.Alumina@adani.com
2.10. Mobile number	xxxxx1010

###### 3. Details of the person making application

3.1. Name	Kassireddy Anil Kumar
3.2. Designation	Associate Vice President

###### Correspondence address

3.3. Address	Adani Corporate House, Nr. Vaishno Devi Circle, S.G. Highway, Khodiyar, Ahmedabad-382421
3.4. Village /Town / City	Khodiyar
3.5. State	GUJARAT
3.6. District	AHMADABAD
3.7. Pin Code	382421
3.8. Landmarks	Adani House
3.9. E-mail address	Kalinga.Alumina@adani.com
3.10. Mobile number	xxxxx1010

## Project Location

## 4. Location of the Project or Activity

4.1. Upload KML 0\_ML and APPROACH ROADS.kml [Preview](#)

4.2. Whether the project/activity falling in the state/UT sharing international borders NO

5. Shape of the Project Non - Linear

## Location Details

Toposheet No	State/UT	District	Sub District	Village	Plot/Survey/Khasra No.
E44K11	ODISHA	Koraput	Padua	BALDA	Compartment No I-1/VII,I-1/VIII,I-1/IX,I-1/X

## Remarks

N/A

## 6. Land Requirement (in Ha) of the project or activity

6.1. Nature of Land involved 1

6.2. Non-Forest Land [A] 0

6.3. Forest Land [B] 157.212

6.4. Total Land [A+B] 157.212

## Project Activity Cost

## 7. Project/Activity Cost

7.1. Total Cost of the Project at current price level 23000  
Amount in Words : **Twenty Three Thousand Lakh(s) Only**

## 8. Employment likely to be generated

## 8.1. During construction phase

Permanent employment

8.1.1. No. of permanent employment (No.s) [A] 20

8.1.2. Period of employment (No. of days) [B] 180

8.1.3. No. of man-days [X]=[A]\*[B] 3600

Temporary employment

8.1.4. Temporary / Contractual employment (No. of Man days) [Y] 27000

8.1.5. Total [X] + [Y] 30600

## 8.2. During operational phase

Permanent employment

8.2.1. No. of permanent employment (No.s) [A] 30

8.2.2. Period of employment (No. of days) [B] 3650

8.2.3. No. of man-days [X]=[A]\*[B] 109500

Temporary employment

8.2.4. Temporary / Contractual employment (No. of Man days) [Y] 350000

8.2.5. Total [X] + [Y] 459500

## Others

9. Whether Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) involved? NO

10. Whether project area involves shifting of watercourse/road/rail/Transmission line/water pipeline, etc. required? NO

11. Whether any alternative site(s) examined or part thereof for the non-site-specific component? Not applicable as the project or activity is site specific

12. Whether there is any Government Order or Policy/ Court order relevant or restricting to the site? NO

13. Whether there is any litigation pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up? NO

14. Whether the proposal involves violation of Act/Rule/Regulation/Notification of Central/State Government? NO

## Project Details

## 1. Forest Clearance

1.1. State	ODISHA
1. Upload a copy of note containing justification for 2. locating the Project in forest land	15_Justification of Locating the Project in Forest Land.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
1.3. Project Category	Mining / Quarrying
1.3.1. Project Sub-Category	N/A
1.4. Exempted Category	NA
1.5. Is Related to Encroachment?	No
1.6. Whether any proposal seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of forest land required for this project has been submitted in the past?	No

## Proposed Land

## 2. Details of Forestland proposed to be diverted (Village / Division / District Wise Breakup)

2.1. Total area of forestland proposed for diversion (ha.)	157.212	
2.2. Total area of non- forestland required for this project (ha.)	0	
2.3. Legal Status of forest land proposed for diversion		
<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Legal Status of Forest Land</b>	<b>Documents</b>
157.212	Reserve Forest	NA
2.3.1. Total Area (ha)	157.2120	
2.4. Total period for which the forestland is proposed to be diverted (No. of years)	50	

## KML Details

Division	Koraput Division
No. of Patches	4
KML	7831598_FC_KML_1704523211509_0_ML and APPROACH ROADS.kml <a href="#">Preview</a>

## Location Details

Toposheet No.	District	Village	Range	Forest land proposed for diversion (ha)	Non Forest Land (ha)
E44K11	Koraput	BALDA	Balda	144.945	0
E44K11	Koraput	BALDA	Koraput	5.603	0
E44K11	Koraput	BALDA	Koraput	6.664	0

## Patch Details

Patch/ Segment ID	Forest Area (ha)	Non-Forest Area (ha)	Remarks if any
1	144.945	0	Mine lease area
2	0	0	
3	5.603	0	approach road from west side
4	6.664	0	approach road from east side

## Remarks Details

The application for Diversion of 157.212 Ha forest land, covering entire mining lease area of 144.945 Ha and 12.267 Ha of approach roads.

**Total Patch-wise Forest Land in the division (ha)**

2.5. Total Forest Land Area (ha)	157.2120
2.6. Total Non Forest Land Area (ha)	0.0000
<b>Total KML-wise Forest Land in the division (ha.)</b>	
2.7. Total Forest Land Area (ha)	157.212
2.8. Total Non Forest Land Area (ha)	0
2.9. Total Area (ha)	157.212

### 3. Component Wise Break Up (Including underground works such as tunnel and similar purpose)-if applicable

Component	Forest Land Proposed for Diversion (ha)	Non-forest Land (ha)
Topsoil stacking	0.28	0
Mineral Storage	1.93	0
Infrastructure (Workshop, Administrative Building etc.)	0.18	0
Roads	0.38	0
Mineral Separation Plant (Crushing & Screening Plant)	0.13	0
Overburden/Waste Dumping	1.95	0
Area under Safety Zone Plantation	4.23	0
Area Under Mining	81.82	0
Approach to dump and buffer safety Zone (on the Plateau)	4.49	0
Access Road within the lease boundary	0.995	0
Area left under Greenbelt	48.56	0
Area under approach Road (Outside Block Area)	12.267	0
4. Total Forest Land(ha)	157.212	
5. Total Non Forest Land (ha)	0.0000	
6. Upload map of the forest land proposed to be diverted prepared by using DGPS or Total Station (pdf only)	6_Map of forest land proposed for diversion (DGPS)_Compressed.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>	

### Afforestation Details

#### 7. Details of land identified for Compensatory Afforestation

7.1. Whether Compensatory Afforestation is applicable or not? Yes

7.1.1. Type of Compensatory Afforestation Non-forest Land

7.1.1.1. Whether Non-forest land is available? Yes

#### 7.1.1.2. Details of land identified for Compensatory Afforestation

7.1.1.2.1. State N/A

7.1.1.2.2. Division N/A

7.1.1.2.3. Range N/A

7.1.1.2.4. Land Parcel Id N/A

7.1.1.2.5. Total Area(in Ha) N/A

7.1.1.2.6. Area Applied (in Ha) N/A

7.1.1.2.7. Available Area(in Ha) N/A

#### 7.1.1.3. Patch wise details

##### Kml File Name

4\_CA Land Boundary.kml [Preview](#)

TopoSheet No.	State	District	Village	Plot No. /Khasra No.	Present Owner	Area
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KHINIBAR	300	Government land	8.023

E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KANDARA	333	Government land	8.053
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KANDARA	529	Government land	23.843
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KHINIBAR	301	Government land	3.776
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KHINIBAR	302	Government land	2.674
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KHINIBAR	308	Government land	5.931
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KANDARA	790	Government land	16.430
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KANDARA	791	Government land	11.987
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KHINIBAR	303	Government land	3.266
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KANDARA	793	Government land	31.941
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KHINIBAR	305	Government land	7.297
E44K11	ODISHA	Koraput	KANDARA	467	Government land	5.152
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KHINIBAR	306	Government land	2.219
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KANDARA	792	Government land	9.243
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KHINIBAR	307	Government land	6.398
E44K15	ODISHA	Koraput	KANDARA	467	Government land	13.24

7.1.1.4. Number of patches.	2
7.1.1.5. No. of districts involved for raising Compensatory Afforestation.	1
7.1.1.6. Total CA Land	159.47299999999998
7.1.1.7. Upload a scanned copy of the map of the land identified for creation of Compensatory Afforestation prepared by using GPS or Total Station (pdf only)	5_CA Land DGPS Survey_OR SAC Certified _ Super Compressed.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
7.1.1.8. Whether the area of non-forest land or Revenue forest land required to be provided by User Agency for raising Compensatory Afforestation is less than area of forest land proposed to be diverted?	No
7.1.1.9. Whether NFL is free from Non- Encumbrance	Yes
7.1.1.10. Whether the present owner of NFL is different from the User Agency	Yes
7.1.1.10.1. Upload MoU/agreement executed between the present owner and the user agency	4_CA Land Allocation Letter_Koraput.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
7.2. Details of Penal Compensatory Afforestation land	N/A

## Others

### 8. Cost-Benefit analysis

8.1. Whether Cost-Benefit analysis for the Project has been made?	Yes
8.1. Total Loss (Against the proposed forest land Diversion in crore)	258.6
8.2. Estimated Benefits of Forest Diversion (in crore)	6350.3
8.3. Cost Benefit Ratio	24.5565
8.4. Upload a copy of Cost-Benefit analysis	14_Cost Benefit Analysis_ Ballada Bauxite Mines.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>

### 9. Environmental clearance Details

9.1. Whether the Project requires Clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 (Environmental clearance)?	Yes
9.1.1. Status of Environmental Clearance	Application submitted
9.1.1.1. Proposal No	SIA/OR/MIN/439954/2023
9.1.1.2. Date of application	12/08/2023
9.1.1.3. MoEFCC / SEIAA File Number	SIA/OR/MIN/439954/2023

**10. Wildlife clearance Details**

10.1. Whether the Project or a part thereof is located in any Protected Area or their Eco sensitive zone? No

**Category Specific Details**

**11. Sector specific detail/attachments**

11.1. Copy of approved mining plan along with approval letter	3_Aproved Mine plan with Approval Letter-Ballada_Compressed.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
11.2. Copy of map of the outer boundary of mining lease area (pdf only)	12_Map of Outer Boundary of ML Area on TOPOSHEET _Compressed.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
11.3. Copy of the detailed land use plan in 1:4,000 scale prepared by using DGPS or Total Station (Kml only)	7_Landuse Plan_Compressed.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
11.4. Copy of the prospecting licence and extension of the prospecting licence, if any	2_Letter of Intent -Ballada.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
11.5. Copy of the approval accorded for MoEFCC for prospecting	22_In Principle stage 1 Form C Clearance.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
11.6. Copy of note containing details of the plan for the transportation of the minerals proposed to be raised from the mining lease (pdf only)	21_Bauxite Evacuation Plan.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>

**12. Period of validity of Mining Plan**

12.1. From	08/08/2023
12.2. To	07/08/2028
13. Period of Mining Lease(Years)	50
14. Name of approving authority for the Mining plan	Indian Bureau of Mine (IBM)

**15. Details of Prospecting undertaken to assess mineral reserves**

15.1. Whether detailed prospecting to assess mineral reserves in the lease has been undertaken No

**16. Brief details of Prospecting activities undertaken in the mining lease**

**16.1. Details of bore holes drilled for prospecting**

Forest Land		Non-Forest Land	
No. of Bore holes	Diameters(Inch)	No. of Bore holes	Diameters(Inch)
15	4	0	0

**17. Mineral Reserves**

Name of Mineral	Proved Reserves	Indicated Reserves	Inferred Reserves	Mineable Reserves	Remarks
Bauxite	0.0001	22.13	0.0001	19.96	

**18. Estimated reserves in Forest / Non-Forest land if any**

Name of Mineral	Estimated Reserve in Forest Land	Estimated Reserve in Non-Forest Land	Remarks
Buaxite	22.13	0	Entire Mining lease area falls within Reserve Forest. The total estimated mineral resource is 22.13 MT. Out of which 19.96 MT (UNFC 122) is considered under mineable reserve and 2.17 MT (UNFC 222) has been considered under prefeasibility mineral resource as per UNFC classification.

**19. Details of Letter of Intent (LoI) / Vesting order / Mining Lease**

19.1. Date of issue of LoI/Vesting order/Mining Lease	01/03/2023
19.2. Period of validity of LoI / Vesting order (years and months)	03/00
19.3. Period of lease (years and months)	50/00
19.4. Date of expiry of lease	28/02/2073

19.5. Lease area (in ha) as per Lol/Vesting order/Mining Lease	144.945
19.6. Production capacity (in MTPA) as per Lol / Vesting Order / Mining lease, if any prescribed	4
19.7. Details of Lease renewal(s), if any	NA
19.8. Other information, if any	Peak rated production capacity as per approved mining plan is 4.0 MTPA. Letter of Intent (LOI) does not define the mining capacity.

20. Status of approval of Mining plan	Approved
---------------------------------------	----------

21. Copy of Progressive Mine Closure Plan/Reclamation Plan should be provided	N/A
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## 22. Minerals to be mined

Name of Mineral	Classification	Production Capacity	Remarks
Bauxite	Major	4.0019	The peak rated production capacity shall be 4001868 Tons per annum (TPA)

## 23. Details of Total excavation (RoM) including Topsoil, Overburden, Mining waste, Rejects, etc.

23.1. Total excavation in MTPA	4.0019
23.2. Total Excavation in M.Cu.m/Annum	0.045
23.3. Stripping Ratio	0.0112
23.4. Other information, if any	The above information is provided considering a maximum excavation in a particular year (Ore - 5th year and OB- 3rd year). However, the stripping ratio for initial five years period is estimated at 1:0.018 on tonne to tonne basis.

## 24. Life of mine (years and months)

24.1. Life of the mine as per approved mining plan (in years and months)	09/00
24.2. Life of the mine as per total estimated reserves, if any (in years and months)	09/00
24.3. Other information, if any	The life of mine has been calculated based on the available reserves and resources, subsequently after detail exploration the life of mine may change.

## 25. Type and method of Mining Method

25.1. Type of mining	Opencast
25.2. Method of mining	Mechanized
25.3. Other information, if any	NA

## 26. Type of blasting, if any, to be adopted

26.1. Type of blasting	Deep Hole Blasting
26.2. Mitigation measures for control of blast induced vibrations	During blasting operation, sufficient stemming column will be maintained to prevent air blast. Controlled blasting with proper blast design and charging is considered. Controlled blasting also provides number of hazards mitigation measures. By applying appropriate quality control and understanding of the implications of proper blast design, blasting operation shall improve maintaining safety requirements, improve productivity and the long-term sustainability of the mine as well.
26.3. Other information, if any	None

27. Whether it is proposed to install beneficiation plant/Coal washery within the mining lease area?	No
27.1. Capacity of beneficiation/washery (in MTPA)	N/A
27.2. Proposed process	N/A
27.3. Beneficiation/Washing Technology	N/A
27.4. Other information, if any	

28. Whether it is proposed to install crusher within the mining lease area?	Yes
28.1. No. Of crushers	2
28.2. Capacity of crushers	2 N/A
28.3. Total Capacity of crushers	4 N/A

#### 29. Dumping strategy

Description	Area in Ha	Maximum height in m	Remarks
External dump	0.0001	0.0001	No external dumping is proposed
Internal dump	1.95	7	5-7 meter
Topsoil dump/ storage	0.280	5	The top soil shall be utilized for plantation.

#### 30. Topsoil management

30.1. Total Topsoil excavated during the entire life of the mine (mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.026
30.2. Utilization strategy of topsoil	The top soil shall be utilized for plantation.
30.3. Other information, if any	None

#### 31. Details of the Quarry/Mine Pit

31.1. Total Quarry Area (ha.)	84.72
31.2. Area of final void (ha.)	83.64
31.3. Maximum Depth of final void (m)	30
31.4. Other information, if any	None

#### 32. Details of Transportation

32.1. Mode of transportation upto pit head	Haul trucks/Dumpers
32.2. Mode of transportation from pit head to siding/loading	30 Tons dumpers
32.3. Mode of transport from loading point to consumers	Through road and Railway
32.4. Other information, if any	None

#### 33. Details of reclamation/post mining land use

33.1. Plantation area (ha.)	4.23
33.2. Water body (ha.)	1.08
33.3. Public use (ha.)	0.0001
33.4. Other uses (ha.)	1.95

#### 34. Details of other operational and closed mining leases in the vicinity of the proposed mining lease

Proximity of other mine	Number of mines	Name of the mines	Status of mine Operational/closed
Within a distance of 5 km from the lease boundary of the agency	N/A	N/A	N/A
Within a distance of 5-10 km	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	N/A		

## 33. Copy of Additional Information, if any

S. No.	Document Name	Remark	Document
1	component wise KML file	component wise KML file as per EDS observation no. 13 raised by Govt of India	annexure 3 - component wise landuse.kml <a href="#">Preview</a>
2	KML file of the proposed green belt	KML file of the proposed green belt as per EDS observation no. 12 raised by Govt of India	annexure 2 - proposed greenbelt_ballada.kml <a href="#">Preview</a>
3	EDS reply dated 4 Jan 2024	EDS reply dated 4 Jan 2024	0.0_ EDS reply dated 4 Jan 2024.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
4	Cover Letter	Cover Letter	0_Cover Letter.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
5	CA Land DGPS Survey_ORISAC Certified	CA Land DGPS Survey_ORISAC Certified	5_CA Land DGPS Survey_ORISAC Certified _ Compressed.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
6	Mom_FC_MoM_PSC-04.12.2024	Mom_FC_MoM_PSC-04.12.2024	39_Mom_FC_MoM_PSC-04.12.2024.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
7	Check List	Check List	38_Check List.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
8	CA Land Suitability Certificate	CA Land Suitability Certificate	37_CA Land Suitability Certificate.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
9	Safety Zone	Safety Zone	36_Safety Zone.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
10	Phased Reclamation Plan	Phased Reclamation Plan	35_Phased Reclamation Plan.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
11	Undertaking for Detailed Scheme for CA	Undertaking for Detailed Scheme for CA	34_Undertaking for Detailed Scheme for CA.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
12	Undertaking for ACA	Undertaking for ACA	33_Undertaking for ACA.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
13	Undertaking for ANPV	Undertaking for ANPV	32_Undertaking for ANPV.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
14	Undertaking for Minimum Use of Forest Land	Undertaking for Minimum Use of Forest Land	31_Undertaking for Minimum Use of Forest Land.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
15	Undertaking for Maintaining Left Out Area	Undertaking for Maintaining Left Out Area	30_Undertaking for Maintaining Left Out Area.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
16	Additional Undertakings	Additional Undertakings	29_Additional Undertakings.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
17	A note on justification for the proposal	A note on justification for the proposal	28_A note on justification for the proposal.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
18	Forest Compartment Map With LB	Forest Compartment Map With LB	27_Forest Compartment Map With LB.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
19	CA Land in SOI topo map 1-50000 Ballada_CA	CA Land in SOI topo map 1-50000 Ballada_CA 159.473	26_CA Land in SOI topo map 1-50000 Ballada_CA 159.473 _ Not Compress.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
20	Undertaking for FRA Certification	Undertaking for FRA Certification	25_Undertaking for FRA Certification.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
21	Undertaking for Completion of Pillar Posting of CA	Undertaking for Completion of Pillar Posting of CA Land	24_Undertaking for Completion of Pillar Posting of CA Land.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
22	Project Details	Project Details	23_Project Details.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
23	In Principle stage 1 Form C Clearance	In Principle stage 1 Form C Clearance	22_In Principle stage 1 Form C Clearance.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
24	Bauxite Evacuation Plan	Bauxite Evacuation Plan	21_Bauxite Evacuation Plan.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
25	Undertaking WLMP	Undertaking WLMP	20_Undertaking _ WLMP.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
26	Undertaking _ NPV	Undertaking _ NPV	19_Undertaking _ NPV.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
27	Undertaking _ No R&R Involved	Undertaking _ No R&R Involved	18_Undertaking _ No R&R Involved.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
28	Undertaking _ CA	Undertaking _ CA	17_Undertaking _ CA.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
29	Note for Dispatch of Bauxite	Note for Dispatch of Bauxite	16_Note for Dispatch of Bauxite.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
30	Justification of Locating the Project in Forest	Justification of Locating the Project in Forest Land	15_Justification of Locating the Project in Forest Land.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
31	Cost Benefit Analysis_ Ballada Bauxite Mines	Cost Benefit Analysis_ Ballada Bauxite Mines	14_Cost Benefit Analysis_ Ballada Bauxite Mines.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>

32	Landuse Plan	Landuse Plan	7_Landuse Plan_Not Compressed.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
33	TOR Ballada along with Undertaking for NOC	TOR Ballada along with Undertaking for NOC	13_TOR Ballada along with Undertaking for NOC.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
34	Map of Outer Boundary of ML Area on TOPOSHEET	Map of Outer Boundary of ML Area on TOPOSHEET	12_Map of Outer Boundary of ML Area on TOPOSHEET _ Not Compressed.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
35	Certified Land Schedule	Certified Land Schedule	11_Certified Land Schedule.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
36	Soil Moisture Conservation Plan	Soil Moisture Conservation Plan	10_Soil Moisture Conservation Plan.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
37	Certified Tree Enumeration Plan _ Ballada	Certified Tree Enumeration Plan _ Ballada	9_Certified Tree Enumeration Plan _ Ballada.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
38	Authorization Letter_Resolution	Authorization Letter_Resolution	8_Authorization Letter_Resolution.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
39	6_Map of forest land proposed for diversion (DGPS)	6_Map of forest land proposed for diversion (DGPS)	6_Map of forest land proposed for diversion (DGPS)_Compressed.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
40	CA Land Boundary KML	CA Land Boundary KML	4_CA Land Boundary.kml <a href="#">Preview</a>
41	CA Land Allocation Letter_Koraput	CA Land Allocation Letter_Koraput	4_CA Land Allocation Letter_Koraput.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
42	3. Approved mine plan with approval letter	Approved mine plan with approval letter	3_Approved Mine plan with Approval Letter-Ballada_Compressed.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>
43	Letter of Intent	Letter of Intent-Ballada	2_Letter of Intent -Ballada.pdf <a href="#">Preview</a>

#### 34. Document Checklist

No Data Found.

#### Undertaking

I hereby give undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to be best of my knowledge and belief and I am aware that if any part of the data and information is found to be false or misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and clearance given if any to the project will be revoked at our risk and cost. In addition to the above, I hereby give undertaking that no activity/construction/expansion has been taken up

35. Name	Kassireddy Anil Kumar
36. Designation	Associate Vice President
37. Company	KALINGA ALUMINA LIMITED
38. Address	Adani Corporate House, Nr. Vaishno Devi Circle, S.G. Highway, Khodiyar, Ahmedabad-382421
39. Date	30/12/2023



FC Form-A (Part II)

Basic Details

1. District-wise area to be diverted

District	Area (ha)
KORAPUT	157.212
<b>1.1. Total Area (ha)</b>	<b>157.212</b>

2. Legal Status of forest land proposed for diversion

Area (ha)	Legal Status of Forest Land
157.212	Reserved Forest
<b>2.1. Total Area (ha)</b>	<b>157.212</b>

3. Density of vegetation

Area (ha)	Canopy density	Eco-Class
157.212	0.2	Eco 3
<b>3.1. Total Area (ha)</b>		<b>157.212</b>

4. Species-wise local/scientific names and girth-wise enumeration of trees

<b>4.1. Whether the proposal involves felling of trees?</b>	Yes
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Scientific Name	Local Name	Enumeration details	
		Girth (cm)	Number of Trees
Terminalia Bellarica	Bahada	31-60	17
Pterocarpus Marsupium	Bija	31-60	18
Zizyphus Jujuba	Charakoli	31-60	9
Emblica Officinalis	Amla	31-60	65
Tridax Procumbens	Jodi, Handeri	31-60	66
		91-120	1
		>150	1
		121-150	1
Bauhinia Parviflora	Kanchana	31-60	2
Pongamia Pinnata	Karanja	61-90	1
Bredelia Retusa	Kashi	31-60	4
Schleichera Oleosa	Kusuma	121-150	1
		31-60	29
Mangifera Indica	Mango	31-60	25
		>150	1
Lannea Coromandelica	Modei	31-60	9
Erythrina Indica	Paldua	31-60	67

Artocarpus Heterophyllus	Panasa	31-60	3
Nothofagus Alpina	Rauli, Jeuta	31-60	19
Terminalia	Sahaja	31-60	38
Bombax Ceiba	Simili	31-60	1
Bixa Orellana	Sindura	31-60	26
Albezzia Labbeck	Sirisha	31-60	4
Gmelina Arborea	Gambhari	31-60	30
Terminalia Chebula	Harida	31-60	14
Syzigium Cumini	Hardjamu, Jamu	121-150 31-60	5 86

Total Species:21

Total Number of trees: 543

4.2. Number of trees which will actually be felled 1139

## 5. Working plan

5.1 Working plan prescription for the forest land proposed for diversion N/A

5.2 Copy of working plan prescription for the forest land proposed for diversion N/A

6. Brief note on vulnerability of forest area to erosion The upper slopes of the ML area is prone to Soil erosion.

7 Approximate distance of proposed Site for diversion from boundary of forest (km) 0

## 8. Details of violation(s)

8.1 Whether any work in violation of the Act or guidelines issued under the Act has been carried out No

Note: If you disagree with the violation details filled by User Agency, Kindly raise EDS to user agency.

## Wildlife Specific Details

### 9. Significance of the forest land proposed for diversion from wildlife point of view.

9.1 Details of wildlife present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion Wild boar, Jackal, Sloth Bear, Fox, Otter, Python, Jungle Cat Etc.

9.2. Whether forms part of national park, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve, tiger reserve, elephant corridor, wildlife migration corridor etc No

9.3. Whether any national park, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve, tiger reserve buffer zone, elephant corridor, wildlife migration corridor etc., is located within 10 Km. from boundary of the forest land proposed to be utilized for prospecting or diversion No

9.4. Whether any rare/ endangered/ unique species of flora and fauna found in the area No

9.5. Whether any protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area No

9.6. Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the Yes

## Afforestation Details

## 10. Compensatory Afforestation

10.1. Whether CA is applicable or not?	Yes
10.1.1. Nature of Land	Non-Forest Land
10.1.2. Upload map of the forest land proposed for C.A. prepared by using DGPS or Total Station	6_Map of forest land proposed for diversion (DGPS)_Compressed.pdf
10.1.3. Upload Survey of India Toposheet indicating boundary of forest land proposed for CA	Topo sheet CA_11zon.pdf
10.1.4. Upload certificates from competent authority regarding suitability of area identified for compensatory afforestation and from management point of view	Land Schedule Certificate.pdf
10.1.5. Total Financial outlay for C.A. scheme (in Crores)	9.1315 Amount in Words : <b>Nine Point One Thousand Three Hundred Fifteen Crore(s) Only</b>
10.1.6. Upload CA scheme details	Scheme_11zon.pdf

11. Whether the provision of additional CA land is proposed? No

## 12. District Profile

12.1. District	KORAPUT
12.2. Geographical area of the district. (ha)	880700
12.3. Forest area of the district. (ha)	187953
12.4. Total forest area diverted since 1980. (ha)	3645.9969
12.5. No. of Approved Cases.	13

Total compensatory afforestation stipulated in the district/division since 1980 on

13. Forest Land including penal C.A. (ha)	5281.925
14. Progress of compensatory afforestation as on(date)*	06/05/2024
15. Forest land (ha)	3586.073
16. Non-forest land. (ha)	852.481

## 13. Additional Information

S. No.	Document Name	Remark	Document
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## Other Details

(Site Inspection & Recommendation)

## 14. Site Inspection

14.1. Site Inspection Report	Site Inspection report.pdf
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## 15. Recommendation

15.1. Total forest land to be diverted (ha)	157.212
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15.2. Recommended Area (ha)

157.212  
**60**

15.3. Recommendation of DFO/DCF

Recommended

15.4. Justification

As per the Letter of intent with reference to e-auction dated 15.02.2023, Govt. of Odisha steel and mines department, Kalinga Aluminiua Ltd. has been declared as the preferred bidder.



FC Form-A (Part III)

Checklist Details

1. PART-I (Proposed-Diversion)

1.1. Whether the Geo-referenced map is provided	Yes
1.2. KML file of the proposed area	Yes
1.3. Justification note of the project provided by User Agency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I endorse the Justification to locate the proposal on the forest area by the User Agency

2. PART-II (Compensatory Afforestation) If applicable

2.1. Whether the Geo-referenced map is provided	Yes
2.2. Legal Status of User Agency	Private Limited
2.3. Whether PCCF approval obtained	Yes
2.4. Remarks from PCCF	NFL over 158.406 ha in village Khinibar & Kandra in Nandapur Tahasil of Koraput District.
2.5. Type of CA land [DFL/ NFL/ Combined (DFL & NFL)]	NFL

3. CA on Non-Forest land

3.1. Whether the area of KML file of given CA area is equal to the forest area sought for diversion	Yes
3.2. Whether all CA patches >5 ha	Yes
3.3. Whether the non-forest land free from all encumbrances and suitable for plantation and certificate is attached	Yes
3.4. Whether CA is selected in the same state	Yes
3.5. Whether violation is reported in proposed area	No
3.6. Whether land use plan is attached	Yes
3.7. Whether the project is site specific	Yes
3.8. Whether is there any court case/judgement pertaining to the project proposal or related to diversion of forest land	No
3.9. Whether the project area falls within protected area or within 1 km of distance from the boundary of PA in the Eco sensitive zone	No

I hereby undertake that the above information is accurate and duly verified.

Recommendation

9. Total Forest area applied (ha)	157.212
10. Whether proposal has been deliberated at PSC	Yes
11. Recommendation	Recommended
11.1. Recommendation Area (ha)	157.212
11.2. Forest area comes under LWEL/LAC?	No

## 12. Justification

62 The Bauxite mineral deposit is Site Specific. The user agency being the highest bidder in the e-auction has got the mine for exploitation.

## 14. Copy of Additional Information, if any

S. No.	Document Name	Remark	Document
1	KML File of Annexure-3	Component wise KML file	annexure 3 component wise landuse.kml
2	KML File of Annexure-2	KML file of the proposed Green belt	annexure 2 proposed greenbelt ballada.kml
3	Point wise to the EDS	Compliance alongwith Annexures	compliance with annexures.pdf



FC Form-A (Part IV)

Project Details

1. Recommendation	Recommended
1.1. Recommended Area (ha)	157.212
2. State File No.	13003
3. Letter of Recommendation	part iv ballada-kalinga alumina pvt ltd.pdf
4. Justification	recommended

Clearance

3. Upload Signed Clearance Letter N/A

4. Copy of Additional Information, if any

S. No.	Document Name	Remark	Document
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**SITE INSPECTION REPORT IN RESPECT OF 157.212 HA (144.945 HA ML AREA + 12.267 HA APPROACH ROAD OUTSIDE ML) OF FOREST LAND (INCLUDING 4.23 HA EARMARKED FOR SAFETY ZONE) WITHIN NAGASARI RF UNDER BALLADA RANGE OF KORAPUT FOREST DIVISION IN KORAPUT DISTRICT FOR BALLADA BAUXITE MINES WITHIN MINING LEASE AREA OF 144.945 HA IN RESPECT OF KALINGA ALUMINA PVT. LTD. UNDER SECTION 2 (1)(II) OF VAN (SANRAKSHAN EVAM SAMVARDHAN) ADHINIYAM, 1980.**

The site inspection of the above project was carried out by the undersigned on 27.10.2024 along with RCCF, Koraput, DFO, Koraput and representatives from the user agency.

Instant project is for diversion of 157.212 ha of forest land (144.945 ha of ML area + 12.267 ha for approach road outside ML area). There is an old existing road on either side of the Mining lease from valley to the plateau to passing through the Nagasari RF. This is the existing road to the mining lease area for which the user agency has also applied for diversion of 12.267 ha of forest land for approach road to mining lease. Two small caves seems naturally exist in the demarcated mining lease. A Water body is also there in the proposed mining lease area.

**1. Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:**

As reported by State Govt., legal status of the forest land is as below:

Legal Status		Forest Area (in Ha)
Nagasari RF	:	157.945
<b>Total</b>		<b>157.945</b>

**2. Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion.**

The item wise break up of forest as proposed by the State Govt. for this project is as below:

Sl. No.	Item	Area proposed (in Ha)
1	Top soil stacking	0.280
2	Mineral storage	1.930
3	Infrastructure (Workshop, Administrative Building etc.	0.180
4	Road	0.380
5	Mineral separation Plant (Crushing & Screening Plant)	0.130
6	Over burden dump/Waste dump	1.950
7	Area under Safety Zone plantation	4.230
8	Area under Mining	81.820
9	Access road within the lease boundary	0.995
10	Area left under Green Belt	48.560
11	Approach to dump and buffer safety zone (on the plateau)	4.490
Sub-Total		144.945
12	Area under approach road (outside ML block area)	12.267
<b>Total</b>		<b>157.212</b>

**3. Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof:**

As reported above Table at Sl.No.3.

**4. Total cost of the project at present rates:**

The total cost of the project is reported to be Rs.23,000 Crores.

**5. Wildlife:**

The DFO, Koraput has reported that wildlife such as Wild boar, Jackal, Sloth bear, Otter, Python, Jungle cat etc. are present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion. The DFO, Koraput has also reported that no wildlife found at the time of inspection to the applied area.

During inspection no wild animal was found in the proposed area.

**Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not:**

The applied area does not form part of any National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Corridor. It has also been reported that the proposed site for the project does not come under eco-sensitive zone of any protected area.

**6. Vegetation:**

The forest land proposed for diversion falls under Eco-Value Class-III and canopy density is 0.2.

**(a) Total number of trees to be felled.**

Total 4689 nos. of trees have been enumerated over forest land proposed for diversion. Out of which 1139 nos. of trees are above 30 cm girth and 3550 nos. of trees under 30 cm girth.

**Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem in the area:**

Removal of trees will affect the general ecosystem of the area. Trees should be felled when it is absolutely essential as per supervision of Forest Department. However, As told by the DFO, Koraput during inspection that felling of tree is not required in the proposed area for mining.

**(b) Important species:**

The tree species available in the applied mine lease area are Amla (*Emblica officinalis*), Bahada (*Terminalia belerica*), Bija (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), Charkoli (*Ziziphus mauritiana*), Gamhar (*Gmelina arborea*), Handeri (*Tridax procumbens*), Harida (*Terminalia chebula*), Jamun (*Syzigium cumini*), Kanchana (*Bauhinia variegata*), Karanja (*Pongamia pinnata*), Kasi (*Bridelia retusa*), Kusum (*Schleichera oleosa*), Mango (*Mangifera indica*), Moi (*Lannea coromandelica*), Paldua (*Erythrina subersosa*), Panas (*Artocarpus integrifolia*), Asan (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Simili (*Bombax ceiba*), Sindura (*Bixa orellana*), Siris (*Albizzia lebbek*) etc.

**7. Background note on the proposal:**

State Govt. has reported that Govt. of Odisha, pursuant to the Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 as amended from time to time issued the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) dated 23.11.2022 to commence the auction process for grant of mining lease for Ballada Bauxite Block in Nagasari RF located in Koraput District of Odisha. The e-auction process was conducted in accordance with the tender document for the said

mineral block and Mundra Alumina Limited was declared as the preferred bidder under Rule 9(9) (iii) of Rule 10 (1A) of Auction rules, having quoted a Final Price offer of 72.25%.

Accordingly, pursuant to Rule 10(2) of the Auction Rules and the terms of the Tender Document, the Govt. of Odisha have been pleased to issue the Letter of Intent (LoI) for grant of Mining Lease for Ballada Bauxite Block in Ballada village of Nandapur Tahasil of Koraput District over 144.945 Ha area to Mundra Alumina Limited for a period of fifty (50) years by Steel and Mines Department, Govt. of Odisha vide letter No.2143 dated 01.03.2023. The LoI is valid for three years from the date of issue.

Mundra Aluminium Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Limited. Mundra Aluminium Limited has changed its name as Kalinga Alumina Limited and the same has been accepted by the Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Govt. of India and to that effect Certificate of Incorporation of new name on 30.03.2023 as per Rule 29 of Companies (incorporation) Rules, 2019 has been issued. This change is a mere change in name and there is no change in corporate structure, Memorandum and Articles of Association and the share holding pattern. The renamed entity will continue to be a wholly owned subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Limited. Steel and Mines Department, Govt. of Odisha vide Proceeding No.5995 dated 09.06.2023 have been pleased to allow the change from Mundra Aluminium Limited to Kalinga Alumina Limited as per Rule 61 of Mineral Concession Rules, 2016 with effect from 30.03.2023.

Ballada is a virgin Bauxite Block with a total lease area of 144.945 ha, explored at G-3 level by GSI and GR to this effect was prepared by DGM-Odisha which formed part of the auction documents. GSI had carried out preliminary exploration of the Ballada Bauxite Block by drilling 15 vertical boreholes with a total meterage of 292.65 m. A total 22.13 Million tones of inferred resources of Bauxite of all grades have been estimated by cross sectional area method which is at G-3 level as per MEMC Rules, 2015.

As per the GR prepared by the DGM, Ballada Bauxite Block needs upscaling of resources and grade by exploring the Block further at G-level for augmentation and optimal harnessing of precious natural resources. Upon award of LoI in its favour, the project proponent had prepared a Mining Plan based on the current GR which was approved by IBM vide letter No.MCDR-MiFLOBXT/5/2023-BBS-IBM-RO-BBS dated 08.08.2023.

The project proponent is setting up a global scale 4 MTPA alumina refinery in Rampur village of Rayagada District with considerable investments. It has already secured two bauxite deposits through auction to secure the raw materials. It may be please be appreciated that raw material security is of paramount important so as to make such mineral based industries viable. Therefore, it is imperative that adequate raw material are made available prior to commissioning of the refinery.

The diversion project involves another 12.267 ha forest land for approach roads. Commulatively, the forest land applied for diversion is 157.212 ha including the Bauxite Block of Ballada and the approach road connecting the Mining Lease.

#### **8. Compensatory afforestation:**

In lieu of 157.212 ha of forest land proposed for diversion, State Govt. has identified 158.406 ha of non-forest Govt. land in village Khinibar and Kandra under Nandapur Tahsail of Koraput District for raising compensatory afforestation. The above CA land has been allotted by the Collector, Koraput vide letter No.2466/XXVI-32/2023 dated 04.08.2023.

The CA area was inspected and found suitable to be accepted for CA. During inspection, it was observed that a mental road is passing through CA patch-1 and non-mental road is there in CA

Patch-2. The State Govt. shall suitably fence the CA land before plantation. There are some cultivated patches also found during inspection. The CA land should be handed over encroachment free.

**(a) Whether land for compensatory afforestation is suitable from plantation and management point of view or not:**

The non-forest land identified is suitable from plantation and management point of view. The DFO, Koraput has furnished land suitability certificate with the proposal.

**Whether land for compensatory afforestation is free from encroachment/other encumbrances:**

The Tahasildar, Nandapur has certified that non-forest C.A. land is free from encroachment and encumbrances and not covered under DLC report.

**(b) Whether land for compensatory afforestation is important from Religious/Archaeological point of view:**

It has been reported that the land for CA is not important from Religious/Archaeological point of view.

**(c) Land identified for raising compensatory afforestation is in how many patches, whether patches are compact or not:**

The non-forest CA land identified is in two patches.

**(d) Map with details:**

The DGPS maps and SoI Toposheet (E44K11 & E44K15)) indicating location of identified non-forest land have been submitted by the State Govt.

**(e) Total financial outlay:**

The C.A. Scheme over 158.406 of non-forest land has been technically approved by PCCF (Nodal), Odisha with a financial outlay of Rs.16,05,42,900/-.

**9. Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials:**

As reported by the DFO, Koraput no violation has been committed by the user agency under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

During inspection, no violation has been observed.

**10. Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not:**

The State Govt. has reported that the project does not involve displacement of any human habitation. Hence, Resettlement & Rehabilitation Plan is not required.

**11. Reclamation plan:**

The Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan has been approved by the Regional Controller of Mines, IBM, Bhubaneswar over an area of 144.945 ha in respect of Ballada

Bauxite Block of M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd. vide letter No.MCDR-MiFLOBXT/5/2023-BBS-IBM-RO-BBS dated 08.08.2023. The State Govt. has submitted a detailed scheme of reclamation and afforestation to reclaim and stabilize the mined out undulating areas and the saturated dumps and by taking up plantation with the proposal. As reported by the DFO, Koraput phased reclamation plan will be carried out by the project proponent as per approved Mining Plan.

**12. Details on catchment and command area under the project:**

A water reservoir is located within the mining lease area. As reported by DFO, Koraput the shallow water body within the mining lease area is man made formation created by Forest Department under CAMPA during 2020-21.

It is reported by the user agency that the above water body falls under Bauxite bearing zone and will be mined as per the Mining Plan.

In order to compensate the water body which will be used for mining and to provide water to the wild animals during dry months, the User Agency shall create water body and Water harvesting structure some where around the proposed site.

**13. Cost benefit ratio:**

As reported, the total the cost of forest diversion is assessed as Rs.25860.00 Lakhs and Benefit of the project is estimated at Rs.574033.80 Lakh. The Cost Benefit Ratio comes to 1 : 22.197.

**14. Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:**

The forest area proposed for diversion has been duly recommended by PCCF.

**15. Utility of the project:**

As reported by State Govt., the project will generate permanent employment of 30 persons and temporary employment of 27,000 persons.

**Numbers of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes to be benefited by the project:**

Not reported.

**16. (a) Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/ religious value:**

As reported by the State Govt. two small caves seems to naturally exist in between demarcated Mining Lease Pillar No.01 and 14 of the Mining Lease. But, those two caves are not manmade archaeological monuments.

No mining activity shall be allowed upto a distance of 100 meter from the cave and user agency shall allow general public for worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau.

**(b) Whether any sacred grove or very old growth trees/forests exist in the areas proposed for diversion:**

Not reported.

**(c) Whether the land under diversion forms part of any unique eco-system:**

No such report available.

**17. Any other information relating to the project:**

The proposed site was visited on 27.10.2024 along with DFO, Koraput. Some of the photographs of the proposed site for diversion is as below:





**Photographs of proposed site for diversion.**

**18. Recommendations of Dy. Director General of Forests (Central) along with detailed reasons:**

1. The instant proposal is for diversion of 157.212 Ha of forest land which includes 144.945 Ha mining lease area and 12.267 Ha for construction of road. Out of 144.945 Ha of mining lease area 52.79 Ha will be maintained as Green belt and Safety zone.
2. The forest land proposed for diversion falls under Eco-Value Class-III. The canopy density as reported by DFO is 0.2. As per DSS analysis of ML area, 6 Ha is VDF, 23 Ha MDF, Open Forest 21 Ha and 95 Ha of Non-Forest Category. Mining will be done mostly in the area which is totally devoid of tree.
3. As reported by the DFO, the narrow road of 2.8 m width has been constructed on western side of Ballada Bauxite Block by Rural Works Department as per approval accorded by DFO, Koraput vide letter No.6692 dated 28.12.2020 under FRA, 2006. This road is included in proposal for diversion of forest land.
4. The applied area does not form part of any National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Corridor. It was also reported that the proposed site for the project does not come under eco-sensitive zone of any protected area. Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan with special emphasis to mitigate the adverse impact on available wildlife in and around the project as well as conservation and protection of rare/endangered and other wildlife found in and around the proposed area is required. Besides, the user agency should pay towards cost of Regional Wildlife Management Plan for entire mining lease as per approved norm of State Govt.
5. A water reservoir is located within the mining lease area. As reported by DFO, Koraput the shallow water body within the mining lease area is man made formation created by Forest Department under CAMPA during 2020-21. As reported the above water body falls under Bauxite bearing zone and will be used for mining in future. In order to compensate the loss of water body and to provide water to the wild animals during summer season, the User Agency should create water body to compensate the use of existing water body any where in and around the mining lease.

6. As mining will be done at the hill top, so the catchment will be affected. Soil Conservation Plan for the hillock covering the rest of the forest may be prepared and implemented at project cost. No drained water should be allowed to come out of the mining area.
7. After mining, the area should be ecologically restored to the present state i.e. a more or less levelled grass land with water body.
8. Two natural caves exist in between demarcated Mining Lease Pillar No.01 and 14 of the Mining Lease. Though the area is part of mining lease, but as per the mining plan the caves will be out of mining area. A distance of 100 meter from the caves towards the mining area should be maintained and should be developed as green belt. The user agency shall allow general public for visiting and worshipping their enshrined deity as well as the two caves using the road to be diverted.
9. In lieu of 157.212 ha of forest land proposed for diversion, State Govt. has identified 158.406 ha of non-forest Govt. land in village Khinibar and Kandra under Nandapur Tahsail of Koraput District for raising compensatory afforestation. The identified non-forest land was found suitable for CA. During inspection, it was observed that a metal road is passing through CA patch-1 and non-metal road is there in CA Patch-2. The State Govt. shall suitably fence both side of road to protect the plantation from grazing.
10. The Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan has been approved by the Regional Controller of Mines, IBM, Bhubaneswar over an area of 144.945 ha in respect of Ballada Bauxite Block of M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd. vide letter No.MCDR-MiFLOBXT/5/2023-BBS-IBM-RO-BBS dated 08.08.2023. The State Govt. has submitted a detailed scheme of reclamation and afforestation to reclaim and stabilize the mined out undulating areas and the saturated dumps and by taking up plantation with the proposal. Phased reclamation will be carried out by the project proponent as per approved Mining Plan.
11. Out of the mining lease area of 144.945 Ha, for mining & allied activities only 92.155 Ha area to be utilized. But the rest area of 52.79 Ha (144.945 Ha – 92.155 Ha) will be maintained as Safety Zone and Green Belt. As per Ministry's letter No.11-599/2014-FC dated 10.11.2015, the user agency has applied for diversion of the total lease area of 144.945 Ha and 12.267 Ha for approach road outside ML area and has submitted to Pay NPV as well as CA in non-forest land for the entire area of 157.212 Ha. The green belt of 52.79 Ha is all around the mining lease area.

Mining is a site specific activity. The user agency has identified equivalent non-forest land for raising Compensatory Afforestation. The proposal is recommended with standard conditions and fulfillment of the observation made during inspection.



