

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

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

Dated: 12th July, 2020

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

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 169.1779 ha. of forest land for coal mining in respect of Utkal 'E' Coal Mines under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 by NALCO.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to Govt. of Odisha's letter No. 10F(Cons) 105/2020-9681/F&E dated 25.06.2020 on the above-mentioned proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. On scrutiny and preliminary examination of the proposal, the following shortcomings noticed:

- i. KML file of 169.1779 ha. forest land applied for diversion has not been uploaded on Parivesh portal.
- ii. In instant proposal, Compensatory Afforestation(CA) has been proposed on degraded forest land(DFL). The total CA area proposed is 394 Ha. in lieu of diversion of 169.1779 ha. of forest land. Out of total CA area, 145 ha. falls in Moderate Dense Forest (MDF) which is not suitable for CA purpose in accordance with the latest guidelines issued by this Ministry.
- iii. The present status on FRA(Forest Right Act) application may be furnished

In view of above, it is requested to upload the KML/Shape file for proposed diversion, modify the CA area as per admissibility and thereafter send the revised approved CA schemes with status of FRA to this Ministry for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

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