

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 Deputy Director General of Forests (Central),  
Regional Office of MoEF&CC,  
Bhubaneswar

**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 227.62 Ha of Forest land within Mining Lease area over 323.92 Ha of Basundhara (West) Extension Open Cast Coal Block of Mahalaxmi Area of M/s Mahanadi Coal Field Limited in Sundargarh Forest Division of Sundargarh District (Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/20559/2016) –reg.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Odisha's No. FE-DIV-FLD-0086-2024-25365/FE&CC dated 17.12.2024 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and to request that the Regional Office, Bhubaneswar of this Ministry may kindly inspect the area proposed for diversion, area identified for compensatory afforestation and submit Site Inspection Report (SIR) to this Ministry with clear recommendations.

Yours faithfully,

**(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)**  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

**Copy to:**

1. Principle Secretary (Forests), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.