(A.T. MISHRA)

**DY. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FORESTS (C)**



## Proposal Document

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Proposal No : FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023

Area(in ha) : 157.212

Proponent Name : KALINGA ALUMINA LIMITED

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S.No.	Document Category	Document	Uploaded By	Uploaded On	Action
1	N/A	In-Principle Approval Letter		05/09/2024	<a href="#">Preview</a>
2	N/A	fc_ministry_stage_ii_clearance177633261821416_fp_or_min_qry_456733_2023_34130119_-signed.pdf	Shri G. Rajesh, IFS	27/04/2026	<a href="#">Preview</a>
3	N/A	eds response with all enclosures _ 11 mar 26.pdf	Kassireddy Anil Kumar	11/03/2026	<a href="#">Preview</a>
4	N/A	3509.pdf	Shri G. Rajesh, IFS	16/02/2026	<a href="#">Preview</a>
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9	N/A	approved application for surface water drawal from jalaput.pdf	Kassireddy Anil Kumar	12/05/2025	<a href="#">Preview</a>
10	N/A	baseline monitoring status.pdf	Kassireddy Anil Kumar	12/05/2025	<a href="#">Preview</a>

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1	In-Principle Approval Letter	05/09/2024
2	fc_ministry_stage_ii_clearance177633261821416_fp_or_min_qry_456733_2023_34130119_-signed.pdf	27/04/2026
3	eds response with all enclosures _ 11 mar 26.pdf	11/03/2026
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11	combined payment advice for npv, wlmp and ca scheme.pdf	22/04/2025
12	npv payment advice.pdf	22/04/2025
13	wlmp payment advice.pdf	22/04/2025
14	ca scheme payment advice.pdf	22/04/2025
15	ca, npv & sswlcp.pdf	21/01/2025
16	sir_ballada_bauxite_kalinga.pdf	14/11/2024
17	annexure 3 component wise landuse.kml	17/10/2024
18	annexure 2 proposed greenbelt ballada.kml	17/10/2024
19	compliance with annexures.pdf	17/10/2024
20	annexure_1_-_office_of_pccf__odisha_memo_no_23746__34__9f_-_misc_-_153_-_2001.pdf	05/10/2024
21	compliance.pdf	27/09/2024
22	annexure 3 - component wise landuse.kml	27/09/2024
23	cover letter along with eds reply and annexure for the observations raised by govt of india.pdf	05/09/2024
24	annexure 2 - proposed greenbelt_ballada.kml	05/09/2024
25	part iv ballada-kalinga alumina pvt ltd.pdf	22/07/2024
26	Part-III Ballada Bauxite Mine.pdf	27/06/2024
27	48th PSC MoM.pdf	31/05/2024
28	Site inspection report (2).pdf	18/05/2024
29	Site Inspection report.pdf	06/05/2024
30	Topo sheet CA_11zon.pdf	06/05/2024
31	Land Schedule Certificate.pdf	06/05/2024

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33 SIR REPORT OF BALLDA BAUXITE MINES.pdf	22/03/2024
34 38th PSC MoM.pdf	31/01/2024
35 EDS REPLY -23.01.2024 with annexure.pdf	23/01/2024
36 0.0_ EDS reply dated 4 Jan 2024.pdf	10/01/2024
37 0_Cover Letter.pdf	10/01/2024
38 5_CA Land DGPS Survey_OR SAC Certified _ Compressed.pdf	10/01/2024
39 39_Mom_FC_MoM_PSC-04.12.2024.pdf	10/01/2024
40 38_Check List.pdf	10/01/2024
41 37_CA Land Suitability Certificate.pdf	10/01/2024
42 36_Safety Zone.pdf	10/01/2024
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65	7_Landuse Plan_Not Compressed.pdf	10/01/2024
66	13_TOR Ballada along with Undertaking for NOC.pdf	10/01/2024
67	12_Map of Outer Boundary of ML Area on TOPOSHEET _ Not Compressed.pdf	10/01/2024
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69	11_Certified Land Schedule.pdf	10/01/2024
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73	7_Landuse Plan_Compressed.pdf	10/01/2024
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75	4_CA Land Boundary.kml	10/01/2024
76	4_CA Land Allocation Letter_Koraput.pdf	10/01/2024
77	5_CA Land DGPS Survey_OR SAC Certified _ Super Compressed.pdf	10/01/2024
78	0_ML and APPROACH ROADS.kml	10/01/2024
79	7831598_FC_KML_1704523211509_0_ML and APPROACH ROADS.kml	06/01/2024
80	5_CA Land DGPS Survey_OR SAC Certified _ Not Compressed.pdf	30/12/2023
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85	7_Land Use Plan.pdf	30/12/2023
86	6_Map of forest land proposed for diversion (DGPS).pdf	30/12/2023
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94	28_Justification Note for Future Mining Area.pdf	27/12/2023
95	13_TOR Ballada.pdf	27/12/2023

96	0_CA LAND FOR BALLADA BAUXITE BLOCK.kml	26/12/2023
97	3_Approved Mine plan with Approval Letter-Ballada.pdf	26/12/2023
98	CA LAND FOR BALLADA BAUXITE BLOCK.kml	26/12/2023
99	7831598_FC_KML_1703585920877_KML_Mine Lease.kml	26/12/2023
100	7.1.2 CA LAND FOR BALLADA BAUXITE BLOCK.kml	04/12/2023
101	7831598_FC_KML_1701669551785_2.4 Mining Lease Area.kml	04/12/2023
102	1.2 Justification of Locating the Project in Forest Land.pdf	04/12/2023
103	2.4 Mining Lease Area.kml	04/12/2023
104	1. Justification of Locating project in Forest land.pdf	01/09/2023
105	Updated CA Land 31.08.2023.kml	01/09/2023
106	7831598_FC_KML_1693545866699_5.3 Combined Lease and Access Roads _2.kml	01/09/2023
107	5. Justification of Project Location.pdf	01/09/2023
108	CA LAND _ Ballada.kml	30/08/2023
109	7831598_FC_KML_1693379753357_5.3 Combined.kml	30/08/2023
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ANNEXURE A7

Vol. 48

# SAURIA

## Terraristik und Herpetologie

Ausgabe 2 · Juni 2026

9,00 €



*Cyrtodactylus (Geckoella) jeyporensis* · *Eublepharis* cf. *macularius* – Häufig verkannt · *Platyceps collaris* – Syrien · *Haemodracon riebeckii* – Langes Terrarienleben · Herpetologische Schätze – Oman · Wasserschildkröten – Berlin · *Tropidolaemus laticinctus* – Farbmorphe ? · Gabelschwänze · *Eugongylus albofasciolatus* – Fortpflanzung · *Salamandra infraimmaculata* – Defensivverhalten

# Jeypore-Bogenfingergecko

## *Cyrtodactylus (Geckoella) jeyporensis* (BEDDOME, 1878)

### vom Balda Hill im Distrikt Koraput, Odisha, Indien

**1878** *Gymnodactylus jeyporensis* BEDDOME R.H.: Descriptions of new reptiles from the Madras Presidency. – Proc. Zool. Soc. London 685. – **Typus Lokalität:** Patinghe Hills (elevation 4200 feet [1273 m]), Jeypore, Madras Presidency, Indien. – **Holotypus:** BMNH 1882.5.22.37 (fide DE LISLE et al. 2013).

**Familie:** Gekkonidae

**Historie, Zuordnung und Schutzstatus:** *Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis* wurde 1878 vom britischen Naturforscher und Offizier Richard Henry BEDDOME anhand eines einzelnen männlichen Geckos wissenschaftlich beschrieben. Die folgenden 133 Jahre wurde kein weiteres Exemplar gefunden, bis 2010 und 2011 zwei weitere Jeypore-Bogenfingergeckos – ein adultes und ein subadultes Männchen – entdeckt wurden (AGARWAL et al. 2012).

*C. jeyporensis* wurde lange Zeit der Gattung *Geckoella* GRAY, 1867 zugeordnet. Infolge vergleichender morphologischer Merkmale bewertete BAUER (2002) *Geckoella* aber nur als Untergattung von *Cyrtodactylus*. FENG et al. (2007) stellten aufgrund phylogenetischer Studien den Gattungsstatus von *Geckoella* wieder her. WOOD JR. et al. (2012) empfehlen die Verwendung des Namens *Geckoella* als Untergattung, da diese tatsächlich morphologisch unverwechselbar und zudem geografisch von den meisten anderen *Cyrtodactylus*-Arten getrennt sind. Dennoch werden die *Geckoella*-Arten (Indien- und Sri Lanka-Endemiten) heute zumeist in die Gattung *Cyrtodactylus* eingeordnet. Im März 2018 hat Indien den Export aller Wildfänge bzw. wild gesammelten Pflanzen der Arten, die auf den CITES-Anhängen I, II und III stehen, für kommerzielle Zwecke verboten (CITES 2018). 2022 wurde *C. jeyporensis* in CITES Anhang II aufgenommen, sodass der Handel international reguliert ist (CITES 2022). Daraus folgt, dass die Pflege und Haltung der Art mit den nötigen Erlaubnissen versehen sein muss.

**Beschreibung:** Bei 14 im Biotop vermessenen Exemplaren betrug die Kopf-Rumpf-Länge (KRL) adulter Geckos 50–60 mm, die Schwanzlänge (SL) 32–40 mm. Schwanzregenerate waren nur unbedeu-

tend kürzer als Originalschwänze (LANGNER 2024). Die Arten der ehemaligen Gattung *Geckoella* zeigen im Gegenteil zu den anderen Bogenfingergeckos eine eher gedrungene Körperform, da Kopf und Rumpf nicht wie bei diesen stark abgeflacht sind. Ferner weist der recht kurze Schwanz eine robustere Karottenform auf und erreicht nur etwa  $\frac{2}{3}$  der KRL. Die kurzen Finger und Zehen zeigen den nach oben abgewinkelten Bogen der Bogenfingergeckos und sind gattungstypisch alle mit Krallen versehen. 10–12 Supralabialia, 9–10 Infralabialia. Die großen, quadratisch oder sechseckigen, flachen Dorsalia bedecken den Körper gleichmäßig angeordnet in 20–21 Reihen. Die deutlich kleineren Ventralia liegen in der Körpermitte in 25–27 Reihen. Präcloacal- oder Femoralporen fehlen, vergrößerte Postcloacalschuppen befinden sich auf jeder Seite, die äußeren sind am größten.

Adulti zeigen eine orangebraune, rötlichbraune bis hellbraune dorsale Grundfärbung, auf der sich zwischen den vorderen und hinteren Extremitäten dunkel- bis schwarzbraune, meist paarig angeordnete ovale Flecken befinden.

Auf der Schwanzoberseite setzen sich die dunklen Partien als Bänder fort. Über die Schnauze verläuft ein dunkler Streifen durch die Augen bis zum Hinterkopf und Nacken, das Schädeldach ist dunkel gefleckt. Die seitlichen Körperpartien weisen ebenfalls eine dunkle Fleckung auf, die aus unterschiedlich großen sowie geformten Markierungen besteht und sich teilweise auf den Schwanzseiten fortsetzt. Die Oberseiten der Gliedmaßen sind von gleicher Grundfärbung wie der Körper und mit unregelmäßigen braunen Bändern oder Flecken versehen.

Die Lippenschilde und Seiten des Halses sind weiß und vereinzelt dunkel gefleckt, ebenso das Kinn, die Kehle und die Ränder der Flanken. Der restliche Bauch ist makellos weiß. Die Schwanzunterseite ist blass gelb, proximal mit schmalen, unvollständigen dunklen Bändern und distal mit vollständigeren Bändern. Die Iris ist messingfarben. Bei Subadulten weisen die dunklen Rücken- und Schwanzflecken partiell einen goldgelben Rand auf, insgesamt wirken sie kontrastreicher.



**Abb. 2:** Das von uns nach starken Regenfällen des Vortages um 21:30 entdeckte Exemplar von *Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis* von Balda, Distrikt Koraput, Odisha, Indien. **Fig. 2:** The specimen of *Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis* from Balda, Koraput district, Odisha, India, which we discovered at 9.30 pm following heavy rainfall the previous day.

**Verbreitung und Biotop:** *C. jeyporensis* ist den Eastern Ghats im Süden von Odisha und Andhra Pradesh endemisch. Nach seiner Entdeckung 1877 wurde ein zweites Exemplar erst 2010 von einem Forscherteam in den Deomali-Hügeln des Distrikts Koraput und 2011 in Galikonda im Distrikt Visakhapatnam wiederentdeckt (AGARWAL et al. 2012). Seither wurde er nach Citizen-Science-Aufzeichnungen (iNATURALIST 2025) mehrfach in Andhra Pradesh gesichtet. Bei zwei Habitatbegehungen im Araku Valley 2015 und 2016 wurden insgesamt 14 *C. jeyporensis* beobachtet, wobei erstmalig auch der Nachweis von sieben weiblichen und drei semiaadulten Exemplaren gelang (LANGNER 2022, 2024). Die Eastern Ghats sind im Vergleich zu anderen artenreichen Gebieten Indiens weniger gut wissenschaftlich untersucht worden. Daher sind Flora und Fauna vieler Hügel innerhalb dieses Gebirges nach wie vor wenig erforscht. Dies hatte zur Folge, dass es nur wenige Schutzbemühungen in diesem Bereich gab. In der Region Araku und bei Galikonda wurden viele Gebirgswälder gerodet und in Kaffeepflanzungen umgewandelt von denen nur einige noch über einheimische Schattenbäume verfügen. In Odisha

haben die Wälder stark unter Wanderfeldbau und Monokulturen (z.B. Eukalyptusplantagen) gelitten und beschränken sich die Hochgebirgswälder auf kleine Flecken in geschützten Bereichen. Die ursprünglichen Lebensräume sind nun zudem durch Bergbau, Abholzung und verwilderte Haustiere stark bedroht. Da menschliche Siedlungen immer weiterwachsen und dadurch näher an die letzten Waldgebiete heranrücken, wird auch der Prädationsdruck auf die heimische Faunenelemente durch Katzen und Hunde immer größer.

Die bislang bekannten Fundorte und auch unser neuer Fundpunkt in Balda belegen, dass *C. jeyporensis* eine auf Hochgebirgswälder spezialisierte, bodenbewohnende Art ist. Weitere bemerkenswerte Mitglieder der Herpetofauna aus diesem Teil der Eastern Ghats sind *Sepsophis punctatus* BEDDOME, 1870 (DATTA-ROY et al. 2013); *Eutropis beddomei* (JERDON, 1870) (AMARASINGHE et al. 2016); *Psammodynastes pulverulentus* (BOIE, 1827) (BHUPATHI et al. 2023); *Hemiphyllodactylus arakuensis* AGARWAL et al., 2019; *Eublepharis pictus* MIRZA & GNANESWAR, 2022; *Uropeltis ellioti* GRAY, 1858 (BHUPATHI et al. 2010) und *Gegeneophis orientalis* AGARWAL et al., 2013.



Abb. [Fig.] 3: Dichte Vegetation bedeckt die Hänge des Balda-Hügels, dem Makrohabitat von [Dense vegetation covers the slopes of Balda Hill, the macrohabitat of] *Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis*.

***C. jeyporensis* aus Balda:** Unser Fund eines *C. jeyporensis* in Balda ist der zweite Fundort innerhalb des Distrikts Koraput in jüngster Zeit und damit der dritte Fundort im Bundesstaat Odisha in den letzten 148 Jahren. Der Balda-Hügel im Nandapur-Block hat eine sehr ähnliche Geografie wie Deomali, wo die Art wiederentdeckt wurde. Balda liegt jedoch näher an der Stadt Jeypore, nach der die Art benannt wurde. Die durchschnittliche Höhe der Region beträgt 1300 m.

Die Hügel im Süden von Odisha (Koraput, Malkangiri, Rayagada und benachbarte Distrikte) haben eine interessante Topografie mit dicht bewaldeten Hängen und einer flachen Graslandschaft auf den Gipfeln, zudem sind Höhlen vorhanden. Die Wälder sind trocken-laubabwerfend und erhalten von Juli bis Oktober Niederschläge. Die Wälder von Balda sind



Abb. [Fig.] 3: Den Heiligen Buschfrosch [The Sacred Grove Bush Frog] *Raorchestes sanctisilvaticus* fanden wir im Biotop von [we found in the biotope of] *C. jeyporensis*.

bislang kaum von Plantagen mit Monokultur beeinträchtigt. Die Stammesvölker nutzen sie zum Sammeln von Brennholz sowie von Blättern der Malu-Liane *Bauhinia vahlii*, einer riesigen Kletterpflanze.

Angesichts dieser Gegebenheiten in Balda – der Lebensraum ist relativ ungestört und bzgl. seiner Topografie Deomali und Pottangi sehr ähnlich – vermuteten wir, dass *C. jeyporensis* dort vorkommen sollte. Am 1.10.2025 durchkämmten wir in drei Gruppen mit jeweils 3–4 Personen ab 20:00 Uhr die Hänge. Am Vortag hatte es stark geregnet, am 1. Oktober jedoch nur sehr wenig. Nur ein Team fand um 21:30 Uhr einen *C. jeyporensis*, dessen genauer Fundort nicht bekannt gegeben wird, da diese Art auch durch den internationalen Handel mit Wildtieren bedroht ist. Zudem entdeckten wir zwei Exemplare des Heiligen Buschfrosches *Raorchestes sanctisilvaticus* (DAS & CHANDA, 1997), eines in der Nähe des Fundorts des Geckos und ein weiteres im Gras nahe der Hügelkuppe. Am 3. Oktober begaben wir uns erneut auf die Suche nach *C. jeyporensis* in dieser Gegend, allerdings erfolglos. Nach unserem derzeitigen Kenntnisstand und Erfahrungen im Habitat ist dieser Gecko sehr schwer zu entdecken (Mirohabitat s. Abb. 5). Das von uns gefundene Exemplar wies an seinen dunklen Flecken keine goldenen Ränder auf und konnte deshalb als ausgewachsen identifiziert werden.

**Lebensweise:** *C. jeyporensis* ist eine bodenbewohnende Hochland-Art. Seine vertikale Verbreitung liegt nach bisherigem Wissen im Bereich von



**Abb. [Fig.] 4:** Schlüpfling von [Hatchling of] *Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis* unmittelbar nach dem Schlupf am [immediately after hatching on] 14.10.2015. © C. LANGNER

1200–1300 m ü.d.M. (AGARWAL et al. 2012). Tagsüber versteckt sich *C. jeyporensis* unter Steinen, Holz oder Bewuchs, während seiner Aktivitätszeit nach Sonnenuntergang bewegt er sich im Bodenbereich, wobei er auch auf Baumstämme klettert (AGARWAL et al. 2012). LANGNER (2024) beobachtete im Araku-Tal Adulti vornehmlich am Boden und im niedrigen Wurzelwerk, in einem Fall saß ein Männchen an einem von Moos und Flechten bewachsenen Stamm eines Jackfruchtbaumes (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*) in etwa 3,50 m Höhe. Zwei semiadulte *C. jeyporensis* kletterten auf dünnen Zweigen in 1,5–2 m Höhe in einem Kaffeestrauch und in einem *Glochidion*-Busch.

Als Nahrung dienen Gliederfüßer und Insekten in geeigneter Größe. Die Reproduktion erfolgt durch die Ablage von hartschaligen Eiern.

**Vermehrung im Terrarium:** LANGNER (2024) beschreibt detailliert die Vorgaben und Bedingungen für eine erfolgreiche Haltung – bevorzugt Einzelhaltung – und Vermehrung im Terrarium. Die Reproduktion erfolgt durch die Ablage hartschaliger Doppelgelege, also zwei Eiern pro Ablage. Pro Lagesaison können von einem Weibchen bis zu acht Doppelgelege produziert werden.

Bei schwankenden Inkubationstemperaturen je nach Jahreszeit von 20–27 °C tagsüber und 18–23 °C während der Nacht schlüpfen die Jungtiere nach 70–86 Tagen. Sie weisen dann eine Gesamtlänge von 46 mm und ein Gewicht von 1,5 g auf. Ab einem Alter von 1,5–2 Jahren sind sie geschlechtsreif und beginnen selbst mit der Reproduktion. Bei einer Umfrage bei acht privaten Pflegern gaben sieben erfolgreiche Nachzuchten an, Fünf hatten bereits Nachkommen in der F<sub>2</sub>-Generation (LANGNER 2024).

**Diskussion:** *C. jeyporensis* ist laut IUCN (MOHAPATRA 2021) als gefährdet (EN = Endangered) eingestuft und wie zuvor erwähnt durch verschiedene Faktoren bedroht. Im Besonderen ist dies aber der Verlust seines Lebensraumes. Die Art ist im internationalen Wildtierhandel verfügbar, was zu der Annahme führt, dass einige Exemplare aus ihrem natürlichen Lebensraum entnommen wurden. Die Pflege und erfolgreiche Vermehrung im Terrarium bescheren der Wissenschaft aber wichtige neue Erkenntnisse zur Lebensweise, insbesondere zur Reproduktion von *C. jeyporensis* (LANGNER 2024). Er empfiehlt auch den Aufbau einer stabilen und kontrolliert gemanagten ex-situ-Population in menschlicher Obhut. Dies

könnte z.B. im Rahmen von Citizen Conservation geschehen um einem möglicherweise drohenden Aussterbeszenario entgegenzuwirken.

Balda bietet dort lebenden Arten einen reichhaltigen und sicheren Lebensraum, da seine Wälder unzugänglich sind und es nur wenige Wege gibt, die ins Innere führen. Obwohl das Plateau häufig von Touristen besucht wird, die mit Fahrzeugen darüberfahren, verfügt der bewaldete Hang über einen relativ großen Bereich ungestörten Lebensraums. Wir sind der Meinung, dass dieser Hügel aufgrund seiner einzigartigen Landschaft und der Zuflucht, die er dem Jeypore-Bogenfingergecko bietet zum Schutzgebiet erklärt werden sollte, zumal das Habitat aktuell durch ein geplantes Bauxit-Abbauprojekt bedroht ist. Weiterführende herpetologische Untersuchungen dieser Hänge könnten zum Fund weiterer *C. jeyporensis* sowie anderer Arten führen und zum Schutz der Region durch die Regierung beitragen.

**Danksagung:** Ich bin dem gesamten Team dankbar, das sich mit großem Enthusiasmus an der Suche nach *C. jeyporensis* beteiligt hat. Ohne dessen Fleiß wäre es unmöglich gewesen diesen Gecko in Balda zu entdecken. Ich danke den Forschern für Ihre Zeit, Energie und Dokumentation, sodass wir auf ihrer Arbeit aufbauen konnten. Besonderer Dank gilt auch Anurag MISHRA (Indian Forest Service) für seine Unterstützung bei der Erstellung des Manuskripts und Christian LANGNER für das zur Verfügungstellen des Bildes eines Schlüpflings.

### Summary

## The Patinghe Indian Gecko, *Cyrtodactylus (Geckoella) jeyporensis* (BEDDOME, 1878) from Balda Hill of Koraput district, Odisha, India

**Taxonomy and discovery:** *Cyrtodactylus (Geckoella) jeyporensis*, commonly known as the Patinghe Indian Gecko, was first described in 1878 by the British naturalist Richard Henry Beddome based on a single male specimen collected from the Patinghe Hills in Jeypore, Madras Presidency, India (BEDDOME, 1878). The holotype is preserved at the British Museum of Natural History (BMNH 1882.5.22.37) (DE LISLE et al. 2013). For 133 years, no additional specimens were found until rediscovery in 2010 and 2011, when two more geckos (an adult and a subadult male) were located (AGARWAL et al. 2012).

Initially classified under the genus *Geckoella* (GRAY, 1867), its taxonomic status has been debated. BAUER (2002) suggested *Geckoella* as a subgenus of *Cyrtodactylus* based on morphological comparisons. FENG et al. (2007) reinstated *Geckoella* as a genus based on phylogenetic studies, but WOOD Jr. et al. (2012) recommended treating *Geckoella* as a subgenus due to its distinct morphology and geographic separation from other *Cyrtodactylus* species. Currently, most *Geckoella* species are classified under *Cyrtodactylus*.

**Conservation status:** The species is listed as “Endangered” (EN) by the IUCN due to habitat loss and other threats (MOHAPATRA 2021). In 2018, India banned the export of wild-caught specimens of species listed in CITES Appendices I, II, and III for commercial purposes (CITES 2018). In 2022, *C. jeyporensis* was included in CITES Appendix II, regulating its international trade (CITES 2022). The species is threatened by habitat destruction due to deforestation, agriculture, mining, and predation by feral animals. Conservation efforts, including the establishment of ex-situ populations, have been recommended to prevent extinction (LANGNER 2024).

**Description:** Adult *C. jeyporensis* have a SVL of 50–60 mm and a TaL of 32–40 mm, with regenerated tails slightly shorter than original ones (LANGNER 2024). Unlike other bent-toed geckos, they have a robust, carrot-shaped tail that is about two-thirds the length of their body. Their body is less flattened, and they possess short, clawed fingers and toes. The dorsal coloration ranges from orange-brown to reddish-brown, with dark oval spots between the limbs and bands on the tail. Subadults have gold-yellow edges on their dark spots, making them appear more vibrant. The ventral side is white, while the tail underside is pale yellow with dark bands. The iris is metallic gold.

**Habitat and distribution:** *C. jeyporensis* is endemic to the Eastern Ghats in southern Odisha and Andhra Pradesh, India. After its initial discovery in 1877, it was rediscovered in 2010 in the Deomali Hills, Koraput district, and in 2011 in Galikonda, Visakhapatnam district (AGARWAL et al. 2012). Subsequent surveys in the Araku Valley in 2015 and 2016 identified 14 individuals, including seven females and three subadults (LANGNER 2022, 2024). In 2025, we discovered in three groups after heavy rainfall only one specimen at in the Balda Hills, marking the third known location in Odisha. We also spotted there two individuals of the Sacred Grove Bush Frog *Raorchestes sanctisilvaticus* (DAS & CHANDA, 1997), one close to the Gecko’s lo-

cation and another in the grasses near the top of the hill.

*C. jeyporensis* inhabits high-altitude forests (1200–1300 m a.s.l.) and is primarily ground-dwelling, though it occasionally climbs tree trunks and branches. Its diet consists of arthropods and insects.

The Eastern Ghats, where *C. jeyporensis* resides, are less studied compared to other biodiversity hotspots in India. The region faces significant ecological threats, including deforestation for agriculture, coffee plantations, and mining activities. The Balda Hills, where the species was recently found, remain relatively undisturbed, providing a safe habitat. However, planned bauxite mining projects pose a significant risk to the area's biodiversity.

**Reproduction and breeding in human care:** *C. jeyporensis* reproduces by laying hard-shelled eggs, typically in clutches of two. Females can produce up to eight clutches per season. Under controlled conditions, eggs incubated at temperatures between 20–27 °C during the day and 18–23 °C at night hatch after 70–86 days. Hatchlings measure 46 mm in length and weigh 1.5 g. Sexual maturity is reached at 1.5–2 years, and successful breeding in human care has been reported, including second-generation offspring (LANGNER 2024). Establishing ex-situ populations is considered crucial for conservation.

**Conservation recommendations:** The Balda Hills, with their unique topography and relatively undisturbed habitat, are proposed as a potential protected area to safeguard *C. jeyporensis* and other recent herpetofaunal observations of significance from this part of the Eastern Ghats like *Sepsophis punctatus* (DATTA-ROY et al. 2013), *Eutropis beddomei* (AMARASINGHE et al. 2016), *Hemiphyllodactylus arakuensis* (AGARWAL et al., 2019), *Eublepharis pictus* (MIRZA & GNANESWAR, 2022), *Uropeltis ellioti* (BHUPATHI et al. 2010), *Psammodynastes pulverulentus* (BHUPATHI et al. 2023) and *Gegeneophis orientalis* (AGARWAL et al. 2013). Further herpetological studies in the Eastern Ghats could lead to the discovery of additional species



Abb. 5: Habitat, in dem der Gecko am Hang gefunden wurde.

Fig.5: Habitat where the gecko was found along the slope.

and contribute to conservation efforts. The region's biodiversity is under threat from human activities, including deforestation, agriculture, and mining, emphasizing the need for immediate protective measures (LANGNER 2024).

**Discussion:** *Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis*, which is classified as “Endangered” (EN) by the IUCN (MOHAPATRA 2021). The primary threat to the species is habitat loss, compounded by its presence in the international wildlife trade, suggesting that some individuals are being removed from their natural environment. However, successful breeding and care of the species in human care have provided valuable insights into its reproduction and behaviour (LANGNER 2024). Langner advocates for the establishment of a stable, managed ex-situ population, potentially through initiatives like Citizen Conservation, to mitigate the risk of extinction.

The Balda region, where the species resides, offers a relatively secure habitat due to its inaccessible forests and limited pathways leading into the area. Despite frequent tourist visits to the plateau, the forested slopes remain largely undisturbed, providing a refuge for the gecko. We propose designating this unique landscape as a protected area, especially since the habitat is under threat from a planned bauxite mining project. It also

emphasizes the importance of further herpetological studies in the region, which could lead to the discovery of additional *C. jeyporensis* individuals and other species, ultimately supporting conservation efforts by the government.

**Acknowledgements:** I am grateful to the entire team who joined in the search with all enthusiasm, without which it would have been impossible to spot this elusive lizard. I thank researchers who have spent time and energy finding and documenting the gecko, so that we could build upon their work. Also special thanks to Anurag MISHRA (Indian Forest Service) for his guidance in drafting the manuscript and Christian LANGNER for providing the photograph of a hatchling.

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## Rediscovery of *Geckoella jeyporensis* (Squamata: Gekkonidae), with notes on morphology, coloration and habitat

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## Rediscovery of *Geckoella jeyporensis* (Squamata: Gekkonidae), with notes on morphology, coloration and habitat

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**ABSTRACT.**– *Geckoella jeyporensis* (Beddome, 1877) was described based on a single male specimen from “Patinghe Hill”, and in the 135 years since the original description, there have been no further reports of the species. We recently collected two additional specimens of this poorly known species from close to the type locality. In this paper, we present a detailed morphological description of *G. jeyporensis*, as well as details of life coloration and notes on its habitat, based on the new specimens and published morphological data of the holotype.

**KEYWORDS.**– *Geckoella jeyporensis*, rediscovery, Eastern Ghats, India.

### Introduction

The genus *Geckoella* Gray, 1867 is endemic to peninsular India (five species) and Sri Lanka (two species). The phylogenetic relationships of this genus remain unresolved; while Bauer (2002) considered *Geckoella* a subgenus of *Cyrtodactylus* based on morphology, the only molecular phylogenetic study which used these genera recovered them as sister taxa (Feng *et al.* 2007), albeit with extremely poor taxon sampling. More recent phylogenetic data support the monophyly of *Geckoella* (Agarwal & Karanth unpublished data), although it appears to be embedded within *Cyrtodactylus* (Wood, Heinicke, Bauer, Greenbaum & Jackman, submitted). Dorsal scalation divides the species into two broad groups – one with smooth granular dorsal scales, with or without small rounded tubercles (*collegalensis*, *nebulosa*, *yakhuna*), the other with plate-like dorsals or irregular small scales intermixed with larger tubercles (*albofasciata*, *deccanensis*, *jeyporensis*, *triedra*) (modified after Smith 1935).

These terrestrial geckos are widely distributed across peninsular India and Sri Lanka – with

*Geckoella yakhuna* and *G. triedra* known from the dry and wet zone of Sri Lanka, respectively (Somaweera & Somaweera 2009); *G. albofasciata* and *G. deccanensis* from the central and northern Western Ghats respectively (Giri & Bauer 2004); *G. collegalensis* from drier hills in southern Gujarat, the Western Ghats and southern India, with unconfirmed reports from Sri Lanka (Somaweera & Somaweera 2009; Mirza *et al.* 2010); *G. nebulosus* from across the Eastern Ghats, also extending west into the Satpuras (Agarwal 2007) and *G. jeyporensis* known from a single locality in the Eastern Ghats of Odisha (Smith 1935).

*Geckoella jeyporensis* was described in 1877, based on a single male specimen from “Patinghe Hill”, in the Jeypore Hills, India (Beddome 1877; now in Koraput district, Odisha State). Since then, no additional specimens of this species have been reported. A popular article that declared the rediscovery of this species (Dutta *et al.* 2005) was erroneous and referred to a specimen of *G. cf. nebulosa* (based on the photograph presented in Dutta *et al.* 2005; S. K. Dutta pers. comm.).

We conducted fieldwork specifically targeting *Geckoella jeyporensis* in high elevation areas of the Eastern Ghats in south Odisha and northern Andhra Pradesh in September 2010 and November 2011. We provide a detailed morphological description of the species based on the two specimens that were collected, details of life coloration, and notes on habitat.

### Methods

The recently collected specimens of *Geckoella jeyporensis* were deposited in the collection of the Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES), Bangalore and the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), Mumbai. Data on the holotype (The Natural History Museum, London: BMNH 82.5.22.37) were taken from the literature (Beddome 1877; Boulenger 1885; Smith 1935). In case of discrepancies between authors, we present the range. The following measurements were taken with a Mitutoyo dial vernier caliper (to the nearest 0.1 mm): snout-vent length (SVL; from tip of snout to vent), trunk length (TRL; distance from axilla to groin measured from posterior edge of forelimb insertion to anterior edge of hindlimb insertion), body width (BW; maximum width of body), crus length (CL; from base of heel to knee); tail length (TL; from vent to tip of tail), tail width (TW; measured at widest point of tail), head length (HL; distance between retroarticular process of jaw and snout-tip), head width (HW; maximum width of head), head height (HH; maximum height of head, from occiput to underside of jaws), forearm length (FL; from base of palm to elbow); orbital diameter (OD; greatest diameter of orbit), nares to eye distance (NE; distance between anteriormost point of eye and nostril), snout to eye distance (SE; distance between anteriormost point of eye and tip of snout), eye to ear distance (EE; distance from anterior edge of ear opening to posterior corner of eye), internarial distance (IN; distance between nares) and interorbital distance (IO; shortest distance between left and right supraciliary scale rows). Scale counts and external observations of morphology were made using a Wild M5 dissecting microscope. In the description, details for the larger, adult specimen CES09/1356 are listed first, followed by characters for BNHS 2274, or,

in some cases, the range of values across both specimens is provided.

### *Geckoella jeyporensis*

(Fig. 1)

*Gymnodactylus jeyporensis* Beddome, 1877; Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London: 685.

**Holotype.**— The Natural History Museum, London: BMNH 82.5.22.37, adult male, collected from “a wood on the top of Patinghe Hill, 4200 feet [1273 m] elevation”, Jeypore Hills, Koraput District, Odisha, India [collection date not listed in original description or BMNH register]. Collected by Col. R. H. Beddome.

**Additional Specimens.**— CES09/1356, adult male (Fig. 1A), collected from Galikonda, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh, India (18° N, 82° E; 1234 m asl) on 9th October, 2011. Collected by A. D. Roy, P. Raj, P. Karanth, V. Deepak and I. Agarwal. BNHS 2274, subadult male (Fig. 1B), collected from Deomali, Koraput District, Odisha, India (18° N, 83° E; 1,240 m asl) on 20 September, 2010. Collected by A. D. Roy, T. Khichi and I. Agarwal. Precise latitude and longitude are not listed here in order to provide some protection from commercial collecting for this attractive species.

**Description of CES09/1356 and BNHS 2274.**— Adult male. SVL 60.2 mm (subadult male, 33.2 mm); TL 40.5 mm (8.5 mm, tail tip missing. Original length ~ 24.2 mm, tail tip stored for subsequent DNA sequence analysis in the collection of the Centre for Ecological Sciences, Bangalore CES10/1206). Head relatively short (HL/SVL ratio 0.29, 0.31), wide (HW/HL ratio 0.76, 0.74), not depressed (HH/HL ratio 0.45, 0.49), distinct from slender neck. Loreal region weakly inflated, canthus rostralis not prominent. Snout elongate (SE/HL ratio 0.42, 0.41), rounded; not much longer than eye diameter (OD/SE ratio 0.50, 0.52); scales on snout enlarged, roughly 5–6 sided, flattened, largely homogeneous, similar in size to those on crown and interorbital regions, scales on occipital region slightly larger and flattened, scales on temporal region similar in size and bead-like. Eye moderately large (OD/HL ratio 0.21, 0.22); pupil vertical with crenelated margins; supraciliaries short, those at posterior of orbit bearing small

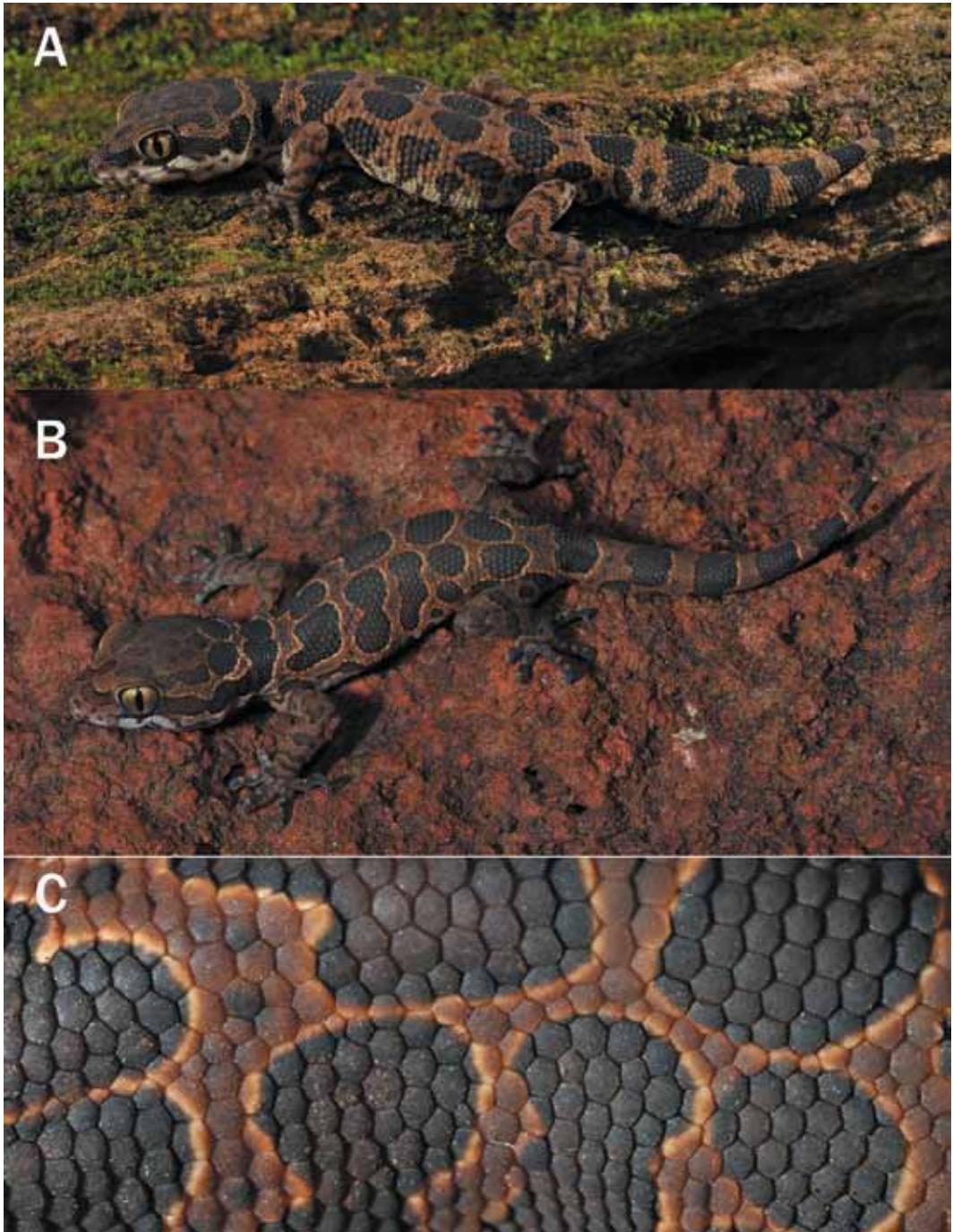
conical spines. Ear opening vertically elliptical; eye to ear distance greater than diameter of eyes (EE/OD ratio 1.39, 1.45). Rostral much wider than deep. Two enlarged supranasals separated from one another by a small internasal (in broad contact with one another, no internasal). Rostral in contact with first supralabials, nostrils, supranasals and internasal (rostral in contact with first supralabials, nostrils, and supranasals). Nostrils oval, more-or-less laterally directed, each surrounded by supranasal, rostral, first supralabial and three enlarged postnasals. A single row of small scales separates orbit from supralabials. Mental triangular, wider than deep. A single pair of enlarged postmentals in broad contact behind mental, each postmental bordered anteromedially by mental, anterolaterally by first infralabial and anterior portion of second infralabial, posterolaterally by an enlarged lateral chinshield (or second postmental), and posteriorly by three granules, the medialmost of which also contacts the other postmental. Supralabials to midorbital position 8/8 (8/8), enlarged supralabials to angle of jaws 12/11 (11/10); infralabials 10/10 (10/9). Interorbital scale rows between centre of eyes 19 (21).

Body slender, elongate (TRL/SVL ratio 0.41, 0.45), ventrolateral folds indistinct. Dorsal pholidosis weakly heterogeneous, composed of enlarged, hexagonal, plate-like dorsal scales in 21–22 rows, weakly imbricate across most of dorsum, smaller and more granular toward the flanks (Fig. 1C). Ventral scales much smaller than dorsals, smooth and subimbricate, largest in precloacal region. Midbody scale rows across belly to lowest rows of enlarged dorsals 25–27. Gular region with homogeneous, smooth, juxtaposed granular scales. No precloacal or femoral pores. Three postcloacal spurs on each side, dorsolateralmost largest. Scales on palm and sole smooth, rounded to oval or hexagonal, slightly domed. Scalation on dorsal surfaces of limbs consisting of juxtaposed granular to conical domed scales, much smaller than dorsals. Fore and hindlimbs moderately long, slender (ForeaL/SVL ratio 0.17, 0.16; CrusL/SVL ratio 0.17, 0.16). Digits long for *Geckoella*, short in comparison with typical *Cyrtodactylus*, slender, inflected at interphalangeal joints, all bearing robust, slightly recurved claws. Basal subdigital lamellae ovoid to rectangular, broad,

without scansorial surfaces, lamellae distal to digital inflection smaller; 8-11-11-13-11 (10-12-12-12-12) subdigital lamellae one left manus and 7-11-14-15-16 (9-13-13-13-12) on left pes; very weakly developed interdigital webbing between digits (except IV and V). Relative length of digits: IV~III>V>II>I, IV>III>II>V>I (left manus); IV>V>III>II>I, V>IV~III>II>I (left pes). Original tail thick, cylindrical, circular in transverse section, distinctly constricted at base; scales on the tail similar to dorsals of body, slightly smaller, less regular, tail ending in a single pointed scale; shorter than SVL (unregenerated tail in CES09/1356: TL/SVL ratio 0.67). Tail beneath with imbricate, semicircular scales, much larger than body ventrals, no enlarged subcaudal plates.

Morphometric and meristic data: SVL 60.5, 33.4; TRL 24.8, 15.0; BW 13.6, 2.3; CL 10.0, 5.5; TL 40.5, 8.5\*; TW 8.6, 3.2; HL 17.3, 10.2; HW 13.2, 7.5; HH 7.8, 5.0; FL 10.0, 5.2; OD 3.6, 2.2; NE 5.0, 2.8; SE 7.2, 4.2; EE 5.0, 3.2; IN 2.4, 1.5; IO 5.2, 3.3; Supralabials (L/R) 12(8)/11(8), 11(8)/10(8); Infralabials (L/R) 10/10, 10/9; Dorsal Scale Rows 21–22; Ventral Scale Rows 25–27; Lamellae (Manus L/R; Pes L/R) 8-11-11-13-11/8-12-12-13-11, 10-12-12-12-12/10-12-12-12-12; 7-11-14-15-16/6-11-12-+-15, 9-13-13-12-13/9-13-13-13-12/ [\* = tail incomplete, + = digit missing].

**Coloration in life.**— Adult specimen with body dorsum orangey-brown with a series of large, almost black, chocolate brown dorsal blotches (Fig. 1A). Blotches oblong, arranged in four relatively symmetrical pairs between shoulder and sacrum, with a broad fused blotch across neck and a similar dark marking on the occiput. Flanks with an additional series of 4–5 dark blotches between fore and hind limb insertions. Tail dorsum with six dark blotches, distal three forming bands that alternate with the orangey-brown background colour. Small scattered dark markings between the larger dark blotches, similar such markings on proximal half of tail. Flank blotches continue along ventrolateral margin of anterior two thirds of tail. Limbs somewhat lighter in color than trunk with a series of brown bands (fore limbs) or blotches (hind limbs). Crown less orangey than body dorsum, bearing roughly symmetrical dark markings. Labial scales and sides of neck white with scattered



**Figure 1.** *Geckoella jeyporensis* in life. (A) Adult specimen CES09/1356. (B) Subadult specimen BNHS 2274. (C) Close up of dorsal scalation of BNHS 2274 showing the distinctive enlarged, flattened, hexagonal dorsal scales of this species.

dark markings. Venter white with dark markings under the chin and jaws, across neck, and along edges of flanks; remainder of venter immaculate. Tail venter pale dull yellow with five

narrow incomplete brown bands proximally and five darker, more complete bands distally. Iris brass colored.



**Figure 2.** Semi-evergreen forest habitat of *Geckoella jeyporensis*. (A) Coffee plantation at Galikonda, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh, India. Photo courtesy of V. Deepak. (B) Deomali, Koraput District, Odisha, India.

Subadult reddish medium brown with a series of large dark chocolate brown dorsal blotches, each outlined by a very thin light goldenrod to orange border. Blotches arranged in pairs, although these are asymmetrical and may be fragmented: one pair on occiput, one fused pair on the nape, confluent with a broad ventral post-ocular streak, 4 (right)–5 (left) pairs from shoulders to sacrum, and 6 blotches on tail, alternating with narrower medium brown interspaces; tail blotches with goldenrod border only on posterior margins (Fig. 1B). Limbs with much smaller, less distinct blotches that form bands; goldenrod borders only on larger blotches of hindlimb. Antorbital markings a deep brick red with dark brown margins. Dark supraocular and crown markings, as well as a dorsal postocular streak, present; colour of head markings grading from brick to chocolate brown from anterior to posterior. Labial scales whitish with scattered fine black dots, light orange-brown blotches and incomplete black crossbars; markings more prominent on anterior labials and left side more strongly pigmented than right. Throat white with black reticulations, underside of tail, margins of limbs, and flanks dirty, pale ochre with darker blotches thickly bordered by black; belly uniform off-white to grey. Iris bronze.

**Distribution.**— *Geckoella jeyporensis* was described from “Patinghe Hill”, in the “Jeypore Hills”, at an altitude of 4,200 ft. (1273 m). While we could locate Jeypore, a town in Koraput District of Odisha, we were unable to trace “Patinghe” on any available maps. About 50 km from Jeypore and 10 km from Deomali is Pottangi, a small town, around which the hills rise up to above 1,200 m. Based on elevation and

location it is likely that the hill referred to as “Patinghe Hill” by Beddome (1877) is in the hill range around Pottangi. CES09/1356 was collected from Galikonda, near Arakku, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh, India, which is within about 40 km of the type locality. BNHS 2274 was collected within about 10 km of the type locality, on the ascent to Deomali peak, near Jeypore, in Koraput District, Odisha. There are a few other high peaks (> 1,200 m asl) in this hill range where it is possible this species may occur.

**Natural History.**— CES09/1356 was collected from Galikonda which rises to about 1430 m asl, while the mountain on which BNHS 2274 was collected, Deomali, is the highest peak in Odisha, with a maximum elevation of 1672 m asl. CES09/1356 was collected from a coffee plantation that has mainly natural shade trees at an altitude of 1234 m asl (Fig. 2A) and BNHS 2274 was found in a patch of semi-evergreen forest habitat (Fig. 2B) at an altitude of 1240 m asl, while the holotype was collected in a “wood” at ~1273 m, suggesting that *G. jeyporensis* is a high elevation forest specialist. The high elevation forests at Galikonda are highly degraded and have been extensively converted to coffee plantations, only some of which have native shade trees. The plantations do not seem well maintained and there are small patches of native vegetation toward the fringes and near streams. At Deomali high elevation forests are restricted to pockets in depressions and sheltered areas, and have stunted trees, rich leaf litter and epiphytic growth. In both areas, the forests open into grasslands with *Pheonix* on the mountain-top (1300–1600 m asl). The aver-

age annual rainfall in Visakhapatnam District is about 1100 mm and 1255 mm in Koraput District (data from 1901–2002, [http://indiawaterportal.org/met\\_data/](http://indiawaterportal.org/met_data/)).

