

I/6519/2021

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 November, 2021

To

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

Sub: Proposal seeking prior approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 345.189 ha forest land including 6.919 ha in safety zone within the total mining lease area over 366.311 ha of Khandbandh Iron Ore Mines of M/s OMC Ltd in Keonjhar district, Odisha- reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Odisha's letter 15727/9F(MG)-22/2018 dated 13.09.2021, received online on 17.09.2021 on above subject forwarding a report on the compliance of conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval dated 31.01.2019 and to say that examination of said proposal in the Ministry revealed the following:

- i. KML/Shape file of the new non-forest land of 185.509 and degraded forest land of 104.30 ha identified for CA have not been submitted along with compliance report. The same needs to be submitted supported with their attributable information to enable the Ministry to undertake future monitoring of the area.
- ii. Record of consultation and meeting of the gram Sabha(s) in respect of 50.866 ha of forest land for which District Collector has issued certificate on 22.01.2017 based on SDLC proceedings dated 22.01.2017 has not been submitted along with the compliance. Similarly, proceedings of SDLC have also not been submitted in respect of 294.53 ha of forest land.

In view of above, the State Government is requested to submit information on the shortcomings, as indicated above, to this Ministry for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
2. The Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office (Eastern Zone), MoEF&CC, Bhubaneswar
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell, Forest Conservation Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
6. Guard File