

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 14-01-2025

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

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 64.119 ha of Sabik Kisam forest land as on 25.10.1980 within total mining lease area of 64.463 ha for Chromite mining in their Kaliapani Chromite Mines by M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd in Jajpur district, Odisha- Submission of Stage-I compliance regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter No. FE-DIV-FLD-0087-2002-24770 dated 11.12.2024 on the above subject regrading request of extension of Temporary Working Permission for one more year for compliance of the conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval. In this regard it is informed that the Ministry in a similar matter pertaining to Govt. of Karnataka has issued clarification on 01.01.2025 (copy enclosed).

2. In the instant case, the temporary working permission was granted as a special case to meet the compliance and considering the mine was in operation already vide order of the Hon'ble High Court of Odisha and the area was already broken up. The conditions were imposed to enable the UA and the State Government specifically to comply the compliance of the conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval including that of CA land and its notification as RF/PF.

3. In view of the above, and considering the decision taken by the Ministry vide clarification issued dated 01.01.2025, it is to inform that in the instant case, the period of one year shall be considered from the date of approval granted by Central Government i.e 04.12.2023. It is therefore, the State of Odisha to take necessary action and submit an action taken report in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

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.

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Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi – 110003

Dated: 1st January, 2025

To

The Principle Secretary (Forests)
Government of Karnataka
Bangaluru

Subject: Clarification on the commencement of the period for starting the mining operations in respect of Category C mines in the State of Karnataka - reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer the State Government of Karnataka's letter No.FEE 12 FFM 2021 dated 20.09.2024, FEE 12 FFM 2021 dated 21.09.2024 and letter no. FEE 10 FFM 2023 (e) dated 24.09.2024 on the above subject seeking clarification on the commencement of the period for starting the mining operations in respect of Category C mines. In this connection, it is to inform that the matter was considered by the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 14.10.2024. Detailed minutes of the said meeting may be accessed on the website of this Ministry at <https://parivesh.nic.in/>.

Based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee and approval of the same by the competent authority of the MoEF&CC, New Delhi, the Central Government hereby clarifies the following:

- i. As per the provisions of the guidelines given under para 7.4(vi)(b) of the Consolidated Guidelines issued under the Van (Sanrakshan) Eva Sa, vardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, the period of working permission cannot be extended beyond a period of one year by the Central Government. Therefore, the State Government needs to expedite the compliance of conditions stipulated in the approval granted to the erstwhile agency and after completion of the compliance of conditions, the land may be handed over to the user agency to commence mining operations.
- ii. Special provisions of working permission were introduced to enable the new user agency to complete the compliance of conditions stipulated in the approval. As the working permission was granted by the Central Government, the period of working permission should commence from the date of issue of order by the Central Government and not by the date of orders issued by the State authorities.

This issue with the approval of Competent Authority of the Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'E'

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & Head of Forest Force, State Forest Department, Government of Karnataka, Bangaluru
2. The Dy. Director General Forest (Central), Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at Bangaluru
3. Nodal Officer (Van Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan), O/o PCCF, State Forest Department, Government of Karnataka, Bangaluru
4. Monitoring Cell, Forest Conservation Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
5. Guard File