CES09/1356 was spotted about 1.5 m above the ground on the trunk of a large tree at ~21h00 in the course of an hour-long search by five team members. The same area was searched for about 8–10 hours by three team members during the day and night in 2010, during which no specimens of *Geckoella jeyporensis* were observed, though a few specimens of *G. nebulosa* were located. BNHS 2274 was found during the day under a rock in a small patch of forest in the course of about three hours of searching by four team members, during which time two specimens of *Geckoella nebulosa* were also found. The same area was searched at night for about two hours by the same team and no specimens of *G. jeyporensis* were observed, although an additional specimen of *G. nebulosa* was spotted. *Sepsophis punctatus* and *Eutropis macularia* were also found at Galikonda and *Lygosoma punctata* at Deomali.

**Comparison with published information on the holotype.**— Though the original description of *Geckoella jeyporensis* (Beddome 1877) as well as two subsequent descriptions of the same specimen (Boulenger 1885; Smith 1935) are all brief, a fairly specific type locality is given, and a number of diagnostic characters are provided that allow us to confidently assign both CES09/1356 and BNHS 2274 to this species. Both specimens are from fairly close to the type locality and were collected from forest habitat above 1200 m (Beddome 1877). The distinctive dorsal pholidosis seen in the new specimens and described by Beddome (1877) is unlike that of any other Indian gecko, and is diagnostic of *G. jeyporensis*. Additional characters listed by Beddome (1877), Boulenger (1885), and Smith (1935) that CES09/1356 and BNHS 2274 share (holotype characters followed by variation seen in CES09/1356, BNHS 2274 in parentheses) include the lack of pores in males, subcaudals larger than belly scales, 18 dorsal scale rows (21–22, 21–22), 27–30 ventral scale rows (27–30, 25–27). CES09/1356 and BNHS 2274 differ from the holotype in the following characters (CES09/1356, BNHS 2274 vs. holotype): dorsal scale rows (21–22 vs. 18; possibly reflect-

ing a difference in rows included in the count), number of supralabials (12/11, 11/10 vs. 10), number of infralabials (10/10, 10/9 vs. 7). At 60.2 mm SVL the newly collected adult is about 11% larger than the holotype (54 mm SVL).

## Discussion

The phylogenetic affinities of *Geckoella jeyporensis* are difficult to comment upon. There are two broad groups of *Geckoella* based on dorsal scalation, however, a close examination of CES09/1356 and BNHS 2274 reveals that the dorsal scalation of this species (Fig. 1C) is unlike any other *Geckoella* species and is, in fact, unique among Indian geckos. *Geckoella jeyporensis* is distributed in high elevation, semi-evergreen moist forests within the arid Eastern Ghats, which are a broken chain of mountains across the east coast of India with predominantly scrub or deciduous forests. Two other species of *Geckoella* are distributed in the Eastern Ghats. *G. collegalensis* is found in deciduous and scrub forests across mainly western and southern Peninsular India (Mirza *et al.* 2010), extending into the southern part of the Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. *G. nebulosa* is widely distributed across the Eastern Ghats from about 17.6° N to 22.3° N (Agarwal 2007) and occurs in a variety of habitats. *Geckoella jeyporensis* is sympatric with *G. nebulosa* at both Galikonda and Deomali, and is nested within the range of this species, and thus may represent a case of peripatric speciation (Coyne & Orr 2004). Additionally, the enlarged dorsal scales are relatively homogenous, and could conceivably be derived from or related to the homogenous granular scales of *G. nebulosa*. Alternatively, *G. jeyporensis* could be a wet zone relict, persisting in its moist high elevation habitat through the aridification of peninsular India (Karanth 2003), and may have affinities to the wet zone species. However such conclusions are highly speculative, and molecular phylogenetic data as well as more accurate distributional data are needed for a true understanding of the relationships among members of the genus *Geckoella*.

In some ways, the rediscovery of *Geckoella jeyporensis* is symptomatic of herpetological research in India. There are a number of species that have not been recorded since their original descriptions or are known from few

localities around the type locality (2011 IUCN Western Ghats reptile assessment, unpublished data), while the recent past has seen rediscoveries and new descriptions of many reptiles and amphibians (Gower *et al.* 2004; Mistry *et al.* 2007; Giri 2008; Mahony 2009; Seetharamaraju *et al.* 2009; Agarwal *et al.* 2010; Scheffers *et al.* 2011; Vogel & Rooijen 2011). While some of these species may be intrinsically rare, range-restricted or infrequently encountered due to ecological traits such as seasonality, fossoriality or arboreality (high canopy species); many so-called lost species have simply not been searched for by trained field biologists. This underscores the need for basic biodiversity inventory across India, especially in areas that have been relatively less studied such as the Eastern Ghats. This rediscovery was after a few hours of intensive fieldwork by a team with considerable field experience, though similar searches by other competent teams have not been successful (P. Mohapatra pers. comm.), and we also failed to locate *G. jeyporensis* at Galikonda in 2010.

The forest habitats in which *Geckoella jeyporensis* was found are under extreme anthropogenic pressures. Neither area in which the new material was collected is formally protected and both have been severely deforested. Galikonda and the surrounding hills have also been extensively converted to coffee plantations, while Deomali faces grazing and fuel wood collection pressures. More broadly, the hills in Koraput District face pressures from mining as well as social forestry activities (P. Mohapatra pers. comm.). Even if it is widely distributed in the region, the potential habitat available to *G. jeyporensis* may be restricted by its presumed habitat preference (semi-evergreen forests >1200 m asl). Many of these areas have been converted to plantations, agriculture or grazing lands, further reducing the potential habitat for this species. Deomali and Galikonda, the only localities from where *Geckoella jeyporensis* is definitely known, require immediate protection and surveys in the region are needed to determine where else *G. jeyporensis* occurs.

### Acknowledgements

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Acting Editor: Indraneil Das.

The screenshot shows a Gmail interface with a dark theme. On the left, there is a navigation sidebar with 'Compose', 'Inbox' (2), 'Starred', 'Snoozed', 'Sent', 'Drafts', 'Purchases', and 'More'. Below this is a 'Labels' section with a plus sign. At the bottom left, there is an 'Upgrade' button with a right-pointing arrow. The main area displays an email with the following details:

----- Forwarded message -----  
From: Rom Whitaker <[kingcobra@gmail.com](mailto:kingcobra@gmail.com)>  
Date: Thu, 14 May 2026 at 14:50  
Subject: Protect Balda Hills from bauxite mining  
To: <[roez.bsr-mef@nic.in](mailto:roez.bsr-mef@nic.in)>  
Cc: <[affn.pccfodisha@gmail.com](mailto:affn.pccfodisha@gmail.com)>, <[pccf.hoff@odisha.gov.in](mailto:pccf.hoff@odisha.gov.in)>

To: Chairman, Odisha - MOEFCC  
CC - PCCF Odisha

Dear respected Sir/Madam,

My name is Romulus Whitaker, and I have spent the last six decades studying the herpetofauna of India.

Based on my extensive field experience, I strongly advise against the mining of bauxite at Balda Hills in Odisha, and insist on prioritizing the conservation of the biodiversity of the area, in particular the Jeypore ground Gecko, *Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis*. Its genus name, which means "curved finger" in Latin, indicates its lack of ability to climb; individuals hide amongst leaf litter, twigs, and within boulders, a unique and enigmatic species indeed, which was described in 1877, and rediscovered 130 years later in 2010!

The Jeypore ground Gecko is a flagship species for the area, being beautifully coloured, little-known, highly vulnerable, and ecologically significant.

Another beautiful reptile, the Golden Gecko which every Indian naturalist has been enamoured by, which also occurs in the area, is protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, effectively given the same level of protection as the tiger.

The proposed mining project will most definitely see the end of the habitat of these important species, as well as others, including some as yet undescribed. I

At the bottom of the email, there are four buttons: 'Reply', 'Reply all', 'Forward', and a smiley face icon. The top of the email shows a search bar with 'Search mail' and a '1 of 23' indicator.

The screenshot shows a Gmail interface with a dark theme. On the left, there is a navigation sidebar with 'Compose', 'Inbox' (2), 'Starred', 'Snoozed', 'Sent', 'Drafts', 'Purchases', and 'More'. Below this is a 'Labels' section with a plus sign. At the top, there is a search bar and various utility icons. The main content area displays an email with the following text:

described in 1877, and rediscovered 130 years later in 2010!

The Jeypore ground Gecko is a flagship species for the area, being beautifully coloured, little-known, highly vulnerable, and ecologically significant.

Another beautiful reptile, the Golden Gecko which every Indian naturalist has been enamoured by, which also occurs in the area, is protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, effectively given the same level of protection as the tiger.

The proposed mining project will most definitely see the end of the habitat of these important species, as well as others, including some as yet undescribed. I hope that you will do everything possible to protect this habitat, an important national treasure, and protect these species from extinction.

Your sincerely,

Romulus Whitaker

Herpetologist

Rathnapuri, Mysore, Karnataka

At the bottom of the email, there are several links:

--  
[Romulus Whitaker](#)  
<https://janakilenin.com/portfolio/snakes-drugs-and-rock-n-roll/>  
[madrascrocodilebank.org](http://madrascrocodilebank.org)  
[agumberainforest.org](http://agumberainforest.org)  
[thekingcobra.org](http://thekingcobra.org)  
[globalsnakebite.org](http://globalsnakebite.org)

At the bottom of the email view, there are buttons for 'Reply', 'Reply all', 'Forward', and an emoji icon. In the bottom left corner of the interface, there is an 'Upgrade' button with a right-pointing arrow.

Compose

Inbox 2

Starred

Snoozed

Sent

Drafts

Purchases

More

Labels +

Upgrade →

Search mail

2 of 23

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ishan Agarwal** <[ishan.agarwal@gmail.com](mailto:ishan.agarwal@gmail.com)>

Date: Fri, 22 May 2026 at 19:03

Subject: Protect the Balda Hills from Bauxite mining

To: <[roez.bsr-mef@nic.in](mailto:roez.bsr-mef@nic.in)>, <[affn.pccfodisha@gmail.com](mailto:affn.pccfodisha@gmail.com)>, <[pccf.hoff@odisha.gov.in](mailto:pccf.hoff@odisha.gov.in)>


Dear Sirs,

The Balda Hills in Koraput District, south Odisha are a treasure-trove of biodiversity and are of immense national importance. These ancient mountains form the catchment of numerous streams and rivers that feed the Sileru. These flat-topped hills that rise to over 1,200 m have a diversity of habitats along the elevational gradient, and host a unique assemblage of species, including some unknown to science (unpublished data from myself and colleagues), recently discovered species, and the spectacular Jeypore ground gecko (*Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis*).

The Jeypore ground gecko is unique among Indian species in its morphology, and was described based on a single specimen in 1877. It was only rediscovered by myself and colleagues in 2012, and has since been recorded from the Balda Hills. This species was added to Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act in 2022 and is listed in CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora). It is an ecologically and biogeographically significant species, having split from its closest living relatives over 20 million years ago!

This landscape is also home to the unique limbless amphibian, *Gegeneophis orientalis*. This is the only representative of this genus and family in the Eastern Ghats, and is also a biological relic, having split from the Western Ghats members of the genus over 30 million years ago. Another endemic species likely to be found in the region is the Araku worm gecko (*Hemiphyllodactylus arakuensis*).

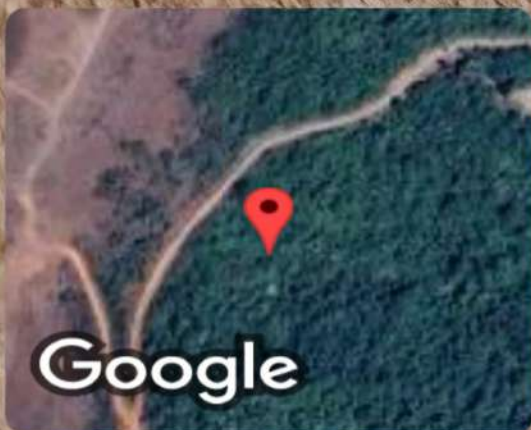
As a concerned citizen of this country who has a deep connection to its biodiversity and the Eastern Ghats in particular, I urge you to protect these amazing mountains, which are a part of our natural heritage that all Indians must strive to protect. Please find my CV attached with my academic background and research work till date.

  
Ishan Agarwal,  
Scientist,  
Bengaluru

← Reply   → Forward   😊



GPS Map Camera

**Koraput, Odisha, India** 

Balda Cave Rd, Odisha 764038, India,







Koraput, Odisha 764038, India









Lat 18.442264° Long 82.666906°









Fri, 27/03/2026 10:39 PM GMT +05:30









<b>Note:</b>	This checklist will be expanded upon with more observations in the coming winter months, considering the migrant species that will be visiting our country in winter. Exhaustive animal and bird census in the forest will certainly reveal many more species. For animals, our work is highly inadequate- we need to initiate observations with camera traps in key areas, and get the assistance of locals. For reptiles and amphibians, night walks in the right seasons we expect will reveal more species of interest. All photographs have been taken by the team, only from the Balda region. No photographs from other areas added
<b>Number of trips</b>	40
<b>Persons in each trip</b>	2 to 8
<b>Equipment used</b>	Binoculars, Cameras, telephoto lenses of 300mm, 70-300mm, 100-400mm, 150-600mm focal lengths and teleconverter.
<b>Duration of each trip</b>	1 hour to 4 hours
<b>Areas covered</b>	Hill top, forested area, trails, and cave habitats
<b>Vegetation observed:</b>	<b>1. Hill-top:</b> High-altitude grassland with some trees, shrubs. <b>2. Forested sides:</b> Dry-deciduous forests with many giant vines and rich undergrowth, certain areas with high canopy, and others with stunted trees. <b>3. Cave:</b> Mosses and fungi




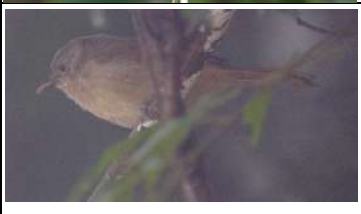


## Bird list - observations with photographs/sighting/calls








S.No.	Location	Name	Scientific name	IUCN status	Indian Wildlife Protection Act status	CITES status	Photograph
1	Grassland on top	Blue Rock Thrush	Monticola solitarius	Least concern			
2	Grassland on top	Paddyfield Pipit	Anthus	Least concern			
3	Grassland on top	Brown Shrike	Lanius cristatus	Least concern			
4	Forested area	Jungle mynah	Acridotheres fuscus	Least concern			
5	On the road	Rufus Bellied Eagle	Lophotriorchis kienerii	Near threatened	Schedule I		
6	Grassland on top and forested area	Crested Goshawk	Lophospiza trivirgata	Least concern	Schedule I		

7	Grassland on top	Yellow-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>	Least concern			
8	Grassland on top	Besra- Sparrow hawk	<i>Tachypiza virgata</i>	Least concern	Schedule I		
9	Forested area	Shikra	<i>Tachypiza badia</i>	Least concern	Schedule I		
10	Grassland on top and forested area	Purple sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>	Least concern			
11	Grassland on top	Indian Courser	<i>Cursorius coromandelicus</i>	Near threatened	Schedule I		
12	Grassland on top	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	Least concern			
13	Grassland on top	Red Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	Least concern			
14	Grassland on top	Pied bushchat	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	Least concern			








15	Forested area	Common Myna	Acridotheres tristis	Least concern			
16	Grassland on top	Honey Buzzard	Pernis ptilorhynchus	Least concern			
17	Grassland on top	Eastern Red-rumped Swallow	Cecropis daurica	Least concern			
18	Grassland on top	Black Eagle	Ictinaetus malaiensis	Least concern	Schedule I		
19	Grassland on top	Short-toed Snake Eagle	Circaetus gallicus	Least concern	Schedule I		
20	Grassland on top	Black Drongo	Dicrurus macrocercus	Least concern			NA
21	Cave	Dusky crag Martin	Ptyonoprogne concolor	Least concern	Schedule II		
22	Grassland on top	Eurasian Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	Least concern		Appendix II	
23	Grassland on top	Black-bellied Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	Vulnerable			
24	Grassland on top	Savanna Nightjar	Caprimulgus affinis	Least concern			NA
25	Grassland on top	Large-tailed Nightjar	Caprimulgus macrurus	Least concern			NA








26	Forested area	Bronzed Drongo	Dicrurus aeneus	Least concern			
27	Forested area	Hair-crested Drongo	Dicrurus hottentottus	Least concern			
28	Forested area	White-bellied Drongo	Dicrurus caeruleus	Least concern			
29	Forested area	Oriental Magpie Robin	Copsychus saularis	Least concern			
30	Forested area	Coppersmith Barbet	Psilopogon haemacephalus	Least concern			
31	Forested area	Green Munia	Amandava formosa	Vulnerable	Schedule I	Appendix II	 
32	Forested area	Black Hooded Oriole	Oriolus xanthornus	Least concern			
33	Forested area	Chestnut tailed starling	Sturnia malabarica	Least concern			
34	Forested area	Plum-headed parakeet.	Psittacula cyanocephala	Least concern			
35	Forested area	Jungle babbler	Argya striata	Least concern			




36	Forested area	White rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	Least concern		
37	Forested area	Indian Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus horsfieldii</i>	Least concern		NA- Identified by call
38	Forested area	Pale-billed Flower-pecker	<i>Dicaeum erythrorhynchos</i>	Least concern		
39	Forested area	White-rumped Munia	<i>Lonchura striata</i>	Least concern		
40	Forested area	Brown-cheeked Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe poioicephala</i>	Least concern		
41	Forested area	Indian white-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	Least concern		
42	Forested area	Yellow-footed Green pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicopterus</i>	Least concern		

43	Forested area	Asian Emerald Dove	Chalcophaps indica	Least concern			NA
44	Forested area	Banded bay cuckoo	Cacomantis sonneratii	Least concern			
45	Forested area	Red vented bulbul	Pycnonotus cafer	Least concern			
46	Forested area	Indian Blackbird	Turdus simillimus	Least concern			
47	Forested area	Blue-bearded bee-eater	Nyctornis athertoni	Least concern			
48	Forested area	Oriental turtledove	Streptopelia orientalis	Least concern			
49	Forested area	Loten's sunbird	Cinnyris lotenius	Least concern			
50	Forested area	Forest wagtail	Dendronanthus indicus	Least concern	Schedule I		

51	Forested area	Grey wagtail	Motacilla cinerea	Least concern			
52	Forested area	Crested Serpent Eagle	Spilornis cheela	Least concern	Schedule I		
53	Forested area	Small Minivet	Pericrocotus cinnamomeus	Least concern			
54	Forested area	Common Woodshrike	Tephrodornis pondicerianus	Least concern			
55	Forested area	Orange-headed Thrush	Geokichla citrina	Least concern			NA
56	Forested area	Rufus Treepie	Dendrocitta vagabunda	Least concern			NA- Identified by call
57	Forested area	Common Tailorbird	Orthotomus sutorius	Least concern			NA- Identified by call
58	Forested area	Indian Robin	Copsychus fulicatus	Least concern			
59	Forested area	Little Spiderhunter	Arachnothera longirostra	Least concern			
60	Forested area	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher	Culicicapa ceylonensis	Least concern			
61	Forested area	Greenish warbler	Phylloscopus trochiloides	Least concern			
62	Forested area	Pin-striped Tit-babbler	Mixornis gularis	Least concern			NA
63	Forested area	Puff-throated Babbler	Pellorneum ruficeps	Least concern			NA- Identified by call
64	Forested area	Red Junglefowl	Gallus gallus	Least concern			NA- Identified by call

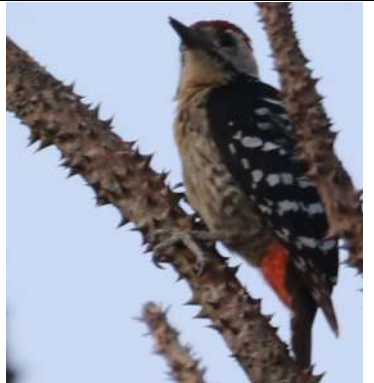
65	Forested area	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>	Least concern		
66	Forested area	Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>	Least concern		
67	Forested area	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	Least concern		NA
68	Forested area	Yellow crowned Woodpecker		Least concern		
69	Forested area	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	Least concern		
70	Forested area	Spotted dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>	Least concern		
71	Forested area	Asian Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	Least concern		
72	Forested area	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Least concern		
73	Grassland on top	Oriental skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>	Least concern		

74	Forested area	Wire-tailed Swallow	Hirundo smithii	Least concern			
75	Forested area	Ashy Woodswallow	Artamus fuscus	Least concern			
76	Forested area	Pale-chinned flycatcher	Cyornis poliogenys	Least concern			
77	Forested area	Ashy Prinia	Prinia socialis	Least concern			
78	Grassland on top	Little Ringed-plover	Thinornis dubius	Least concern			
79	Grassland on top	Pin-tailed Snipe	Gallinago stenura	Least concern			
80	Forested area	Indian yellow Tit	Machlolophus aplonotus	Least concern			NA
81	Forested area	Asian Koel	Eudynamys scolopaceus	Least concern			NA
82	Grassland on top	Pacific Golden Plover	Pluvialis fulva	Least concern			

83	Grassland on top	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>	Least concern			
84	Grassland on top	Perigrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Least concern			
85	Grassland on top	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	Least concern			
86	Grassland on top	Eastern Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus spilonotus</i>	Least concern			
87	Grassland on top	Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>	Least concern			
88	Forested area	Red Spurfowl	<i>Galloperdix spadicea</i>	Least concern			
89	Grassland on top	Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Least concern			
90	Grassland on top	Long Billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similis</i>	Least concern			
91	Grassland on top	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Least concern			

92	Forested area	Brown headed barbet	<i>Psilopogon zeylanicus</i>	Least concern		
93	Forested area	Scarlet minivet	<i>Pericrocotus speciosus</i>	Least concern		
94	Grassland on top	Indian bushlark	<i>Plocealauda erythroptera</i>	Least concern		
95	Grassland on top	Barn swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Least concern		
96	Grassland on top	Asian House Martin	<i>Delichon dasypus</i>	Least concern		
97	Forested area	Tick-billed flowerpecker	<i>Pachyglossa agilis</i>	Least concern		
98	Forested area	Indian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>	Least concern		

99	Grassland on top	Greater Short-toed lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>	Least concern			NA
100	Forested area	Ultramarine Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula supercilii</i>	Least concern			
101	Foothills	Yellow-throated sparrow	<i>Gymnoris xanthocollis</i>	Least concern			
102	Foothills	Red-naped Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>	Least concern			NA
103	Forested area	Common Chiff-chaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Least concern			NA
104	Forested area	Indian Scops Owl	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>	Least concern	Schedule II	2	NA
105	Foothills	Red Avadavat	<i>Amandava amandava</i>	Least concern			NA

106	Forested area	Scaly-breasted Munia	Lonchura punctulata	Least concern			
107	Foothills	Long-tailed Shrike	Lanius schach	Least concern			NA
108	Forested area	Fulvous breasted woodpecker	Dendrocopos macei	Least concern			
109	Forested area	Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	Yungipicus nanus	Least concern			
110	Forested area	Asian pied starling	Gracupica contra	Least concern			NA
111	Forested area	Vernal Hanging Parrot	Loriculus vernalis	Least concern			

113	Forested area	Verditer Flycatcher	Eumyias thalassinus	Least concern			NA
114	Grassland on top	Mongolian Short-toed lark	Calandrella dukhunensis	Least concern			NA
115	Grassland on top	Jerdon's Bushlark	Plocealauda affinis	Least concern			NA
116	Grassland on top	Indian Roller	Coracias benghalensis	Near threatened	Schedule II		NA
117	Grassland on top	Zitting Cisticola	Cisticola juncidis	Least concern			NA
118	Grassland on top	Wood sandpiper	Tringa glareola	Least concern			NA
119	Grassland on top	Indian Pond Heron	Ardeola grayii	Least concern			NA

120	Grassland on top	Gray-breasted Prinia	Prinia hodgsonii	Least concern			NA
121	Grassland on top	Asian Palm Swift	Cypsiurus balasiensis	Least concern			NA
122	Forested area	White-throated Kingfisher	Halcyon smyrnensis	Least concern			NA

The following birds reports are based on a very high probability of occurrence as these birds are widely present in the surroundings with similar habitat.

S.No.	Location	Name	Scientific name	IUCN status	Indian Wildlife Protection Act status	CITES status	Photograph
1	Forested area	Barn Owl	Tyto javanica	Least concern	Schedule I		-
2	Forested area	Indian Cuckooshrike	Coracina macei	Least concern			-
3	Forested area	Spotted owlet	Athene brama	Least concern			-
4	Forested area	Indian Golden Oriole	Oriolus kundoo	Least concern			-
5	Forested area	Indian Paradise flycatcher	Terpsiphone paradisi	Least concern			-
6	Forested area	Vertiter flycatcher	Eumyias thalassinus	Least concern			-
7	Forested area	Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	Cyornis tickelliae	Least concern			-
8	Forested area	Painted spurfowl	Galloperdix lunulata	Least concern			-
9	Forested area	Grey francolin	Ortygornis pondicerianus)	Least concern			-
10	Forested area	Jungle Bushquail	Perdicula asiatica	Least concern			-
11	Forested area	Chestnut-headed bee-eater	Merops leschenaulti	Least concern			-
12	Grassland on top	White Wagtail	Motacilla alba	Least concern			-
13	Forested area	Tree Pipit	Anthus trivialis	Least concern			-
14	Forested area	Jerdon's Leafbird	Chloropsis jerdoni	Least concern			-
15	Forested area	Greater Couchal	Centropus sinensis	Least concern			-
16	Forested area	Cattle Egret	Ardea coromanda	Least concern			-
17	Forested area	Brown Boobook	Ninox scutulata	Least concern			-
18	Forested area	Tricoloured Munia	Lonchura malacca	Least concern			-
19	Forested area	Indian Peafowl	Pavo cristatus	Least concern			-
20	Foested area	Specked piculet	Picumnus innominatus	Least concern			-
21	Forested area	Brown wood owl	Strix leptogrammica	Least concern			-

Animal list- with photographs/confirmed sightings

S.No.	Location	Name	Scientific name	IUCN status	Indian Wildlife Protection Act status	CITES status	Photograph
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1	Grassland on top	Golden Jackal	Canis aureus	Least concern	Schedule I	 
2	Grassland on top	Black Naped Hare	Lepus nigricollis	Least concern		NA
3	Forest	Squirrel		Least concern		
4	Cave	Blyth's Horseshoe Bat	Rhinolophus lepidus	Least concern		
5	Cave	Greater False Vampire Bat	Lyroderma lyra	Least concern		
6	Grassland on top	Rhesus Macaque	Macaca mulatta	Least concern		
7	Forest	Northern Plains Grey Langur	Semnopithecus entellus	Least concern		
8	Forest	Leopard cat	Prionailurus bengalensis	Least concern	Schedule I	



9	Forest	Barking deer	Muntiacus malabaricus	Least concern	Schedule I		-
10	Forest	Indian Grey Mongoose	Urva edwardsii	Least concern	Schedule I		-
11	Forest	Indian Crested Porcupine	Hystrix indica	Least concern	Schedule I		-
12	Forest	Asian Palm Civet	Paradoxurus hermaphroditu	Least concern			-
13	Forest	Small Indian Civet	Viverricula indica	Least concern	Schedule II		-

The following animal reports are based on observations made by locals at different times:

S.No.	Location	Name	Scientific name	IUCN status	Indian Wildlife Protection Act status	CITES status	Photograph
1	Forest	Indian Pangolin	Manis crassicaudata	Endangered	Schedule I	Appendix I	-
2	Forest, Grassland on top	Wild boar	Sus scrofa cristatus	Least concern			-
3	Forest	Jungle cat	Felis chaus	Least concern	Schedule I		-
4	Forest	Bengal fox	Vulpes bengalensis	Least concern	Schedule I	Appendix III	-

1 3 2

Confirmed Reptile list with photographs/sightings/calls

S.No.	Location	Name	Scientific name	IUCN status	Indian Wildlife Protection Act status	CITES status	Photograph
1	Forest	Jeypore Ground Gecko	Cyrtodactylus jeyporensis	Endangered	Schedule I	Appendix II	
2	Grassland on top	Rock Agama	Psammophilus dorsalis	Least concern			
3	Forest	Common Sand Boa	Eryx conicus	Near-threatened	Schedule I	Appendix II	





To  
The Divisional Forest Officer  
Koraput Forest Division,  
DFO Office – Koraput,  
Odisha - 764020

Dtd. 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026

**Sub:** - Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2(1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of Mis. Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 Ha. (144.945 ha ML area+ 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for safety zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within mining lease area of 144.945 ha-Observation of Stage-I compliance.

**Ref:** - Memo No.909/9F(MG)369/2024 Dated 15.01.2026 of C.C.F.(Nodal) O/o the P.C.C.F & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Dear Sir,

With reference to aforementioned subject, regarding your observations on our referred proposal, we are attaching proposed documents here with:

**Document Name**

- 1.10 \_ Alternate fuels to the laborers
- 1.16 \_ SCHEME FOR AVIFAUNA
- 1.21 \_ NPV Deposit Slip
- 2.3 \_ Schedule of Surrender of Reclaimed Land
- 2.7 \_ De silting\_Scheme\_with\_Annexures
- 2.8a \_ Soil\_Erosion\_Scheme\_with\_Annexures
- 2.8b \_ Scheme\_Planting Adequate drought
- 2.8c \_ Checkdams\_Toewalls\_SampleStyle\_with\_Annexures
- 2.8d \_ Dump\_Stabilization\_SampleStyle\_with\_Annexures
- 2.9 \_ Soil Moisture Financial Implication
- 2.10\_ Topsoil Management Plan
- 2.15 \_ FRA Certificate
- 2.17 \_ Gap Plantation
- Payment Acknowledgement of differential CAMPA fund of Rs 2,48,84,000/-

You are requested to kindly consider our proposal for further review and processing for approval of forest diversion approval.

Thanks & Regards,



K Anil Kumar,  
Vice President - Projects  
Kalinga Alumina Limited, (Formerly known as Mundra Aluminium Limited)  
Shantigram, Ahmedabad  
Gujarat-382421

**Kalinga Alumina Limited**  
(Formerly known as Mundra Aluminium Limited)  
Adani Corporate House, Shantigram,  
Nr. Vaishno Devi Circle, S. G. Highway,  
Khodiyar, Ahmedabad - 382421  
Gujarat, India

Tel + 91 79 2656 5555  
Fax + 91 79 2555 5500

CIN: U13203GJ2021PLC128064

Registered Office: Adani Corporate House, Shantigram, Nr. Vaishno Devi Circle, S. G. Highway, Khodiyar, Ahmedabad – 382 421

## 1.16 \_ SCHEME FOR AVIFAUNA

**SCHEME FOR  
CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALTERNATE HABITAT/HOME  
FOR THE AVIFAUNA (BIRDS), WHOSE NESTING TREES ARE TO BE  
CLEARED IN THIS PROJECT**

With compliance with General Condition No. 1.16. of Stage-I Forest Clearance order of MoEF&CC, Gol, vide order no.: FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023 dated 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2024.

FOR

DIVERSION OF 157.212 HA (144.945 HA ML AREA + 12.267 HA  
APPROACH ROAD OUTSIDE ML) OF FOREST LAND IN BALLADA  
BAUXITE MINES OF M/S KALINGA ALUMINA LIMITED WITHIN  
NAGASARI RF UNDER BALLADA RANGE OF KORAPUT FOREST  
DIVISION OF KORAPUT DISTRICT, ODISHA.



### Content

Sr. No.	Particular
1	INTRODUCTION
2	LEASE AREA AND FOREST LAND
3	LOCATION OF THE PROJECT
4	SCOPE OF THE STUDY
5	CLIMATE AND RAINFALL
6	GEOLOGY
7	BACKGROUND
8	LOSS OF FOREST DUE TO MINING ACTIVITY
9	IMPORTANCE OF AVIFAUNA
10	DETAILS OF BIRDS FOUND IN THE PROJECT AREA
11	TYPE OF NESTS THE BIRDS BUILD
12	CREATION OF ALTERNATE HABITAT FOR THE AVIFAUNA
13	MAINTENANCE OF THE ALTERNATE HABITAT FOR THE AVIFAUNA
14	AWARENESS PROGRAMME
15	REGULAR MONITORING & CORRECTIVE MEASURES
16	MONITORING AUTHORITY AND TECHNICAL SUPERVISION
17	FINANCIAL IMPLICATION FOR CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALTERNATE HABITAT FOR AVIFAUNA UNDER KORAPUT FOREST DIVISION



### 1. INTRODUCTION:

M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited (formerly known as M/s Mundra Aluminum Limited), a wholly owned subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Limited, has a vision of setting up an integrated greenfield alumina refinery of 4.0 MTPA capacity and also to develop bauxite mines in the vicinity for captive / commercial use. Recently Kalinga Alumina Limited has secured two bauxite blocks in Odisha, viz. Ballada in Koraput district and Kutrumali in Kalahandi/Rayagada district through an auction process.

The Government of Odisha, issued letter of intent vide letter SM-MC2-MC-0007-2023/2143/S&M Bhubaneswar dated 1st March 2023 for grant of mining lease for Ballada bauxite block in Village - Ballada, Taluka – Nandapur, District- Koraput, Odisha for an area of 144.945 ha to M/s Mundra Aluminum Limited (now M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited) for period of 50 years.

### 2. LEASE AREA AND FOREST LAND:

The project area of Ballada Bauxite Block is 157.212 Ha with forest land of 144.495 Ha of forest land. The stage-I forest clearance for the 157.212 Ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of forest land was granted by MoEF&CC, GoI, vide order no.: FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023 dated 23rd December 2024.

The total mining lease (ML) / project area is 144.945 ha. The entire lease area falls within reserve forest land of the Nagasari Reserve Forest (RF), covering Compartments 11/VII, 11/VIII, 11/IX, and 11/X of the Balda Range under the Koraput Forest Division.

However, to access the ML area, the User Agency (UA) requires an additional 12.267 ha of forest land (comprising 5.603 ha on the western side and 6.664 ha on the eastern side) located within the RF.

### 3. LOCATION OF THE PROJECT

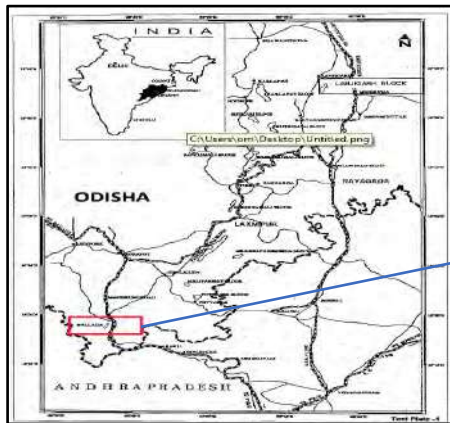
The Project Is Located At Village - Ballada, Taluka – Nandapur, District- Koraput, Odisha Between Latitudes 18°26'05.61588" N To 18°27'13.34448" N And Longitude 82°39'32.39136" To 82°40'25.36716" E. & Is Covered Under The Survey Of India Toposheet No. No. E44k11 (65j/11).

The site is situated about one to two kilometers west of ballada and about 8 km north of padua in koraput district, odisha. jeypore, a major town in the koraput district, is about 82 km north-north-west of the ballada deposit and is approachable by major district road no.52. koraput, the district headquarters is at 60 km north of the deposit and is connected by a metalled road via similiguda on nh 26. bheja, the nearest railway station is about 5.0 km due north-east. the nearest airport is at visakhapatnam (140 km) from the lease.



**Table:1**

<b>Mine</b>	Ballada Bauxite Block
<b>Village(s)</b>	Ballada
<b>Tehsil</b>	Nandapur
<b>District</b>	Koraput
<b>State</b>	Odisha
<b>Nearest Railway Station</b>	Bheja at 5 km in NE
<b>Nearest Highway</b>	Nandapur-Araku valley State Highway at 2 km in East
<b>Nearest Airport</b>	Visakhapatnam at 140 km from lease area



### Map: Location of the project

#### 4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY:

The avifauna study aims to assess the diversity, abundance, distribution, habitat use, and conservation significance of bird species within the project area and its surrounding ecological landscape. The project scope includes detailed characterization of various components like Baseline Assessment of Avifaunal Diversity, Habitat Characterization, Population and Distribution Analysis Identification of Conservation-Significant Species, Assessment of Impacts, Avian Habitat Suitability and Risk Analysis, Mitigation and Conservation Measures within the study area.

The objectives set for carrying out this EIA study based on the requirements that fulfill the Forest clearance stage-I standard condition 1.16.

#### 5. CLIMATE & RAINFALL

The district enjoys tropical climate characterized by hot summer, cold winters and rainy seasons. The winter season generally commences from late November and continues up to the end of February. The temperature in winter drops below 1°C at places like Pottangi otherwise it is in the range of 10°C to 13.5°C in the valley plains. The summer season commences from March and continues till middle of June. The summer is quite pleasant here with the mean daily maximum temperature around 40°C while the mean daily minimum temperature is around 14°C. It is observed that about 80% of the total annual rainfall takes place due to south-west monsoon between the middle of June and mid- October. The north east monsoon gives erratic and insufficient rainfall. The average annual rainfall varies between 1320-1520mm. The district is drought prone because of the erratic and uneven pattern of rainfall. The average annual rainfall of Koraput district is 1454 mm.

#### 6. GEOLOGY:

The Ballada hill range is located on the west of Pottangi plateau, Mali parbat and famous Panchpatmali plateau and forms a part of the Eastern Ghat Mobile Belt of Archean age represented by Khondalite suite of rocks, pyroxene granulite, Charnockite suite of rocks, variants of granite gneisses infused with pegmatoids and vein quartz of Archean age formed under granulite facies of metamorphism. The ortho and para metamorphites have undergone significant weathering and alteration at higher altitudes forming laterites of Tertiary age. The above litho units form more or less banded assemblage in NNE-SSW trend in conformity to the general trend of the Eastern Ghats. The rocks exposed in the area belong to the Eastern Ghat Super Group of rocks represented by quartzite, migmatized khondalite, pyroxene granulite, charnockites, leptynites and porphyroblastic granite gneisses together with high level laterite/bauxite. The most common rock in this group is quartz-garnet-feldspar sillimanite gneisses i.e. khondalites with or without graphite and/or manganese which has been migmatized to variable extent. The Khondalite suites form high and linear hills with sharp crests, while the Charnockites occupy the low-lying plains as well as dome shaped hill rocks.



Structurally the area is fairly complex. The bedding plane (S0) is never observed. The most pronounced planar structure is foliation plane (S1) of Khondalite. The trend of foliation swings from NNW - NNE to NE -SW with rather steep dip ranging from 60° to 80° due SE or SW. In the Niyam Dongar hill, where a broad upright asymmetric syncline

is observed, the trend of foliation varies from NNW to NNE in the southern limb and swings to NE-SW in the northern limb.

The area forms a segment of the east-central part of the Eastern Ghat hill ranges. Rocks belonging to the Khondalite and Charnockite groups are developed in the area. In general, Khondalites form high hills and peaks whereas the Charnockitic rocks are invariably confined to the valleys and slopes of high hills. Both the groups of rocks occur as concordant bands. It is a common feature to observe islands of Khondalites within the Charnockitic rocks. Bauxite of Ballada capping occurs as mantle over khondalite as proved by drilling. The gibbsite crystals occur as shining aggregates in a ferruginous groundmass. The relict foliation is observed in some of the bauxite outcrops. The bauxite invariably has a brick red colour. It is sporeous towards the top where the voids are filled with kaolinite / limonite. At depth, it has spongy texture with ferruginous zones. The laterite is more ferruginous and siliceous at the top where it is hard and has craggy, cavernous look but is relatively soft and aluminous in the lower parts and grades into bauxite. The soil though present in very less quantity is mostly lateritic.

## 7. BACKGROUND:

The local community often does not recognize the value of natural forests, wetlands, and grasslands as essential ecological assets for sustaining bird life. Instead, greater importance is placed on agricultural and horticultural crop fields, despite the well-established ecological, social, and economic significance of birds. Many people are unaware of the direct relationship between declining bird populations and habitat loss.

A considerable section of the community also lacks awareness of the ecological role of birds, and certain agricultural and cultural practices continue to adversely impact bird populations. As a result, both resident and migratory bird populations have been steadily declining. This decline is largely attributed to the degradation or reduction of natural habitats upon which these species depend.

Birds are widely recognized as one of the most important indicators of environmental health. They are highly sensitive to habitat changes, and because their responses are easy to observe and interpret, they serve as effective ecological indicators. Changes in bird populations often serve as early warning signals of environmental disturbance. Regardless of whether ecosystems are managed for agriculture, wildlife, water conservation, or tourism, their overall health can be assessed through bird population trends.

A decline in bird numbers signifies broader environmental degradation, including habitat fragmentation, destruction, pollution, pesticide exposure, and the introduction of invasive species, among other factors. Birds therefore play a critical



role in reflecting the condition of ecosystems, and their conservation is closely linked to sustainable environmental management.

Birds are an integral part of nature's balance. There is a strong inter-dependence among all living organisms, and the loss of even the smallest species can eventually disrupt the stability of the entire ecological system. Clean air, food, healthy plants, and safe places for raising young are essential for birds and wildlife—and these same conditions contribute to healthier habitats for people as well. Simply put, a habitat that is good for birds is good for all.

Beyond the joy birds bring to people's lives, they also hold significant ecological and economic value. Birds serve as vital components of natural ecosystems by performing several key functions. They help control insect and rodent populations, aid in plant pollination, and support seed dispersal—each of which provides direct benefits to human society.

Birds play a critical role in regulating and maintaining insect populations in natural systems. Studies show that birds consume up to 98% of budworms and as much as 40% of all non-outbreak insect species in eastern forests. Many farmers recognize the essential role birds play in controlling agricultural pests, contributing to healthier crops and reduced reliance on chemical pesticides.

#### **8. LOSS OF FOREST DUE TO MINING ACTIVITY:**

The Block is hilltop, entirely forest land, with limited approach route. The mineral will be transported by conveyors to the nearest railway. No trees will be felled for mining activities under the present diversion over 157.212 ha of forest land. The mining lease area is centrally located on a plateau covering approximately 92 ha, which is largely devoid of vegetation. In contrast, the periphery of the lease area supports forest growth with an average width of about 153 m, occurring in the remaining portion of the Reserve Forest (RF).

The forested belt around the periphery extends over approximately 52.945 ha, primarily along the western, eastern, and southern boundaries of the lease area, with the width of forest cover varying gradually away from the central plateau.

The project area within Nagasari Reserve Forest supports a diverse assemblage of native tree species. Prominent species recorded include:

Jamun, Kusuma, Harida, *Bahada*, *Anla*, *Amba*, *Panasa*, *Rai/Raudi*, *Shindur*, *Dimiri*, *Karanja*, *Kanchana*, *Bela*, *Siali*, *Mankada Kendu*, *Arjuna*, *Asana*, *Semul*, *Piasala*, *Paldhua*, *Gambhar*, *Char*, *Balbhalia*, *Sunari*, and several other indigenous species.

Nevertheless, birds utilizing trees on the adjacent hill slopes may experience disturbance due to mining operations. In compliance with Forest Stage-I Condition 1.16, the project will create and maintain alternate habitats and artificial nesting structures (eco-friendly materials) within the mine's safety zone and in nearby community areas to support these bird populations.

#### **9. IMPORTANCE OF AVIFAUNA:**

Birds play a vital role in maintaining ecological balance and the overall health of ecosystems. Their contributions extend across biological, environmental, agricultural, social, and cultural dimensions, making avifauna one of the most important indicators of environmental integrity.

##### **I. Ecological & Biological Importance**



Birds significantly influence ecosystem functioning through several essential services:

- **Pollination & Seed Dispersal:**  
Many bird species facilitate pollination and help disperse seeds across landscapes, supporting forest regeneration and plant diversity. They are especially important in forested and semi-forested ecosystems where frugivorous and nectarivorous species thrive.
- **Natural Pest Regulation:**  
Birds act as biological pest controllers, consuming large quantities of insects, larvae, and even rodents, reducing dependence on chemical pesticides and enhancing agricultural sustainability.
- **Indicators of Environmental Health:**  
Because birds respond quickly to environmental changes—habitat loss, pollution, water quality decline—they are widely recognized as bio-indicators of ecosystem health. Fluctuations in bird populations often signal early ecological stress.
- **Contribution to Ecosystem Stability:**  
Birds help maintain ecological stability through nutrient cycling, scavenging, prey–predator balance, and by supporting wetland and forest productivity.

## II. Socio-cultural & Aesthetic Importance

- Birds enrich human life through their colourful plumage, melodious calls, and fascinating behaviour.
- They hold deep cultural value across communities in India—regularly appearing in folklore, handicrafts, paintings, festivals, and traditional narratives.
- Birdwatching and nature-based tourism are major contributors to local economies, especially in biodiversity-rich states like Odisha.

Recent assessments indicate that India supports over 2,000 bird taxa (species and sub-species), making it one of the world’s richest regions for avian diversity. Within this national avifaunal wealth, Odisha alone records more than 200 species annually across its major wetlands, as confirmed by the latest 2025 Mid-Winter Bird Census.

Overall, Odisha typically hosts approximately 475 species when accounting for forests, wetlands, coastal ecosystems, agricultural lands, and hill habitats. Of these, around 260 species are known to nest and breed within the state, as consistently by long-term breeding observations. This highlights Odisha’s significance as both a breeding ground for resident species and a winter refuge for migratory birds travelling from Central Asia, Siberia, the Himalayan region, and colder northern territories.



### 10. DETAILS OF BIRDS FOUND IN THE PROJECT AREA:

The Block is hilltop, entirely forest land, with limited approach route. The mineral will be transported by conveyors to the nearest railway. No trees will be felled for mining activities under the present diversion over 157.212 ha of forest land. The mining lease area is centrally located on a plateau covering approximately 92 ha, which is largely devoid of vegetation. In contrast, the periphery of the lease area supports forest growth with an average width of about 153 m, occurring in the remaining portion of the Reserve Forest (RF).

The forested belt around the periphery extends over approximately 52.945 ha, primarily along the western, eastern, and southern boundaries of the lease area, with the width of forest cover varying gradually away from the central plateau.

However, some trees exist over the hill slopes and birds commonly found in the area is listed below in the table-II. These birds are in the habitat of preparing nests their own for living and propagation:

**Table: Birds details**

Local Name	English Name	Latin Name	Schedule
Mayur	Peafowl common	Gallus Sonneratii	I
Banakukuda	Jungle fowl grey	Pavocristatus (Linnaeus)	I
Pecha	Owl Indian greathorned	Bubo bubo	II
Kau	Crow house	Corous splendens	II
Kapota	Dove spotted	Streptopelia chinensis	II
Bani	Myna Indian	Acridotherestrtris	II

#### **Common Avifauna Found in the Koraput and its surrounding ranges:**

The avifaunal diversity of the area is rich and includes both resident and migratory bird species. Commonly observed birds include Peafowl (Schedule-I), Red Junglefowl, Common Quail, Green Pigeon, Imperial Pigeon, Doves, Drongos, Blue Rock Pigeon, Racket-tailed Drongo (Bhringraj), Hill Mynas, Grey-headed Mynas, Bulbuls (including Red-vented Bulbul), Woodpeckers (Golden-backed and Pied), Koels, Crow Pheasants, Large Indian Parakeets, Common Kingfisher, Common Hornbill, Common Indian Nightjar, Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, White-backed Vulture, Swifts, Pariah Kite, Eagles, Bush Quail (*Perdicula asiatica*), Grey Partridge, Cattle Egret, Storks, Pond Herons, Jungle Crow, Pipits, and Wagtails, which are frequently sighted in the region.



