

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj
New Delhi - 110003.
Dated: 06-10-2025

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

Sub: Proposal for seeking ex-post facto approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of balance forest land of 344.25 ha (including 95.60 ha already diverted) (originally proposed area is 746.3325 ha including 11.8305 ha for safety zone (excluding 95.60 ha of pre-1980 broken up forest land already diverted and 4.467 ha of forest land being proposed for diversion in separate proposal for mining infrastructure of Daitari ML) within total forest land of 846.3995 ha located within approved Mining lease area of 1018.3085 ha for Iron Ore Mining in Daitari Mining lease in Cuttack Forest Division of Jajpur District and Keonjhar (WL) Division of Keonjhar District, Odisha) M/s OMC Ltd. during Mining lease period as extended under the amended provision MMDR Act - reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter No. 10F (Cons) 210/2015, 16637/F/E, Bhubaneswar, dated 19.09.2015, on the above mentioned subject for seeking prior approval of the Central Govt. under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. Further, it is informed that the proposal along with additional information submitted by the State Govt. vide letter dated vide letter no. 17522/9F (MG) – 12/2023 dated 20.08.2025 was considered by the Advisory Committee Meeting held on 26.09.2025. After the examination of the proposal, the Advisory committee has deferred the proposal; for want of the following document/ information:

- i. The State government shall consult with the NTCA, ICFRE, and WII to understand and address the concerns raised by the NTCA and those raised in the report of the sub-committee. It shall then submit a detailed report outlining mitigation measures to minimize the project's impact on wildlife along with recommendations and justifications.

In view of the above, the State Government is requested to submit the information/documents, as indicated above, to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
(S. Sundar)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

- i. PCCF (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- ii. DDGF (Central), Integrated Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar.
- iii. PCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- iv. User Agency.
- v. Monitoring Cell of FC Divisions, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.