

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

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Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
Jor Bagh Road Aliganj  
New Delhi-110003

**Dated: October, 2023**

To

DDGF (Central), MoEF&CC's  
Regional Office,  
A/3, Chandersekharpur,  
Bhubaneswar (Odisha)

**Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of Mahanadi Coal Field Limited, for non-forestry use of 193.845 ha of forest land within Mining Lease area over 1265.00 ha of Balaram Open Cast expansion (15 MTY) Coal Block of MCL under Forest Division and District Angul of Odisha State (Online Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/ 59166/2020)**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter no. FE-DIV-FLD-0088-2023-20708/E&CC dated 30.09.2023 regarding the above mentioned proposal, seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to request that the Regional Office, Bhubaneswar of this Ministry may kindly inspect the area proposed for diversion, area identified for raising compensatory afforestation and earlier diverted area of 85.201 ha and CA against already approved area. The Site Inspection Report (SIR) may be submitted along with the status of compliance of the conditions stipulated in earlier approvals pertaining to the project as per the prescribed timelines under FCA Rules and Guidelines.

Yours Sincerely,

**Sd/-  
(Suneet Bhardwaj)**

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. Addl. Chief Secretary (Forest), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. PCCF (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. PCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA) Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division.
6. Guard file.