## 11. TYPE OF NESTS THE BIRDS BUILD

### List of main types of bird nests in India:

Cup nests  
 Shrub & herb nests  
 Cavity nests in mature forest trees  
 Ground scrapes  
 Mud nests by swallows  
 Hanging/purse nests by sunbirds & orioles  
 Tunnel nests in earth embankments (bee-eaters).  
 Twig Platform Nest  
 Loose Twig Platform  
 Ground Nest



Type of nest above listed Avifauna Build/Use:

Local Name	English Name	Latin Name	Nest type
Mayur	Peafowl common	Gallus Sonneratii	Ground scrape
Banakukuda	Jungle fowl grey	Pavocristatus (Linnaeus)	Ground scrape
Pecha	Owl Indian greathorned	Bubo bubo	Ground/ledge scrape or reused nest
Kau	Crow house	Corous splendens	Twig platform
Kapota	Dove spotted	Streptopelia chinensis	Loose twig platform
Bani	Myna Indian	Acridotherestrtris	Cavity nest

## 12. CREATION OF ALTERNATE HABITAT FOR THE AVIFAUNA:

The project area of Ballada Bauxite Block is 157.212 Ha with forest land of 144.495 Ha of forest land. The stage-I forest clearance for the 157.212 Ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of forest land was granted by MoEF&CC, GoI, vide order no.: FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023 dated 23rd December 2024.

The total mining lease (ML) / project area is 144.945 ha. The entire lease area falls within reserve forest land of the Nagasari Reserve Forest (RF), covering Compartments 11/VII, 11/VIII, 11/IX, and 11/X of the Balda Range under the Koraput Forest Division.

However, to access the ML area, the User Agency (UA) requires an additional 12.267 ha of forest land (comprising 5.603 ha on the western side and 6.664 ha on the eastern side) located within the RF.

Mining operations will disturb the lease area in a phased manner. As per the IBM-approved Mining Plan, the mined-out areas will undergo concurrent reclamation and rehabilitation, including phased plantation activities. These reclaimed and afforested areas will progressively develop and function as alternate habitats for avifauna.

However, prior to the commencement of mining operations in the proposed area, additional alternate habitats for birds will be created through the installation of

artificial bird nests made from eco-friendly materials. These artificial nesting structures will be placed strategically within adjoining human settlements as well as suitable locations in the forest area, ensuring that avifauna continue to have safe nesting and roosting spaces throughout the project duration.

### **13. MAINTENANCE OF THE ALTERNATE HABITAT FOR THE AVIFAUNA**

#### **Bird-Scaping in the Adjoining Forest**

Bird-scaping refers to the systematic enhancement of habitat conditions to attract and sustain bird life. This will be undertaken on an ongoing basis by planting carefully selected native species that provide food, shelter, nesting material, cover, and water to the avifauna. In addition to fruit-bearing and nectar-producing plants, artificial nest boxes, platform nests, and bird baths will be installed at ecologically appropriate locations.

#### **Fixation of Artificial Nests**

The avifauna recorded in the project area utilizes four major types of natural nests for breeding and shelter. Since replicating these natural structures exactly is not always feasible, three categories of artificial nests are proposed for installation:

- (i) Nest Boxes
- (ii) Platforms for Nesting of Raptors
- (iii) Artificial Baya Weaver Nests

#### **Nest Boxes**

- Each nest box will be fabricated from wooden planks of 15 mm thickness.
- The standard internal dimensions will be 15 × 15 × 25 cm, with an entrance hole of 8 cm diameter at the top, leaving a margin of 3–4 cm from the roof edge.
- The top will be designed either as a flat roof or a slanting roof to ensure quick drainage of rainwater.
- Depending on the required semi-permanent stability, the roof can be secured with an aluminium sheet, after which the wood will be properly treated and painted (non-toxic paint).
- The bottom of the nest box will contain a 1 cm drainage hole to allow removal of excess moisture.
- In selected boxes, a sawdust lining may be added to the base to help birds adapt and to absorb moisture and droppings.
- Variations in nest box size and shape may also be provided, depending on the target species, as illustrated in the subsequent diagrams.





- Nest boxes suitable for birds may be fabricated using hollow log cut-offs, sapwood cut pieces, saw-mill offcuts, 15 mm wooden planks, internodes of Bambusa bambos, nails, plain tin sheets, waterproof paint, and sawdust. Approximately 10 nest boxes will be prepared and securely installed at heights ranging from 5 to 10 meters, depending on site suitability.
- Artificial Baya nests, made from eco-friendly natural fibres, will be procured from the market for installation in appropriate tree canopies.



- Care will be taken to ensure that the entrance and exit hole of each nest box remains unobstructed by twigs or debris. The installed nest boxes will be placed primarily in the nearby villages located at the foothills adjacent to the mining lease area, ensuring safe and undisturbed nesting opportunities for local avifauna.

#### **14. AWARENESS PROGRAMME**

Awareness programmes on bird conservation and habitat protection will be organized in the peripheral villages surrounding the project area. These programmes will be conducted with the involvement of Van Suraksha Samiti (VSS) members and under the guidance and technical support of a bird expert from the Koraput Forest Division.

The activities will include:

- Sensitization workshops on the importance of avifauna and the ecological role of birds.
- Demonstrations on the use and maintenance of artificial nests and bird-friendly plantations.
- Village-level meetings to encourage community participation in protecting nesting sites, forest patches, and water sources used by birds.
- Distribution of educational materials, such as posters, leaflets, and simple field guides on local bird species.
- Awareness drives in schools, focusing on children as key ambassadors for conservation.
- Training sessions for villagers on reporting injured birds, protecting eggs/nests, and avoiding disturbances during breeding seasons.

These awareness initiatives aim to build long-term community stewardship, ensuring that the created alternate habitats and artificial nests are respected, maintained, and effectively utilized by the local avifauna.

#### **15. REGULAR MONITORING & CORRECTIVE MEASURES**

To ensure the long-term success of the avifaunal habitat enhancement measures and compliance with Forest Stage-I Condition 1.16, a structured monitoring and adaptive management framework will be implemented for the Ballada Bauxite Mine of Kalinga Alumina Limited.

#### **16. MONITORING AUTHORITY AND TECHNICAL SUPERVISION**

The monitoring programme will be carried out under the technical guidance and supervision of bird experts engaged through the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Koraput Forest Division.

Their responsibilities will include:

- Periodic inspection of artificial nests, raptor platforms, and Baya nests.
- Assessment of nesting success, occupancy rate, and overall avifaunal activity.
- Verification of habitat maintenance activities and plantation survival.
- Providing expert recommendations for improvement wherever required.



### I. Implementation Framework

The field-level execution will be undertaken by the Joint Forest Management Committees (VSS/Forest Protection Committees) already functioning in the surrounding villages. Their involvement strengthens local stewardship and ensures community participation in biodiversity protection.

Work to be executed includes:

- Upkeep and repair of artificial nests.
- Maintenance of planted native species.
- Cleaning and inspection of nest entrances.
- Reporting unusual mortality or disturbance incidents.
- Seasonal monitoring before and during breeding periods.

### II. Corrective Measures

Based on periodic monitoring reports, corrective measures will be implemented, such as:

- Replacing damaged or unused nest boxes with improved designs.
- Relocating nests or platforms if occupancy is consistently low.
- Strengthening plantation in areas where canopy cover remains inadequate.
- Restoring disturbed sites through soil-moisture conservation and native shrub planting.
- Adjusting placement height or orientation of nest boxes to suit target species.

These corrective actions will follow an **adaptive management approach**, ensuring continuous improvement.

### III. Cost Responsibility

There will be no additional administrative cost to the Forest Department or the State Government.

All financial obligations, including procurement, installation, maintenance, monitoring, and corrective measures, will be fully borne by the User Agency – Kalinga Alumina Limited.

This includes:

- Honorarium for bird experts (if applicable)
- Material and labour for nest installation
- Monitoring expenses
- Plantation and habitat enrichment costs
- Reporting and documentation expenses



17. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION FOR CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALTERNATE HABITAT FOR AVIFAUNA UNDER KORAPUT FOREST DIVISION  
FINANCIAL IMPLICATION FOR CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALTERNATE HABITAT FOR AVIFAUNA UNDER KORAPUT FOREST DIVISION

S. No.	Description	Amount
1	Nest boxes 100 nos. of including fixing @ 5000 each	5,00,000
2	Baya Nests 100 nos. 500 each	50,000
3	Creation of platform for nesting of raptors 50 nos including fixing 7000/- each	3,50,000
<b>Sub total</b>		9,00,000
4	Add 10% escalation	90,000
<b>Grand total</b>		9,90,000

Prepared in consultation with:  
DFO, Koraput  
CCF  
RCCF





**F. No. 11-9/1998-FC (pt)**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment and Forests**  
**(FC Division)**

**ANNEXURE A13**

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
 CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
 New Delhi - 110510.  
 Dated : 03.08.2009

To

The Chief Secretary / Administrator  
 (All State/UT Governments except J&K)

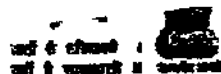
**Subject: Diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - ensuring compliance of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006.**

Sir,

In continuation to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 30.07.2009, I am directed to invite the attention of the State Government to the operationalization of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 which has become effective from 01.01.2008. It is observed that the proposals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are being received from different states/UT Governments with the submission that the settlement of rights under Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA) will be completed later on.

Accordingly, to formulate unconditional proposals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the State/UT Governments are, wherever the process of settlement of Rights under the FRA has been completed or currently under process, required to enclose evidences for having initiated and completed the above process, especially among other sections, Sections 3(1)(i), 3(1)(e) and 4(5). These enclosures of evidence shall be in the form of following:

- a. A letter from the State Government certifying that the complete process for identification and settlement of rights under the FRA has been carried out for the entire forest area proposed for diversion, with a record of all consultations and meetings held;
- b. A letter from the State Government certifying that proposals for such diversion (with full details of the project and its implications, in vernacular / local languages) have been placed before each concerned Gram Sabha of forest-dwellers, who are eligible under the FRA;
- c. A letter from each of the concerned Gram Sabhas, indicating that all formalities/processes under the FRA have been carried out, and that they have given their consent to the proposed diversion and the compensatory and ameliorative measures if any, having understood the purposes and details of proposed diversion.



- d. A letter from the State Government certifying that the diversion of forest land for facilities managed by the Government as required under section 3(2) of the FRA have been completed and that the Gram Sabhas have consented to it.
- e. A letter from the State Government certifying that discussions and decisions on such proposals had taken place only when there was a quorum of minimum 50% of members of the Gram Sabha present;
- f. Obtaining the written consent or rejection of the Gram Sabha to the proposal.
- g. A letter from the State Government certifying that the rights of Primitive Tribal Groups and Pre-Agricultural Communities, where applicable, have been specifically safeguarded as per section 3(1)(e) of the FRA.
- h. Any other aspect having bearing on operationalisation of the FRA.

The State/UT Governments, where process of settlement of Rights under the FRA is yet to begin, are required to enclose evidences supporting that settlement of rights under FRA 2006 will be initiated and completed before the final approval for proposals.

This is issued with the approval of the Minister of Environment and Forests.

(C.D. Singh)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The PMO (kind attention: Director, PMO)
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, All States / UTs.
4. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCFs, All States / UTs.
5. All Regional Offices of MoEF located at Bhopal, Shillong, Bangalore, Lucknow, Bhubaneswar and Chandigarh.
6. The RO (HQ), DIGF(FP), Sr.AIGF(FC)/AIGF(FC), MoEF, New Delhi.
7. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF, New Delhi for placing the same on the website of the MoEF.
8. Guard File.

(C.D. Singh)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests



To  
The Divisional Forest Officer  
Koraput Forest Division,  
DFO Office – Koraput,  
Odisha - 764020

Dtd. 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026

**Sub:** - Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2(1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of Mis. Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 Ha. (144.945 ha ML area+ 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for safety zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within mining lease area of 144.945 ha-Observation of Stage-I compliance.

**Ref:** - Memo No.909/9F(MG)369/2024 Dated 15.01.2026 of C.C.F.(Nodal) O/o the P.C.C.F & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Dear Sir,

With reference to aforementioned subject, regarding your observations on our referred proposal, we are attaching proposed documents here with:

**Document Name**

- 1.10 \_ Alternate fuels to the laborers
- 1.16 \_ SCHEME FOR AVIFAUNA
- 1.21 \_ NPV Deposit Slip
- 2.3 \_ Schedule of Surrender of Reclaimed Land
- 2.7 \_ De silting\_Scheme\_with\_Annexures
- 2.8a \_ Soil\_Erosion\_Scheme\_with\_Annexures
- 2.8b \_ Scheme\_Planting Adequate drought
- 2.8c \_ Checkdams\_Toewalls\_SampleStyle\_with\_Annexures
- 2.8d \_ Dump\_Stabilization\_SampleStyle\_with\_Annexures
- 2.9 \_ Soil Moisture Financial Implication
- 2.10\_ Topsoil Management Plan
- 2.15 \_ FRA Certificate
- 2.17 \_ Gap Plantation
- Payment Acknowledgement of differential CAMPA fund of Rs 2,48,84,000/-

You are requested to kindly consider our proposal for further review and processing for approval of forest diversion approval.

Thanks & Regards,



K Anil Kumar,  
Vice President - Projects  
Kalinga Alumina Limited, (Formerly known as Mundra Aluminium Limited)  
Shantigram, Ahmedabad  
Gujarat-382421

**Kalinga Alumina Limited**  
(Formerly known as Mundra Aluminium Limited)  
Adani Corporate House, Shantigram,  
Nr. Vaishno Devi Circle, S. G. Highway,  
Khodiyar, Ahmedabad - 382421  
Gujarat, India

Tel + 91 79 2656 5555  
Fax + 91 79 2555 5500

CIN: U13203GJ2021PLC128064

Registered Office: Adani Corporate House, Shantigram, Nr. Vaishno Devi Circle, S. G. Highway, Khodiyar, Ahmedabad – 382 421

2.15 \_ FRA Certificate

## TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

In compliance of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India's Letter No. 11-9/98-FC(pt.) dated 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009 wherein the MoEF issued guidelines on submission of evidences for having initiated and completed the process of settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (recognition of Forest Right) Act, 2006 (FRA) on the forest land proposed to be diverted for non-forest purposes, it is certified that **157.212** hectares (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of forest Land proposed to be diverted in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited, Ahmedabad for mining lease of Balda Bauxite Mines and approach road in Koraput District falls within jurisdiction of Nageswari Reserve Forest (RF) under Balda Range of Koraput Forest Division of Nandapur Tahasil.

It is further certified that:

1. The complete process for identification and settlement of rights under the FRA has been carried out for the entire **157.212** hectares (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of forest area proposed for diversion. A copy of records of all consultations and meetings of the Forest Rights Committees, Gram Sabhas, Sub - division Level Committee and the District Level Committee are enclosed as Annexure A, B and C.
2. The proposal for such diversion (with full details of the project and its implications, in vernacular/local language) have been placed before each concerned Grama Sabha of forest-dwellers, who are eligible under the FRA.
3. That concerned Gram Sabhas have certified that all formalities / processes under the FRA have been carried out, and that they have given their consent to the proposed diversion and the compensation and ameliorative measures, if any, having understood the purpose and details of proposed diversion. A copy of certificate issued by the Gram Sabha of Balda and Banuru is enclosed as Annexure A.
4. The discussion and decisions on such proposals had taken place only when there was a quorum of minimum 50% of the members of Gram Sabha present.
5. The diversion of forest land for facilities managed by the Government as required under section 3(2) of the FRA have been completed that the Gram Sabhas have given their consent to it.
6. The rights of Primitive Tribal Groups and Pre-Agricultural Communities, where applicable have been specifically safeguarded as per section 3(1)(e) of the FRA.

Encl: As above



*Manoj Satyawan Mahajan*  
**(Manoj Satyawan Mahajan, IAS)**  
Collector-cum-Chairman,  
District Level Committee,  
Koraput

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE DISTRICT LEVEL COMMITTEE MEETING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHEDULED TRIBES & OTHER TRADITIONAL FOREST DWELLERS (RECOGNITION OF FOREST RIGHTS) ACT, 2006 HELD ON 15.01.2026 AT 10.00 AM IN COLLECTORATE CONFERENCE HALL, KORAPUT.**

The District Level Committee Meeting on implementation of Scheduled tribes & Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (recognition of forest rights) Act, 2006 and Rule 2007 was held on 05.01.2026 at 10.00 AM in Collectorate Conference Hall, Koraput under the Chairmanship of Collector, Koraput. At the outset the Project Administrator, I.T.D.A., Koraput welcomed all the members present and requested Collector, Koraput to preside over the meeting. Following were the members present in the meeting.

1. Collector, Koraput.
2. Sub - Collector, Jeypore / Koraput
3. Asst. Conservator of Forest, Koraput / Jeypore
4. Project Administrator, I.T.D.A., Koraput
5. District Welfare Officer, Koraput.
6. Shri Raghu Jani, Z.P. Member Koraput -1
7. Shri Tripathi Challan, Z.P. Member, Kotpad - 2

**APPROVAL OF INDIVIDUAL CLAIMS**

The Project Administrator, I.T.D.A., Koraput placed before the committee 54 nos. of individual claims (Boipariguda-05, Kundra-30 & Borigumma-19) from SDLC, Jeypore duly approved and recommended to approve in the DLC. As per discussion and decision made in the meeting 54 Claims are approved by the committee. The detail approved Beneficiary list is at **Annexure-I**.

The details of approved claims are placed below:

Sl No	Name of the Tahasil	Name of the GP	Name of the Village	No of IFR valid for Approval	Area (in Ac)	Kisam
1	Boipariguda	Ramgiri	Hatipakhana	05	29.03	RL
2	Kundra	Bagderi	Bagderi	30	16.74	Jungle- 29 & GJ -01
3	Borigumma	Ranspur	Sangudora	19	35.18	Ramaguda RF
<b>Total</b>				<b>54</b>		

**APPROVAL OF COMMUNITY CLAIMS**

The Project Administrator, I.T.D.A., Koraput placed before the committee 58nos. of Community claims (SDLC Koraput = 10 & Jeypore SDLC=48) in Form B-58 & Form C-45 duly approved and recommended by SDLC Koraput & Jeypore for approval at DLC.

As per discussion and decision made in the meeting 54Claims (Form -B =54 & Form-C=41) are approved by the committee. Further 04' claims have been remanded to SDLC, Jeypore for necessary compliance. Approved detail list is at **Annexure-II** & remand list is at **Annexure-III**.



The abstract of approved CFR and CFRR claims are placed below:

Sl No	Name of the SDLC	Name of the Tahasil	Nos of CFR/CFRR	Types of Claims		Total Area in Ac	Kisam
				B	C		
1	Koraput	Nandapur	10	10	10	1114.35	Nageswari R.F
6		Jeypore	02	02	01	21.25	G.J
7		Borigumma	09	09	09	798.11	G.J -06, PRF -01, PJ-01, GJ& PJ-01
8		Kundra	04	04	03	93.55	RF-01, GJ-01, Jungle-01
9		Boipariguda	19	19	18	2726.24	GJ-12, Jungle-01, PRF-02, RF-02, RF& GJ -01
10		Kotapad	10	10	0	0.00	----
<b>Total</b>			<b>54</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>41</b>		

#### APPROVAL OF DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND FOR BALDA BAUXITE BLOCK UNDER NANDAPUR BLOCK

The Project Administrator, I.T.D.A., Koraput informed that 01 no. of claims have been received for diversion of 157.212 Ha. (144.945 Ha. Mining Lease + 12.267 Ha. for approach road) forest land for Balda Bauxite Mines under Nandapur Block in favour of Kalinga Alumina Limited. The proposal relates to Nageswari RF of an area 157.212 Ha. under Balda Forest Range of Koraput Forest Division.

As per the resolutions of Pallisabha/ Grama Sabha of 02 nos Revenue villages i.e Balda under Balda GP & Banur under Atanda GP communicated by BDO, Nandapur vide Letter No.3772 dt:15.10.2025 there is no IFR & CFR rights are given on the proposed land. Similarly, the proposal has also been duly approved by the SDLC Koraput on 12.01.2026 and recommended to DLC for final approval.

Hence the diversion proposal of 157.212 Ha (144.945 Ha. Mining Lease + 12.267 Ha. for approach road) forest land for Balda Bauxite Mines in favour of Kalinga Alumina Limited is unanimously approved by the committee as detailed below.

#### Detail information on Diversion Proposal for Balda Bauxite Mines

Sl No	Name of the Sub-Division	Name of the Tahsil / Block	Name of the Forest Range	Name of the RF	Area for Mining Lease in Ha.	Area for approach ed road in Ha.	Total Area in Ha.
1	Koraput	Nandapur	Balda	Nageswari	144.945	12.267	157.212



**APPROVAL OF CONVERSION OF UNSURVEYED FOREST VILLAGES INTO REVENUE VILLAGES u/s -3(1) (b) OF FOREST RIGHTS ACT,2006**

The Project Administrator, I.T.D.A., Koraput placed before the committee 02 proposal of Un-surveyed forest villages i.e Hatipakhana (V-CT-Code: 05013400) & Chameli Kunda (V-CT-Code: 05008200) under Ramgiri GP of Boipariguda Tahsil which were opened on 09.05.2023 with a General notice by Collector-cum Chairman, DLC, FRA. The proposal for conversion has been duly approved by the SDLC Jeypore held on 13.10.2022 with the resolutions of Pallasabha / Grama Sabha of village Ambagandili held on 04.12.2025.

But as per compliance received from Board of Revenue vide letter No.5320 dt:27.10.2025 the cloth trace Map should be prepared with appropriate indications. So, the case records are remanded to SDLC, Jeypore for necessary compliance.

The meeting ended with thanks to the chair and participants.

*Devin*  
15.1.26  
Sub- Collector  
Koraput

*S*  
15/1/26  
Sub- Collector  
Jeypore

*Jaemath B.*  
15.01.2026  
For Divisional Forest Officer  
Koraput

*P*  
15/01/2026  
for Divisional Forest Officer  
Jeypore

*[Signature]*  
Project Administrator  
ITDA, Koraput

*[Signature]*  
District Welfare Officer  
Koraput

*Rajhu Das*  
Z.P Member  
Koraput -1

*[Signature]*  
Z.P Member  
Kotpad -1

*[Signature]*  
Collector - cum - Chairman  
District Level Committee,  
Koraput

Memo. No. 107 /26

Date : 19 /01/2026

Copy to all members of District Level Committee under Forest Rights Act, 2006 for information and necessary action.



*[Signature]*  
19/1/26  
Project Administrator  
I.T.D.A., Koraput  
Convener, DLC under FRA

**MEETING PROCEEDINGS OF SUB-DIVISIONAL LEVEL COMMITTEE  
ON FOREST RIGHTS ACT, 2006 HELD ON 12.01.2026 AT 10.30 AM IN  
THE OFFICE CHAMBER OF THE SUB-COLLECTOR, KORAPUT**

The meeting of Sub- Divisional Level committee of the Forest Rights Act, 2006 was held on 12.01.2026 at 10.30 AM under the chairmanship of the Sub Collector, Koraput in his office chamber. At the outset the Chairman welcomed all the members present and proceeded the discussion. The following members were present at the meeting.

1. Sub- Collector, Koraput- Chairman
2. ACF, Koraput- Member
3. Smt. Geeta Muduli, PS Member, Padampur- Member
4. Sri Ranju Jani, PS Member, Uparkanti- Member
5. Sri Padmanava Jani, PS Member, Chikambo- Member
6. ADWO, O/o The Sub-Collector- Member Convener
7. Special Officer (I/C) ITDA, Koraput
8. Tahasildars & WEOs of Nandapur,
9. Forester, Forest Ranger – Balda & Lamtaput

The following points were discussed and deliberated in the meeting.

**1) COMMUNITY FOREST RIGHTS (CFRs/CFRRs) :-**

05 (Five) nos. (Form B – 05, Form C- 05) of Community Forest Rights & Community Forest Resource Rights (CFRs/CFRRs) claims had been received from Nandapur Tahasil and placed before the committee.

The committee scrutinised five claims submitted by Nandapur Tahasil. As the claims submitted by Taniter and Chillam villages lacked substantial evidence and involved overlapping claims of both villages, a joint meeting of both villages was conducted on 10-12-2025.

As no consensus was reached on the overlapping claims of both villages in the said meeting, and as per Rule 14(7), a period of 30 days was provided for mutual agreement between both Gram Sabhas and for submission of additional substantial evidence. A notice to this effect was served on 11-12-2025.

Subsequently, another meeting was convened on 09-01-2026 to provide further opportunity for achieving mutual consensus and for submission of additional substantial evidence in support of the claims. However, no villagers attended the meeting, nor submitted any substantial evidence or documents of mutual agreement submitted.



ence, the SDLC, after detailed deliberation with its members, decided to take final decision on the dispute of the overlapping claims. Accordingly, the documents submitted by the Revenue and Forest Departments with respect to Taintar and Chillam village were verified and further, three other claims of Nandapur Tahasil (Somali, Kanti, Atanda) were also verified and forwarded to DLC for final approval. (Detail list is at Annexure-I)

### Claim over the Pond at Nageswari Hill Top

- 1.1 The SDLC notes that both villages i.e. Taintar and Chillam have submitted claims asserting their traditional rights over the use of the pond situated at the Nageswari Hill Top. Verification records indicate that the said pond was constructed by the Forest Department after the cut-off date i.e 13.12.2005 stipulated under Section 4(3) of the Schedule Tribe & Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006.
- 1.2 The SDLC further confirms, through historical GPS evidence sourced from Google Earth imagery, that no such pond existed prior to the cut-off date. As the structure is a post cut-off date creation, it cannot be considered a traditional community resource for the purpose of CFR claims under the FRA-2006.

### 2. Claim over the Place of Worship

2.1 Both villages have also submitted claims over the place of worship located on the hill. During field verification and community consultations, it has been established that the place of worship is traditionally used by all surrounding villages, and not exclusively by any single claimant village.

2.2 Under FRA provisions, a community resource that is collectively used by multiple villages cannot be granted exclusively to one village under a CFR claim. As per Section 3(1) (i) of the Schedule Tribe & Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 places of cultural and religious significance must be preserved and protected for continued access by all communities traditionally associated with them.

Encl: 1. Served copies

2. Documents from Forest Conservation Division
3. Documents issued by SEIAA Dept.
4. GOOGLE EARTH images.



3) APPROVAL OF DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND FOR APPROACH ROAD IN BALDA BAUXITE BLOCK LOCATED IN NANDAPUR TAHASIL UNDER KORAPUT SUB-DIVISION.

01(One) no. of proposal has been received for diversion of 144.945 Ha. Forest land for Balda Bauxite Block and 12.267 Ha of forest land for approach road in Balda Bauxite Block located in Nandapur Block under Koraput sub-division.

After through discussion on the proposal, the committee unanimously approved the proposal based on the resolution approved by the Gram Sabhas (Balda and Banur) which was submitted by the BDO, Nandapur. Also, BDO Nandapur have confirmed vide Letter No-3772, dated 15.10.2025, that no Primitive Tribal Groups (PTG) and pre-agricultural community (PAC) are residing in the proposed project area and as per the report of the Tahasildar, Nandapur, no IFR titles have been approved or pending for approval over the forest and proposed for diversion.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair and members present.



**COMMUNITY CLAIMS APPROVED BY THE SDLC, KORAPUT HELD ON 12.01.2026  
UNDER FOREST RIGHTS ACT, 2006**

**Detail list of Community Rights (B) & Community Resources Rights (C)**

**Name of the Tahasil**

**Koraput**

Sl No	Name of the Sub-Division	Name of the Block / Tahasil	Name of the Gram Panchayat	Name of the Village	Types of Claims			Khata No	Plot No	Availed Area in Ac.	Area (in Ac)	Kissam	ST/OTED	Purpose	Remarks
					Form - B	Form - C	Form - C								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	14	
1	Koraput	NANDAPUR	BHEDA	TANTOR	B	C	-	-	-	68.75	NAGESWARI R.F	BOTH	Right to access, collect and used of Minor forest produce, Water bodies, Grazing, Intellectual Property, Traditional knowledge, Fire wood and right to protect, Regenerate or conserve and manage Under Section 3(1) on FRA, 2006		
2	Koraput	NANDAPUR	BALDA	CHILLAM	B	C	-	-	-	108	NAGESWARI R.F	BOTH	Right to access, collect and used of Minor forest produce, Water bodies, Grazing, Intellectual Property, Traditional knowledge, Fire wood and right to protect, Regenerate or conserve and manage Under Section 3(1) on FRA, 2006		
3	Koraput	NANDAPUR	ATTANDA	SAMALI	B	C	-	-	-	202.25	NAGESWARI R.F	BOTH	Right to access, collect and used of Minor forest produce, Water bodies, Grazing, Intellectual Property, Traditional knowledge, Fire wood and right to protect, Regenerate or conserve and manage Under Section 3(1) on FRA, 2006		
4	Koraput	NANDAPUR	BADEL	KANTI	B	C	-	-	-	56.3	NAGESWARI R.F	BOTH	Right to access, collect and used of Minor forest produce, Water bodies, Grazing, Intellectual Property, Traditional knowledge, Fire wood and right to protect, Regenerate or conserve and manage Under Section 3(1) on FRA, 2006		
5	Koraput	NANDAPUR	ATTANDA	ATTANDA	B	C	-	-	-	73.25	NAGESWARI R.F	BOTH	Right to access, collect and used of Minor forest produce, Water bodies, Grazing, Intellectual Property, Traditional knowledge, Fire wood and right to protect, Regenerate or conserve and manage Under Section 3(1) on FRA, 2006		



COMMUNITY CLAIMS APPROVED BY THE SDLC HELD ON 12.01.2026  
UNDER FOREST RIGHTS ACT, 2006

Detail list of Community Forest Rights (B) & Community Forest Resources Rights (C)

*B*  
Asst. Conservator of Forest  
Koraput

*12-01-26*  
Additional District Welfare, Officer  
Office of Sub-Collector, Koraput

*[Signature]*  
Special Officer, ITDA  
Koraput

*Geeta muduli*  
Smt. Geeta Muduli, PS Memver (ST-W)  
Padampur G.P. Koraput P.S.

*Ranjo Jani*  
Sri Ranju Jani, PS Member (ST)  
Uperkanti G.P., Semiliguda P.S

*[Signature]*  
Sri Padmanava Jani, PS Member (ST)  
Koraput

*[Signature]* 12.01.26  
Chairment-cum-Sub-Collector,  
SDLC on FRA, Koraput



## Panchayat Samiti, Nandapur

Letter No: 3772

Date: 15.10.25

To,

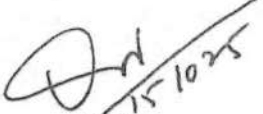
The Sub-Collector, Koraput

Sub- Regarding submission of resolution copies (in Triplicate) of Gram Sabha duly approved in the Banur and Balda Gram Sabha for diversion of forest land for Non-Forest purpose (i.e for mining lease of Balda bauxite block and approach road)

- Ref- i)- Letter from Adani Metals dated 02.11.24  
ii)-Letter No-796, dated 29.01.24 of PA ITDA, Koraput  
iii)- Letter No-4707, dated 20.06.24 of Sub-Collector, Koraput  
iv)- Letter No-662, dated 20.01.25 of Sub-Collector, Koraput  
v)- Letter No-6846, dated 26.08.25 of Sub-Collector, Koraput  
vi)-Letter No-3133, dated 26.08.25 of Panchayat office, Nandapur

Sir,

With reference to the letter cited above, I am to inform you that the Resolution copies (in Triplicate) of both Balda and Banur Gram Sabha/ Palli Sabha conducted for diversion of 144.945 Ha of forest land for Bauxite block and 12.267 Ha for approach road in Balda Bauxite for Non-Forest purpose (i.e for mining lease of Balda bauxite block and approach road) is submitted for necessary action at your end.

  
15/10/25  
BDO  
Nandapur



# Villages around Nagasari RF





CFR / CFRR Claim Area  
(Kitba Gram Sabha)

CFR / CFRR Claim Area  
(Taintar-Gayalput Gram Sabha)

CFR / CFRR Claim Area  
(Khanti Gram Sabha)

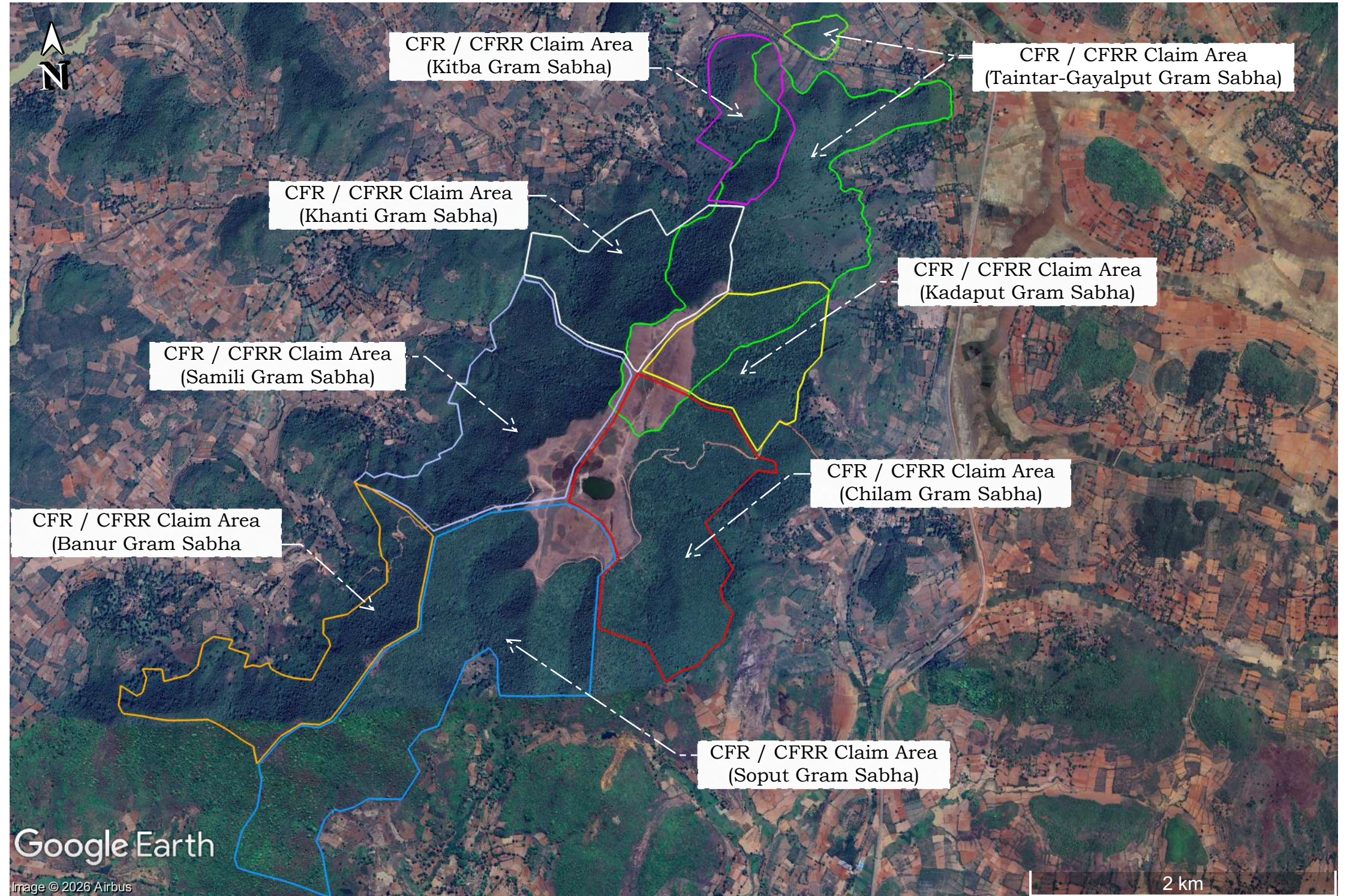
CFR / CFRR Claim Area  
(Kadaput Gram Sabha)

CFR / CFRR Claim Area  
(Samili Gram Sabha)

CFR / CFRR Claim Area  
(Chilam Gram Sabha)

CFR / CFRR Claim Area  
(Banur Gram Sabha)

CFR / CFRR Claim Area  
(Soput Gram Sabha)



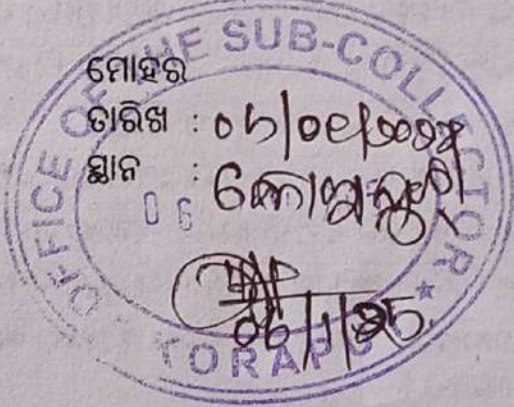
ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍

ପୁଁ ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ/ଶ୍ରୀ ବାସନ୍ତି ବାଈ, ପଦବୀ କନିଷ୍ଠ ଉପସ୍ଥାପନା ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ କମିଟି,  
କୋରାପୁଟ ଜିଲ୍ଲା- କୋରାପୁଟ ଜିଲ୍ଲାରେ କୋରାପୁଟ ବାସନ୍ତି ବାଈ ଗ୍ରାମ,  
କୋରାପୁଟ ପଞ୍ଚାୟତ- ନିମିସୁଡ଼ ବ୍ଲକ- କୋରାପୁଟ ଜିଲ୍ଲାର

ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀ/ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର କମିଟି ପାଖରୁ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ଗ୍ରାମର ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି, ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ଓ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ପତ୍ର ଗ୍ରହଣ କରି ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ଏହି ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍ ପ୍ରଦାନ କଲି ।

କ୍ରମିକ ସଂଖ୍ୟା	ଦାବିର ପ୍ରକାର	ସଂଖ୍ୟା
୧	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	✓
୨	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	✓
୩	ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	<del>୫୫</del> ନାହିଁ

ମଙ୍ଗଳ ସମ୍ପ୍ରଦାନ ଅଧିକାରୀ/ ଅଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷ, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ କମିଟିଙ୍କ ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷର



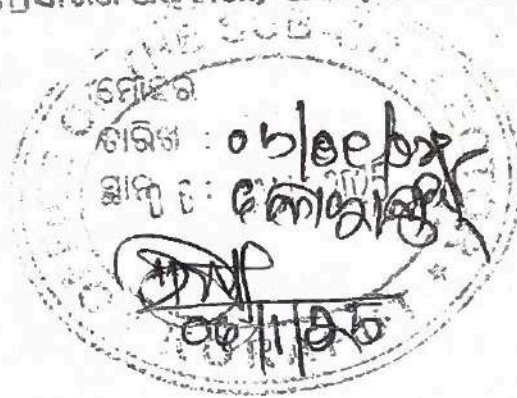
ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱାକାର ରସିଦ୍

ପୁରୁ ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀ/ସ୍ତ୍ରୀ ଦାସକି ବାବୁ ପତନୀ କନିଷ୍ଠ ରମଣସ୍ୱାମୀ ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ପ୍ରଭାୟ କମିଟି,  
କୋଡ଼ାପୁଡ଼ି ଜିଲ୍ଲା- କୋଡ଼ାପୁଡ଼ି କ ଚରଫରୁ ଚିତ୍ରା ଗ୍ରାମ,  
ବାଲୁଆ ପଞ୍ଚାୟତ- ନୟପୁର ଡିଭି- କୋଡ଼ାପୁଡ଼ି ଜିଲ୍ଲାର

ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀ/ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର କମିଟି ପାଖରୁ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ଗ୍ରାମର ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି, ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ଓ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ପତ୍ର ଗ୍ରହଣ କରି ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ଏହି ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱାକାର ରସିଦ୍ ପ୍ରଦାନ କଲି ।

କ୍ରମିକ ସଂଖ୍ୟା	ଦାବିର ପ୍ରକାର	ସଂଖ୍ୟା
୧	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	✓
୨	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	✓
୩	ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	✗ ନାହିଁ

ମଙ୍ଗଳ ସମ୍ପ୍ରଦାନଣ ଅଧିକାରୀ/ ଅଧକ୍ଷ, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ପ୍ରଭାୟ କମିଟିଙ୍କ  
 ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷର

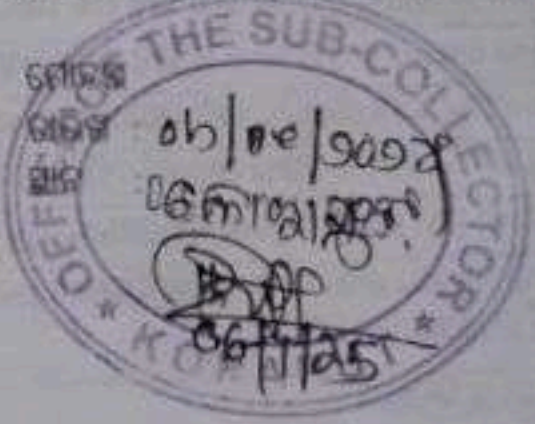


ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱାକାର ରସିଦ୍

ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ନାମ ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ସାଧନା ପାଣି ପତନୀ କନିଷ୍ଠା ରାଧିକା <sup>ପ୍ରମାଣିତ</sup> ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ ବନିତ  
କୋରାପୁଟ ଜିଲ୍ଲା କୋରାପୁଟ ବ୍ଲକ୍ କୋରାପୁଟ ଗ୍ରାମ  
ସାଲୁଡ଼ା ପଞ୍ଚାୟତ ସାଲୁଡ଼ା ଏବଂ ନୟାପୁର ଡିଭିଜନ୍  
 ସ୍ଥାନୀୟ/ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶ ଅଧିକାର ବନିତ ପାଖରୁ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ସ୍ଥାନୀୟ ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି, ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର  
 ଦାବି ଓ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ପତ୍ର ଗ୍ରହଣ କରି ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ଏହି ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱାକାର ରସିଦ୍ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯାଇଛି ।

କ୍ରମିକ ସଂଖ୍ୟା	ଦାବିର ପ୍ରକାର	ସଂଖ୍ୟା
୧	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	✓
୨	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	✓
୩	ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	୦୨ ମାସି

ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶ ସମ୍ପ୍ରଦାନକାରୀ ଅଧିକାରୀ/ ଅଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷ, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ ବନିତଙ୍କ  
 ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷର



**Acknowledgement Receipt**

I, Smt./Shri **Basanti Pangi**, designation **Junior Revenue Assistant**, on behalf of the **Sub-Divisional Level Committee, Koraput**, District: **Koraput**, received the claims towards Community Forest Rights, Community Forest Resource Rights and Individual Forest Rights from the Villagers/Forest Rights Committee of **Taintar and Gayalput** Villages, **Taintar** Gram Panchayat, **Nandapur** Block, **Koraput** District. Upon receiving their claims, I am hereby providing this acknowledgement receipt.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Category of Claim</b>	<b>Total Number</b>
1	Community Forest Rights Claim	✓
2	Community Forest Resource Rights Claim	✓
3	Individual Forest Rights Claim	Not Available

**Signature of Welfare Extension Officer/  
Chairperson, Sub-Divisional Level Committee**

[Signature]

**Seal:**

**Date: 06-01-2025**

**Place: Koraput**

**Acknowledgement Receipt**

I, Smt./Shri **Basanti Pangi**, designation **Junior Revenue Assistant**, on behalf of the **Sub-Divisional Level Committee, Koraput**, District: **Koraput**, received the claims towards Community Forest Rights, Community Forest Resource Rights and Individual Forest Rights from the Villagers/Forest Rights Committee of **Chilam** Village, **Balda** Gram Panchayat, **Nandapur** Block, **Koraput** District. Upon receiving their claims, I am hereby providing this acknowledgement receipt.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Category of Claim</b>	<b>Total Number</b>
1	Community Forest Rights Claim	✓
2	Community Forest Resource Rights Claim	✓
3	Individual Forest Rights Claim	Not Available

**Signature of Welfare Extension Officer/  
Chairperson, Sub-Divisional Level Committee**

[Signature]

**Seal:**

**Date: 06-01-2025**

**Place: Koraput**

**Acknowledgement Receipt**

I, Smt./Shri **Basanti Pangi**, designation **Junior Revenue Assistant**, on behalf of the **Sub-Divisional Level Committee, Koraput**, District: **Koraput**, received the claims towards Community Forest Rights, Community Forest Resource Rights and Individual Forest Rights from the Villagers/Forest Rights Committee of **Soput** Village, **Balda** Gram Panchayat, **Balda** Block, **Koraput** District. Upon receiving their claims, I am hereby providing this acknowledgement receipt.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Category of Claim</b>	<b>Total Number</b>
1	Community Forest Rights Claim	✓
2	Community Forest Resource Rights Claim	✓
3	Individual Forest Rights Claim	Not Available

**Signature of Welfare Extension Officer/  
Chairperson, Sub-Divisional Level Committee**

[Signature]

**Seal:**

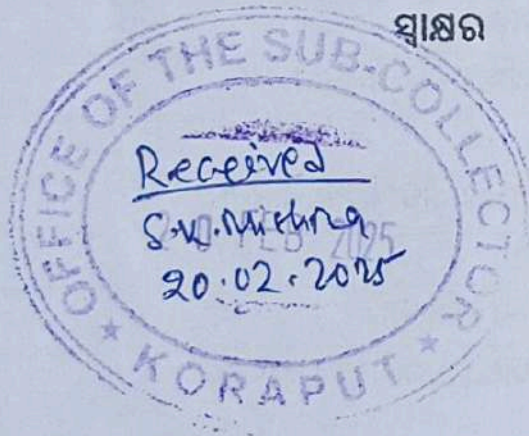
**Date: 06-01-2025**

**Place:**

ମୁଁ ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ/ଶ୍ରୀ ସୁଲୋଚିତା ଦେବୀ ସିଂଘ \_\_\_\_\_ ପଦବୀ କନିଷ୍ଠ ଶାସ୍ତ୍ରୀ ସହାୟକ ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ପୁରୀୟ କମିଟି,  
 କୋହାପୁର ଜିଲ୍ଲା- ଭୋହାପୁର କ ଚରଫରୁ ସମତ୍ୟା ଗ୍ରାମ,  
 ଅତଡ଼ି ପଞ୍ଚାୟତ- ନନ୍ଦପୁର ବ୍ଲକ- କୋହାପୁର ଜିଲ୍ଲାର  
 ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀ/ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର କମିଟି ପାଖରୁ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ଗ୍ରାମର ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି, ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର  
 ଦାବି ଓ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ପତ୍ର ଗ୍ରହଣ କରି ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ଏହି ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍ ପ୍ରଦାନ କଲି ।

କ୍ରମିକ ସଂଖ୍ୟା	ଦାବିର ପ୍ରକାର	ସଂଖ୍ୟା
୧	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	୦୧
୨	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	୦୧
୩	ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	—

ମଙ୍ଗଳ ସମ୍ପ୍ରଦାନ ଅଧିକାରୀ/ ଅଧକ୍ଷ, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ପୁରୀୟ କମିଟିଙ୍କ  
 ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷର



ମୋହର

ତାରିଖ :

ସ୍ଥାନ :

## ପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍

ମୁଁ ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ/ଶ୍ରୀ ସିନ୍ଧୁଲ କୁମାର ମିଶ୍ର, ପଦବୀ କନିଷ୍ଠ ପ୍ରାଥମିକ ସମାପ୍ତକ ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ କମିଟି,

