

**F. No. 8-21/2018-FC**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change  
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,  
New Delhi - 110003.  
Dated: 24 May, 2018

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

**Sub: Diversion of 68.00 ha of forest land (49.34 ha of non-forest land recorded as 'Forest' as on 25th October 1980 and 18.660 ha of non-forest land having enough forest growth to be considered as 'forest' in line with the orders dated 12.12.1996 of Hon'ble Supreme Court of WP(C) No. 202/1995) in respect of Unchabali (Mahaparbat) Iron Ore Mines of M/s OMC Ltd including 11.240 ha of forest land located in the safety zone in village Unchabali and Balda under Barbil Tahasil within the jurisdiction of Keonjhar Forest division in Keonjhar district, Odisha.**

Sir,


I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. 10F (Cons) 110/2016/6193/F&E dated 16.03.2018 submitting the above subject proposal for prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The said proposal was placed before Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 26.04.2018. The detailed minutes of the FAC meeting held on 26.04.2018 is placed on the website of this Ministry: [www. Forrestclearance.nic.in](http://www.Forrestclearance.nic.in).

2. After thorough deliberation in the said FAC meeting, the Committee *inter-alia* recommended that:

*"State Government shall clarify the reason for execution of lease over forest land in 2008 without prior approval of MoEF&CC, Government of India. State Government shall initiate action as per the provisions of MoEF&CC letter no 11-42/2017-FC dated 29.01.2018. The action taken report shall be submitted to MoEF&CC prior to consideration of the proposal."*


In view of the above, the State Government is requested to comply the recommendation of FAC as indicated above for further consideration of the proposal in the Ministry.

Yours faithfully

  
(Sandeep Sharma) 24.5.18  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

**Copy to:**

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

  
(Sandeep Sharma) 24.5.18  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)