

I/6737/2021

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

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

Dated: 16th December, 2021

To

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

Sub.: Transfer of process of forest clearance (Process till consideration by FAC) of Radhikapur (West) Coal Mine in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited- Diversion of 91.929 hectares of forest land (including 4.957 hectares safety zone) in Radhikapur (West) Coal Block under Chhendipada Tahasil in Angul Forest Division in Angul District Odisha for Coal Mining by M/s. Radhikapur (West) Coal Mining Pvt. Ltd

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Under Secretary, Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal's letter No. NA-104/8/2020-NA dated 04.10.2021 on above mentioned subject requesting to transfer of forest clearance (Process till consideration by FAC) and the User Agency i.e. Vedanta Limited's letter no. VL/RWCM/34 dated 15.11.2021 for consideration and approval of Government of India under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the above proposal was considered by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 26.11.2021. The detailed minutes of the FAC meeting held on 26.11.2021 is placed on the website of this Ministry: www.parivesh.nic.in.

2. The FAC, Based on discussion with Regional Officer, Bhubaneswar and Nodal Officer (FCA), State Government, and after thorough deliberations, FAC deferred the proposal and sought the following information:

- i. Site Inspection report by IRO, Bhubaneswar
- ii. The proposed CA land needs to be re-visited by the State to explore the possibility to cull out embedded enclaves of private areas by acquiring them.

In view of above, the State Government is requested to furnish information/documents, as indicated in para 2 (ii) above, as per the recommendation of FAC for further consideration of the proposal in the Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'D'

I/6737/2021

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. The Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office (Eastern Zone), Bhubaneswar **with a request to carry out site inspection of area and submit Site Inspection Report (SIR) as per recommendation of FAC for further consideration of the proposal.**
3. The Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC
6. Guard File