କୋହାପୁର, ଜିଲ୍ଲା- କୋହାପୁର ଙ୍କ ତରଫରୁ କମିଟି ଗ୍ରାମ,

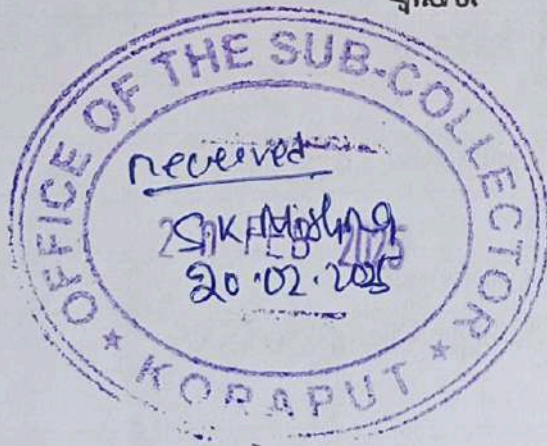
ପଦ୍ମା ପଞ୍ଚାୟତ- ନନ୍ଦିଫୁଲ, ବ୍ଲକ- କୋହାପୁର, ଜିଲ୍ଲାର

ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀ/ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର କମିଟି ପାଖରୁ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ଗ୍ରାମର ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି, ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର

ଦାବି ଓ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ପତ୍ର ଗ୍ରହଣ କରି ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ଏହି ପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍ ପ୍ରଦାନ କଲି ।

କ୍ରମିକ ସଂଖ୍ୟା	ଦାବିର ପ୍ରକାର	ସଂଖ୍ୟା
୧	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	୦୧
୨	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	୦୧
୩	ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	—

ମଙ୍ଗଳ ସମ୍ପ୍ରଦାନ ଅଧିକାରୀ/ ଅଧକ୍ଷ, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ କମିଟିଙ୍କ  
ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷର



ମୋହର

ତାରିଖ :

ସ୍ଥାନ :

## ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍

ମୁଁ ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ/ଶ୍ରୀ ସିଦ୍ଧାନ୍ତ କୁମାର ମିଶ୍ର, ପଦବୀ କଲିଙ୍ଗ ଉଚ୍ଚ ସ୍ୱାଧୀନ, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ କମିଟି,

କୋଡ଼ାପୁଟ ଜିଲ୍ଲା- କୋଡ଼ାପୁଟ ଜିଲ୍ଲା ଚରଫରୁ କାଉଁଟି ଗ୍ରାମ,

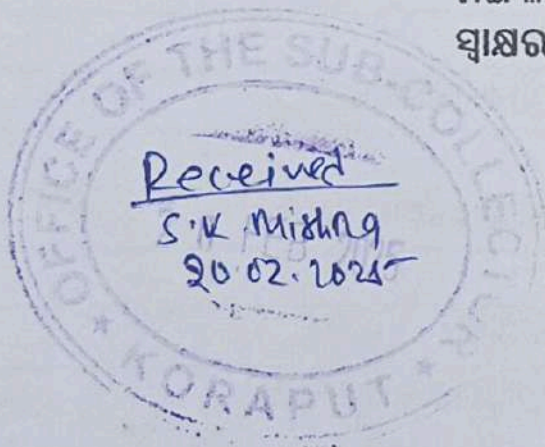
ବାଲେଶ ପଞ୍ଚାୟତ- ମାନ୍ଦ୍ରୁଣ, ବ୍ଲକ୍- କୋଡ଼ାପୁଟ ଜିଲ୍ଲାର

ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀ/ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର କମିଟି ପାଖରୁ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ଗ୍ରାମର ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି, ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର

ଦାବି ଓ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ପତ୍ର ଗ୍ରହଣ କରି ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ଏହି ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍ ପ୍ରଦାନ କଲି ।

କ୍ରମିକ ସଂଖ୍ୟା	ଦାବିର ପ୍ରକାର	ସଂଖ୍ୟା
୧	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	୦୧
୨	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	୦୧
୩	ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	—

ମଙ୍ଗଳ ସମ୍ପ୍ରଦାନ ଅଧିକାରୀ/ ଅଧକ୍ଷ, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ କମିଟିଙ୍କ  
ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷର



ମୋହର

ତାରିଖ :

ସ୍ଥାନ :

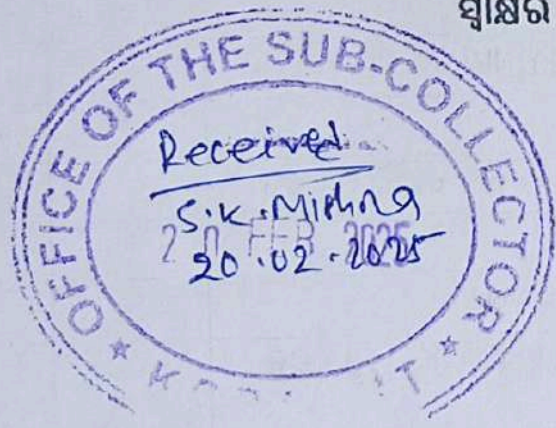
ପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍

ମୁଁ ଗ୍ରାମଚା/ଶ୍ରୀ ସି.କେ.ମିଶ୍ର ନିମ୍ନ ପଦବୀ ଅତିରିକ୍ତ ସବ୍ କଲେକ୍ଟର, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ କମିଟି,  
କୋଥପୁର, ଜିଲ୍ଲା- କୋଥପୁର କି ଚରଫରୁ ଦାଖଲ୍ ପାଲ୍ ଗ୍ରାମ,  
ଅତରା ପଞ୍ଚାୟତ- ନୟପୁର, ବ୍ଲକ- କୋଥପୁର, ଜିଲ୍ଲାର

ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀ/ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର କମିଟି ପାଖରୁ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ଗ୍ରାମର ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି, ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ଓ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ପତ୍ର ଗ୍ରହଣ କରି ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ଏହି ପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍ ପ୍ରଦାନ କଲି ।

କ୍ରମିକ ସଂଖ୍ୟା	ଦାବିର ପ୍ରକାର	ସଂଖ୍ୟା
୧	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	
୨	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	
୩	ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	

ମଙ୍ଗଳ ସମ୍ପ୍ରଦାନଣ ଅଧିକାରୀ/ ଅଧକ୍ଷ, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ କମିଟିଙ୍କ ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷର



ମୋହର  
 ତାରିଖ :  
 ସ୍ଥାନ :

ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍

ମୁଁ ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀ/ଗ୍ରା ସିନ୍ଧୋଇ ଲୁମାଠ ମିଶ୍ର, ପଦବୀ କଲିକତା ଉଚ୍ଚ ସ୍ୱାଧୀନତା, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ କମିଟି,

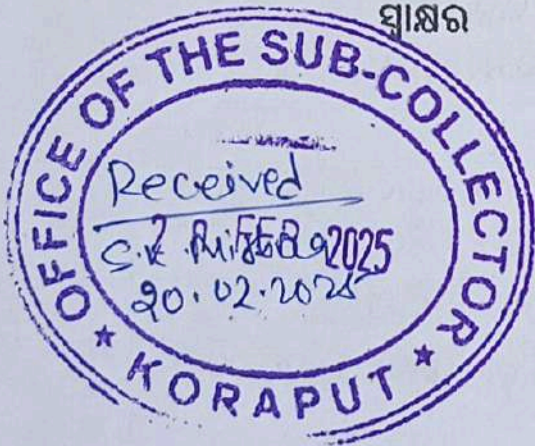
କୋଡୁଗୁଡ଼, ଜିଲ୍ଲା- କୋଡୁଗୁଡ଼ ଙ୍କ ତରଫରୁ କିଡ଼ିଆ ଗ୍ରାମ,

ଜାଡେଲ୍ ପଞ୍ଚାୟତ- ନିମ୍ବୁପୁର, ବ୍ଲକ- କୋଡୁଗୁଡ଼, ଜିଲ୍ଲାର

ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀ/ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର କମିଟି ପାଖରୁ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ଗ୍ରାମର ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି, ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ଓ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ପତ୍ର ଗ୍ରହଣ କରି ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ଏହି ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍ ପ୍ରଦାନ କଲି ।

କ୍ରମିକ ସଂଖ୍ୟା	ଦାବିର ପ୍ରକାର	ସଂଖ୍ୟା
୧	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	୦୧
୨	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	୦୧
୩	ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	—

ମଙ୍ଗଳ ସମ୍ପ୍ରଦାନ ଅଧିକାରୀ/ ଅଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷ, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ କମିଟିଙ୍କ ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷର



ମୋହର

ତାରିଖ :

ସ୍ଥାନ :

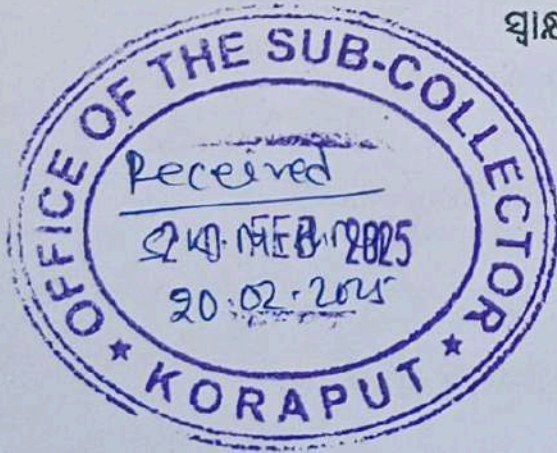
## ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍

ମୁଁ ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ/ଶ୍ରୀ ସିଦ୍ଧାନ୍ତ କୁମାର ମିଶ୍ର, ପଦବୀ ଅନିଲ୍ ପ୍ରାଜ୍ଞ ସିଦ୍ଧାନ୍ତ, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ୱରାୟ କମିଟି,  
କୋହାପୁର, ଜିଲ୍ଲା- କୋହାପୁର କ ଡରଫଟ୍‌ହାଉସ୍, କାହାପୁର, କେନ୍ଦ୍ରୀୟ ଗ୍ରାମ,  
ବାଲୁଆ ପଞ୍ଚାୟତ- ନନ୍ଦପୁର, ବ୍ଲକ୍- କୋହାପୁର, ଜିଲ୍ଲାର  
 ଗ୍ରାମବାସୀ/ ଜଙ୍ଗଲ ଅଧିକାର କମିଟି ପାଖରୁ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ଗ୍ରାମର ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି, ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର  
 ଦାବି ଓ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି ପତ୍ର ଗ୍ରହଣ କରି ସେମାନଙ୍କୁ ଏହି ପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ସ୍ୱୀକାର ରସିଦ୍ ପ୍ରଦାନ କଲି ।

କ୍ରମିକ ସଂଖ୍ୟା	ଦାବିର ପ୍ରକାର	ସଂଖ୍ୟା
୧	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	୦୧
୨	ଗୋଷ୍ଠୀଗତ ସମ୍ବଳ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	୦୧
୩	ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଗତ ଅଧିକାର ଦାବି	—

ମଙ୍ଗଳ ସମ୍ପ୍ରସାରଣ ଅଧିକାରୀ/ ଅଧକ୍ଷ, ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ୱରାୟ କମିଟିଙ୍କ  
 ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷର

ମୋହର  
 ତାରିଖ :  
 ସ୍ଥାନ :



**Acknowledgement Receipt**

I, Smt./Shri **Santosh Kumar Mishra**, designation **Junior Revenue Assistant**, on behalf of the **Sub-Divisional Level Committee, Koraput**, District: **Koraput**, received the claims towards Community Forest Rights, Community Forest Resource Rights and Individual Forest Rights from the Villagers/Forest Rights Committee of **Samili** Village, **Attanda** Gram Panchayat, **Nandapur** Block, **Koraput** District. Upon receiving their claims, I am hereby providing this acknowledgment receipt.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Category of Claim</b>	<b>Total Number</b>
1✓	Community Forest Rights Claim	01
2✓	Community Forest Resource Rights Claim	01
3	Individual Forest Rights Claim	—

**Signature of Welfare Extension Officer/  
Chairperson, Sub-Divisional Level Committee**

**Seal:**  
**Date:**  
**Place:**

[Signature]  
20-02-2025

**Acknowledgement Receipt**

I, Smt./Shri **Santosh Kumar Mishra**, designation **Junior Revenue Assistant**, on behalf of the **Sub-Divisional Level Committee, Koraput**, District: **Koraput**, received the claims towards Community Forest Rights, Community Forest Resource Rights and Individual Forest Rights from the Villagers/Forest Rights Committee of **Banur** Village, **Attanda** Gram Panchayat, **Nandapur** Block, **Koraput** District. Upon receiving their claims, I am hereby providing this acknowledgement receipt.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Category of Claim</b>	<b>Total Number</b>
1✓	Community Forest Rights Claim	01
2✓	Community Forest Resource Rights Claim	01
3	Individual Forest Rights Claim	–

**Signature of Welfare Extension Officer/  
Chairperson, Sub-Divisional Level Committee**

**Seal:  
Date:  
Place:**

[Signature]  
20-02-2025

**Acknowledgement Receipt**

I, Smt./Shri **Santosh Kumar Mishra**, designation **Junior Revenue Assistant**, on behalf of the **Sub-Divisional Level Committee, Koraput**, District: **Koraput**, received the claims towards Community Forest Rights, Community Forest Resource Rights and Individual Forest Rights from the Villagers/Forest Rights Committee of **Kanti Village, Badel Gram Panchayat, Nandapur Block, Koraput District**. Upon receiving their claims, I am hereby providing this acknowledgement receipt.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Category of Claim</b>	<b>Total Number</b>
1✓	Community Forest Rights Claim	01
2✓	Community Forest Resource Rights Claim	01
3	Individual Forest Rights Claim	–

**Signature of Welfare Extension Officer/  
Chairperson, Sub-Divisional Level Committee**

**Seal:  
Date:  
Place:**

[Signature]  
20-02-2025

**Acknowledgement Receipt**

I, Smt./Shri **Santosh Kumar Mishra**, designation **Junior Revenue Assistant**, on behalf of the **Sub-Divisional Level Committee, Koraput**, District: **Koraput**, received the claims towards Community Forest Rights, Community Forest Resource Rights and Individual Forest Rights from the Villagers/Forest Rights Committee of **Barengpali** Village, **Attanda** Gram Panchayat, **Nandapur** Block, **Koraput** District. Upon receiving their claims, I am hereby providing this acknowledgement receipt.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Category of Claim</b>	<b>Total Number</b>
1✓	Community Forest Rights Claim	
2✓	Community Forest Resource Rights Claim	
3	Individual Forest Rights Claim	

**Signature of Welfare Extension Officer/  
Chairperson, Sub-Divisional Level Committee**

**Seal:**

**Date: 20-02-2025**

**Place:**

[Signature]  
20-02-2025

**Acknowledgement Receipt**

I, Smt./Shri **Santosh Kumar Mishra**, designation **Junior Revenue Assistant**, on behalf of the **Sub-Divisional Level Committee, Koraput**, District: **Koraput**, received the claims towards Community Forest Rights, Community Forest Resource Rights and Individual Forest Rights from the Villagers/Forest Rights Committee of **Kitba** Village, **Badel** Gram Panchayat, **Nandapur** Block, **Koraput** District. Upon receiving their claims, I am hereby providing this acknowledgement receipt.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Category of Claim</b>	<b>Total Number</b>
1✓	Community Forest Rights Claim	01
2✓	Community Forest Resource Rights Claim	01
3	Individual Forest Rights Claim	–

**Signature of Welfare Extension Officer/  
Chairperson, Sub-Divisional Level Committee**

**Seal:**

**Date:**

**Place:**

[Signature]  
20-02-2025

*Translated copy***Acknowledgement Receipt**

I, Smt./Shri **Santosh Kumar Mishra**, designation **Junior Revenue Assistant**, on behalf of the **Sub-Divisional Level Committee, Koraput**, District: Koraput, received the claims towards Community Forest Rights, Community Forest Resource Rights and Individual Forest Rights from the Villagers/Forest Rights Committee of **Kadaput, Kantasaru, Chandanbadi** Villages, **Balda** Gram Panchayat, **Nandapur** Block, **Koraput** District. Upon receiving their claims, I am hereby providing this acknowledgement receipt.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Category of Claim</b>	<b>Total Number</b>
1✓	Community Forest Rights Claim	01
2✓	Community Forest Resource Rights Claim	01
3	Individual Forest Rights Claim	—

**Signature of Welfare Extension Officer/  
Chairperson, Sub-Divisional Level Committee**

**Seal:**  
**Date:**  
**Place:**

[Signature]  
20-02-2025

**OFFICE OF THE PIO, SUB-COLLECTOR OFFICE, KORAPUT**No. 2969/XX-01/2026Date: 30/05/2026

To

Sri Ajaya Muduli  
S/o-Dhana Muduli, At-Tainter, Nandapur  
Dist.-Koraput, Pin-764041.

Sub: -

Reply on your online RTI application dated.20.02.2026.

Sir,

With reference to your online RTI application cited above, I am forwarding herewith information sought by you to this office on your online RTI application.20.02.2026, as per information availability in this office, details information is given below:-

1. Provide the exact dates on which SDLC, Koraput was constituted and/or reconstituted under the Forest Rights Act,2006 from time to time till 30.01.2026  
----- **copy enclosed.**
2. Provide true copy of all notifications, circulars, office memorandums and letters issued by the O/o- the Sub Collector, Koraput with regards to during the period from 01.01.2015 to 30.01.2026 ----- **copy enclosed.**
3. Provide the exact dates on which the meetings of SDLC, Koraput were held from the date of its constitution under the Forest Rights Act,2006 till 30.01.2026 -----**copy enclosed.**
4. Provide true copy of proceedings and minutes of all the meetings of SDLC, Koraput, as held from time to time till 30.01.2026 ---- **copy enclosed.**
5. Provide true copy of the Gram Sabha resolution dated.09.10.2025 of Balda village (under Balda Gram Panchayat, Nandapur block) as received by the SDLC, Koraput, during the period from 09-10-2025 to 30-01-2026 ----- **The said information is not available in this office.**
6. Provide true copy of the Gram Sabha resolution dated.09-10-2025 of Banur Village (under Attanda Gram Panchayat, Nandapur Block) as received by the SDLC, Koraput, during the period from 09-10-2025 to 30-01-2026 ---- **The Said information is not available in this office.**

This is for your information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Encl.:- 210 nos. pages

*[Signature]*  
Public Information Officer,  
O/o-Sub-Collector, Koraput  
O/o.the Sub-Collector  
Koraput

*[Signature]*  
20/05/26



Helpline number:  
**18002666868**  
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
(Except Sunday & Gazetted Holidays)  
IVRS facility is available 24/7, 365 days.



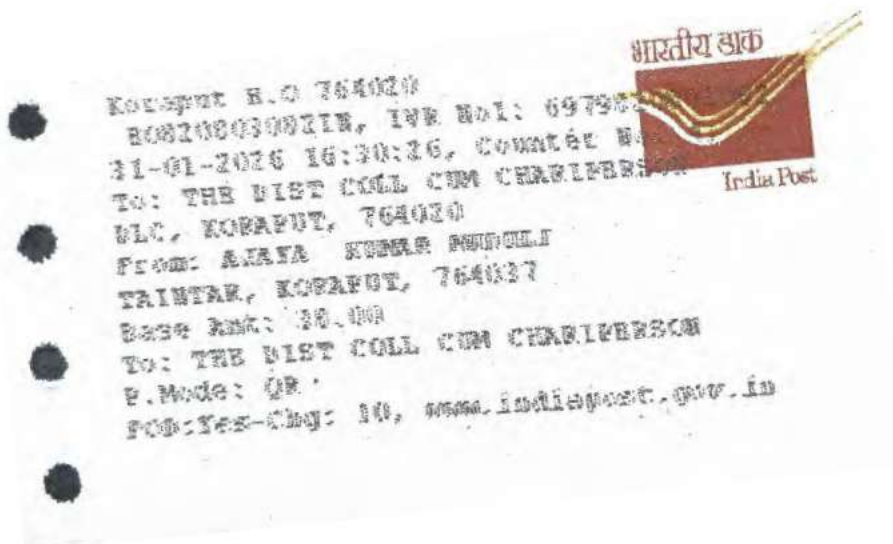
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## Consignment/MO Tracking Report

Consignment/MO Number: EO820803082IN

Event	Date	Time	Office
Item Received	02-02-2026	09:49:14	Koraput H.O
Item Invoiced	02-02-2026	10:59:53	Koraput H.O
Item Delivered	02-02-2026	16:44:20	Koraput H.O

Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 12:50:04





Helpline number:  
**18002666868**  
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IVRS facility is available 24/7, 365 days.



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## Consignment/MO Tracking Report

Consignment/MO Number: EO820803065IN

Event	Date	Time	Office
Item Received	02-02-2026	09:49:14	Koraput H.O
Item Invoiced	02-02-2026	10:59:53	Koraput H.O
Item Delivered	02-02-2026	16:44:20	Koraput H.O

Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 13:40:08





Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 13:30:38

## Consignment/MO Tracking Report

Consignment/MO Number: EO820803048IN

Event	Date	Time	Office
Item Bagged	31-01-2026	17:33:31	Koraput H.O
Item Dispatched	31-01-2026	17:45:17	Koraput H.O
Item Received	01-02-2026	11:27:39	Berhampur ICH
Item Bagged	01-02-2026	16:44:01	Berhampur ICH
Item Dispatched	01-02-2026	16:55:55	Berhampur ICH
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	01:46:47	Berhampur RMS TMO
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	06:42:39	Bhubaneswar RMS TMO
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	09:24:01	Bhubaneswar NSH
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	13:04:34	Bhubaneswar Air Port TMO
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	23:14:12	Delhi AP TMO
Item Received	04-02-2026	18:57:34	New Delhi NSH
Item Bagged	04-02-2026	22:54:26	New Delhi NSH
Item Dispatched	05-02-2026	05:41:21	New Delhi NSH
Item Received	05-02-2026	08:13:36	New Delhi HO
Item Invoiced to Bulk Addressee	05-02-2026	10:50:20	New Delhi HO
Item Delivered to tribal	05-02-2026	16:19:53	New Delhi HO

Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 13:30:38





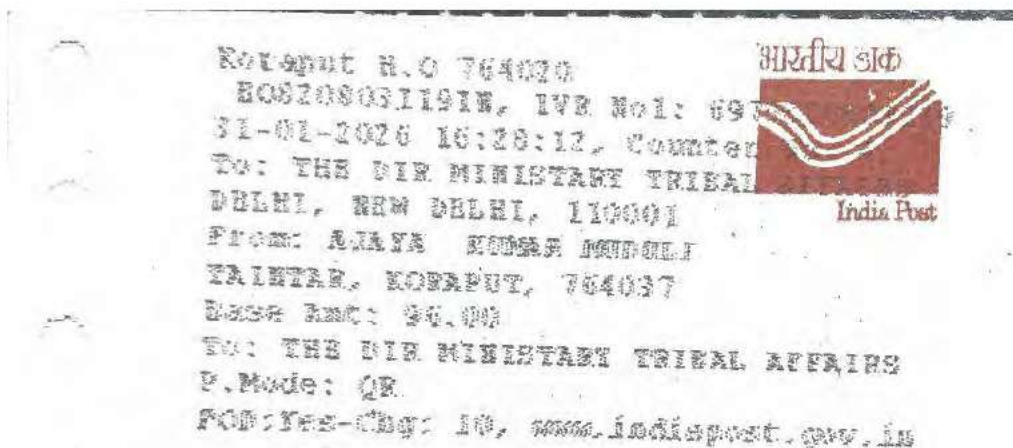
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## Consignment/MO Tracking Report

Consignment/MO Number: EO820803119IN

Event	Date	Time	Office
Item Bagged	31-01-2026	17:33:31	Koraput H.O
Item Dispatched	31-01-2026	17:45:17	Koraput H.O
Item Received	01-02-2026	11:27:39	Berhampur ICH
Item Bagged	01-02-2026	16:44:01	Berhampur ICH
Item Dispatched	01-02-2026	16:55:55	Berhampur ICH
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	01:46:47	Berhampur RMS TMO
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	06:42:39	Bhubaneswar RMS TMO
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	09:24:01	Bhubaneswar NSH
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	13:04:34	Bhubaneswar Air Port TMO
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	23:14:12	Delhi AP TMO
Item Received	04-02-2026	18:57:34	New Delhi NSH
Item Bagged	04-02-2026	22:54:26	New Delhi NSH
Item Dispatched	05-02-2026	05:41:21	New Delhi NSH
Item Received	05-02-2026	08:13:36	New Delhi HO
Item Invoiced to Bulk Addressee	05-02-2026	10:50:20	New Delhi HO
Item Delivered to tribal	05-02-2026	16:19:53	New Delhi HO

Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 13:06:00





Helpline number:  
**18002666868**  
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
(Except Sunday & Gazetted Holidays)  
IVRS facility is available 24/7, 365 days.



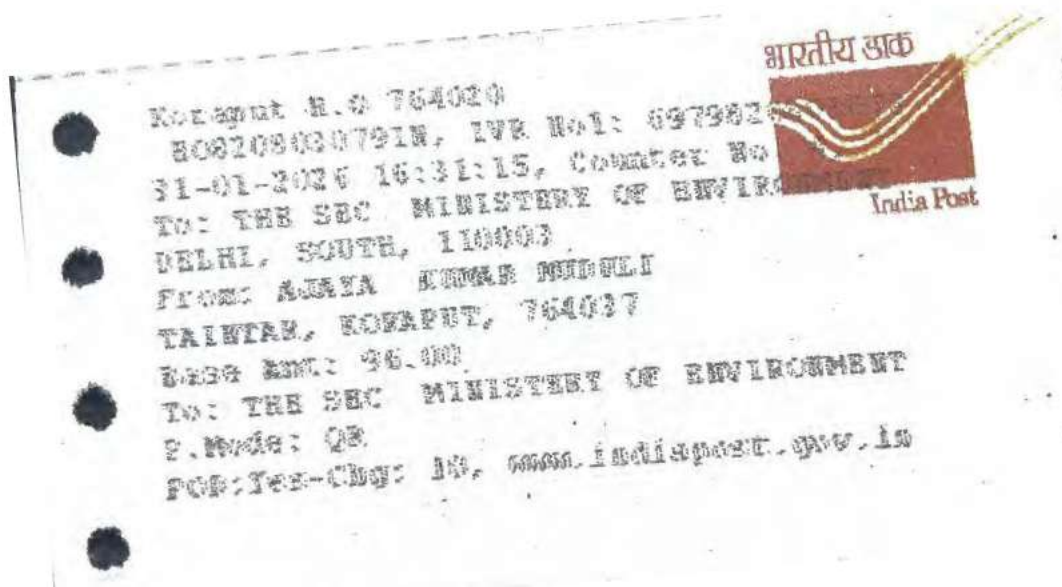
Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 13:42:40

## Consignment/MO Tracking Report

Consignment/MO Number: EO820803079IN

Event	Date	Time	Office
Item Bagged	31-01-2026	17:33:31	Koraput H.O
Item Dispatched	31-01-2026	17:45:17	Koraput H.O
Item Received	01-02-2026	11:27:39	Berhampur ICH
Item Bagged	01-02-2026	16:44:01	Berhampur ICH
Item Dispatched	01-02-2026	16:55:55	Berhampur ICH
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	01:46:47	Berhampur RMS TMO
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	06:42:39	Bhubaneswar RMS TMO
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	09:24:01	Bhubaneswar NSH
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	13:04:34	Bhubaneswar Air Port TMO
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	23:14:12	Delhi AP TMO
Item Received	04-02-2026	18:57:34	New Delhi NSH
Item Bagged	04-02-2026	23:19:23	New Delhi NSH
Item Dispatched	05-02-2026	06:05:15	New Delhi NSH
Item Received	05-02-2026	07:58:07	Lodi Road HO
Item Invoiced to Bulk Addressee	05-02-2026	09:34:43	Lodi Road HO
Item Delivered to cr section of	05-02-2026	15:23:48	Lodi Road HO

Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 13:42:40





Helpline number:  
**18002666868**  
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
(Except Sunday & Gazetted Holidays)  
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## Consignment/MO Tracking Report

Consignment/MO Number: EO820803096IN

Event	Date	Time	Office
Item Bagged	31-01-2026	17:33:31	Koraput H.O
Item Dispatched	31-01-2026	17:45:17	Koraput H.O
Item Received	01-02-2026	11:27:39	Berhampur ICH
Item Bagged	01-02-2026	16:21:50	Berhampur ICH
Item Dispatched	01-02-2026	16:55:55	Berhampur ICH
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	01:46:47	Berhampur RMS TMO
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	06:42:39	Bhubaneswar RMS TMO
Item Received	02-02-2026	15:45:42	Bhubaneswar NSH
Item Bagged	02-02-2026	20:39:47	Bhubaneswar NSH
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	21:14:15	Bhubaneswar NSH
Item Dispatched	03-02-2026	04:08:19	Bhubaneswar NSH
Item Received	03-02-2026	09:05:28	IDC BHUBANESWAR GPO
Item Invoiced	03-02-2026	12:31:14	IDC BHUBANESWAR GPO
Item Delivered	03-02-2026	18:20:35	IDC BHUBANESWAR GPO

Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 13:37:36





Helpline number:  
**18002666868**  
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
(Except Sunday & Gazetted Holidays)  
IVRS facility is available 24/7, 365 days.



Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 13:37:36

## Consignment/MO Tracking Report

Consignment/MO Number: EO820803096IN

Event	Date	Time	Office
Item Bagged	31-01-2026	17:33:31	Koraput H.O
Item Dispatched	31-01-2026	17:45:17	Koraput H.O
Item Received	01-02-2026	11:27:39	Berhampur ICH
Item Bagged	01-02-2026	16:21:50	Berhampur ICH
Item Dispatched	01-02-2026	16:55:55	Berhampur ICH
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	01:46:47	Berhampur RMS TMO
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	06:42:39	Bhubaneswar RMS TMO
Item Received	02-02-2026	15:45:42	Bhubaneswar NSH
Item Bagged	02-02-2026	20:39:47	Bhubaneswar NSH
Item Dispatched	02-02-2026	21:14:15	Bhubaneswar NSH
Item Dispatched	03-02-2026	04:08:19	Bhubaneswar NSH
Item Received	03-02-2026	09:05:28	IDC BHUBANESWAR GPO
Item Invoiced	03-02-2026	12:31:14	IDC BHUBANESWAR GPO
Item Delivered	03-02-2026	18:20:35	IDC BHUBANESWAR GPO

Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 13:37:36





Helpline number:  
**18002666868**  
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
(Except Sunday & Gazetted Holidays)  
IVRS facility is available 24/7, 365 days.



Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 12:50:53

## Consignment/MO Tracking Report

Consignment/MO Number: EO820803105IN

Event	Date	Time	Office
Item Received	02-02-2026	09:49:14	Koraput H.O
Item Invoiced	02-02-2026	10:59:53	Koraput H.O
Item Delivered	02-02-2026	16:44:20	Koraput H.O

Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 12:50:53

Koraput H.O 764020  
EO820803105IN, IVR No: 697  
31-01-2026 16:19:03, Counter  
To: THE PA ITDA  
KORAPUT, KORAPUT, 764020  
From: AJAYA KUMAR MUNDLE  
TRINTAP, KORAPUT, 764027  
Base Amt: 28.000  
To: THE PA ITDA  
P.Mode: QR  
FWS:Yes-City: 10, [www.indiapost.gov.in](http://www.indiapost.gov.in)





Helpline number:  
**18002666868**  
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
(Except Sunday & Gazetted Holidays)  
IVRS facility is available 24/7, 365 days.



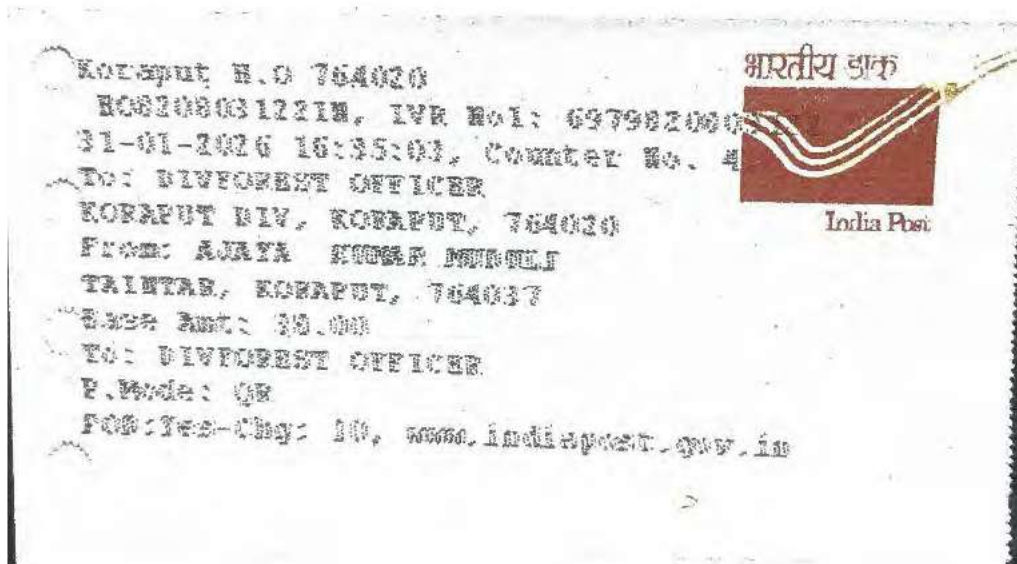
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## Consignment/MO Tracking Report

Consignment/MO Number: EO820803122IN

Event	Date	Time	Office
Item Received	02-02-2026	09:49:14	Koraput H.O
Item Invoiced	02-02-2026	10:32:58	Koraput H.O
Item Delivered	02-02-2026	16:43:48	Koraput H.O

Generated via Dak Sewa App 1.0.6 on: 08-05-2026 13:27:18





Nageswari Mali Dangar Maha Gramasabha, Balda &lt;nageswari.njss11@gmail.com&gt;

**[MOST URGENT] Request to adhere to the law and reject any pending application from M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd for issuance of Form II certificate under Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 r/w the Forest Conservation Act 1980 for diversion of forest lands in Balda @Ballada village, Nandapur tehsil, Koraput district, Odisha (157.212 Ha or any other extent in Nagasari reserve forest)**

1 message

Nageswari Mali Dangar Maha Gramasabha, Balda &lt;nageswari.njss11@gmail.com&gt;

Tue, Feb 3, 2026 at 11:33 AM

To: dm-koraput@nic.in, subcollector koraput <subcollector.kpt@gmail.com>, subcol.kora@nic.in, fsec.or@od.gov.in, secy-tribal@nic.in, fsec.or@nic.in, fra2006.tribal@gmail.com, moefcc@gov.in, dfo.koraput@odisha.gov.in, stscdev@gmail.com, paitdakpt@nic.in

Sir/Madam,

We, the members of the Gram Sabhas of Balda and Banur villages under Nandapur block in Koraput district, Odisha, write to draw your urgent notice that M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd is attempting to forcefully and illegally obtain statutory permissions for mining an area of 157.212 Ha of forest lands in Balda hills, Nandapur tehsil, Koraput district, Odisha. In this regard, we submit herewith our concerns for your urgent action.

We look forward to your response at the earliest.

Please find attached our letter, the hard copy of which has already been sent to you via speed post.

Sincerely,

Members of the Gram Sabhas of Balda and Banur villages  
Balda hills, Nandapur block, Koraput

**[MOST URGENT] Letter from Balda and Banur Gram Sabhas\_Koraput\_Odisha.pdf**

14534K

**MOST URGENT**  
Through Speed Post and Email

DATE: 31.01.2026

**From,**

1. Members of the Gram Sabha, Balda village, Balda Gram Panchayat  
Nandapur Block, Koraput, Odisha
2. Members of the Gram Sabha, Banur village, Attanda Gram Panchayat  
Nandapur Block, Koraput, Odisha

**To,**

The District Collector-cum-Chairperson, DLC (FRA)  
Koraput District, Odisha

The Sub-Collector-cum-Chairperson, SDLC (FRA)  
Koraput Sub-Division, Koraput, Odisha

**Copy to:**

The Secretary, MoEF&CC, Govt. of India  
The Secretary, MoTA, Govt. of India  
The Director, MoTA (FRA Division), Govt. of India  
The Secretary, ST & SC Development, M & BCW Department, Govt. of Odisha  
The Secretary, FE&CC Department, Govt. of Odisha  
The PA, ITDA, Koraput-cum-Member Secretary, DLC (FRA), Koraput  
The DFO, Koraput Division-cum-Member, DLC(FRA), Koraput

**Sub:** Request to adhere to the law and reject any pending application from M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd for issuance of Form II certificate under Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 r/w the Forest Conservation Act 1980 for diversion of forest lands in Balda @Ballada village, Nandapur tehsil, Koraput district, Odisha (157.212 Ha or any other extent in Nagasari reserve forest)

Madam/sir,

1. We are permanent residents of Balda and Banur villages, under Balda Gram Panchayat and Attanda Gram Panchayat respectively. We belong to Parenga Paraja, Jhodia Paraja and Kondh scheduled tribes and non-tribal traditional forest dwelling communities like Mali, Rana, Gouda and Domb. We are entitled to forest rights and our rights are legally protected under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

2. M/s Kalinga Alumina limited is attempting to obtain permissions for mining an area of 157.212 Ha of forest lands in Balda @Ballada village, Nandapur tehsil, Koraput district, Odisha. The hill sought to be mined, within Nagasari reserve forest, locally called the Nageswari Mali Dongar is sacred to our people belonging to the ST and OTFD communities living in 82 villages around the foothills and forests surrounding Ballada hills. We are also dependent on the hills and the reserve forest for our forest-dependent livelihoods. The hill is also the abode of our scared deities and holds immense cultural and religious significance to us.
3. We are shocked to learn that M/s Kalinga Alumina limited has claimed that "*Gram Sabha was conducted on 9<sup>th</sup> Oct 2025 and issuance of FRA certificate is under progress.*", in an undertaking filed as a part of documents filed before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in Appeal No. 9 of 2025 (EZ). Copy of the undertaking is annexed along with this letter for your ready reference, see Annexure A1.
4. We are writing to inform you categorically that
  - a. we, the Tribals and OTFDs of Balda and Banur villages who have to give our free prior informed consent to any diversion of the subject forest lands, **HAVE NOT CONSENTED TO THE DIVERSION OF FOREST LANDS FOR M/s KALINGA ALUMINA Ltd.**
  - b. **NO GRAM SABHA or PALLI SABHA OF THE AFFECTED TRIBALS WAS HELD ON 09.10.2025 AS CLAIMED BY M/s KALINGA ALUMINA Ltd.**
  - c. **The forest rights claim of Banur village under FRA is PENDING and our rights have not been determined and settled till date. Our CFR and CFRR claims include the hills and forests sought to be diverted to M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd for mining.**
  - d. **The process of identification and determination of forest rights in Balda village HAS NOT BEEN INITIATED till date.**
5. **We reiterate that we have serious objections to the forceful diversion of our ancestral forest lands for the proposed mining operations.**
6. As you are aware, as per the **order of the MoEF&CC dated 03.08.2009**, the following evidence is mandatory. We wish to point out

the actual status with regard to the present attempt to forcefully divert our forest lands.

<p><b>a.</b> A letter from the State Government certifying that the complete process for identification and settlement of rights under the FRA has been carried out for the entire forest area proposed for diversion, with a record of all consultations and meetings held.</p>	<p>Our forest rights claims under the FRA are pending and have not been settled till date. While the Community Forest Rights (CFR) and Community Forest Resource Rights (CFRR) claims of Banur village were submitted to the SDLC, Koraput on 20.02.2025, the process of identification of forest rights in Balda village has not been initiated till date.</p>
<p><b>b.</b> A letter from the State Government certifying that proposals for such diversion (with full details of the Project and its implications, in vernacular / local languages) have been placed before each concerned Gram Sabha of forest-dwellers, who are eligible under the FRA</p>	<p>The proposal for diversion of 157.212 Ha of forest lands was NOT placed before the members of our Gram Sabhas, who are eligible for forest rights under the FRA.</p> <p>The alleged Gram Sabhas held on 09.10.2025 was not the Gram Sabhas of the affected tribals and OTFDs of our villages. Even the Sarpanch of Balda Gram Panchayat and Attanda Gram Panchayat have issued official letters stating that the Gram Sabhas dated 09.10.2025 were illegal. This aspect is explained in detail below.</p>
<p><b>c.</b> A letter from each of the concerned Gram Sabhas stating that all formalities / processes under the FRA have been carried out, and that they have given their consent to the proposed diversion and compensatory and ameliorative measures if any, having understood</p>	<p>No such letter has been issued by our Gram Sabha.</p> <p>We reiterate that:</p> <p>(a). The process of identification, determination and recognition of our forest rights under the FRA is pending.</p> <p>(b). We have NOT given any consent to the subject diversion of forest lands.</p> <p>(c). The proposal for diversion of forest lands for M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd was NOT placed before our Gram Sabhas.</p>

the purposes and details of proposed diversion.	
<p>d. A letter from the State Government certifying that discussions and decisions on such proposals had taken place only when there was a quorum of minimum 50% of members of the Gram Sabha present;</p>	<p>We State and reiterate that the proposal for diversion of 157.212 Ha of forest lands in Nagasari reserve forest, Balda @Ballada village, Koraput district was not placed before our Gram Sabhas. Therefore, it is obvious that no discussion on the same was held with necessary quorum.</p> <p>The alleged Gram Sabha on 09.10.2025 was not a Gram Sabha of the residents of our villages and photographs taken of the meeting are enclosed with this letter, showing the presence of Government officers and some men who do not even belong to our village.</p> <p>Even if this meeting is ASSUMED to be valid (which it is not, it is illegal and irrelevant), the total tribal and OTFD population in our villages is around 1200 and 50% quorum of the Gram Sabha is 600 and the attendance of 1/3<sup>rd</sup> women population is mandatory the FRA. This alleged meeting with a handful of men is irrelevant and cannot be the basis for claiming that consent of tribals and OTFDs has been obtained under law.</p>
<p>e. Obtaining the written consent or rejection of the Gram Sabha to the proposal.</p>	<p>We have not consented to the proposal and we wish to inform you in no uncertain terms that we have NOT CONSENTED to the diversion of our forest lands and that any attempt to claim that we have consented is false and ought to be rejected.</p>

7. We have thus made it absolutely clear to you that we, the affected tribals and OTFDs who have legal rights under FRA over the forests sought to be diverted for mining have NOT CONSENTED to the diversion of our forest lands.
8. Now let us inform you of the facts surrounding the illegal and fake Gram Sabha claimed to have been conducted on 09.10.2025.

- On 08.10.2025 at about 3 pm, a suspicious notice dated 23.09.2025 calling for a meeting of the Gram Sabha of Balda village was affixed on the notice board of the Balda Gram Panchayat office bearing the signature and seal of the Sarpanch stating that a Gram Sabha meeting is scheduled to be held on 09.10.2025 at 10 AM for the "diversion of forest lands for M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited". Copy of the said notice is annexed herewith and marked as Annexure 2.
- Similarly, on 08.10.2025 at about 4 pm, a suspicious notice dated 23.09.2025 calling for a meeting of the Gram Sabha of Banur village was affixed on the notice board of the Attanda Gram Panchayat office bearing the signature and seal of the Sarpanch stating that a Gram Sabha meeting is scheduled to be held on 09.10.2025 at 10 AM for the "diversion of forest lands for M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited". Copy of the said notice is annexed herewith and marked as Annexure 3.
- Upon coming to know that a Gram Sabha meeting was proposed to be conducted with less than 24hour notice and that it concerned the proposal for diversion of forest lands for M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd, several of our Gram Sabha members gave letters and representations to the Sarpanch of Balda Gram panchayat and Sarpanch of Attanda Gram Panchayat. We appealed both the Sarpanch to not go ahead with this meeting with less than 24 hours' notice. Copies of our letters and representations submitted are annexed herewith and marked as Annexure 4.
- However, we were given to understand on the morning of 09.10.2025 that the meeting was not going to be cancelled and the same was proposed to be conducted despite our written objections.
- At around 9.45 am on 09.10.2025, when some of us started gathering at the Gram Panchayat office to register our objection to the illegal meeting being held as a Gram Sabha meeting, we were shocked and surprised to note that a meeting was already underway with persons who were not even from our village and a few officials. Police personnel were also present. Some photographs of the illegal meeting are annexed herewith and marked as Annexure 5.
- Several of us who tried to enter the venue were prevented from doing so and by 10.30 am, we were informed that the "Gram Sabha meetings" had concluded.

- Thereafter, we met the Sarpanch and objected to the illegal proceedings which were now sought to be passed off as a Gram Sabha meeting.
  - On 10.10.2025, the Sarpanch of Balda Gram Panchayat and the Sarpanch of Attanda Gram Panchayat issued official letters clearly stating and declaring that the Gram Sabha meeting held on 09.10.2025 were invalid. Copies of the said official letters are annexed herewith and marked as Annexure 6.
  - In the days that followed, we also met with the Block Chairman of the Nandapur Panchayat Samiti, who found that *"the concerns raised by both Balda and Attanda Gram panchayats to be genuine and justified"*, and, vide her order No: 162/2025 dated 14.10.2025 and order No: 163/2025 dated 14.10.2025, has duly informed about the aforesaid illegalities to the District Collector, Koraput and the Sub Collector, Koraput. Copy of this order is annexed herewith and marked as Annexure 7.
9. We were hopeful that our objections regarding the illegal/fake Gram Sabha will be properly considered and resolutions/if any passed in the fake/illegal gram sabha will be rejected and invalidated.
10. However, we are shocked to learn that M/s Kalinga Alumina limited, has claimed in its affidavit dated 05.01.2026 filed in the Hon'ble NGT that *"the requisite gram sabha proceedings were conducted on 09.10.2025 and the issuance of FRA certificate is currently under progress but is at its last stage"*.
11. As stated earlier, our Gram Sabhas have initiated the processes of determination of forest rights under FRA way back in 2024 and claims have been pending for consideration with the SDLC since January, 2025.
12. Therefore, the statement of M/s Kalinga Alumina limited that *"issuance of FRA certificate is currently under progress"* is a cause for concern since no such certificate can be issued while our claims are still pending consideration and without our free prior informed consent.
13. We wish to remind you that the requirements set out under the order of MoEF&CC dated 03.08.2009 will be rendered futile and meaningless if such a certificate is issued on the basis of an illegal/fake Gram Sabha that does not even fulfill the requirements under law.

14. Therefore, it is clear that we have not consented to the diversion of forest lands for M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited and that any attempt to state otherwise, based on the so called illegal and invalid Gram Sabha held on 09.10.2025 is contrary to the law and will defeat all our rights under law and affect our lives and livelihoods.

15. We therefore request you to reject any application pending for the issuance of form II certificate / any other certificate stating that our rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 have been determined and settled or that we have consented for the diversion of 157.212 Ha in the Nagasari reserve forest, Ballada Village, Koraput District.

16. We further request you take appropriate action against those responsible for committing such fraudulence.

Enclosed: As above.

