

File No.: 8-31/2015FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi – 110003
Dated: As per E-Sign

To

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

Subject: Sub: Proposal for seeking prior 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 89.961 ha (Fresh area 79.367 ha and 10.594 ha earlier diverted area for renewal and land use change) (originally proposed area of 84.707 ha) in favour of Shri Avin Jain (Heir of late Shri DC Jain) for mining of Iron and manganese ore in Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Ore mines located in Baitrani RF II, District Keojhar (Odisha)-reg..

Sir,

I am directed to refer to Government of Odisha letter No. 10F (Cons.) 179/2015/16479/F & E Bhubaneswar dated 15.09.2015 and subsequent communications on the above mentioned subject.

In this regard, the proposal was examined by the Advisory Committee in its meeting held on 27.10.2025, wherein it was observed that the Ministry had earlier approved the diversion of forest land for an area of 16.464 ha only, and at this stage there is no justification for the diversion of the additional virgin forest land when the originally diverted forest land is not yet fully worked out.

Accordingly, keeping in view the recommendations of the Advisory committee and approval of the same by the competent authority in the ministry, it has been decided that the proposal for diversion of additional 79.367 ha virgin forest land can not be accepted in the present proposition, and the state may therefore restrict the mining operations to the 10.594 ha forest land which has been already diverted.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Suneet Bhardwaj)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

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