

**F. No. 8-5/2015-FC**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change  
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road  
New Delhi-110003  
Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2016

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
Department of Environment & Forests,  
Government of Odisha,  
Bhubaneswar.

**Sub.: Application for approval of MoEF&CC under section 2(iii) of FC Act, 1980 concerning diversion of 199.1720 ha of forest land in favor of M/s. Tata Steel Ltd. for iron ore mining and allied activities in Katamati Mines in Deojhar & Thakurani Reserved Forest under Keonjhar Forest Division in Keonjhar district in the State of Odisha – regarding.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha letter 10F (Cons)-136/2014/18903/F&E dated 28.10.2015 on the above mentioned subject seeking clarification regarding the applicability of the guidelines of this ministry as issued vide Ministry's letter no. 11-599/2014-FC dated 19.10.2015. After thorough deliberation in the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) meeting held on 16.02.2016, the FAC inter-alia recommended that:

- a) It will be clarified to the state government that ministry guidelines 19.10.2015 are applicable in this case.

Accordingly, I am directed to request the State Government may take further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Sandeep Sharma) 3/1/16

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. The Nodal Officer, Office of the PCCF, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Add. PCCF (Central) Regional Office, Bhubaneswar may kindly inspect area and submit thereafter.
4. User Agency (M/s Tata Steel Limited)
5. Guard file.
6. Monitoring Cell.

  
(Sandeep Sharma) 3/1/16

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)