

**F. No. 8-46/2018-FC**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change  
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,  
New Delhi: 110003,

Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2019.

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

**Sub: Proposal for diversion of 345.189 ha forest land including 6.919 ha safety zone within total Mining Lease area of 366.311 ha Khandbandh Iron Ore Mines of M/s OMC Ltd in Keonjhar district, Odisha.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. 10F (Cons) 108/18/11330/F&E dated 18.06.2019 requesting for a clarification on deposit of NPV towards instant proposal.

The penalty clause in para 3B (i) of the guideline dated 29.01.2018 clearly reads as "*The penalty for violation shall be equal to NPV of forest land per hectare for each year of violation from the date of actual diversion as reported by the inspecting officer with maximum up to five (5) times the NPV plus 12 percent simple interest till the deposits is made*".

In this regard, State Government shall check, what was the Eco Class/ Density of the adjoining forest area, at the time, the violation was first recorded/ observed. The same may be ascertained from working plan or existing records. It must also be clarified that how the amount of 5.80 lakhs/ per ha has been arrived at, as this amount is not mentioned in para 1.21 (ii) (a) related to NPV in Comprehensive Handbook of Guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. It is learnt that the density of forest land has gone up from 0.1 to 0.5 since 2006. What intervention in form of plantation and other activities has been done by State Government over the area to achieve forest of 0.5 density.

Yours faithfully,

  
(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 (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Dy. Director General (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.