

Government of India
Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bagh Road Aliganj
New Delhi-110003
Dated:12-11-2024

To

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

Sub.: Proposal for diversion of balance forest of 80.826 ha (16.566 ha of forest land and 64.260 ha of non-forest land recorded as forest as on 25.10.1980) including 3.916 ha of forest land in safety zone and 1.129 ha of forest land in green belt in addition to 52.348 ha of forest land already diverted (total forest land of 133.174 ha in ML) within the total mining lease area over 169.00 ha of Tiringpahar Iron & Manganese Mines of M/s. Tata Steel Ltd. in Keonjhar district, Odisha during extended ML period as per MMDR (Amendment) Act, 2015.Sir,

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government letter no. 11925/9F (MG)-85/2018 dated 14.10.2024 on above subject submitting compliance report of the conditions stipulated in Stage-I approval dated 02.08.2019 read with 02.11.2020 and to say that after examination of the said compliance report, the following shortcoming has been observed:

- i. The Ministry vide its guideline dated 6.01.2022 read with guidelines dated 22.03.2022 has revised the rates to NPV to be realized from the user agencies in lieu of diversion of forest land. The State was asked to examine and take action on the matter, however the differential amount due has not been deposited. The State Government may accordingly realize the differential amount of NPV as per the guidelines dated 06.01.2024 and 22.03.2024, liable in light of aforementioned guidelines from the user agency and the detail of the same may be intimated to the Ministry.
- ii. The State Government has informed that user agency has deposited an amount of ₹4,69,09,800 towards NPV over 64.260. The details of the amount deposited by the UA was sent to the National Authority CAMPA for confirmation. However, the certain details have been sought by them vide OM dated 20.08.2024 (Copy enclosed). The requisite correct details shall be submitted by the State Govt.
- iii. With regard to point no. 4 of Ministry's letter dated 26.07.2024

pertaining to condition at sr no.(xx) of Stage-1 approval, it has been informed that the user agency has submitted compliance in form of undertakings. However, the undertakings as referred is not available with compliance report. The needful be done and further the State Government shall see if any violation has been committed in respect of any condition stipulated in reclamation plan approved by IBM and taken action accordingly.

In view of above, the State Government is requested to provide information as indicated above for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Encl: As above

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. The DDGF (Central), Regional Office of MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar.
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.