

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi-110003

Dated: 17th January, 2021

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
State Government of Odisha,
Bhubaneswar

Sub: Re-diversion of 2.405 ha of forest land for laying of slurry pipe line by M/s Jindal Steel and Power Limited out of 168.232 ha of forest land diverted for construction of an Integrated Steel Plant with Captive Power Plants in favour of M/s Jindal Steel and Power Limited in District Angul (Odisha) – reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter no. 10F (Cons) 132/2020 13008/F&E dated 28.08.2020 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to inform that extant proposal was submitted to the Integrated Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar while as per the provisions of the relevant guidelines the proposal should have been submitted to the MoEF&CC, New Delhi. The State Government is therefore requested to consider the relevant rules and guidelines issued under the FC Act, 1980 to ascertain channel of submission of such proposals as it will curtail considerable delay due to unavoidable correspondences (this may also be noted for adherence to in future cases)..

The above proposal for re-diversion of forest land has been scrutinized in the Ministry and the following may be furnished for further action in the Ministry.

- i. The State Government has reported that slurry pipe, involving RoW of 5.0 meters over a length of 20.54 km will be constructed comprising of 4.81 km in forest area. Given the RoW of 5.0 meter total area required for the project will be 10.27 ha instead of 10.575 as reported by the User Agency in the online proposal. Discrepancy in the area may be rectified by the State and area calculation statement, in tabular form, may be provided by the State.
- ii. Alignment of the slurry pipeline depicted on the SoI toposheet has been referred as Layout Plan of the project in the online proposal. Detailed layout Plan of the project in the forest area indicating the dimension of RoW and its breakup for various uses such as laying of slurry pipe line movement of earth overs, temporary storage of excavated soil, etc needs

to be provided by the State.

- iii. Extant slurry pipe line has been proposed in the corridor earmarked for laying out a water pipeline for the said project. The State Government may comment whether the course of water pipeline has also been proposed to be altered or the slurry pipe is compatible with the water pipeline. A layout map indicating the slurry pipeline vis-à-vis water pipeline in the forest area may also be submitted by the State.
- iv. Status of compliance of conditions, stipulated in the approval dated 28.10.2010, may also be furnished.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

**(Sandeep
Sharma)**

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), State Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
2. Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar **with a request to inspect the area and submit a monitoring report on the status of compliance of conditions stipulated in the approval granted under the FC Act for setting up Integrated Steel Plant.**
3. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o of the PCCF, State Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
4. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF and CC, New Delhi
5. User Agency
6. Guard File