

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi - 1100 03.
Dated: 04th January, 2015

To,

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

Sub.: Proposal for diversion of balance forest land of 84.707 ha including 4.488 ha coming within the safety zone within the applied RML area 101.171 ha located entirely within the Baitrani RF II of Keonjhar district (excluding 16.464 ha of forest land inclusive of 0.812 ha. of safety zone broken up prior to 1980 already diverted under FC Act, 1980 earlier during Original Mining lease period) for mining of Iron and manganese ore in Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Ore mines by M/s D. C. Jain during Mining lease Period to be granted / executed under MMDR Amendment Act, 2015.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Odisha's letter No. 10F (Cons.) 179/2015/16479/F & E Bhubaneswar dated 15.09.2015 on the above-mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of balance forest land of 84.707 ha including 4.488 ha coming within the safety zone within the applied RML area 101.171 ha located entirely within the Baitrani RF II of Keonjhar district (excluding 16.464 ha of forest land inclusive of 0.812 ha. of safety zone broken up prior to 1980 already diverted under FC Act, 1980 earlier during Original Mining lease period) for mining of Iron and manganese ore in Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Ore mines by M/s D. C. Jain during Mining lease Period to be granted / executed under MMDR Amendment Act, 2015, and to say that the said proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee in its meeting convened on 24th December, 2015 constituted by the Central Government under section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

After examination of the said proposal FAC, *inter - alia* recommended that:-

- a) State Govt. of Odisha shall inform the ministry about the orders passed in WP 993/2015 before the Hon'ble High Court of Odisha and also the revisionary petition pending with the competent authority.
- b) As the total forest area involved in the mining lease is more than 100 ha including area already diverted, the Regional Office shall carryout site inspection of the area and provide a