Sincerely,

Members of the Gram Sabhas of Balda and Banur villages  
(Balda Gram Panchayat and Attanda Gram Panchayat)

1) (Members of the Gram Sabhas of Balda from 1 to 200, and from 201 to 238 are from Banur village)  
Munna Jannam  
Ward Member  
Ward no - 4  
Balda G.P

2) Rabindra fange

3) Parshuram sonam

4) Sada randa khare

5) Ramita Badanayak

6) Somanath Khara

7) ବଳରାମ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରାକ

8) ଅନନ୍ତ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର

9) Azad... (14) Naba Guntha  
10) Rajendra Khara (15) ଅକ୍ଷୟ କୁମାର













11) ... (16) Sauru Tangut




12) ... (17) Sabit Hantab

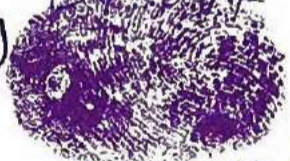
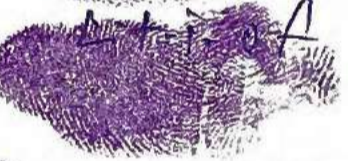

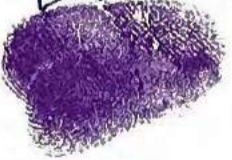

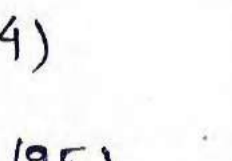


13) Gouri Golaru

(18) L.T. Jof  
Hindu hantab  
(19) L.T. Jof  
Mati Khana

- 20) Gunumati hant al
- 21) pramida khama.
- 22) एण्डिद्वे
- 23) Monalisha lokei
- 24) Mittula Golaji
- 25) Chandra khama
- 26) Raita hant al
- 27) manglikhillo
- 28) Sitama khama.
- 29) Bubu dei guntha.
- 30) Jagesh hant al
- 31) Kulna hant al
- 32) कुलना हान्तल
- 33) Damni khama.
- 34) Kamala pangsi
- 35) Subarna khama.
- 36) सुवर्णा खामा

- (37)  Lit. i. of  
Gunumati hant al
- (38)  Lit. i. of  
pramida khama.
- (39)  Lit. i. of  
Kuni khama
- (40)  Lit. i. of  
Chandra khama.
- (41)  Lit. i. of  
Raita hant al
- (42)  Lit. i. of  
manglikhillo
- (43)  Lit. i. of  
Sitama khama.
- (44)  Lit. i. of  
Bubu dei guntha.
- (45)  Lit. i. of  
Kulna hant al
- (46)  Lit. i. of  
Damni khama.
- (47)  Lit. i. of  
Kamala pangsi
- (48)  Lit. i. of  
Subarna khama

- (49) Dhanraj Jaga Bhoi
- (50) Budaklineo
- (51) ଦମ୍ଭସ୍ତ୍ରୀସୁତ୍ରପଦ୍ମ
- (52) ମାଧବ କୌଣ୍ଡିନୀ
- (53) ବିଷ୍ଣୁନାଥ ବ୍ରହ୍ମକା
- (54) ରାମଚନ୍ଦ୍ରକୃଷ୍ଣନାୟକ
- (55) ଦୁର୍ଗାମାତା ଚାମୁଣ୍ଡା
- (56) ଶିବ ପାର୍ବତୀ
- (57) Rama a pangri
- (58) Raghunath Khara
- (59) Subash. Ch. pangri
- (60) ~~RAMA~~ SNETA
- (61) Rajen Sany
- (62) Rajesh setty
- (63) Jusen Kumed;
- (64) Bhagabun Sany
- (65) ~~SPRIBOS MANO...~~
- (66) ~~ସନାତନ...~~
- (67) ସନାତନ
- (68) ଶ୍ରୀ ସୁଭାଷ ସୁକଳ
- (69) ମନୁ କୌଣ୍ଡିନୀ
- (70) ମାନବ ପ୍ରଧାନ
- (71)  Parbati Patra
- (72)  L. 1st Buharabisa
- (73)  ହାମାଚନ୍ଦ୍ରକୃଷ୍ଣନାୟକ


- (74) Damodaracharya Hantao
- (75) ଦାମୋଦର
- (76) ଜାନକୀ କୃଷ୍ଣା
- (77) Purna Purna
- (78) ବୃକ୍ଷଶିଳା
- (79) ଦାମୋଦର କୌଣ୍ଡିନୀ
- (80) ହାମାଚନ୍ଦ୍ରକୃଷ୍ଣନାୟକ
- (81) Askini
- (82) Nanda Sese
- (83) Ramchandra Hantao
- (84) ଶ୍ରୀକୃଷ୍ଣ ସୁକଳ
- (85) Basala Janam
- (86) Ulas Pujan
- (87)  Chandra badanayak
- (88)  Kamalabisa
- (89) ସୁଭାଷ କୃଷ୍ଣନାୟକ
- (90)  L. 1st of palma badanayak
- (91)  B. 1st of Buharabisa
- (92)  ଶ୍ରୀକୃଷ୍ଣନାୟକ
- (93)  L. 1st of Buharabisa
- (94)  G. 1st of Li Targu
- (95)  Mukta badanayak

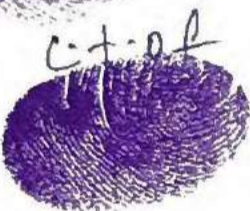
(96) ନିମିଷ୍ୟୁଲ

(97) ଚକ୍ରମାୟା

(98) କରାକାୟା

(99) K. K. K. K. K.

(100)  L. i. o. f. mati golari

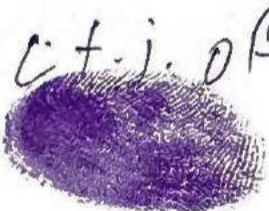
(101)  L. i. o. f. bimka golari

(102) ଶ୍ରୀ ଶ୍ରୀ

(103) Sekondi Tamarsi

(104)  L. i. o. f. Balba Pomei

(105) Dhana Jata Tuang

(106)  L. i. o. f. Pami Lakma

(107) Lachana Khara

(108)  L. i. o. f. Mami Khama

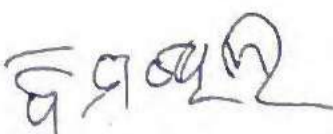
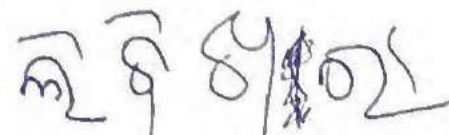
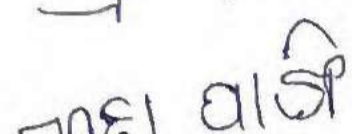
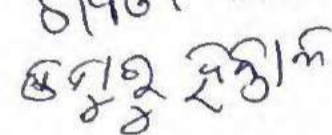
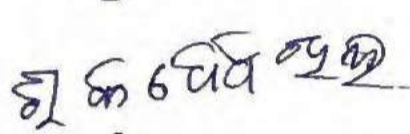
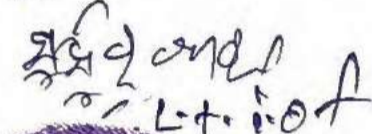











(109)  L. i. o. f. Gurusami P. adhani

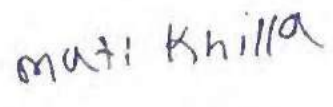








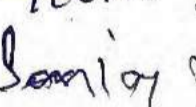
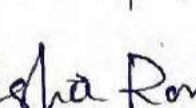



(110) basmani Kantal

(111) ନିମିଷ୍ୟୁଲ

(112) Datt K. K. K.

(113) SR. KHADARVALI

- (114)  ଦମୟନ୍ତୀ
- (115)  ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମି କ୍ଷିମା
- (116)  ଟାପା ପାଞ୍ଜି
- (117)  ଡାକ୍ତରୀ ହରିମାଳି
- (118)  ଶ୍ରୀ କାମେଶ୍ଵରୀ
- (119)  ସୁମିତ୍ରା ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର
- (120)  ବିଶ୍ଵାକ୍ଷରୀ
- (121)  Danu khimbo
- (122)  ଦିଶୁ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର
- (123)  Nabin Rabbey
- (124)  Geeta Janam
- (125)  Shikari Janam
- (126)  Sitama Janam
- (127)  Purnima Janam
- (128)  Pratimakhona
- (129)  Damri Khillo
- (130)  Sopai khillo

- (131)  mati khilla
- (132)  ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମି କ୍ଷିମା
- (133)  Laxmi khimo
- (134)  Jambu khimo
- (135)  Raju Khana
- (136)  pulmekhona
- (137)  pambati handal
- (138)  Rita Handal
- (139)  Tulasi Handal
- (140)  BhumiKa Khana
- (141)  Sumitaa pangar
- (142)  Raitapongar
- (143)  Geeta Silpadia
- (144)  Soniya Kural Gopaly
- (145)  Asha Rani Gollani
- (146)  ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ଗୋଲାନୀ
- (147)  Sasada das
- (148)  Gangai Golosi
- (149)  ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ଗୋଲାନୀ
- (150)  ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ଗୋଲାନୀ

(151) L.T. of



Siba Prasad Das

(152)

ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ମିନୀମାତଲ

(153)

Bankarshen Dalai

(154)

Mamina Dalai

(155)

ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ଦାଲି

(156)

RSPANJALLI Mahapatra

(157)

Raja Jangam

(158)

କାମଳା କୁମାରୀ

(159)

Kalpana Khara

(160)

Anna Purna Dalai

(161)

Sukanta Panzi

(162)

କାବିତା ହାମ୍ବଲ

(163)

Kabita Hambal

(164)

ନିଳା ପ୍ରଧାନ

(165)

ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ କାମଳା

(166)

Jashonida Pattnaik

(167)

SK GOUSIA

(168)

ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ବାଦନା

(169)

Mukta Baderiyak

(170)

Padma Banu BURJE

(171)

L.T. of



Subarna Jaiswal

(172)

(173)

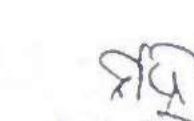

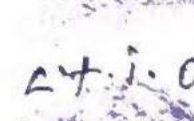
















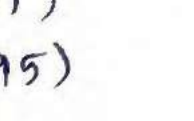


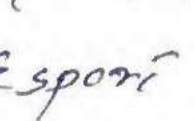



ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ବାଦନା  
ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ବାଦନା

(174)

L.T. of



Dalima Jamam

- (175)  ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ସୁମିତ୍ରା ଦେବୀ
- (176)  Lit. i. of Milumajanam
- (177)  Lit. i. of Dhanai hantol
- (178)  Lit. i. of ~~Sam~~ Santilafa hantol
- (179)  ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ସୁମିତ୍ରା ଦେବୀ
- (180)  ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ସୁମିତ୍ରା ଦେବୀ
- (181)  Kameswar KATHU
- (182)  ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ସୁମିତ୍ରା ଦେବୀ
- (183)  Lit. i. of S. G. Bibi
- (184)  Lit. i. of Bikram hantol
- (185)  URUMESH
- (186)  ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ସୁମିତ୍ରା ଦେବୀ
- (187)  ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ସୁମିତ୍ରା ଦେବୀ
- (188)  Gummata KM. BERUKU
- (189)  Sibaprasad Murthy
- (190)  Shana Gobinda Sethi
- (191)  Resai N. NahaK
- (192)  ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ସୁମିତ୍ରା ଦେବୀ
- (193)  Sajid kumbhar
- (194)  RAMESH
- (195)  Kali charan Roth
- (196)  Anket Rao Krishna
- (197)  Lit. i. of Espori Reedy.
- (198)  Lit. i. of Sumi das
- (199)  Lit. i. of Lalitajanam
- (200)  Lit. i. of padma hantol

(Members of the Gram Sabha of Banur Village)

- (201) Tissa Hanta
- (202) Gopi Murali
- (203) Senthur Murali
- (204) ବିଶ୍ୱାସୀ ପୁଣ୍ଡି
- (205) Sanu Panji
- (206) Laxman Panji
- (207) ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ
- (208) ବିଶ୍ୱାସୀ ପୁଣ୍ଡି
- (209) Jayaram Singh
- (210) ବିଶ୍ୱାସୀ ପୁଣ୍ଡି
- (211) ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ସୁଶୀଳା
- (212) ଅନୁରାଗ ମହା
- (213) L.T. ବିଶ୍ୱାସୀ ପୁଣ୍ଡି
- (214) L.T. ବିଶ୍ୱାସୀ ପୁଣ୍ଡି
- (215) ଅନୁରାଗ ମହା
- (216) ବିଶ୍ୱାସୀ ପୁଣ୍ଡି
- (217) ଅନୁରାଗ ମହା
- (218) ବିଶ୍ୱାସୀ ପୁଣ୍ଡି
- (219) ବିଶ୍ୱାସୀ ପୁଣ୍ଡି
- (220) Ranjan Kumar Sison

- (221) ହି ବରଦା
- (222) ଶ୍ରୀ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ କାନ୍ତା
- (223) ଶ୍ରୀ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରକାନ୍ତା କାନ୍ତା
- (224) ଶ୍ରୀ ବନୀ କାନ୍ତା
- (225) ଶ୍ରୀ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ କାନ୍ତା
- (226) ଶ୍ରୀ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ କାନ୍ତା
- (227) ଶ୍ରୀ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ କାନ୍ତା
- (228) ଶ୍ରୀ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ କାନ୍ତା
- (229) ଶ୍ରୀ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ କାନ୍ତା
- (230) ଶ୍ରୀ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ କାନ୍ତା
- (231) ଶ୍ରୀ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ କାନ୍ତା
- (232) ଶ୍ରୀ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ କାନ୍ତା
- (233) ଶ୍ରୀ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ କାନ୍ତା
- (234) Dheerendra Khanna
- (235) Jayasen Mundera
- (236) Rabi Golasi
- (237) ବିଶ୍ଵନାଥ ଗୋସ୍ଵାମୀ
- (238) ରଂଗୀ ଶୁକ୍ଳଦେବୀ

To,

The Collector & District Magistrate,  
Sub-Collector, Koraput  
PA-ITDA, Koraput,  
DFO, Koraput  
Koraput District, Odisha.



**Subject: Submission of Gram Sabha Resolutions opposing Environmental and Forest Clearance for Mining in Nageswari Reserve Forest.**

Sir/Madam,

We, the members of Nageswari Mali Dangar Surakhya Mancha, Balda, Nandapur, hereby submit the Gram Sabha Resolutions of nine (9) villages located in and around Nageswari Reserve Forest, passed under the provisions of the Forest Rights Act, 2006, PESA Act, 1996, and the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

All the concerned Gram Sabhas have unanimously opposed and rejected the Environmental Clearance and Stage-I Forest Clearance granted for the proposed mining project in the Nageswari Reserve Forest, citing violations of their legal and constitutional rights.

We kindly request you to acknowledge the receipt of these resolutions and forward them to the competent authorities, including the MoEFCC, for necessary action and revocation of the clearances.

Enclosures:

Copies of Gram Sabha Resolutions from 9 villages.

- Received a copy*
- Taintar and Gayalput
  - Soput and Madeiguda
  - Samli
  - Banur, Badargad, kumiguda and Bahirpada
  - Chilam and Balda
  - Kitba
  - Khanti
  - Kadaput, Kantasaru, and Chandanbadi
  - Barengpalli

Yours faithfully,

*Sub-Collector of office*  
14/10/25  
Maulhuselan Dolea

President

Nageswari Mali Dangar

Surakhya Mancha

14/10/25  
ASSISTANT COLLECTOR  
Collectorate, Koraput

*14/10/25*  
SECTION OFFICER  
Koraput Forest Division

Bijaya kuman mudi

Secretary

Nageswari Mali Dangar

Surakhya Mancha, Balda

*Received on Nageswari Mali Dangar Surakhya Mancha, Balda  
Villages Gram Sabha West Jagul Committee*  
14/10/25



**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**  
**Agenda for Advisory Committee**



<b>Agenda ID</b>	FC/AGENDA/AC/458902/2024
<b>Title of Meeting</b>	10th AC meeting
<b>Meeting Venue</b>	Krishna Conference Hall
<b>Meeting Mode</b>	Physical
<b>Agenda Creation Date</b>	26/11/2024
<b>Meeting Dates &amp; Time</b>	Start Date : 28/11/2024 End Date : 28/11/2024

No. of days	Meeting Date	Meeting Mode	Start Time	End Time
Day 1	28/11/2024	Physical	04:30 PM	06:30 PM

**Proposals to be discussed:**

S. No.	Proposal No.	Division	Project Name	Project Category	Forest Land Area (ha)	Form Type
1	FP/HR/Pipeline/468226/2024	Faridabad Division	Diversion of Forest land for Laying of 600MM i/d MS pipeline from Online Booster near Omaxe to Village - Charmwood in District – Faridabad (HR)	Pipeline	0.555	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land
2	FP/HR/PetrolPump/422338/2023	Rewari Division	Proposed BPCL Retail Outlet on Nandrampur Bass-Rajsthan Border Road (ODR Road ID 1395) Near KM Stone-1 (RHS) Village Nandrampur Bass Tehsil & Distt. Rewari Haryana	Petrol Pump	0.1601	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land
3	FP/MN/MI N/QR Y/462825/2	Kangpokpi Forest Division	Forest Clearance for mining Plan for the Embankment work in Imphal valley for Jiribam-Imphal new BG Railway link.	Mining / Quarrying	5.5	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land

S. No.	Proposal No.	Division	Project Name	Project Category	Forest Land Area(ha)	Form Type
	024	on				
4	FP/MZ/ROAD/400856/2022	Champhai Division	Up-gradation to 2-lane with paved shoulders of Tuivai - Keifang road, NH-102B of Aizawl - Imphal Economic Corridor Under Champhai Division	Construction / Widening of Road including approach road to roadside establishments including bridges	12.136	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land
5	FP/MH/MIN/QR/409811/2022	Nagpur Division	Diversion of 61.45 ha forest land for Ramdongri Manganese mine	Mining / Quarrying	61.45	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land
6	FP/PB/OTHER/466079/2024	Gurdaspur Division	Construction of approach road for New Urban Estate at village Sarki, on Batala – Jalandhar road, Tehsil Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur. (Punjab).	Others (please specify)	0.2045	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land
7	FP/OR/RE/DIV/431319/2023	Bona Division	Change in Land Use Pattern over an area of 6.910 Ha of Forest area in mining & allied activity over the ML area of 49.372 Ha of Raikela Tantra Iron Mines of M/s Penguin Trading & Agencies Limited, Raikela, Sundargarh Odisha	Mining / Quarrying	N/A	Form-E (Part-I): Re-Diversion i) Land Use Change ii) Laying of Overhead/ Under Ground OFC/ drinking water pipeline/ slurry pipeline/ electric cable/ CNG/PNG within RoW
8	FP/OR/RE/DIV/456767/2023	Angul Division	Re-Diversion of 299.697 ha for Forest Land out of total 312.697 ha of Utkal D & E Combined.	Mining / Quarrying	N/A	Form-E (Part-I): Re-Diversion i) Land Use Change ii) Laying of Overhead/ Under Ground OFC/ drinking water pipeline/ slurry pipeline/ electric cable/ CNG/PNG within RoW
9	FP/OR/MIN/QR/456733/2	Koraput Division	Ballada Bauxite Mining Project	Mining / Quarrying	157.212	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land

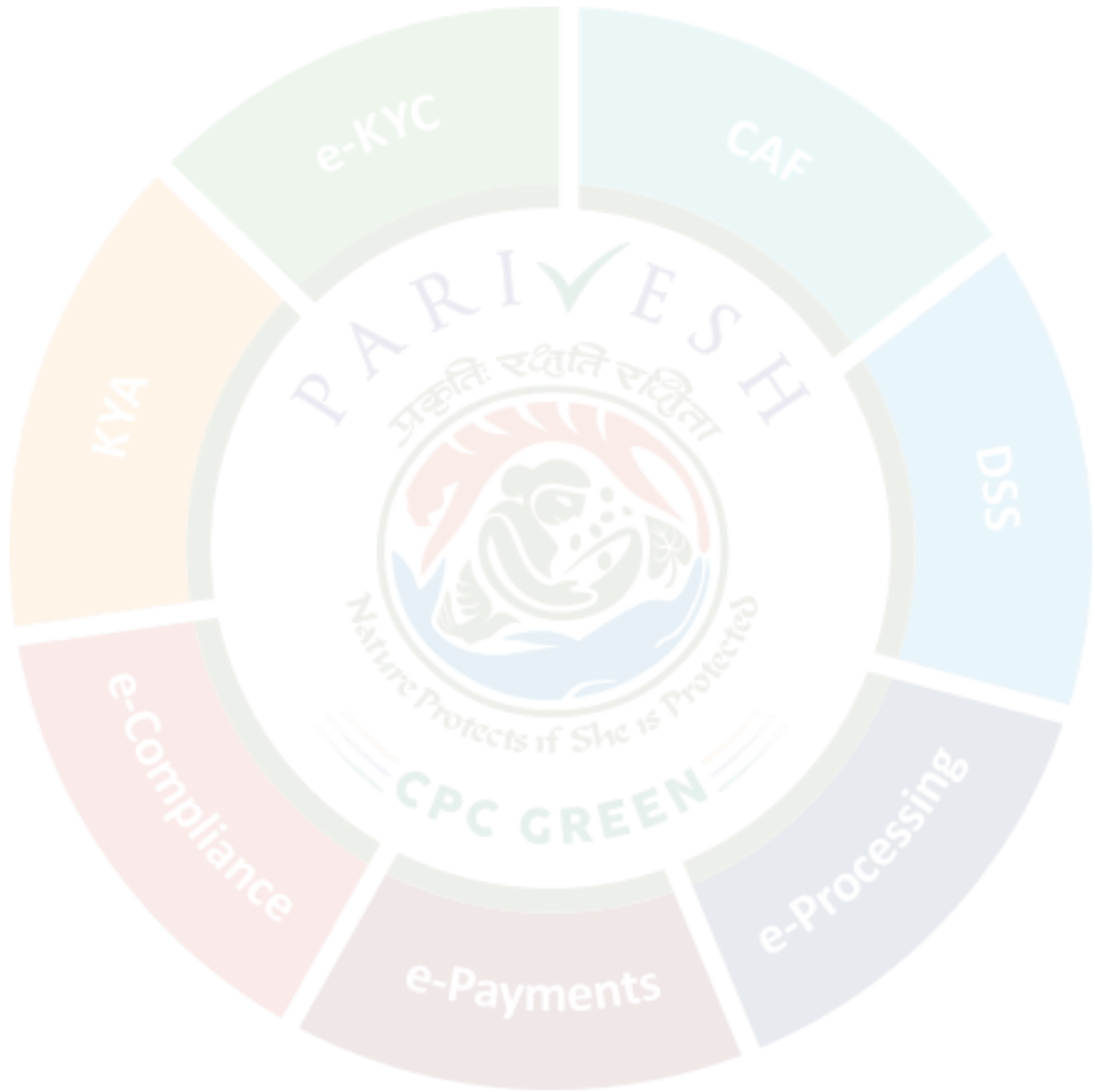
S. No.	Proposal No.	Division	Project Name	Project Category	Forest Land Area (ha)	Form Type
	023					
10	FP/OR/RE DIV/442401/2023	Keonjhar Division	Khondbond Iron & Mn Mine of M/s Tata Steel Ltd.	Mining / Quarrying	N/A	Form-E (Part-I): Re-Diversion i) Land Use Change ii) Laying of Overhead/ Under Ground OFC/ drinking water pipeline/ slurry pipeline/ electric cable/ CNG/PNG within RoW
11	FP/OR/MI N/QR Y/444094/2023	Keonjhar Division	Raika Iron and Manganese Ore Mines, Shiv Dutt Sharma	Mining / Quarrying	17.032	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land
12	FP/OR/Airport/426096/2023	Puri WL Division	Shree Jagannath International Airport at Puri	Airport	27.887	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land

**Other Item Details:****AC Members Details:**

S.No.	Name	Designation	Email ID
1	Jitendra Kumar	Director General of Forest, MEF	dgfi*****@nic.in
2	Shri Sushil Kumar Awasthi	Additional Director General of Forest (Wild life)	adgw*****@nic.in
3	Anjan Kumar Mohanty	Additional Director General of Forest, MOEFCC	adgf*****@nic.in
4	Ramesh Kumar Pandey	Inspector General of Forest, MEF	rame*****@nic.in
5	Shri Suramya Dolarray Vora	Member (EAC)	sura*****@gmail.com
6	Manoj Pant	AC MEMBER	mpan*****@gmail.com
7	Dr. Mehraj A. Shaikh	AC MEMBER	ac.n*****@gov.in

Remarks:

Approved
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Agenda No. 10

Online proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023

**Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha.**

1. The State Government of Odisha vide their letter No. FE-DIV-FLD-0052-2024-13003/FE&CC dated 19.07.2024 submitted above subject proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.
2. The facts related to the proposal are given below in the form of fact sheet:

1.	Name of the Proposal	Ballada Bauxite Mines project
2.	Location (i) State (ii) District	Odisha Koraput
3.	Particulars of Forests: (i) Name of Forest Division and Forest area involved. (ii) Legal status/Sy.No.	Koraput Forest Division, 157.212 ha  Reserved Forest
4.	Category	Mining/Quarring
5.	Name of User Agency	KALINGA ALUMINA LIMITED
6.	Legal Status of the User Agency	Private Limited
7.	Details of Mining Plan: i. Date of approval of mining plan ii. Approval authority iii. Copy of approval of mining plan iv. Copy of approved mining plan	08.08.2023 IBM Submitted Submitted
8.	Topography of the area	-
9.	(i) Geology (ii) Vulnerability to erosion	- The upper slopes of the ML area is prone to Soil erosion
10.	(i) Vegetation	Amla, bahada, Bija, charakoli, Gambhari, Harida, hardjamu, Jamu, Jodi, handeri, Kanchana, Karanja, Kashi, Kusuma, Mango, Modei, Paldua, Panasa, Rauli, Sahaja, Simli, Sindura, Sirisha etc.

	(ii) Density  (iii) No. of trees to be felled	0.2 (Eco Class III).  1139 trees enumerated to be felled
11.	Whether area is significant from wildlife point of view	<b>Details of wildlife present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion:</b> Wild boar, Jackal, Sloth Bear, Fox, Otter, Python, Jungle Cat Etc.
12.	Whether forms part of National park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor, etc. (if so, details of the area and comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden to be annexed)	The applied area does not form part of any National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor, etc. <b>However, two small caves seems to naturally exist in between demarcated Mining Lease pillar No.01 &amp; 14 of the Mining Lease</b>
13.	Whether any RET species of flora and fauna are found in the area. If so details thereof	No rare and endangered species available in the applied are for diversion
14.	Approximate distance of the proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest.	It is right inside Nagasari RF
15.	Whether any protected archaeological/ heritage site/defence establishment or any other important monuments is located in the area.	No
16.	Whether any work of in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been carried out (Yes/No). If yes details of the same including period of work done, action taken on erring officials. Whether work in violation is still in progress.	No
17.	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in col. 2 of Part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project, if no recommended area item-wise with details of alternatives examined.	Yes
18.	Whether clearance under the Environment	Yes EC has not been not obtained yet.

	(protection) Act, 1986 is required?	
19.	Compensatory Afforestation	
	(i) Details of non-forest area/degraded forest area identified for CA, its distance from adjoining forest, number of patches, size of each patches.	159.4729 ha non-forest land have been identified in Khinbar and Kandra village under Koraput Forest Division Koraput District for Compensatory Afforestation in lieu of the 157.212 ha of forest land.
	(ii) Detailed CA scheme including species to be planted, implementing agency, time schedule, cost structure, etc.	Detailed CA scheme is given.
	(iii) Total financial outlay for CA	Rs. 9,13,15,726/-
	(iv) Certificate from the competent authority regarding suitability of the area identified for CA and from management point of view.	Suitability certificate is given.
20.	Catchment Area Treatment	NA
21.	Rehabilitation of Oustees a) No of families involved b) Category of families c) Details of rehabilitation plan	Nil Nil NA
22.	Compliance of Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006	<b>Not given</b>
23.	Total Cost of the Project	23000 (In lakhs)
24.	Employment Potential	Yes Permanent employment 20 Temporary Employment 27000
25.	Cost benefit Analysis	Cost benefit analysis comes to <b>1:24.5565</b>
26.	Recommendation i. DFO ii. RCCF iii. PCCF/ Nodal Officer iv SG	Recommended. Recommended Recommended Recommended

3. Government of Odisha in their forwarding letter dated 19.07.2024 furnished as below:

- i. **Brief Description:** Government of Odisha, pursuant to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 as amended from time to time issued the Notice

Inviting Tender (NIT) dt.23.11.2022 to commence the auction Process for grant of Mining lease for Ballada Bauxite Block in Nagasari RF located in Koraput District of Odisha. The e-auction process was conducted in accordance with the tender document for the said mineral block and Mundra Alumina Limited was declared as the preferred bidder under rule 9(9) (iii) of Rule 10(IA) of Auction rules, having quoted a Final Price offer of 72.25%.

Accordingly, pursuant to Rule 10(2) of the Auction Rules and the terms of the Tender Document, **the Government of Odisha have been pleased to issue the Letter of Intent (LoI) for grant of Mining Lease for Ballada Bauxite Block in Ballada village of Nandapur Tahasil of Koraput District over 144.945 ha area to Mundra Alumina Limited for a period of fifty (50) years by Steel and Mines Department, Government of Odisha vide L. No.2143 dt.01.03.2023. The LoI is valid for three years from the date of issue.**

Mundra Aluminium Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Limited. **Mundra Aluminium Limited has changed its name as Kalinga Alumina Limited and the same has been accepted by the Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India** and to that effect Certificate of Incorporation of new name on 30.03.2023 as per Rule-29 of Companies (incorporation) Rules, 2019 has been issued. **This change is a mere change in name and there is no change in corporate structure, Memorandum and Articles of Association and the share holding pattern.** The renamed entity will continue to be a wholly owned subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Limited.

**Steel and Mines Department, Government of Odisha vide Proceeding No.5995 dt. 09.06.2023 have been pleased to allow the change of name from Mundra Aluminium Limited to Kalinga Alumina Limited as per Rule 61 of Mineral Concession Rules, 2016 with effect from 30.03.2023.**

As reported by the RCCF, Koraput Circle, the Mining lease comprises of Reserved Forest land only. The actual allotted land of the Ballada Bauxite Block is 144.945 ha. **The complete Mining Lease area is a part of Nagasari RF of Koraput Forest Division. There is an old existing road on either side of the Mining Lease from valley to the plateau top passing through the Nagasari RF. This is the existing approach road to the ML area. The total extent of the approach road is 12.267 ha.** The user agency has applied for diversion of the existing approach road along with the allotted forest land in the Mining Lease area over 144.945 ha. Cumulatively the applied forest land for diversion is 157.212 ha.

As reported by PCCF (FD&NO, FCA), O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, the ML area has been delineated in Survey of India Topo Sheet No.E44K11 (65J/11) which finds place within latitude 18° 26' 5.61588" to

18° 27' 13.34448" North and Longitude 82° 39' 32.39136" to 82° 40' 25.36716" East. The mineral bearing plateau is situated about 1 Km west of Ballada village and about 8 Kms distance from Padua in Koraput. The site is approachable by National Highway NH-52. The district headquarter is located at 60 Kms distance from the applied site. The nearest railway station is located about 5 Kms due north-east from the applied site. This applied area does not form part of any National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve and ESZ. **Two small caves seems to naturally exist in between demarcated Mining Lease pillar No.01 & 14 of the Mining Lease.** But those two caves are not **manmade archaeological monument.** **The project is right inside Nagasari RF. The total mineral reserve is estimated to be 22.13 Million Tonnes and the total mineable reserve is 19.96 Million tonnes.** The total cost of the project comes to 23,000 Lakh at current price level. This project will generate permanent employment for 30 persons and temporary/ contractual employment for 27000 persons.

- ii. **Justification for locating the project in forest land:** Mining of a particular ore deposit is always site specific irrespective of the land classification. Pursuant to the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015, Mineral Auction Rules, 2015 and other relevant guidelines in force, Government of Odisha had put up Ballada Bauxite Block with a total lease area of 144.945 ha for auction. The said Block is located in Ballada village of Nandapur Tahasil, Dist-Koraput, Odisha.

Ballada is a virgin Bauxite Block with a total lease area of 144.945 ha, explored at G-3 level by GSI and GR to this effect was prepared by DGM-Odisha which formed part of the auction documents. GSI had carried out preliminary exploration of the Ballada Bauxite Block by drilling 15 vertical boreholes with a total meterage of 292.65 m. A total of 22.13 Million tonnes of inferred resources of Bauxite of all grades have been estimated by cross sectional area method which is at G-3 level as per MEMC, Rules, 2015.

The precise lease boundary encompassing 144.945 ha was defined in the auction documents. The entire Block has been demarcated by DGPS survey and certified by ORSAC for putting the block for auction by the State Government. Amidst stiff competition, Kalinga Alumina Limited emerged successful and a Lol was in its favour issued for development of Bauxite Block over an area of 144.945 ha. It may be noted that the entire lease area falls under Nagasari Reserve Forest under Koraput Forest Division.

As per the GR prepared by the DGM, Ballada Bauxite Block needs upscaling of resources and grade by exploring the Block further at G-level for augmentation and optimal harnessing of precious natural resources.

Upon award of Lol in its favour, **the project proponent had prepared a Mining Plan based on the current GR which was approved by IBM**

vide L. No.MCDR-MiFLOBXT/5/2023-BBS-IBM-RO-BBS dt. 08.08.2023. The project proponent is setting up a global scale 4MTPA alumina refinery in Rampur village of Rayagada district with considerable investments. It has already secured two bauxite deposits through auction to secure the raw materials. It may please be appreciated that raw material security is of paramount importance so as to make such mineral based industries viable. Therefore, it is imperative that adequate raw materials are made available prior to commissioning of the refinery.

**The diversion project involves another 12.267 ha forest land for approach roads. Cumulatively, the forest land applied for diversion is 157.212 ha including the Bauxite Block of Ballada and the approach road connecting the Mining Lease.**

The present Mining Plan has been prepared in a specified format, which did not have a provision for land use plan of the entire ML area. However, in Chapter 6.2.11 of the progressive Mine Closure Plan and in Chapter 9.3.2.2 of Impact assessment, the complete area of 144.945 ha with distribution of land use has been shown.

- iii. **Forest Land:** In the applied mining lease area, **forest land involved is 144.945 ha. No non-forest land is involved in the Mining Lease.** The types of forest land involved in the Mining Lease are of Reserve Forest. The UA will utilise the forest land within the approved Mining Lease area. The User agency has furnished an undertaking duly signed by the DFO, Koraput Forest Division regarding minimum use of forest land. The forest land proposed for diversion within the Mining Lease comes under Nagasari Reserve forest of Ballada Range under Koraput Forest Division. There are two roads from the valley connecting the Mining Lease area situated on the Plateau. The road is being used by the villages of the valley for worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau. The proponent has submitted the proposal seeking diversion of the existing road for movement of the man, machine as well as transportation of the exploited materials from the proposed Mines. The roads located on either sides of the plateau leading to plateau top passes through Nagasari Reserve forest. **The total forest land which comes under the ambit of the approach road is 12.267 ha.** The DFO, Koraput Forest Division has furnished the land schedule of the proposed forest land of the Ballada Bauxite Block as well as the approach roads leading to the Mining Lease. The details of the forest land proposed for diversion for Mining as well as for the approach road are tabulated below.

Sl. No	Type of Forest Land	Area allotted in Ha	Area in Ha as per DGPS	Remarks
1	Nagasari Reserve Forest	144.945	144.945	ML area
2	Nagasari Reserve Forest	12.267	12.267	Approach road
	<b>Total</b>	<b>157.212</b>	<b>157.212</b>	

DGPS Survey of the forest area proposed for diversion has been taken up by the ORSAC over 144.945 ha of Ballada Bauxite Block. ORSAC prepared DGPS map showing forest land proposed for diversion. DGPS Survey has been done for the Forest land proposed for diversion for the approach road over 12.267 ha and duly vetted by ORSAC. The RCCF, Koraput Circle in his site Inspection Report has mentioned about the breakup of the forest land proposed for diversion.

S. No	Pattern of utilisation	Area proposed in Ha
1	Top soil stacking	0.28
2	Mineral storage	1.93
3	Infrastructure (Workshop, Administrative Building etc)	0.18
4	Road	0.38
5	Mineral separation Plant (Crushing and screening plant)	0.13
6	Over burden dump/Waste dumping	1.95
7	Area under Safety zone plantation	4.23
8	Area under Mining	81.82
9	Access road within the lease boundary	0.995
10	<b>Area left under Green belt</b>	<b>48.56</b>
11	Approach to dump and buffer safety zone (on the plateau)	4.49
	Sub-Total	144.945
13	Area under approach road (outside block area)	12.267
	<b>Total</b>	<b>157.212</b>

The DFO, Koraput in his Part-II of Form-A has mentioned that the area proposed for diversion is vulnerable to soil erosion in the upper slope.

- iv. **Safety Zone:** As intimated by PCCF (FD&NO, FCA), O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, **an area of 4.230 ha has been earmarked for Safety Zone within the ML area.** The details of area under Safety Zone are as follows.

Purpose of Safety Zone	Total forest land in ha.	Non forest land in ha	Grand Total (in ha.)
7.5 mts. along ML boundary	4.230	-	4.230

There is an area of 48.56 ha within the ML which has been kept aside for Green Belt. In this regard, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to maintain the said land as green Belt in consultation with the DFO, Koraput Forest Division. Further, an area of 50 mtr width on either side of the natural stream and 10 mtr width on either side of the public road located inside the mining lease shall be protected and will not be considered as part of safety zone as per the undertaking submitted by the User Agency.

Further, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to bear the cost of maintenance of the Safety Zone area and scheme for afforestation over 1.5 times of the Safety Zone in degraded forest elsewhere..

- v. **Flora & Fauna:** The following species of flora and fauna are available in the applied area as per the report of the DFO, Koraput Forest division. The floral species found in the applied area are Amla (Emblca

officinalis), Bahada (*Terminalia belerica*), Bija (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), Charkoli (*Ziziphus mauritiana*), Gambhari (*Gmelina arborea*, Handeri (*Tridax procumbens*), Harida (*Terminalia chebula*), Jamu (*Syzygium cumini*), Kanchana (*Bauhinia variegata*), Karanja (*Pongamia pinnata*) Kasi (*Bridelia retusa*), Kusum (*Schleichera oleosa*), Mango (*Mangifera indica*), Moi (*Lannea coromandelica*), Paldua (*Erythina subersosa*), Panas (*Artocarpus integrifolia*), Asan (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Simili (*Bombax ceiba*), Sindura (*Bixa orellana*), Siris (*Albizia lebbek*) etc. As per the Site Inspection Report of the RCCF, Koraput Circle the density of vegetation of the applied Forest area is 0.2 under Eco-Value Class-III.

No Faunal species got recorded at the time of inspection to the applied area by the DFO, Koraput Division and RCCF, Koraput circle as revealed from the Site Inspection Reports. No rare and endangered species are available in the Mining lease area. The proposed area is well located within the Nagasari Reserve Forest. The proposed area does not form part of any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary and Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant corridor or any protected area declared under any law of the State or Central Government. **However, two small caves seem to naturally exist in between demarcated mining lease pillar No.01 & 14. But those two caves are not man-made archeological monuments.**

- vi. **Tree Enumeration:** As reported by PCCF (FD&NO, FCA), O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, the DFO, Koraput Forest Division has taken up tree enumeration through Range Officer, Ballada over proposed 144.945 ha forest land of Ballada Bauxite Block of Kalinga Alumina Limited adopting sampling technique. The entire ML area can be divided into two segments. The plateau top over 92.5 ha i.e. mining zone and 52.45 ha slope zone. The mining zone over 92.5 ha in plateau top is devoid of vegetation. Only vegetation is available on slope zone. The tree enumeration over 52.45 ha has been taken up adopting the sampling technique.

Total 25 nos. of sample plots of 1.0 ha each has been laid over the forest land on slope zone and tree enumeration has been done on the sample plots. Trees above 30 cm girth have been enumerated on the sample plots counting 543 nos. in aggregate. **After extrapolating the figure of sample enumeration over slope zone area 52.45 ha, it comes to 1139 nos. trees.** Similarly tree enumeration to the pole crops U/30cm girth has been taken up on 25 laid down sample plots. Total 1692 trees u/30cm has been enumerated. After extrapolating the figure over the 52.45 ha, it comes to 3550.

- vii. **Compensatory Afforestation:** Non-forest Government land over 158.406 ha in village-Khinibar and Kandra under Nandapur Tahasil of Koraput district against the proposed diversion proposal of Ballada Bauxite Block over 144.945 ha and approach road connecting the ML area over 12.267 ha of **Kalinga Alumina Limited has been allotted by Collector, Koraput vide his letter No. 2466/XXVI-32/2023**

**dt.04.08.2023 over 430.70 Ac or 174.30 ha** on the request made by the CEO, M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd vide Letter No. Nil dt.01.05.2023. The CA land over 174.30 ha in Koraput district has been jointly verified by the Tahasildar, Nandapur, Range Officer, Ballada Range & R.I., Padua under the jurisdiction of Koraput Forest Division. Out of which 158.406 ha has been taken for CA plantation. Certificates regarding non-encroachment, non-encumbrance and land suitability for plantation, not covered under DC report, not settled in favour of anyone etc. have been furnished in the joint verification certificate. The details of lands identified in village-Khinibar and Kandra are furnished below.

Name of the village	Khata No.	Plot No.	Kisam	Total area of the plot in AC	Applied area in AC	Applied area in ha	DGPS Map area in ha
Khinibar	33	300 (P)	Pahad	25.00	19.976	8.048	8.023
		301 (P)		12.50	9.350	3.784	3.776
		302 (P)		12.50	7.924	3.207	2.674
		303 (P)		15.00	14.564	5.894	3.266
		305 (P)		18.53	18.194	7.363	7.297
		306 (P)		10.00	6.877	2.783	2.219
		307		15.80	15.800	6.394	6.398
		308		15.00	14.999	6.070	5.931
<b>Sub-Total</b>				<b>124.33</b>	<b>107.684</b>	<b>43.543</b>	<b>39.584</b>
Kandra	128	529	Pahad	61.60	61.600	24.929	23.843
		467 (P)		44.70	44.451	17.989	18.392
		535 (P)		22.02	19.318	7.818	8.053
		792 (P)		22.25	4.804	1.944	1.944-P1
					15.400	6.232	6.232-P2
		793 (P)		85.10	79.233	32.065	31.941
		791		30.00	30.000	12.141	11.987
		790		40.70	40.700	16.471	16.430
<b>Sub-Total</b>				<b>306.37</b>	<b>295.506</b>	<b>119.589</b>	<b>118.822</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>430.70 AC or 174.30 ha</b>	<b>403.190</b>	<b>163.132</b>	<b>158.406</b>

The CA land tabulated above are meant for both the Mining Lease Block of Ballada Bauxite over 144.945 ha and the proposed approach road connecting the ML area over 12.267 ha.

The identified area has been DGPS surveyed and demarcated on the field. D.G.P.S co-ordinates of survey stations have been furnished in the CA scheme prepared by the DFO, Koraput Forest Division. The DFO, Koraput has furnished site suitability certificate for the identified CA land enclosed to the CA scheme. The proposed area is covered with unwanted obnoxious weeds like Eupatorium and Lantana camara over the entire site with some pole crops standing in scattered manner. No prominent economically important species are available within the proposed CA land. However, saplings and bushy growth of Bhrusunga leaf plant (Murraya coinghii), Mango (Mangifera indica), Jackfruit (Artocarpusindica), Khakada (Geloniummultiforum), Asan (Terminalia tomentosa), Begunia (Vitex negundo), Palass (Butea monosperma) etc

exist in sporadic manner. The topographic configuration of the identified land is generally undulating over a hilly terrain having gentle to moderate slope and also steep at certain patches. The DFO, Koraput Forest Division has taken up DSS analysis of the identified CA land. Out of 158.00 ha identified land, 1.0 ha is MDF, 59.0 ha is Scrub forest, 24.0 ha is open forest and 74.0 ha is Non-forest. Hence, total plantable area is calculated as  $158.00 \text{ ha} - 1.0 \text{ ha MDF} = 157.00 \text{ ha}$ . One calendar of different planting operation has been prepared by the DFO, Koraput Forest Division. It is proposed to take up CA @ 1000 plants/ha over 157.00 ha in villages Khinbar and Kandra. The size of the pits will be 45 cm<sup>2</sup> maintaining a spacing of 2.5 mt between the pits. 18 months old seedlings will be planted. The CA scheme has been prepared by the DFO, Koraput Forest Division considering the base Cost norm as per the Matrix circulated by the PCCF, Odisha vide letter No.1109/9F-(Misc) dt.08.11.2021. It is proposed to adopt chain link wire mesh fencing for the protection of the planted species over entire area having perimeter 12583.83 mtr covering all the 03 surveyed patches. Watering of the plantation will be carried out by Solar system with Bore well to the 1,57,000 planted seedling. Besides, this Soil and moisture conservation measure has been proposed over 158.00 ha area. The species proposed for Plantation are Karanja (*Pongamia pinnata*), Amla (*Embolica officinalis*), Gambhari (*Melina arborea*), Salia Bamboo (*Dendrocalamus strictus*), Arjun (*Terminalia arjuna*), Mehagany (*Swietenia macrophylla*), Jafra (*Bixa orellana*), Mango (*Mangifera indica*), Jackfruit (*Artocarpus integrifolia*), Jamun (*Syzygium cumini*), Tentuli (*Tamarindus indica*), Neem (*Azadirachta indica*), etc. The identified CA land in village Khinbar & Kandra in Koraput District over 158.00ha has been shown on Sol Topo Sheet No.E44K11, E44K15 and enclosed as Plate No.5/DP. DGPS map of the CA land is enclosed as Plate No.6/DP. Total financial outlay of the CA scheme comes to Rs. 16,05,42,900/- which has been approved by the PCC (Nodal).

- viii. **Cost-Benefit Analysis:** The cost of forest Diversion is assessed as 25860.00 lakhs and Benefit of the project is estimated at 574033.80 lakhs. The Cost-Benefit ratio comes to 1:22.197.
- ix. **Environmental Clearance:** The user agency has applied online vide application No.SIA/OR/MIN/439954/2023 dt.01.09.2023 to State Environment Impact Assessment Authority to obtain Term of Reference (ToR) for mining of Ballada Bauxite Block for peak rated Capacity of 4.0 MTPA over a mining lease area of 144.945 ha at village Ballada, Tahasil-Nandapur, District-Koraput. The SEIAA, Odisha has issued ToR vide L. No.SIA/ORT/MIN/ 439954/2023 dt.06.11.2023 to the user agency. The ToR would be valid for a period of four years for submission of EIA/EMP report. The user agency has also prepared the draft EIA/EMP report and submitted to SPCB. The user agency has furnished an undertaking to obtain NoC from SPCB after obtaining environmental clearance.
- x. **Mining Plan:** The Mining plan including Progressive Mine closure plan has been approved by the **Regional Controller of Mines, Office of the Regional Controller of Mines, BBSR (IBM) over an area of 144.945 ha in respect of Ballada Bauxite Block in village-Ballada, Padua-Taluk, Koraput District in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd. vide L.**

**No.MCDR- MiFLOBXT/5/2023-BBS-IBM RO \_BBS dt.08.08.2023** with 17 no. of terms and conditions. The approval of review of Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan has been accorded by the Indian Bureau of Mines.

