

F. No. 11-125/2014-FC  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change  
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,  
New Delhi – 110003

Dated: ~~January, 2018~~  
2nd Feb.

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

**Sub: Calculation of safety zone raised by Government of Odisha in case of Gandhamardan (Block-B) mining lease of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Odisha's letter 10F (Cons) 146/2015/4932/F&E dated 14.03.2016 wherein State Government had requested to clarify following points with respect to safety zone calculation in the mining lease area. In this matter, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of DGF&SS on dated 02.08.2017 with Addl. PCCF, Regional Officer, Bhubaneswar and the Nodal Officer (FCA) of the State. Point wise decisions as taken by the MoEF&CC are as follows:

- i. Whether the width of 10m and 50 m strip on either side of public road and natural stream respectively located inside the mining lease shall be taken into account for calculation of safety zone area which ultimately ensures their protection and conservation on the face of mining operation to be taken up?  
**Decision taken:** It was decided that the width of 10m and 50 m strip on either side of public road and natural stream respectively located inside the mining lease shall be protected but will not be considered as a part of safety zone
- ii. Whether two adjacent mining leases owned by the same lessee can be treated as cluster?  
**Decision taken:** Safety zone will be redrawn taking the cluster of all the mining leases taken together if all the leases are carried by the same user agency
- iii. Whether strip of width 7.5mt along the inner boundary of the cluster shall be considered for calculation of safety zone excluding the forest area 7.5mt strip on either side of the common boundary of the mining leases owned, by same lessee as indicated in para 4.7(ii) of the FC Act guidelines?  
**Decision taken:** No decision is required in view of decision at point (ii).

In view of the above, the State Government is requested to take appropriate action as per decision taken by the MoEF&CC in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Sandeep Sharma) 2.2.16

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

**Copy to:**

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

  
(Sandeep Sharma) 2.2.16

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)