

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

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

**Dated: February, 2024**

To

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

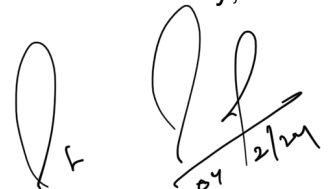
**Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of balance 41.819 ha of forest land (32.425 ha of DLC Forest land for mining and allied activities, safety zone area of 8.568 ha and greenery of 0.826 ha) in addition to already diverted 567.087 ha of Forest land in Joda East Iron & Manmora Manganese Mines in favour of M/s Tata Steel Ltd. in Keonjhar Forest Division of Odisha during 3rd RML period -regarding.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Odisha's letter No. 8-154/FCE-I dated 27.03.2015 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The proposal was considered by the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 17.01.2024. The detailed minutes of the FAC meeting held on 17.01.2024 may be accessed on the website of this Ministry; [www.parivesh.nic.in](http://www.parivesh.nic.in). The Advisory Committee, after going through the facts of the proposal desired that the forest area involved in the mining lease shall be inspected by the Regional Office to provide inputs on present status of the project area, effectiveness of the measures taken against the violations in the same and status of compliance of conditions stipulated in the approval granted on 24.09.2007 and 10.10.2017 by the Central Government under the Adhiniyam. The site inspection must be done using DSS and other technological tools like Drones, etc. for effective representation of the ground conditions in SIR.

In view of above, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar of this Ministry is requested to submit a report, as indicated above, enabling further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,



Handwritten signature and date: 04/2/24

**(Amit Anand)**

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

**Copy to:**

- i. Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests), Department of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- ii. PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- iii. Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- iv. User Agency
- v. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.