- xi. **Phased Reclamation Plan:** A detailed scheme of reclamation and afforestation has been prepared to reclaim and stabilize the mined out undulating areas and the saturated dumps and by taking up plantations.
- xii. **Resettlement & Rehabilitation Plan:** The field Inspection done by the authorized officer of PCCF (Nodal) envisages that **the project does not involve displacement of people**. In this regard the user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Koraput that the project does not involve any displacement of people.
- xiii. **Wildlife Management:** It is revealed from the Site Inspection Report of DFO, Koraput & RCCF, Koraput that no wildlife is available within the Mining Lease area being a plateau top. However, the adjoining areas have forest growth. **The SEIAA, Odisha while granting the ToR has made a stipulation to prepare a Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan for the land project. The user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Koraput to bear the cost of SSWLCP.**
- xiv. **Pending Court Matters:** There are no court cases pending against the user agency on the applied area as revealed from the report of the DFO, Koraput and RCCF, Koraput Circle.
- xv. **Violation.** From the enclosed Site Inspection Reports of the DFO, Koraput, RCCF, Koraput and authorized officer of PCCF (Nodal) enclosed in the diversion proposal, it is learnt that no violation under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 has been committed by the user agency in respect of the applied area.
- xvi. **Net Present Value (NPV):** The user agency has furnished an undertaking to pay the NPV over applied forest area of the ML over 144.945 ha and approach road over 12.267 ha of Ballada Bauxite Block duly countersigned by the DFO, Koraput Forest Division. The user agency has further furnished an undertaking to bear the additional cost of NPV if so, determined as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India duly countersigned by the DFO, Koraput Division is enclosed.
- xvii. **DGPS Map:** Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India vide Letter F. No. 11-9/95- FC dated 08.07.2011 have issued guidelines that all applications seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose must be accompanied by Geo-referenced boundary in shape file pertaining to forest land proposed for diversion. As reported by the RCCF, Koraput, the DGPS survey map submitted by the ORSAC, Bhubaneswar and countersigned by the DFO, Koraput Forest Division has been enclosed with the Diversion Proposal in respect of the proposed diverted area of 144.945 ha ML area as well as approach road over 12.267 ha of Ballada Bauxite Block and Non-forest Government land identified for CA in Koraput Division over 158.406 ha.

- xviii. **Certificate under the FRA, 2006:** The user agency has applied to Collector, Koraput to obtain certificate under Schedule Tribe and other Traditional Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 for forest land of 144.945 ha involved in the Ballada Bauxite Block leased out in favour of Kalinga Alumina Ltd. on 27.11.2023. Further, the user agency has also applied to obtain the certificate under FRA, 2006 for the forest land involved in the approach road involving 12.267 ha on dt.08.01.2024. The user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Koraput Forest Division to submit the FRA certificate along with settlement details as applicable to the designated forest land once the same is being issued by Collector and District Magistrate, Koraput.
- xix. **Others:** The States Authorities has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:
- i. Forest land proposed for diversion shall not be used for any purpose other than that has been proposed.
  - ii. The User Agency shall pay the cost towards felling, logging and transportation charges of the enumerated trees due to be felled during the course of implementation of the mining project.
  - iii. Trees should be felled only when it is absolutely necessary and in a phased manner and under supervision of DFO, Koraput Forest Division.
  - iv. Safety zone shall be maintained as such and in no circumstances be used for mining purpose.
  - v. Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan duly approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha shall be implemented at project cost.
  - vi. The User Agency shall contribute towards Regional Wildlife Management Plan.
  - vii. The User Agency shall undertake demarcation of the lease area, forest area proposed for diversion and Safety Zone area on the ground at the project cost by erecting 6 feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS Co-ordinates.
  - viii. The User Agency shall submit FRA Certificate under FRA, 2006.
  - ix. The User Agency shall have valid Environmental Clearance, Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate issued by the competent authorities.
  - x. The roads should be maintained by the User Agency. After completion of the mining, the road should be handed over to Forest Department in well maintained condition.
  - xi. During fire season, fire camps by the nearby VSS are temporarily installed on plateau top for monitoring of fire. The VSS people should be allowed to plateau top following the road for controlling the fire menace.
  - xii. Ballada Caves and one water body are situated just besides the road leading to plateau top. Tourist should be allowed to visit the caves on the road without any hindrance.
  - xiii. The villagers should not be barred to perform their rituals of the enshrined deity on hill top.

- xiv. Soil and moisture conservation measures shall be carried out by the User Agency at project cost.
4. The KML/shape files has been analysed by the DSS Cell of FC Division. Observations of DSS report are as under:
- i. No Protected Area/ Tiger Reserve/Tiger Corridor is located within 10 Km radius of proposed forest area.
  - ii. Observation based on Google Earth: existing road, few structures (Lat/Long: 18°26'35.39"N, 82°39'52.88"E) and water body (approx. area 2.70 ha) is visible in the proposed forest area.  
**Note:** the proposed approach road on the eastern side of the ML is present since year 2012 and the road proposed on the western side is present since 2020. As the Google Earth Data is not available before 2012, the exact date for construction of the eastern road cannot be identified. Further, exact date of construction of the western road is also not clear as the Google images for the year 2018 and 2019 is not available.
  - iii. Proposed forest area falls under Not-in High Conservation Value (HCV) Zone as per Decision Rule 1 and Decision Rule 2.
  - iv. Forest Cover: Out of total proposed area, 6 ha of land is classified as very dense forest, 26 ha as moderately dense forest, 31 ha as open forest and remaining 95 ha of land as Non-Forest (land without tree cover) in terms of forest classes (as per the ISFR 2021) based on the interpretation of satellite data period 2019-2020.
  - v. Component wise KML file of proposed area is not available on PARIVESH.
  - vi. Google imagery shows road, cultivation land, pits and old plantation in some areas in the proposed CA site.
5. It has also been observed that the RO vide letter dated 30.08.2023 has granted approval for prospecting in the instant proposal.
6. After the examination of the proposal the Ministry through online portal have sought certain information form the State Government.
7. Now the State Government, through online portal has submitted the point wise reply on 19.10.2024. The details are as below:

S. No.	EDS raised by the Ministry in PARIVESH 2.0 portal on 09.08.2024	EDS reply by the State Govt. in PARIVESH 2.0 portal on 19.10.2024
1.	The state has been informed that the present Mining Plan has been prepared in a specified format, which did not have a provision for land use plan of the entire ML area. However, in Chapter 6.2.11 of the progressive Mine Closure Plan and in Chapter 9.3.2.2 of	In compliance to the above mentioned condition the User Agency stated that the approved mining plan was prepared in a specified format as prescribed by IBM, which did not have a provision for land use plan for the entire life of mine. However, in Chapter 6.2.11 of Progressive Mine Closure Plan and in Chapter 9.3.2.2 of Impact assessment, the complete mining lease area of 144.945 Ha with distribution of land use has been categorically mentioned.

	<p>Impact assessment, the complete area of 144.945 ha with distribution of land use has been shown. In this regard the State shall ensure that the components of the landuse in the proposed diversion proposal are commensurate with those in the approved mining plan. A comparative analysis shall be submitted.</p>	<p>The components of the land-use in the diversion proposal are in conformity with those in the approved mining plan. The detailed land use break up is furnished in the table as furnished below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No</th> <th>Particular</th> <th>Land use as per Forest Diversion Proposal (in ha)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Top soil stacking</td> <td>0.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Mineral storage</td> <td>1.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Infrastructure (Workshop, Administrative Building etc.)</td> <td>0.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Road</td> <td>0.38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Mineral separation Plant (Crushing and screening plant)</td> <td>0.13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Over burden dump/Waste dumping</td> <td>1.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>Area under Safety zone plantation</td> <td>4.23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>Area under Mining</td> <td>81.82</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>Access road within the lease boundary</td> <td>0.995</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td><b>Area left under Green belt</b></td> <td><b>48.56</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>Approach to dump and buffer safety zone (on the plateau)</td> <td>4.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Sub-Total</b></td> <td><b>144.945</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td> <td>Area under approach road (<b>outside block area</b>)</td> <td>12.267</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>157.212</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>From the above, it can be observed that the major components, i.e. mining area, dumping area, Safety zone area etc. are in line with the above details submitted in the proposal as per the approved mining plan.</p> <p><b>Remarks: The area measuring 12.267 ha for proposed road has not been shown in the approved mining plan because it is outside the lease area.</b></p>	S. No	Particular	Land use as per Forest Diversion Proposal (in ha)	1	Top soil stacking	0.28	2	Mineral storage	1.93	3	Infrastructure (Workshop, Administrative Building etc.)	0.18	4	Road	0.38	5	Mineral separation Plant (Crushing and screening plant)	0.13	6	Over burden dump/Waste dumping	1.95	7	Area under Safety zone plantation	4.23	8	Area under Mining	81.82	9	Access road within the lease boundary	0.995	10	<b>Area left under Green belt</b>	<b>48.56</b>	11	Approach to dump and buffer safety zone (on the plateau)	4.49		<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>144.945</b>	13	Area under approach road ( <b>outside block area</b> )	12.267		<b>Total</b>	<b>157.212</b>
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2.	<p>The state has informed that there are two roads from the valley connecting the Mining Lease area situated on the Plateau. The road is being used by the villages of the valley for</p>	<p>In compliance to the above mentioned condition the User Agency stated that existing approach roads are narrow and not fit for heavy vehicular traffic. These two roads will be widened and strengthened so as to facilitate vehicular traffic as well as for easy movement of local people for worshipping their enshrined deity on the top</p>																																													

	<p>worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau. A detailed report on the impact of proposed diversion on the local people/villages as above and the plan/proposal of the state government in this regard shall be submitted.</p>	<p>of the plateau. Further, as regards the above said roads the provisions of file No. FC-11/203/2019-FC Dated 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 2019 and File No. FC-11-162-2020-FC Dtd. 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug 2021 of Gol, MoEF &amp; CC, and Department has been followed. The villagers will continue to use these roads to access the referred cave without any hindrance.</p> <p>The impact of proposed diversion on the local people/villages has already been studied and mentioned in the draft impact assessment report and environmental management plan by the User Agency.</p> <p><b>Remarks: This may be considered in view of the existing guideline mentioned in Para 7.8 (i) (f) of the consolidated Guideline.</b></p>
3.	<p>The state has informed that an area of 50 m width on either side of the natural stream and 10 mtr width on either side of the public road located inside the mining lease shall be protected and will not be considered as part of safety zone as per the undertaking submitted by the User Agency. In this regard the detail of the natural stream/water bodies getting affected shall be submitted. The detail of public road within the mining lease shall also be provided.</p>	<p>In compliance to the above mentioned condition this is to state that there are no natural streams within the proposed mining lease area. However, the streams of first order are present in the slope area (non-mining area) which may not be directly affected as those are away from the ML boundary.</p> <p>The road mentioned above is an approach to mining lease area. As aforementioned, this road shall be strengthened &amp; widened for accessing the mining area.</p> <p>It is further clarified by the User agency that 585 meters (East side) &amp; 385 meters (West Side) approach roads are existent within the mining lease area. Those roads will be protected as per the undertaking furnished in this regard by the User agency.</p>
4.	<p>The surrounding area of the proposed forest land is having dense forest, however, the area proposed for diversion is showing no vegetation. The State Government shall clarify the reasons for</p>	<p>In the compliance to this condition it is to state that bauxite bearing area do not support vegetation. It is a natural phenomenon of Bauxite bearing areas. The table land of the said mining lease area is devoid of any vegetation and the same phenomenon is also observed in other table land areas of this Division. As rightly observed, the vegetation distribution is</p>

	<p>the vegetation structure being so different within the proposed mining lease. Whether the same is due to natural or anthropogenic reasons shall also be intimated along with justification.</p>	<p>different on the plateau and on the slope areas. It is further clarified that the observed difference in vegetation distribution is not at all attributed to anthropogenic reasons.</p>
5.	<p>Around the lease boundary there are two roads are showing which has already been constructed. The proposed approach road on the eastern side of the ML is present since year 2012 and the road proposed on the western side is present since 2020. As the Google Earth Data is not available before 2012, the exact date for construction of the eastern road cannot be identified. Further, exact date of construction of the western road is also not clear as the Google images for the year 2018 and 2019 is not available. The State Govt. shall provide the status of these roads and purpose for which the roads have been constructed earlier. Further, the State Govt. shall clarify that there is no violation of the Adhiniyam, 1980 with respect to the said roads.</p>	<p>The present eastern side road was a foot path. The said foot path was gradually developed by the villagers of Balda GP for the purpose of worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau. A narrow road of 2.8 m width has been constructed on the western side of the Ballada Bauxite Block by the Rural works department as per the permission accorded by the Divisional forest Officer vide his office memo no-6692 dated 28.12.2020 under Section 3(2) of the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act-2006 for providing similar access to the local public residing on the other side of the hill for the purpose of worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau. It is clarified that there is no violation of the Adhiniyam, 1980 with respect to construction of the said roads. It was executed as per the Gram Sabha resolution and in the best interest of the local communities to have access to their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau.</p>
6.	<p>Approach roads have been proposed on both sides of the mining lease. There State</p>	<p>In compliance to this condition the User Agency stated that in view of the steep gradient of the referred approach roads and considering the probable traffic flow for use</p>

	Govt. shall clarify/justify the requirement of these two roads. Further it is not clear as to how the mineral evacuation to the nearest main road/highway shall be done. The details in this regard shall be submitted, along with additional forest land requirements if any.	by general public, two roads have been envisaged for evacuation of Bauxite. Simultaneous usage of two roads shall also facilitate smooth traffic flow which has been ascertained after an objective traffic study made by the project proponent in the said circumstances.
7.	As reported, only total 1139 number of trees enumerated to be felled in 157.212 ha forest land, whereas the density has been reported as 0.2. The State Government shall therefore revisit and report the factual position regarding the number of trees involved.	Tree enumeration has been carried out as per representative sample survey in terms of relevant guidelines of State Forest Dept (Clause 15 of Memo No. 23746 (34)/9F-Misc-153-2001) Annexure 01. Accordingly, the number of trees over the mining lease area worked out to 1139 nos.  Out of 144.945 ha of ML area near about 92.5 ha is completely devoid of vegetation. The vegetation on the slope areas has been enumerated and accordingly as per sample enumeration it is around 1139 nos of trees. Apart from this, the vegetation relating to tree girth below 1'0" girth class has also been assessed which is around 3550 nos. Further, the slope area is also covered with climber growth. Therefore, the average density which is noted as 0.2 is rightly tallying with the field conditions. The calculations on the forest density have been revisited and reported that the forest density of 0.2 represents the average figure, relevant for the purpose of calculation of NPV only.
8.	The State Govt. shall submit their comments/justification for proposing new mine in the forest area as per the Para 7.8 of the consolidated Handbook guidelines issued under V (SES) Adhiniyam, 1980 and VSESA, Rules 2023. A	In compliance to this condition the User agency stated that Bauxite is a naturally occurring mineral which is site specific owing to its formation and geological origin. It is very often such metallic minerals do occur in forest areas which need to be diverted as per the provisions of Forest Conservation Act. Further, this particular mineral bearing table land is mostly devoid of any significant vegetation.

	<p>report in this regard shall be submitted.</p>	<p>The mining plan for excavation of bauxite has been approved by IBM vide letter No. MCDR-MiFLOBXT/5/2023-BBS-IBM_RO_BBS Dtd.: 08/08/2023.</p> <p>The mine shall produce 4 MTPA during its peak production years. Production of bauxite for captive / commercial purpose will have the following direct and indirect benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Generate revenue for State and Central exchequers.</li> <li>➤ Increased domestic supply of bauxite, thereby reducing import of metallurgical grade bauxite.</li> <li>➤ Upgrading socio-economic condition of the surrounding villages by promoting direct e, indirect employment, and improvement in healthcare and educational infrastructure.</li> <li>➤ Promoting allied industrial activity in surrounding areas.</li> </ul> <p>A detailed justification to this effect has already been submitted by the project proponent which is attached as <b>Annexure-4.</b></p>
9.	<p>As reported by the State Govt. there are two small caves existing in the area proposed for diversion. Further, it has been mentioned by the State that Ballada Caves and one water body are situated just besides the road leading to plateau top. It has also been mentioned that the Tourist should be allowed to visit the caves on the road without any hindrance. In this regard the State Government shall clarify if the caves which are will affected have any Wildlife related/Archaeological</p>	<p>In compliance to this condition this is to state that the referred caves are situated at the edge of Nageswari Hill towards southern side of the lease area. The caves are found to be natural and formed due to leaching/chemical weathering of rock which is typical in Bauxite formation.</p> <p>Further it is stated by the User Agency that as per the approved mining plan, no mining activity is contemplated up to a distance of 100 m from the caves. Hence, the caves will not have any impact due to mining activity and will continue to remain accessible to general public for worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau.</p> <p><b>Remarks: The State Govt. has not provided the details whether the caves have any Wildlife related/Archaeological / Historical/ Cultural/ Religious significance.</b></p>

	/ Historical/ Cultural/ Religious significance?	
10.	<p>Analysis of the area proposed for diversion on DSS it has been observed that a water body around 2.70 ha (approx.) is there within the proposed area. The State Govt. shall offer their comments whether this is natural or manmade. Further, a detailed report on the impact of proposed mining on the water body shall be submitted. The NOC from the concerned/water resources department shall be provided.</p>	<p>The shallow water body within the mine lease area is a manmade formation created by forest department. The said water body (admeasuring 76 m X 54 m X 1 m) was created under CAMPA by the Department of Forest during the year 2020-21.</p> <p>It is stated by the User Agency that the said water body falls under Bauxite bearing zone and planned to be used for mining in future.</p> <p>As part of mitigation measures, the following initiatives are envisaged as per approved wildlife conservation plan:</p> <p><b>1. Creation of Water bodies:</b> In order to provide water to the wild animals during dry months water bodies of size 40m x 30m x 3m are proposed to be dug out in wildlife habitats as detailed below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ New 2 nos. of water bodies will be created: one in Nagasari RF (affected region) and another in Hatibari RF of Balda Range.</li> <li>✓ 1 no. in Bhimoddle RF in Balda Range will be Renovated</li> <li>✓ 1 no. of mini water body of size 20m x 20m x 3m will be created in Balel RF of Lamtaput Range.</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Creation of 4 nos. of earthen bund Water Harvesting Structure (WHS):</b> It is proposed to construct 4 nos. of small earthen bund Water Harvesting Structure (WHS) with RCC/ Cement Masonry spillway of required size as per site requirement across seasonal/ perennial nalas inside wildlife habitats to provide water to the animals during dry season. The WHS shall also serve the purpose of soil and moisture conservation measures in the catchment area of the nala.</p> <p><b>Remarks: The shallow water body within the mine lease area is a manmade formation created by forest department. The said water body (admeasuring 76 m X 54 m X 1 m) was created under CAMPA</b></p>

		<b>by the Department of Forest during the year 2020-21.</b>
11.	Analysis of the area proposed for diversion on DSS it has been observed that Google imagery shows existing road, few structures (Lat/Long: 18°26'35.39"N, 82°39'52.88"E) in the proposed forest area. In this regard the State Government shall offer their comments.	<p>In compliance to this condition it is to state that no structures are constructed within the area proposed for diversion. The referred coordinates point is related to the temporary fire protection Manchan created by the Koraput Forest Division during summer season to prevent and control forest fire. This is a wooden non Sal poles and brush wood shed. It is completely a temporary and seasonal structure.</p> <p>It is clarified that there is no permanent road other than those referred in point no. 5 above. The DSS observations refer to pathways only.</p>
12.	As per the land use change details it has been observed that huge area (i.e. 48.56 ha) has been proposed for greenery. As per landuse plan this area is on the outer periphery of the mining lease. The justification for including the same in the present diversion proposal shall be submitted. State shall also inform whether this area is non-mineralized zone or otherwise? The KML file of the proposed green belt shall be provided.	<p>In compliance to this condition the User Agency stated that Ballada is a virgin bauxite block with a total lease area of 144.945 which was explored at G-3 level by GSI and a GR to this effect was prepared by DMG-Odisha. However, the entire mining lease area has not been explored so far although there is a potential for occurrence of Bauxite in unexplored part of the lease area.</p> <p>In terms of MCDR, 2017 and approved mining plan, it is mandated to explore the entire lease area upto G1 level, within 5 Years from execution of mining lease deed.</p> <p>Based on the finding of the detailed exploration over the unexplored area, a mining plan shall be prepared and get approved by IBM for future mining.</p> <p>As per the undertaking given earlier by the project proponent, till such time the exploration activities in the unexplored area is completed and the mineral resources are established/proven, the project proponent shall not use nor access the unexplored area of 48.56 Ha presently earmarked as green belt, other than for the purpose of exploration.</p> <p>The KML file of the proposed green belt is enclosed as <b>Annexure 2</b></p>

		<b>Remarks: The land use wise map is enclosed herewith wherein the green belt is green colour is showing. The Green area has been kept by the UA for future mining.</b>
13.	Component wise KML file of proposed area is not available on PARIVESH. The same shall be uploaded	Component wise KML file is enclosed as Annexure-3 <b>Remarks: The land use wise map is enclosed herewith.</b>
14.	<p>Analysis of the area proposed for diversion on DSS it has been observed that road, cultivation land, pits and old plantation is visible in some areas in the proposed CA sites (both patches). The state Govt. ensures that the area proposed for diversion is free from all encumbrances. Keeping this in view the state shall re-examine the site suitability of the land proposed for CA. Further in the patch measuring 14.776 ha a road is passing through the middle of this patch which implies that the patch is not free from encumbrances. Exclusion of the road will lead to bifurcation of this area into two patches, therefore the state shall also has to ensure that the size of the land bank/patches proposed for CA is as per the prescribed guidelines.</p>	<p>The road referred to in the query is actually not a road, but a temporary pathway (pagdandi) being used by the inhabitants of one particular hamlet. It may be noted that there exists a permanent metalled road on the eastern side of the CA land patch which can always be used for all weather communication. This observation was also made during the inspection by the revenue &amp; forest officials and on the basis of objective evaluation, suitability certificate was issued. In view of the above narrated facts there will be no bifurcation of this area into two patches.</p> <p>As regards DSS observation on sighting of cultivation land, pits and old plantation within the proposed CA land, it is clarified that as those are non forest land the fringe villagers usually use for cultivation of short duration minor millets at certain patches. It is completely seasonal and at the time afforestation works those issues will be resolved. Hence, it doesn't change the ownership of the land in any manner nor does it affect the suitability of the land for CA purpose. Further, the vegetation at certain patches is just adjacent to natural nallahs only. It is not related to any old plantations as certified earlier. The pit points observed at certain patches in the CA land are related to staggered trenches dug out under MGNREGS by the Forest Department for soil moisture conservation purposes a few years back.</p>
15.	The State Govt. shall intimate as to how requirement of the electricity and water will be met and the	In compliance to this condition the User agency stated that the Electricity shall be sourced from the local grid while water will be sourced from a nearby reservoir. The transmission line and the water pipeline are

	additional forest land required for the same if any	envisaged to run along the access roads for which forest diversion has been applied. It is clarified that no additional forest diversion is required for this purpose.
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8. Further, the SIR has been received from the RO Bhubaneswar in the instant proposal. The RO has informed that the site inspection of the above project was carried out by the DDGF (Central) on 27.10.2024 along with RCCF, Koraput, DFO, Koraput and representatives from the user agency. The Instant project is for diversion of 157.212 ha of forest land (144.945 ha of ML area + 12.267 ha for approach road outside ML area). There is an old existing road on either side of the Mining lease from valley to the plateau to passing through the Nagasari RF. This is the existing road to the mining lease area for which the user agency has also applied for diversion of 12.267 ha of forest land for approach road to mining lease. Two small caves seems naturally exist in the demarcated mining lease. A Water body is also there in the proposed mining lease area. The detailed SIR is **enclosed**. Further, in the recommendation part the Dy. Director General of Forests (Central) following has been mentioned:
- i. The instant proposal is for diversion of 157.212 Ha of forest land which includes 144.945 Ha mining lease area and 12.267 Ha for construction of road. Out of 144.945 Ha of mining lease area 52.79 Ha will be maintained as Green belt and Safety zone.
  - ii. The forest land proposed for diversion falls under Eco-Value Class-III. The canopy density as reported by DFO is 0.2. As per DSS analysis of ML area, 6 Ha is VDF, 23 Ha MDF, Open Forest 21 Ha and 95 Ha of Non-Forest Category. Mining will be done mostly in the area which is totally devoid of tree.
  - iii. As reported by the DFO, the narrow road of 2.8 m width has been constructed on western side of Ballada Bauxite Block by Rural Works Department as per approval accorded by DFO, Koraput vide letter No.6692 dated 28.12.2020 under FRA, 2006. This road is included in proposal for diversion of forest land.
  - iv. The applied area does not form part of any National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Corridor. It was also reported that the proposed site for the project does not come under eco-sensitive zone of any protected area. Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan with special emphasis to mitigate the adverse impact on available wildlife in and around the project as well as conservation and protection of rare/ endangered and other wildlife found in and around the proposed area is required. Besides, the user agency should pay towards cost of Regional Wildlife Management Plan for entire mining lease as per approved norm of State Govt.

- v. A water reservoir is located within the mining lease area. As reported by DFO, Koraput the shallow water body within the mining lease area is man made formation created by Forest Department under CAMPA during 2020-21. As reported the above water body falls under Bauxite bearing zone and will be used for mining in future. In order to compensate the loss of water body and to provide water to the wild animals during summer season, the User Agency should create water body to compensate the use of existing water body any where in and around the mining lease.
- vi. As mining will be done at the hill top, so the catchment will be affected. Soil Conservation Plan for the hillock covering the rest of the forest may be prepared and implemented at project cost. No drained water should be allowed to come out of the mining area.
- vii. After mining, the area should be ecologically restored to the present state i.e. a more or less levelled grass land with water body.
- viii. Two natural caves exist in between demarcated Mining Lease Pillar No. 01 and 14 of the Mining Lease. Though the area is part of mining lease, but as per the mining plan the caves will be out of mining area. A distance of 100 meter from the caves towards the mining area should be maintained and should be developed as green belt. The user agency shall allow general public for visiting and worshipping their enshrined deity as well as the two caves using the road to be diverted.
- ix. In lieu of 157.212 ha of forest land proposed for diversion, State Govt. has identified 158.406 ha of non-forest Govt. land in village Khinibar and Kandra under Nandapur Tahsail of Koraput District for raising compensatory afforestation. The identified non-forest land was found suitable for CA. During inspection, it was observed that a metal road is passing through CA patch-1 and non-metal road is there in CA Patch-2. The State Govt. shall suitably fence both side of road to protect the plantation from grazing.
- x. The Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan has been approved by the Regional Controller of Mines, IBM, Bhubaneswar over an area of 144.945 ha in respect of Ballada Bauxite Block of M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd. vide letter No.MCDR-MiFLOBXT/5/2023-BBS-IBM-RO-BBS dated 08.08.2023. The State Govt. has submitted a detailed scheme of reclamation and afforestation to reclaim and stabilize the mined out undulating areas and the saturated dumps and by taking up plantation with the proposal. Phased reclamation will be carried out by the project proponent as per approved Mining Plan.
- xi. Out of the mining lease area of 144.945 Ha, for mining & allied activities only 92.155 Ha area to be utilized. But the rest area of 52.79 Ha (144.945 Ha – 92.155 Ha) will be maintained as Safety Zone and Green Belt. As per Ministry's letter No.11-599/2014-FC dated 10.11.2015, the user

agency has applied for diversion of the total lease area of 144.945 Ha and 12.267 Ha for approach road outside ML area and has submitted to Pay NPV as well as CA in non-forest land for the entire area of 157.212 Ha. The green belt of 52.79 Ha is all around the mining lease area.

*Mining is a site specific activity. The user agency has identified equivalent non-forest land for raising Compensatory Afforestation. The proposal is recommended with standard conditions and fulfillment of the observation made during inspection.*

9. **Comments of the FC Division:** In view of the above, after the analysis of the facts given in the proposal and SIR by RO following have been observed:
- i. The area measuring 12.267 ha for proposed road has not been shown in the approved mining plan because it is outside the lease area.
  - ii. The State Govt. has not provided the details whether the caves have any Wildlife related/Archaeological / Historical/ Cultural/ Religious significance.
  - iii. The shallow water body within the mine lease area is a manmade formation created by forest department. The said water body (admeasuring 76 m X 54 m X 1 m) was created under CAMPA by the Department of Forest during the year 2020-21. The RO in his SIR has reported that in order to compensate the loss of water body and to provide water to the wild animals during summer season, the User Agency should create water body to compensate the use of existing water body any where in and around the mining lease.
  - iv. The area of 48.56 ha earmarked for green belt has been kept by the UA for future mining.
  - v. The State has to fully justify the necessity of opening new mining leases for particular mineral as per Para 7.8 (i) of the guidelines.
  - vi. Regarding metaled road showing in the CA site the State Govt. has informed that there exists a permanent metaled road on the eastern side of the CA land patch which can always be used for all weather communication. However, the area of that road has not been excluded from the proposed CA area.
  - vii. Further, regarding observation on sighting of cultivation land, pits and old plantation within the proposed CA land, it has been clarified by the State Govt. clarified that as those are non-forest land the fringe villagers usually use for cultivation of short duration minor millets at certain patches. It is completely seasonal and at the time of afforestation works those issues will be resolved. Hence, it doesn't change the ownership of the land in any manner nor does it affect the suitability of the land for CA purpose. Further, the vegetation at certain patches is just adjacent to natural nallahs only. It is not related to any old plantations as certified earlier. The pit points observed at certain patches in the CA land are

related to staggered trenches dug out under MGNREGS by the Forest Department for soil moisture conservation purposes a few years back.

- viii. The State Govt. has reported that a road showing in eastern side of the lease was a foot path. The said foot path was gradually developed by the villagers of Balda GP for the purpose of worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau.
- ix. Further, the State Govt. has reported that a narrow road of 2.8 m width has been constructed on the western side of the Ballada Bauxite Block by the Rural works department as per the permission accorded by the Divisional forest Officer vide his office memo no-6692 dated 28.12.2020 under Section 3(2) of the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act-2006 for providing similar access to the local public residing on the other side of the hill for the purpose of worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau.
- x. The state has proposed to widen and strengthen the both the existing roads. The roads showing in the western side is proposed to be widen up to only a part of its length and the road showing on eastern side is ending at the village boundary and therefore it is not clear as to how the above roads will be connected to the nearest/ proposed road head. The need for the two roads is also required to be deliberated accordingly.

In view of the above, the proposal is placed before the Advisory Committee in its forthcoming meeting for consideration.

**Annexures:**

**DSS Report.**

**SIR.**



**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**  
**Minutes of Meeting for Advisory Committee**



<b>MoM ID</b>	FC/MOM/AC/963104/2024
<b>Agenda ID</b>	FC/AGENDA/AC/458902/2024
<b>Title of Meeting</b>	10th AC meeting
<b>Meeting Venue</b>	Krishna Conference Hall
<b>Meeting Mode</b>	Physical
<b>Meeting Dates &amp; Time</b>	Start Date : 28/11/2024 End Date : 28/11/2024

**List of AC Members:**

S.No.	Name	Designation	Email ID
1	Jitendra Kumar	Director General of Forest, MEF	dgfi****@nic.in
2	Shri Sushil Kumar Awashti	Additional Director General of Forest (Wild life)	adgw*****@nic.in
3	Anjan Kumar Mohanty	Additional Director General of Forest, MOEFCC	adgf*****@nic.in
4	Ramesh Kumar Pandey	Inspector General of Forest, MEF	rame*****@nic.in
5	Shri Suramya Dolarray Vora	Member (EAC)	sura*****@gmail.com
6	Manoj Pant	AC MEMBER	mpan*****@gmail.com
7	Dr. Mehraj A. Shaikh	AC MEMBER	ac.n*****@gov.in

**Proposals considered during Meeting:**

<b>1. Project Name</b>	Shree Jagannath International Airport at Puri
<b>Proposal Number</b>	FP/OR/Airport/426096/2023
<b>User Agency</b>	Debadutta Suranjita Jena
<b>Forest Land Area(Ha)</b>	27.887
<b>Division</b>	Puri WL Division
<b>Recommendation</b>	Deferred

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through

E-file. The same is attached in PDF format

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format

**Recommendation Remark:**

deferred.

**2. Project Name** Raika Iron and Manganese Ore Mines, Shiv Dutt Sharma  
**Proposal Number** FP/OR/MIN/QRY/444094/2023  
**User Agency** SHAKTI RANJAN DASH  
**Forest Land Area(Ha)** 17.032  
**Division** Keonjhar Division  
**Recommendation** Accepted

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Recommendation Remark:**

Recommended for grant of 'in-principle' approval

**3. Project Name** Khondbond Iron & Mn Mine of M/s Tata Steel Ltd.  
**Proposal Number** FP/OR/REDIV/442401/2023  
**User Agency** Awnish Kumar  
**Forest Land Area(Ha)**  
**Division** Keonjhar Division  
**Recommendation** Deferred

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Recommendation Remark:**

Deferred.

**4. Project Name** Ballada Bauxite Mining Project  
**Proposal Number** FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023  
**User Agency** Kassireddy Anil Kumar  
**Forest Land Area(Ha)** 157.212  
**Division** Koraput Division  
**Recommendation** Accepted

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Recommendation Remark:**

Recommended for grant of 'in-principle' approval

**5. Project Name** Re-Diversion of 299.697 ha forest Land out of total 312.697 ha of Utkal D & E Combined.  
**Proposal Number** FP/OR/REDIV/456767/2023  
**User Agency** Anil Kumar Panda  
**Forest Land Area(Ha)**  
**Division** Angul Division  
**Recommendation** Accepted

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Recommendation Remark:**

Recommended for grant of 'in-principle' approval

**6. Project Name** Change in Land Use Pattern over an area of 6.910 Ha of Forest area in mining & allied activity over the ML area of 49.372 Ha of Raikela Tantra Iron Mines of M/s Penguin Trading & Agencies Limited, Raikela, Sundargarh Odisha

**Proposal Number** FP/OR/REDIV/431319/2023

**User Agency** Raman Rashmi Nayak

**Forest Land Area (Ha)**

**Division** Bonai Division

**Recommendation** Accepted

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Recommendation Remark:**

Recommended for grant of 'in-principle' approval

**7. Project Name** Construction of approach road for New Urban Estate at village Sarki, on Batala – Jalandhar road, Tehsil Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur. (Punjab).

**Proposal Number** FP/PB/OTHERS/466079/2024  
**User Agency** Jagvir Singh  
**Forest Land Area(Ha)** 0.2045  
**Division** Gurdaspur Division  
**Recommendation** Deferred

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Recommendation Remark:**

Deferred.

**8. Project Name** Diversion of 61.45 ha forest land for Ramdongri Manganese ore minge  
**Proposal Number** FP/MH/MIN/QRY/409811/2022  
**User Agency** JAYASWAL NECO INDUSTRIES LIMITED  
**Forest Land Area(Ha)** 61.45  
**Division** Nagpur Division  
**Recommendation** Deferred

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Recommendation Remark:**

Deferred.

**9. Project Name** Up-gradation to 2-lane with paved shoulders of Tuivai - Keifang road, NH-102B of Aizawl - Imphal Economic Corridor Under Champhai Division

**Proposal Number** FP/MZ/ROAD/400856/2022

**User Agency** BINOD KUMAR SRIVASTAVA

**Forest Land Area(Ha)** 12.136

**Division** Champhai Division

**Recommendation** Accepted

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Recommendation Remark:**

Recommended for grant of 'in-principle' approval

**10. Project Name** Forest Clearance for mining Plan for the Embankment work in Imphal valley for Jiribam-Imphal new BG Railway link.

**Proposal Number** FP/MN/MIN/QRY/462825/2024

**User Agency** Md Samuel

**Forest Land Area(Ha)** 5.5

**Division** Kangpokpi Forest Division

**Recommendation** Deferred

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Recommendation Remark:**

Deferred.

**11. Project Name** Proposed BPCL Retail Outlet on Nandrapur Bass-Rajsthan Border Road (ODR Road I D 1395) Near KM Stone-1 (RHS) Village Nandrapur Bass Tehsil & Distt. Rewari Haryana

**Proposal Number** FP/HR/PetrolPump/422338/2023

**User Agency** Eshu Kumar

**Forest Land Area(Ha)** 0.1601

**Division** Rewari Division

**Recommendation** Deferred

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Recommendation Remark:**

deferred.

**12. Project Name** Diversion of Forest land for Laying of 600MM i/d MS pipeline from Online Booster near Omaxe to Village - Charmwood in District – Faridabad (HR)

**Proposal Number** FP/HR/Pipeline/468226/2024

**User Agency** Jitender Singh

**Forest Land Area(Ha)** 0.555

**Division** Faridabad Division

**Recommendation** Accepted

**Brief Description of Project:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

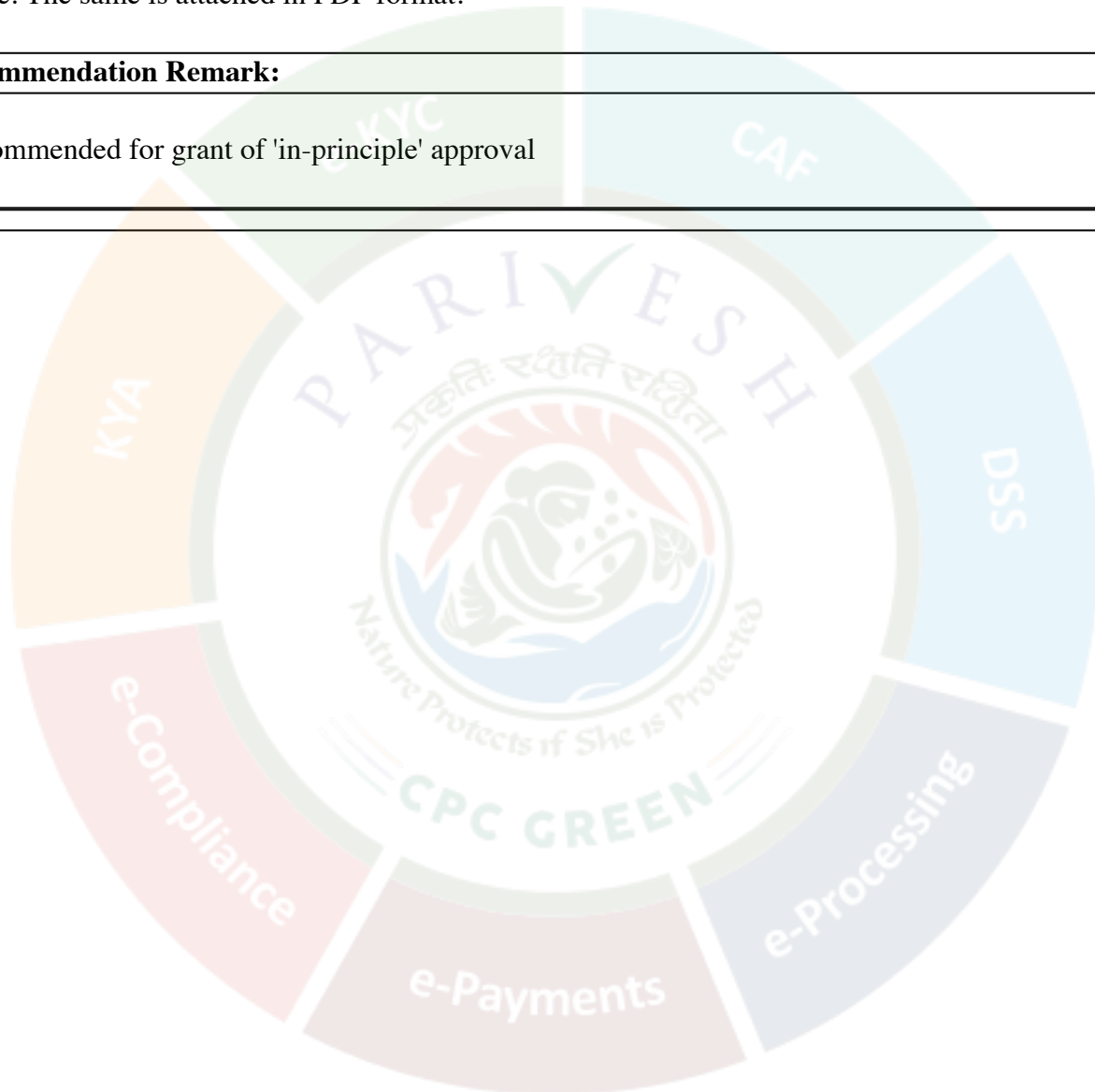
N/A

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The MoM for AC meeting held on 28.11.2024 has already approved by the Chairman of AC through E-file. The same is attached in PDF format.

**Recommendation Remark:**

Recommended for grant of 'in-principle' approval



- xx. It was observed that the user agency has changed the land use plan which is not as per the land use plan approved by the Ministry, it was found that the excess forest land over 4.64 ha has been used for 3 purposes than the approved area.
- xxi. Since the NOC for diversion of Kathamunda, Gudjei and Bedasara nallah flowing through Utkal 'D' and Utkal E coal blocks allotted to NALCO under Chhendipada Tahsil, Angul district. Strict instruction needs shall be, not to deviate from the condition mentioned in the NOC issued by the Department of Water Resources vide letter NO.26553 dated 12.10.2022.
4. **Decision of Advisory Committee:** After thorough deliberation and discussion with DDGF (Central), RO Bhubaneshwar and CCF Nodal Officer, Govt. of Odisha, the Committee recommended the proposal for grant of '*in-principle*' approval for change in land use in favour of M/s National Aluminium Company Ltd. over an area of 299.697 ha of already diverted Forest land within the total Mining Lease area of 824.316 ha of Amalgamated Utkal D & E Coal Mines Lease in Angul Forest Division of Angul District in Odisha subject to the General, Standard and following specific conditions:
- ii. Keeping in view the change in land use affected over 4.64 ha area without prior approval, The State Govt. shall realize the penalty of two times the NPV plus simple interest 12 per cent from the date of actual violation committed.
  - iii. The matter regarding imposition of penal CA is under consideration for the formulation of a uniform policy guideline in the matter. Keeping this in view, the imposition of penal CA (if any) shall be as per the said guideline, if issued.
  - iv. The State Govt. shall ensure the compliance of all the conditions stipulated in the permission/NOC issued by the Department of Water Resources vide letter NO.26553 dated 12.10.2022.
  - v. As provided in the mining plan, 50 m embankment along the Singhada jhore Nallah shall be maintained and green belt shall be maintained as per guidelines.
  - vi. The final approval of this land use change as recommended in the instant case shall be given only when the Stage-II approval is accorded in case of proposal of diversion of 13.0 ha pertaining to the same area, for which Stage-1 approval dated 20.08.2024 has been issued vide online proposal no. FP/OR/MIN/OQR/456337/2023 and compliance of the same is awaited.

### Agenda No. 10

**Online proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023**

**Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha.**

1. The agenda for above subject proposal was considered by the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 28.11.2024. The corresponding agenda note may be seen at [www.parivesh.nic.in](http://www.parivesh.nic.in). The CCF O/o Nodal Officer, Odisha and DDGF (Central), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhubaneswar attended the meeting.
2. During the meeting, all the facts and background of the proposal, along with examination of the proposal in the DSS were presented and explained by the Member Secretary. Committee was also apprised of the relevant provisions under other Acts, Rules and Guidelines relevant to the proposal and their significance.
3. The Advisory Committee after through deliberation and discussion observed that:
  - i. The State Government of Odisha vide their letter No. FE-DIV-FLD-0052-2024-13003/FE&CC dated 19.07.2024 submitted above subject proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.
  - ii. Government of Odisha, pursuant to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 as amended from time to time issued the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) dt.23.11.2022 to commence the auction Process for grant of Mining lease for Ballada Bauxite Block in Nagasari RF located in Koraput District of Odisha. The e-auction process was conducted in accordance with the tender document for the said mineral block and Mundra Alumina Limited was declared as the preferred bidder under rule 9(9) (iii) of Rule 10(IA) of Auction rules, having quoted a Final Price offer of 72.25%.
  - iii. Accordingly, pursuant to Rule 10(2) of the Auction Rules and the terms of the Tender Document, the Government of Odisha have been pleased to issue the Letter of Intent (Lol) for grant of Mining Lease for Ballada Bauxite Block in Ballada village of Nandapur Tahasil of Koraput District over 144.945 ha area to Mundra Alumina Limited for a period of fifty (50) years by Steel and Mines Department, Government of Odisha vide L. No.2143 dt.01.03.2023. The Lol is valid for three years from the date of issue.
  - iv. Mundra Aluminium Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Limited. Mundra Aluminium Limited has changed its name as Kalinga Alumina Limited and the same has been accepted by the Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India and to that effect Certificate of Incorporation of new name on 30.03.2023 as per Rule-29 of Companies (incorporation) Rules, 2019 has been issued. This change is a mere change in name and there is no change in corporate structure, Memorandum and Articles of Association and the share holding pattern. The renamed entity will continue to be a wholly owned subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Limited.
  - v. Steel and Mines Department, Government of Odisha vide Proceeding No.5995 dt. 09.06.2023 have been pleased to allow the change of name from Mundra Aluminium Limited to Kalinga Alumina Limited as

per Rule 61 of Mineral Concession Rules, 2016 with effect from 30.03.2023.

- vi. As reported by the RCCF, Koraput Circle, the Mining lease comprises of Reserved Forest land only. The actual allotted land of the Ballada Bauxite Block is 144.945 ha. The complete Mining Lease area is a part of Nagasari RF of Koraput Forest Division. There is an old existing road on either side of the Mining Lease from valley to the plateau top passing through the Nagasari RF. This is the existing approach road to the ML area. The total extent of the approach road is 12.267 ha. The user agency has applied for diversion of the existing approach road along with the allotted forest land in the Mining Lease area over 144.945 ha. Cumulatively the applied forest land for diversion is 157.212 ha.
- vii. The mineral bearing plateau is situated about 1 Km west of Ballada village and about 8 Kms distance from Padua in Koraput. The site is approachable by National Highway NH-52. The district headquarter is located at 60 Kms distance from the applied site. The nearest railway station is located about 5 Kms due north-east from the applied site. This applied area does not form part of any National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve and ESZ. Two small caves seems to naturally exist in between demarcated Mining Lease pillar No.01 & 14 of the Mining Lease. But those two caves are not manmade archaeological monument. The project is right inside Nagasari RF. The total mineral reserve is estimated to be 22.13 Million Tonnes and the total mineable reserve is 19.96 Million tonnes. The total cost of the project comes to 23,000 Lakh at current price level. This project will generate permanent employment for 30 persons and temporary/ contractual employment for 27000 persons.
- viii. The Mining of a particular ore deposit is always site specific irrespective of the land classification. Pursuant to the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015, Mineral Auction Rules, 2015 and other relevant guidelines in force, Government of Odisha had put up Ballada Bauxite Block with a total lease area of 144.945 ha for auction. The said Block is located in Ballada village of Nandapur Tahasil, Dist-Koraput, Odisha.
- ix. Ballada is a virgin Bauxite Block with a total lease area of 144.945 ha, explored at G-3 level by GSI and GR to this effect was prepared by DGM-Odisha which formed part of the auction documents. GSI had carried out preliminary exploration of the Ballada Bauxite Block by drilling 15 vertical boreholes with a total meterage of 292.65 m. A total of 22.13 Million tonnes of inferred resources of Bauxite of all grades have been estimated by cross sectional area method which is at G-3 level as per MEMC, Rules, 2015.
- x. The precise lease boundary encompassing 144.945 ha was defined in the auction documents. The entire Block has been demarcated by DGPS survey and certified by ORSAC for putting the block for auction by the State Government. Amidst stiff competition, Kalinga Alumina Limited emerged successful and a Lol was in its favour issued for development of Bauxite Block over an area of 144.945 ha. It may be noted that the entire lease area falls under Nagasari Reserve Forest under Koraput Forest Division.

