

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

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

Dated: 27th June, 2022

To

The Regional Officer,
Integrated Regional Office,
Bhubaneswar

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 417.073 ha & Re-diversion (Change of Land use) of 171.774 ha forest land in respect of Integrated Lakhanpur-Belpahar-Lilari Opencast Project of Lakhanpur area in district Jharsuguda in Odisha, Mahanadi Coalfields Limited.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Government of Odisha's letter No. FE-DIV-FLD-0142-2021-20500/ FE&CC dated 24.11.2021 and letter no. 9084/9F (MG)-372/2021 dated 29.04.2022 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The proposal was considered by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 13.06.2022. The detailed minutes of the FAC meeting held on 13.06.2022 may be accessed on the website of this Ministry: www.parivesh.nic.in. The FAC, after going through the facts of the proposal, desired that IRO, Bhubaneswar along with Nodal Officer (FCA), Govt. of Odisha and an officer from the MoEF&CC, New Delhi may visit the area to ascertain and report the following:

- i. Unambiguous detail of forest area involved in the project/lease area of the user agency covering all aspects related to area required for expansion project, approval granted in the past, area available outside lease/project area, etc.
- ii. Detail of approval granted under the FC Act, 1980 in the past and updated status of compliance of conditions stipulated therein.
- iii. Suitability of CA (NFL) area in terms of its manageability by the State Forest Department, contiguity with the existing forest land and prospective cost involved in the management of the selected CA land in future.
- iv. Detail of reclamation measures undertaken by the user agency in the project area and biologically reclaimed areas, if any, available to be surrendered back to the Forest Department. File No.11-91/2012FC
- v. Examination of the project components vis-à-vis component provided in Mining Plan approved for the integrated project.

Shri Preet Pal Singh, DIGF (FC) from the MoEF&CC, New Delhi will accompany the IRO and Nodal Officer Odisha during the site visit. IRO Bhubaneswar is requested to

kindly prepare the itinerary and convey the same to Ministry.

This issue with the approval of competent authority.

Yours faithfully

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. Principle Secretary (Forests), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.