- xi. As per the GR prepared by the DGM, Ballada Bauxite Block needs upscaling of resources and grade by exploring the Block further at G-level for augmentation and optimal harnessing of precious natural resources.
- xii. Upon award of Lol in its favour, the project proponent had prepared a Mining Plan based on the current GR which was approved by IBM vide L. No.MCDR-MiFLOBXT/5/2023-BBS-IBM-RO-BBS dt. 08.08.2023. The project proponent is setting up a global scale 4MTPA alumina refinery in Rampur village of Rayagada district with considerable investments. It has already secured two bauxite deposits through auction to secure the raw materials. It may please be appreciated that raw material security is of paramount importance so as to make such mineral based industries viable. Therefore, it is imperative that adequate raw materials are made available prior to commissioning of the refinery.
- xiii. The diversion project involves another 12.267 ha forest land for approach roads. Cumulatively, the forest land applied for diversion is 157.212 ha including the Bauxite Block of Ballada and the approach road connecting the Mining Lease.
- xiv. The present Mining Plan has been prepared in a specified format, which did not have a provision for land use plan of the entire ML area. However, in Chapter 6.2.11 of the progressive Mine Closure Plan and in Chapter 9.3.2.2 of Impact assessment, the complete area of 144.945 ha with distribution of land use has been shown.
- xv. In the applied mining lease area, **forest land involved is 144.945 ha. No non-forest land is involved in the Mining Lease.** The types of forest land involved in the Mining Lease are of Reserve Forest. The UA will utilise the forest land within the approved Mining Lease area. The User agency has furnished an undertaking duly signed by the DFO, Koraput Forest Division regarding minimum use of forest land. The forest land proposed for diversion within the Mining Lease comes under Nagasari Reserve forest of Ballada Range under Koraput Forest Division. There are two roads from the valley connecting the Mining Lease area situated on the Plateau. The road is being used by the villages of the valley for worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau. The proponent has submitted the proposal seeking diversion of the existing road for movement of the man, machine as well as transportation of the exploited materials from the proposed Mines. The roads located on either sides of the plateau leading to plateau top passes through Nagasari Reserve forest. **The total forest land which comes under the ambit of the approach road is 12.267 ha.** The DFO, Koraput Forest Division has furnished the land schedule of the proposed forest land of the Ballada Bauxite Block as well as the approach roads leading to the Mining Lease. The details of the forest land proposed for diversion for Mining as well as for the approach road are tabulated below:

Sl. No	Type of Forest Land	Area allotted in Ha	Area in Ha as per DGPS	Remarks

1	Nagasari Reserve Forest	144.945	144.945	ML area
2	Nagasari Reserve Forest	12.267	12.267	Approach road
	<b>Total</b>	<b>157.212</b>	<b>157.212</b>	

xvi. The RCCF, Koraput Circle in his site Inspection Report has mentioned about the breakup of the forest land proposed for diversion:

S. No	Pattern of utilization	Area proposed in Ha
1	Top soil stacking	0.28
2	Mineral storage	1.93
3	Infrastructure (Workshop, Administrative Building etc)	0.18
4	Road	0.38
5	Mineral separation Plant (Crushing and screening plant)	0.13
6	Over burden dump/Waste dumping	1.95
7	Area under Safety zone plantation	4.23
8	Area under Mining	81.82
9	Access road within the lease boundary	0.995
10	<b>Area left under Green belt</b>	<b>48.56</b>
11	Approach to dump and buffer safety zone (on the plateau)	4.49
	Sub-Total	144.945
13	Area under approach road (outside block area)	12.267
	<b>Total</b>	<b>157.212</b>

xvii. An area of 4.230 ha has been earmarked for Safety Zone within the ML area. The details of area under Safety Zone are as follows:

Purpose of Safety Zone	Total forest land in ha.	Non forest land in ha	Grand Total (in ha.)
7.5 mts. along ML boundary	4.230	-	4.230

There is an area of 48.56 ha within the ML which has been kept aside for Green Belt. In this regard, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to maintain the said land as green Belt in consultation with the DFO, Koraput Forest Division. Further, an area of 50 mtr width on either side of the natural stream and 10 mtr width on either side of the public road located inside the mining lease shall be protected and will not be considered as part of safety zone as per the undertaking submitted by the User Agency.

xviii. The entire ML area can be divided into two segments. The plateau top over 92.5 ha i.e. mining zone and 52.45 ha slope zone. The mining zone over 92.5 ha in plateau top is devoid of vegetation. Only vegetation is available on slope zone. The tree enumeration over 52.45 ha has been taken up adopting the sampling technique. Total 25 nos. of sample plots of 1.0 ha each has been laid over the forest land on slope zone and tree enumeration has been done on the sample plots. Trees above 30 cm girth have been enumerated on the sample plots counting 543 nos. in aggregate. After extrapolating the figure of sample enumeration over slope zone area 52.45 ha, it comes to 1139 nos. trees.

- xix. The Non-forest Government land over 158.406 ha in village-Khinibar and Kandra under Nandapur Tahasil of Koraput district against the proposed diversion proposal of Ballada Bauxite Block over 144.945 ha and approach road connecting the ML area over 12.267 ha of Kalinga Alumina Limited has been allotted by Collector, Koraput vide his letter No. 2466/XXVI-32/2023 dt.04.08.2023 over 430.70 Ac or 174.30 ha. The CA land over 174.30 ha in Koraput district has been jointly verified by the Tahasildar, Nandapur, Range Officer, Ballada Range & R.I., Padua under the jurisdiction of Koraput Forest Division. Out of which 158.406 ha has been taken for CA plantation. Certificates regarding non-encroachment, non-encumbrance and land suitability for plantation, not covered under DC report, not settled in favour of anyone etc. have been furnished in the joint verification certificate.
  - xx. The cost of forest Diversion is assessed as 25860.00 lakhs and Benefit of the project is estimated at 574033.80 lakhs. The Cost-Benefit ratio comes to 1:22.197.
  - xxi. The Mining plan including Progressive Mine closure plan has been approved by the Regional Controller of Mines, Office of the Regional Controller of Mines, BBSR (IBM) over an area of 144.945 ha in respect of Ballada Bauxite Block in village-Ballada, Padua-Taluk, Koraput District in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd. vide L. No.MCDR-MiFLOBXT/5/2023-BBS-IBM RO \_BBS dt.08.08.2023 with 17 no. of terms and conditions. The approval of review of Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan has been accorded by the Indian Bureau of Mines.
  - xxii. The Site Inspection Report of DFO, Koraput & RCCF, Koraput that no wildlife is available within the Mining Lease area being a plateau top. However, the adjoining areas have forest growth. The SEIAA, Odisha while granting the ToR has made a stipulation to prepare a Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan for the land project. The user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Koraput to bear the cost of SSWLCP.
  - xxiii. From the enclosed Site Inspection Reports of the DFO, Koraput, RCCF, Koraput and authorized officer of PCCF (Nodal) enclosed in the diversion proposal, it is learnt that no violation under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 has been committed by the user agency in respect of the applied area.
  - xxiv. The user agency has furnished an undertaking to pay the NPV over applied forest area of the ML over 144.945 ha and approach road over 12.267 ha of Ballada Bauxite Block duly countersigned by the DFO, Koraput Forest Division. The user agency has further furnished an undertaking to bear the additional cost of NPV if so, determined as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India duly countersigned by the DFO, Koraput Division is given.
4. The RO vide letter dated 30.08.2023 has granted approval for prospecting in the instant proposal.
  5. After the examination of the proposal the Ministry through online portal have sought certain information form the State Government. The State Government, through online portal has submitted the point wise reply on

19.10.2024. In the reply of the State Government following has been observed:

- i. the User Agency stated that the approved mining plan was prepared in a specified format as prescribed by IBM, which did not have a provision for land use plan for the entire life of mine. However, in Chapter 6.2.11 of Progressive Mine Closure Plan and in Chapter 9.3.2.2 of Impact assessment, the complete mining lease area of 144.945 Ha with distribution of land use has been categorically mentioned.
- ii. The detailed land use break up is furnished in the table as furnished above in the table at point no. (xvi).
- iii. The User Agency stated that existing approach roads are narrow and not fit for heavy vehicular traffic. These two roads will be widened and strengthened so as to facilitate vehicular traffic as well as for easy movement of local people for worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau. Further, as regards the above said roads the provisions of file No. FC-11/203/2019-FC Dated 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 2019 and File No. FC-11-162-2020-FC Dtd. 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug 2021 of GoI, MoEF & CC, and Department has been followed. The villagers will continue to use these roads to access the referred cave without any hindrance. The impact of proposed diversion on the local people/villages has already been studied and mentioned in the draft impact assessment report and environmental management plan by the User Agency.
- iv. There are no natural streams within the proposed mining lease area. However, the streams of first order are present in the slope area (non-mining area) which may not be directly affected as those are away from the ML boundary. The road mentioned above is an approach to mining lease area. As aforementioned, this road shall be strengthened & widened for accessing the mining area. It is further clarified by the User agency that 585 meters (East side) & 385 meters (West Side) approach roads are existent within the mining lease area. Those roads will be protected as per the undertaking furnished in this regard by the User agency.
- v. That bauxite bearing area do not support vegetation. It is a natural phenomenon of Bauxite bearing areas. The table land of the said mining lease area is devoid of any vegetation and the same phenomenon is also observed in other table land areas of this Division. As rightly observed, the vegetation distribution is different on the plateau and on the slope areas. It is further clarified that the observed difference in vegetation distribution is not at all attributed to anthropogenic reasons.
- vi. Regarding two roads the State has clarified that the present eastern side road was a foot path. The said foot path was gradually developed by the villagers of Balda GP for the purpose of worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau. A narrow road of 2.8 m width has been constructed on the western side of the Ballada Bauxite Block by the Rural works department as per the permission accorded by the Divisional forest Officer vide his office memo no-6692 dated 28.12.2020 under Section 3(2) of the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act-2006 for providing similar access to the local public residing on the other side of

the hill for the purpose of worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau. It is clarified that there is no violation of the Adhiniyam, 1980 with respect to construction of the said roads. It was executed as per the Gram Sabha resolution and in the best interest of the local communities to have access to their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau.

- vii. Regarding tree enumeration the State has clarified that Tree enumeration has been carried out as per representative sample survey in terms of relevant guidelines of State Forest Dept (Clause 15 of Memo No. 23746 (34)/9F-Misc-153-2001) Annexure 01. Accordingly, the number of trees over the mining lease area worked out to 1139 nos. Out of 144.945 ha of ML area near about 92.5 ha is completely devoid of vegetation. The vegetation on the slope areas has been enumerated and accordingly as per sample enumeration it is around 1139 nos of trees. Apart from this, the vegetation relating to tree girth below 1'0" girth class has also been assessed which is around 3550 nos. Further, the slope area is also covered with climber growth. Therefore, the average density which is noted as 0.2 is rightly tallying with the field conditions. The calculations on the forest density have been revisited and reported that the forest density of 0.2 represents the average figure, relevant for the purpose of calculation of NPV only.
- viii. Regarding the small caves the State Govt. has informed that the referred caves are situated at the edge of Nageswari Hill towards southern side of the lease area. The caves are found to be natural and formed due to leaching/chemical weathering of rock which is typical in Bauxite formation. Further it is stated by the User Agency that as per the approved mining plan, no mining activity is contemplated up to a distance of 100 m from the caves. Hence, the caves will not have any impact due to mining activity and will continue to remain accessible to general public for worshipping their enshrined deity on the top of the plateau.
- ix. Regarding water body showing in the lease area the State Govt. has informed that the shallow water body within the mine lease area is a manmade formation created by forest department. The said water body (admeasuring 76 m X 54 m X 1 m) was created under CAMPA by the Department of Forest during the year 2020-21. It is stated by the User Agency that the said water body falls under Bauxite bearing zone and planned to be used for mining in future. As part of mitigation measures, the following initiatives are envisaged as per approved wildlife conservation plan:
- a. **Creation of Water bodies:** In order to provide water to the wild animals during dry months water bodies of size 40m x 30m x 3m are proposed to be dug out in wildlife habitats as detailed below.
    - ✓ New 2 nos. of water bodies will be created: one in Nagasari RF (affected region) and another in Hatibari RF of Balda Range.
    - ✓ 1 no. in Bhimoddle RF in Balda Range will be Renovated

- ✓ 1 no. of mini water body of size 20m x 20m x 3m will be created in Balel RF of Lamtaput Range
- b. Creation of 4 nos. of earthen bund Water Harvesting Structure (WHS):** It is proposed to construct 4 nos. of small earthen bund Water Harvesting Structure (WHS) with RCC/ Cement Masonry spillway of required size as per site requirement across seasonal/ perennial nalas inside wildlife habitats to provide water to the animals during dry season. The WHS shall also serve the purpose of soil and moisture conservation measures in the catchment area of the nala.
- x. Regarding keeping a huge area of 48.56 ha as a green belt the User Agency stated that Ballada is a virgin bauxite block with a total lease area of 144.945 which was explored at G-3 level by GSI and a GR to this effect was prepared by DMG-Odisha. However, the entire mining lease area has not been explored so far although there is a potential for occurrence of Bauxite in unexplored part of the lease area. In terms of MCDR, 2017 and approved mining plan, it is mandated to explore the entire lease area upto G1 level, within 5 Years from execution of mining lease deed. Based on the finding of the detailed exploration over the unexplored area, a mining plan shall be prepared and get approved by IBM for future mining. As per the undertaking given earlier by the project proponent, till such time the exploration activities in the unexplored area is completed and the mineral resources are established/proven, the project proponent shall not use nor access the unexplored area of 48.56 Ha presently earmarked as green belt, other than for the purpose of exploration.
- xi. Further, regarding road, cultivation land, pits and old plantation is visible in some areas in the proposed CA sites (both patches) the State Govt. has informed that the road referred to in the query is actually not a road, but a temporary pathway (pagdandi) being used by the inhabitants of one particular hamlet. It may be noted that there exists a permanent metalled road on the eastern side of the CA land patch which can always be used for all weather communication. This observation was also made during the inspection by the revenue & forest officials and on the basis of objective evaluation, suitability certificate was issued. In view of the above narrated facts there will be no bifurcation of this area into two patches. As regards DSS observation on sighting of cultivation land, pits and old plantation within the proposed CA land, it is clarified that as those are non forest land the fringe villagers usually use for cultivation of short duration minor millets at certain patches. It is completely seasonal and at the time afforestation works those issues will be resolved. Hence, it doesn't change the ownership of the land in any manner nor does it affect the suitability of the land for CA purpose. Further, the vegetation at certain patches is just adjacent to natural nallahs only. It is not related to any old plantations as certified earlier. The pit points observed at certain patches in the CA land are related to staggered trenches dug out under MGNREGS by the Forest Department for soil moisture conservation purposes a few years back.

6. Further, the SIR has been received from the RO Bhubaneswar in the instant proposal. The RO has informed that the site inspection of the above project was carried out by the DDGF (Central) on 27.10.2024 along with RCCF, Koraput, DFO, Koraput and representatives from the user agency. The Instant project is for diversion of 157.212 ha of forest land (144.945 ha of ML area + 12.267 ha for approach road outside ML area). There is an old existing road on either side of the Mining lease from valley to the plateau to passing through the Nagasari RF. This is the existing road to the mining lease area for which the user agency has also applied for diversion of 12.267 ha of forest land for approach road to mining lease. Two small caves seems naturally exist in the demarcated mining lease. A Water body is also there in the proposed mining lease area. Further, in the recommendation part the Dy. Director General of Forests (Central) following has been mentioned:
- i. The instant proposal is for diversion of 157.212 Ha of forest land which includes 144.945 Ha mining lease area and 12.267 Ha for construction of road. Out of 144.945 Ha of mining lease area 52.79 Ha will be maintained as Green belt and Safety zone.
  - ii. The forest land proposed for diversion falls under Eco-Value Class-III. The canopy density as reported by DFO is 0.2. As per DSS analysis of ML area, 6 Ha is VDF, 23 Ha MDF, Open Forest 21 Ha and 95 Ha of Non-Forest Category. Mining will be done mostly in the area which is totally devoid of tree.
  - iii. As reported by the DFO, the narrow road of 2.8 m width has been constructed on western side of Ballada Bauxite Block by Rural Works Department as per approval accorded by DFO, Koraput vide letter No.6692 dated 28.12.2020 under FRA, 2006. This road is included in proposal for diversion of forest land.
  - iv. The applied area does not form part of any National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Corridor. It was also reported that the proposed site for the project does not come under eco-sensitive zone of any protected area. Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan with special emphasis to mitigate the adverse impact on available wildlife in and around the project as well as conservation and protection of rare/endangered and other wildlife found in and around the proposed area is required. Besides, the user agency should pay towards cost of Regional Wildlife Management Plan for entire mining lease as per approved norm of State Govt.
  - v. A water reservoir is located within the mining lease area. As reported by DFO, Koraput the shallow water body within the mining lease area is man made formation created by Forest Department under CAMPA during 2020-21. As reported the above water body falls under Bauxite bearing zone and will be used for mining in future. In order to compensate the loss of water body and to provide water to the wild animals during summer season, the User Agency should create water body to compensate the use of existing water body any where in and around the mining lease.
  - vi. As mining will be done at the hill top, so the catchment will be affected. Soil Conservation Plan for the hillock covering the rest of the forest may be prepared and implemented at project cost. No drained water should be allowed to come out of the mining area.

- vii. After mining, the area should be ecologically restored to the present state i.e. a more or less levelled grass land with water body.
- viii. Two natural caves exist in between demarcated Mining Lease Pillar No. 01 and 14 of the Mining Lease. Though the area is part of mining lease, but as per the mining plan the caves will be out of mining area. A distance of 100 meter from the caves towards the mining area should be maintained and should be developed as green belt. The user agency shall allow general public for visiting and worshipping their enshrined deity as well as the two caves using the road to be diverted.
- ix. In lieu of 157.212 ha of forest land proposed for diversion, State Govt. has identified 158.406 ha of non-forest Govt. land in village Khinibar and Kandra under Nandapur Tahsail of Koraput District for raising compensatory afforestation. The identified non-forest land was found suitable for CA. During inspection, it was observed that a metal road is passing through CA patch-1 and non-mental road is there in CA Patch-2. The State Govt. shall suitably fence both side of road to protect the plantation from grazing.
- x. The Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan has been approved by the Regional Controller of Mines, IBM, Bhubaneswar over an area of 144.945 ha in respect of Ballada Bauxite Block of M/s Kalinga Alumina Ltd. vide letter No.MCDR-MiFLOBXT/5/2023-BBS-IBM-RO-BBS dated 08.08.2023. The State Govt. has submitted a detailed scheme of reclamation and afforestation to reclaim and stabilize the mined out undulating areas and the saturated dumps and by taking up plantation with the proposal. Phased reclamation will be carried out by the project proponent as per approved Mining Plan.
- xi. Out of the mining lease area of 144.945 Ha, for mining & allied activities only 92.155 Ha area to be utilized. But the rest area of 52.79 Ha (144.945 Ha – 92.155 Ha) will be maintained as Safety Zone and Green Belt. As per Ministry's letter No.11-599/2014-FC dated 10.11.2015, the user agency has applied for diversion of the total lease area of 144.945 Ha and 12.267 Ha for approach road outside ML area and has submitted to Pay NPV as well as CA in non-forest land for the entire area of 157.212 Ha. The green belt of 52.79 Ha is all around the mining lease area.
- xii. With reference to the proposed strengthening of the two roads, the state has submitted that in view of the steep gradient of the referred approach roads and considering the probable traffic flow for use by general public, two roads have been envisaged for evacuation of Bauxite. Simultaneous usage of two roads shall also facilitate smooth traffic flow which has been ascertained after an objective traffic study made by the project proponent in the said circumstances.
- xiii. As regards DSS observation on sighting of cultivation land, pits and old plantation within the proposed CA land, the state has clarified that as those are non forest land the fringe villagers usually use for cultivation of short duration minor millets at certain patches. It is completely seasonal and at the time afforestation works those issues will be resolved. Hence, it doesn't change the ownership of the land in any manner nor does it affect the suitability of the land for CA purpose. Further, the vegetation at certain patches is just adjacent to natural

nallahs only. It is not related to any old plantations as certified earlier. The pit points observed at certain patches in the CA land are related to staggered trenches dug out under MGNREGS by the Forest Department for soil moisture conservation purposes a few years back.

- xiv. The committee observed that as reported by the state, the project proponent is setting up a global scale 4MTPA alumina refinery in Rampur village of Rayagada district with considerable investments. It has already secured two bauxite deposits through auction to secure the raw materials. The raw material security is of paramount importance to make such mineral based industries viable. The committee observed that keeping in view the requirement of para 7.8(i) of the consolidated guidelines the above justification for opening of new mine is acceptable.

7. **Decision of the Advisory Committee:** After thorough deliberation and discussion with DDGF (Central), RO Bhubaneswar and CCF Nodal Officer, Govt. of Odisha, the Committee recommended the proposal for grant of '*in-principle*' approval in favour of M/s Kalinga Alumina Limited for non-forestry use of 157.212 ha (144.945 ha ML area + 12.267 ha approach road outside ML) of Forest land (including 4.23 ha earmarked for Safety Zone) within Nagasari RF under Ballada Range of Koraput Forest Division in Koraput District for Ballada Bauxite Mines within Mining Lease area of 144.945 ha subject to the General, Standard and following specific conditions:

- i. The State Govt. shall ensure that the area earmarked as green belt i.e. 48.56 ha shall be kept as green or used as admissible as per the extant rules and guidelines and no change in the land use shall be affected without the prior approval of the Central Govt.
- ii. The shallow water body within the mine lease area is a manmade formation created by forest department. The said water body (admeasuring 76 m X 54 m X 1 m) was created under CAMPA by the Department of Forest during the year 2020-21. In order to compensate the construction made and to provide the alternative, the State shall create other such suitable waterbody in the nearby surrounding area at the cost of the user agency. The funds in this regard shall be deposited by the User Agency in NA CAMPA.
- iii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the User Agency will not carry out any mining activity near the caves as recommended by the State and Regional Officer and take suitable measure to provide safe passage for accessibility to the local people for their religious belief, rituals and worships, if any.

#### **Agenda Item No. 11**

##### **Online Proposal No. FP/OR/REDIV/442401/2023**

**Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for change in land use pattern over an area of 453.150 ha (including broken up area 136.15 ha) of already diverted Forest land within the total Mining Lease area of 978.0 ha of Khandbandh Iron & Manganese Ore Mining Lease in village Khandabandh, Guruda & Baitarani Reserve Forest of M/s Tata Steel Ltd in**

**Odisha Forest Department  
Project Screening Committee  
Agenda**

**Date:** 03/01/2024

**Agenda ID:** FC/AGENDA/PSC/328467/2024

**Title of Meeting:** 36th Project Screening Committee Meeting

**Meeting Venue:** Meeting Room of Nodal Wing, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha

**Meeting Mode:** Virtual

**Meeting Date:** 04/01/2024

**Meeting Time:** 11:30 to 12:00

**State:** Odisha

**Proposals to be discussed:**

S.No.	Proposal No.	Division	Project Name	Project Category	Forest Land Area(ha)	Form Type
1	FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023	Koraput Division	Ballada Bauxite Mining Project	Mining / Quarrying	144.945	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land

**Other Items Details**

**PSC Members Details**

S.No.	Name	Designation	Email ID
1	Shri Susanta Nanda IFS	Nodal Officer	noda*****@odisha.gov.in
2	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
3	Mrs Amitarani Ray	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in

**Remarks**

You are requested to attend the PSC meeting specific comments if any scheduled date and time

**Copy To:**

**Note:** Notification will be sent to all the members via email and sms after approval.

**Odisha Forest Department**  
**Project Screening Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting**

**MoM ID:** FC/MoM/PSC/166272/2024

**MoM Date:** 04/01/2024

**Agenda ID:** FC/AGENDA/PSC/328467/2024

**Title of Meeting:** 36th Project Screening Committee Meeting

**Meeting Date:** 04/01/2024

**Meeting Venue:** Meeting Room of Nodal Wing, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha

**Meeting Mode:** Virtual

**Other Items Details**

**List of PSC Members:**

S.No.	Name	Designation	Email ID
1	Shri Susanta Nanda IFS	Nodal Officer	noda*****@odisha.gov.in
2	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
3	Mrs Amitarani Ray	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in

**Proposals considered during meeting**

**1.Project Name : Ballada Bauxite Mining Project**

**Proposal Number:** FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023

**User Agency:** KALINGA ALUMINA LIMITED

**Forest Land Area(Ha):** 144.945

**Division:** Koraput Division

**Brief Description of Project:**

Kalinga Alumina Limited (formerly known as Mundra Aluminium Limited) have been awarded a Letter of Intent (LoI no. SM/MC2/MC/0007/2023/2143 Dated 1st March 2023) by Department of Steel & Mines, Government of Odisha for development of and production from Ballada Bauxite Block located at Nandapur Tahasil of Koraput District. Total mining lease area is 144.945 ha and the entire mining lease boundary falls under Nagasari reserve forest of Koraput forest division.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

NA

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The proposal was examined in the PSC meeting and the following shortcomings were noticed.

1. In DGPS map for CA land, 15.075 ha has been included against an approach road which is not inclusive in the proposal. Besides 148.915 ha Non-forest land has been identified in lieu of the proposed area for diversion over 144.945 ha. A segregated DGPS map, segregating 15.075 ha non-forest land identified for CA is required.

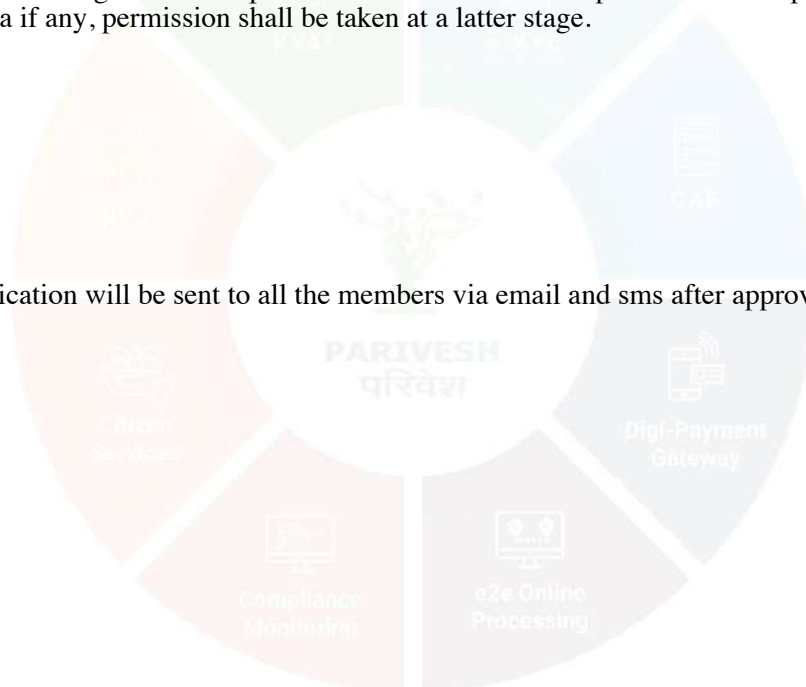
2. In item No-3 Part-I in Form-A 48.67 ha has been kept as future mining. In this reserved area details land use has not been mentioned. As per the guidelines depicted in Chapter-7.4 (iv) (f) of the recent guideline communicated by MoEF & CC, GoI dated 29.12.2023, "Mining operation and other activities shall be carried out as the land use allowed in the approval under Adhiniyam".

3. In the enclosed justification for locating in project area, it is mentioned that besides the allotted mining lease over 144.945 ha, an additional area of 11.90 ha has been shown as an approach road. Cumulatively the proposed area for diversion exceeds beyond the mining lease allotted to the user agency. Clarification is required in this regard.

**Recommendation:** Raise EDS

**Recommendation Remark:** The PSC raised EDS to the user agency with direction to file a combined proposal for both mining lease area and approach road in consultation with the DFO, Koraput Forest Division. They also should submit an undertaking to maintain the left out 48.67 ha area as green belt as per the direction of Forest Department. For exploration in the same area if any, permission shall be taken at a latter stage.

**Copy To:**



**Note:** Notification will be sent to all the members via email and sms after approval.

**Odisha Forest Department**  
**Project Screening Committee**  
**Agenda**

**Date:** 11/01/2024

**Agenda ID:** FC/AGENDA/PSC/283457/2024

**Title of Meeting:** 37th Project Screening Committee Meeting

**Meeting Venue:** meeting Room of Nodal Wing, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha

**Meeting Mode:** Virtual

**Meeting Date:** 18/01/2024

**Meeting Time:** 11:30 to 01:00

**State:** Odisha

**Proposals to be discussed:**

S.No.	Proposal No.	Division	Project Name	Project Category	Forest Land Area(ha)	Form Type
1	FP/OR/SRY/438292/2023	Bonai Division	Khandadhar Sub-Block-C	Survey	8.753	Form-C (Part-I): For seeking prior approval for Exploration & Survey
2	FP/OR/RE DIV/456767/2023	Angul Division	Re-Diversion of 299.697 ha forest Land out of total 312.697 ha of Utkal D & E Combined.	Mining / Quarrying	0.0	Form-E (Part-I): Re-Diversion i) Land Use Change ii) Laying of Overhead/ Under Ground OFC/ drinking water pipeline/ slurry pipeline/ electric cable/ CNG/PNG within RoW
3	FP/OR/Pipeline/446796/2023	Angul Division	CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROPOSED INTAKE WATER PIPELINE CORRIDOR FOR TTPS EXPANSION PROJECT(2 X 660MW).	Pipeline	6.0459	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land
4	FP/OR/MIN/QR/456337/2023	Angul Division	Diversion of 13.0 ha forest land out of total 312.697 ha of Utkal D & E Combined	Mining / Quarrying	13.0	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land
5	FP/OR/MIN/QR/449153/2023	Keonjhar Division	Kalimati Manganese Block ( Pre-embedded Clearance)	Mining / Quarrying	55.44	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land

S.No.	Proposal No.	Division	Project Name	Project Category	Forest Land Area(ha)	Form Type
6	FP/OR/RA IL/409248/2022	Jharsuguda Division	Construction of double Railway line fly over connecting MCL Railway/ Siding to Jharsuguda passenger yard and Dhutra yard by passing (Y) Connection.	Railway	12.708	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land
7	FP/OR/MIN/QRV/456733/2023	Koraput Division	Ballada Bauxite Mining Project	Mining / Quarrying	157.212	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land

### Other Items Details

### PSC Members Details

S.No.	Name	Designation	Email ID
1	Shri Susanta Nanda IFS	Nodal Officer	noda*****@odisha.gov.in
2	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
3	Shri C R Mishra	Conservator of Forest (CF)	cf_s*****@rediffmail.com
4	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
5	Shri M Yogajau Nanda	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
6	Lalit Patra	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
7	Mrs Amitarani Ray	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
8	Vivek Kumar	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
9	Sanath Kumar	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
10	D D Hanumant	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in

### Remarks

You are requested to attend the PSC meeting with specific comments if any scheduled date and time.

### Copy To:

**Note:** Notification will be sent to all the members via email and sms after approval.

**Odisha Forest Department  
Project Screening Committee  
Minutes of Meeting**

**MoM ID:** FC/MoM/PSC/609899/2024

**MoM Date:** 20/01/2024

**Agenda ID:** FC/AGENDA/PSC/283457/2024

**Title of Meeting:** 37th Project Screening Committee Meeting

**Meeting Date:** 18/01/2024

**Meeting Venue:** meeting Room of Nodal Wing, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha

**Meeting Mode:** Virtual

**Other Items Details**

**List of PSC Members:**

S.No.	Name	Designation	Email ID
1	Shri Susanta Nanda IFS	Nodal Officer	noda*****@odisha.gov.in
2	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
3	Shri C R Mishra	Conservator of Forest (CF)	cf_s*****@rediffmail.com
4	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
5	Shri M Yogajaua Nanda	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
6	Lalit Patra	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
7	Mrs Amitarani Ray	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
8	Vivek Kumar	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
9	Sanath Kumar	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
10	D D Hanumant	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in

**Proposals considered during meeting**

**1.Project Name :** Khandadhar Sub-Block-C

**Proposal Number:** FP/OR/SRY/438292/2023

**User Agency:** SUMAN SIT

**Forest Land Area(Ha):** 8.753

**Division:** Bonai Division

**Brief Description of Project:**

The proposal was accepted by the PSC in its 34th meeting held on 22.12.2023. The proposal thereafter has been scrutinized by the DFO, Angul Forest Division and was taken up in the PSC-II for recommending to the State Government as per FC Rules, 2023.

On further scrutiny in PSC-II meeting, the following shortcomings are noticed.

1. In Form-A (Part-II) of the application form, the DFO, Angul Forest Division has not been uploaded the required information in details.

2. In detailed note of the project, out of 25.372 KM of proposed pipeline corridor, the user agency has not furnished length and width of the pipeline passing through forest and non-forest area separately. Also, the start point and end point of the proposed project, the village name along with GPS coordinates have also not been furnished.

3. The UA has not furnished Tahasil wise and village wise abstract of non-forest land schedule (non-forest Govt. & non-forest private) involved in the project out of total non-forest land over an area of 25.3706 ha under 2 nos of Tahasil such as Kaniha & Talcher.

4. In Site Inspection report the DFO, Angul has furnished the type of forest to be tropical moist deciduous forest under Eco-value Class-III showing density ranging from 0.1 to 0.4 which is not specific.

5. Total tree enumeration shown on forest land as per Page totaling under both the Tahasil has been shown to be 1043 nos, but from abstract of the trees shown on forest land under both the Tahasil found to be 958 nos which is same as mentioned in Hard copy of the tree enumeration list needs to be clarified.

6. CA scheme has been prepared by the DFO, Athamallik Division over non-forest Government land of 6.079 ha in one time cost norm basis with 10 years maintenance only, which should be re-casted for maintenance over 20 years. The length of periphery of the CA sites to be fenced has not been mentioned in the CA scheme.

**Recommendation:** Raise EDS

**Recommendation Remark:** In view of the above observation, the PSC raised EDS to the User Agency / DFO, Angul Forest Division with a direction to comply the deficiencies raised above and then the proposal will be forwarded to the State Govt. for further processing and recommendation.

**6.Project Name : Ballada Bauxite Mining Project**

**Proposal Number:** FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023

**User Agency:** KALINGA ALUMINA LIMITED

**Forest Land Area(Ha):** 157.212

**Division:** Koraput Division

**Brief Description of Project:**

Kalinga Alumina Limited (formerly known as Mundra Aluminium Ltd.) have been awarded a Letter of Intent (LoI no. SM/MC2/MC/0007/2023/2143 Dated 1st March 2023) by Department of Steel & Mines, Government of Odisha for development of and production from Ballada Bauxite Block located at Nandapur Tahasil of Koraput District. Total mining lease area is 144.945 ha and the entire mining lease boundary falls under Nagasari reserve forest of Koraput Forest Division.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

NA

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The proposal was examined in the PSC meeting and the following shortcomings were noticed:

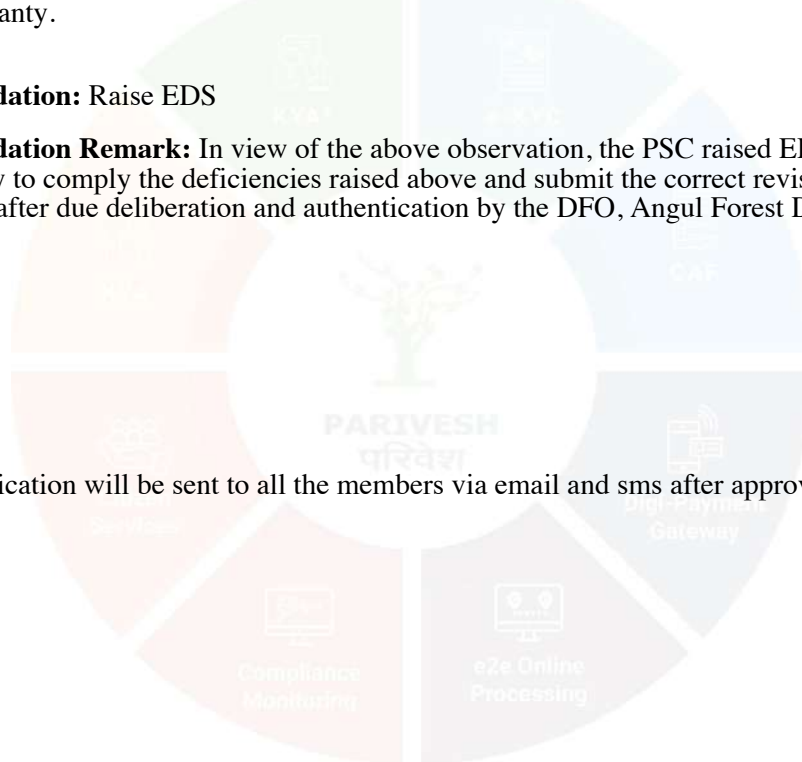
1. Existing land use map of 299.697 ha forest land proposed for re-diversion in the amalgamated ML based on the previously approved mining Plan of Utkal D and Utkal E along with KML file is required.
2. Proposed land use map of the proposed re-diverted forest land of 299.697 ha as per the present approved mining plan of the Amalgamated ML alongwith KML file is required.
3. Safety Zone map of the proposed re-diversion area after Amalgamation is made.
4. A matrix showing the detailed land schedule of Amalgamated ML over 824.316 ha mentioning Forest, Non-Forest Government land & non-Forest Private land as allotted by Department of Coal to Utkal D & Utkal E through different Notification is required.
5. A matrix showing the proposed forest land for re-diversion of the Amalgamated ML over 299.697 ha forest land of Utkal D and Utkal E. Map of applied Re-diversion land on Sol Topo Sheet required to be submitted.
6. Composite Cadastral map of the Amalgamated ML is required.
7. EC for the amalgamated ML or undertaking is required. EC for Utkal D was accorded on 29.01.2007 & for Utkal E was on 10.12.2009.
8. Compliance of the Stage-II Clearance of Utkal D accorded on 20.10.2006 and Utkal E on 27.10.2022 with due validation from DFO, Angul is required.
9. Undertaking to revisit the SSWLCP already approved for Utkal E on 29.09.2009 keeping the amalgamated ML area in view.
10. Name of the applicant in Part-I, Form-A to be changed from Kalikinkar Panda to Smruti Ranjan Mohanty.

**Recommendation:** Raise EDS

**Recommendation Remark:** In view of the above observation, the PSC raised EDS to the User Agency to comply the deficiencies raised above and submit the correct revised proposal for scrutiny after due deliberation and authentication by the DFO, Angul Forest Division.

**Copy To:**

**Note:** Notification will be sent to all the members via email and sms after approval.



**Odisha Forest Department**  
**Project Screening Committee**  
**Agenda**

**Date:** 24/01/2024

**Agenda ID:** FC/AGENDA/PSC/035780/2024

**Title of Meeting:** 38th Project Screening Committee

**Meeting Venue:** Meeting Room of Nodal Wing, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha

**Meeting Mode:** Virtual

**Meeting Date:** 30/01/2024

**Meeting Time:** 04:00 to 05:00

**State:** Odisha

**Proposals to be discussed:**

S.No.	Proposal No.	Division	Project Name	Project Category	Forest Land Area(ha)	Form Type
1	FP/OR/MIN/QR/456733/2023	Koraput Division	Ballada Bauxite Mining Project	Mining / Quarrying	157.212	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land

**Other Items Details**

**PSC Members Details**

S.No.	Name	Designation	Email ID
1	Shri Susanta Nanda IFS	Nodal Officer	noda*****@odisha.gov.in
2	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
3	Mrs Amitarani Ray	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in

**Remarks**

You are requested to attend the PSC meeting with specific comments if any scheduled date and time.

**Copy To:**

**Odisha Forest Department**  
**Project Screening Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting**

**MoM ID:** FC/MoM/PSC/430848/2024

**MoM Date:** 31/01/2024

**Agenda ID:** FC/AGENDA/PSC/035780/2024

**Title of Meeting:** 38th Project Screening Committee

**Meeting Date:** 30/01/2024

**Meeting Venue:** Meeting Room of Nodal Wing, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha

**Meeting Mode:** Virtual

**Other Items Details**

**List of PSC Members:**

S.No.	Name	Designation	Email ID
1	Shri Susanta Nanda IFS	Nodal Officer	noda*****@odisha.gov.in
2	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
3	Mrs Amitarani Ray	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in

**Proposals considered during meeting**

**1.Project Name : Ballada Bauxite Mining Project**

**Proposal Number:** FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023

**User Agency:** KALINGA ALUMINA LIMITED

**Forest Land Area(Ha):** 157.212

**Division:** Koraput Division

**Brief Description of Project:**

Kalinga Alumina Limited (formerly known as Mundra Aluminium Limited) have been awarded a Letter of Intent (LoI no. SM/MC2/MC/0007/2023/2143 Dated 1st March 2023) by Department of Steel & Mines, Government of Odisha for development of and production from Ballada Bauxite Block located at Nandapur Tahasil of Koraput District. Total mining lease area is 144.945 ha and the entire mining lease boundary falls under Nagasari reserve forest of Koraput forest division.

The EDS raised by the PSC in its 37th meeting held on 18.01.2024 has been complied by the user agency.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

NA

**Current Deliberation Details:**

In the PSC meeting, the proposal was examined and found to be complete in all respect.

**Recommendation:** Accepted

**Recommendation Remark:** In view of the above observation, the PSC accepted the proposal with a direction to the User Agency to submit the hardcopy of the proposal at the level DFO, Koraput Forest Division for further scrutiny, processing and recommendation.

**Copy To:**

**Note:** Notification will be sent to all the members via email and sms after approval.



**Odisha Forest Department**  
**Project Screening Committee**  
**Agenda**

**Date:** 22/05/2024

**Agenda ID:** FC/AGENDA/PSC/038819/2024

**Title of Meeting:** 48th Project Screening Committee Meeting

**Meeting Venue:** Meeting Room of Nodal Wing, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha

**Meeting Mode:** Virtual

**Meeting Date:** 29/05/2024

**Meeting Time:** 11:30 to 12:30

**State:** Odisha

**Proposals to be discussed:**

S.No.	Proposal No.	Division	Project Name	Project Category	Forest Land Area(ha)	Form Type
1	FP/OR/MIN/QR/456733/2023	Koraput Division	Ballada Bauxite Mining Project	Mining / Quarrying	157.212	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land
2	FP/OR/MIN/QR/470250/2024	Kalahandi South Division, Rayagada Division	Sijimali Bauxite Mines	Mining / Quarrying	708.204	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land
3	FP/OR/TRANS/463389/2024	Keonjhar Division	Diversion of Forest Land for non forest purpose for construction of 132 KV Transmission Line from 132 KV OPTCL Grid ( Barbil )To Nuagaon Iron Ore Mines of M/s JSW Steel Ltd.	Power Transmission Line / Telecommunication Line	26.3443	Form-A (Part-I): Diversion of Forest Land

**Other Items Details**

**PSC Members Details**

S.No.	Name	Designation	Email ID
1	Shri Susanta Nanda IFS	Nodal Officer	noda*****@odisha.gov.in
2	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rcf*****@gmail.com
3	Shri A K Kar	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rcf*****@gmail.com
4	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rcf*****@gmail.com
5	Mrs Amitarani Ray	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
6	L Gajanan D	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
7	B K Parida	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
8	D D Hanumant	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in

**Remarks**

You are requested to attend the PSC meeting with specific comments if any on scheduled date and time.

Copy To:



**Odisha Forest Department**  
**Project Screening Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting**

**MoM ID:** FC/MoM/PSC/924837/2024

**MoM Date:** 31/05/2024

**Agenda ID:** FC/AGENDA/PSC/038819/2024

**Title of Meeting:** 48th Project Screening Committee Meeting

**Meeting Date:** 29/05/2024

**Meeting Venue:** Meeting Room of Nodal Wing, O/o PCCF & HoFF, Odisha

**Meeting Mode:** Virtual

**Other Items Details**

**List of PSC Members:**

S.No.	Name	Designation	Email ID
1	Shri Susanta Nanda IFS	Nodal Officer	noda*****@odisha.gov.in
2	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
3	Shri A K Kar	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
4	Shri Sudipta Dash	Conservator of Forest (CF)	rccf*****@gmail.com
5	Mrs Amitarani Ray	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
6	L Gajanan D	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
7	B K Parida	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in
8	D D Hanumant	Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)	dfo.*****@odisha.gov.in

**Proposals considered during meeting**

**1.Project Name : Diversion of Forest Land for non forest purpose for construction of 132 KV Transmission Line from 132 KV OPTCL Grid ( Barbil )To Nuagaon Iron Ore Mines of M/s JSW Steel Ltd.**

**Proposal Number:** FP/OR/TRANS/463389/2024

**User Agency:** JSW STEEL LTD

**Forest Land Area(Ha):** 26.3443

**Division:** Keonjhar Division

**Brief Description of Project:**

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

NA

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The proposal was previously discussed in the 45th PSC Meeting held on dated 29.04.2024 and was found deficient for not mentioning the Eco-Class in composite chart with respect to the three alternative routes and trees enumeration report, no. of trees to be required for felling, Sabik records of the non-forest land, length of alternative routes in KML file EDS was raised. The user agency has complied all EDS.

The proposal was again scrutinized in the PSC meeting and found in order.

**Recommendation:** Accepted

**Recommendation Remark:**

The PSC accepted the proposal with a direction to the user agency to submit the hard copy of the proposal at the level of the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division for further scrutiny, processing and recommendation by him.

**2.Project Name : Ballada Bauxite Mining Project**

**Proposal Number:** FP/OR/MIN/QRY/456733/2023

**User Agency:** KALINGA ALUMINA LIMITED

**Forest Land Area(Ha):** 157.212

**Division:** Koraput Division

**Brief Description of Project:**

Ballada block is a virgin bauxite block located in Nandapur Tehsil of Koraput district in Odisha. Total mining lease area is 144.945 Ha, located entirely within Nagasari reserve forest. The project contemplates to develop the mine and surrounding infrastructures for commercial production of bauxite @ PRC of 4 MTPA using opencast mining.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

NA

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The proposal was accepted by the PSC in its 38th Meeting held on dated 30.01.2024. The proposal thereafter has been scrutinized by the DFO, Koraput Forest Division and was taken up in the PSC-II Meeting for recommending to State Government as per Van (Sanrakshan evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023.

**Recommendation:** Recommended

**Recommendation Remark:**

The PSC recommended the proposal to be forwarded to the State Government for grant of forest clearance as per Section-9 (16) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023.

**3.Project Name : Sijimali Bauxite Mines**

**Proposal Number:** FP/OR/MIN/QRY/470250/2024

**User Agency:** SHUVRENDU ROYCHOUDHURY

**Forest Land Area(Ha):** 708.204

**Division:** Kalahandi South Division, Rayagada Division

**Brief Description of Project:**

The Sijimali Bauxite Block area has been granted by Govt. of Odisha, Steel & Mines Department vide Letter No.2103/S&M, Bhubaneswar dated 01.03.2023 in favour of M/s Vedanta Ltd. after becoming successful bidder. Out of the total block area of 1548.786 ha, the involvement of forest land is 708.204 ha which is required for quarry excavation and other related mining activities.

**Previous Deliberation Details:**

NA

**Current Deliberation Details:**

The proposal was examined in the PSC meeting and following shortcomings were noticed.

1. In proposed land use map, land use pattern mentioned differs from the land use approved in the mining plan.

Further, some forest area kept untouched in item No.3 of Part-1 of Form-A. It is mentioned that out of 708.204 ha of forest land involved in the ML 116.564 ha kept untouched area without any land use.

2. The component wise break up of forest land proposed for diversion as per approved mining plan as reflected in Chapter-7 of the mining plan has not been uploaded.

3. Site Suitability certificate of CA patches have not been furnished by DFO, Kalahandi (S) Division.

4. ORSAC vetted DGPs map of applied forest land village wise in respect of 8 villages of Rayagada District and 4 villages of Kalahandi District duly certified by concerned DFOs have not been uploaded.

5. Authorization letter of the person making the application namely Purnendu Pandey has not uploaded.

**Recommendation:** Raise EDS

**Recommendation Remark:**

The PSC raised EDS to the user agency with a direction to comply the deficiencies raised above and submit the correct revised proposal for discussion in PSC.