

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003.
Dated:As per e-Sign

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests),
Government of Odisha,
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 balance forest land of 84.707 ha in favour of M/s D. C. Jain for mining of Iron and manganese ore in Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Ore mines located in Baitrani RF II, District Keojhar (Odisha)-reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter No. 10F (Cons.) 179/2015/16479/F & E Bhubaneswar dated 15.09.2015 on the above mentioned subject for seeking prior approval of the Central Govt. under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. Further, it is informed that the proposal along with additional information submitted by the State Govt. vide letter dated FE-DIV-FLD-0101-2021-12349/FE&CC dated 19.07.2021, No. 6233/9F (MG) -18/2015 dated 15.03.2024, vide letter no. 21005/9F (MG) -18/2015 dated 19.10.2024 and no. 3582/9F (MG) -18/2015 dated 14.02.2025 was considered by the Advisory Committee Meeting held on 05.03.2025. After the examination of the proposal, the Advisory committee has deferred the proposal; for want of the following documents / information:

- i. The user agency at the time of submission of the proposal was Shri DC Jain who is no more now. The State shall examine the matter and submit the request/proposal for the change in the name of the user agency with requisite documents keeping in view the legal heirs/ person/agency having the valid Letter of intent with respect to the proposed mining lease.
- ii. The area proposed for diversion is falling in high conservation zone. The State Govt. shall justify the requirement of the same with cogent reasons.
- iii. From the land use plan, it has also been learnt that 12.89 ha area is being proposed for Waste Dump Yard with Env. Protective Measures (Retaining

wall, Garland drain &Settling Pond) and 28.551 for utility services most of which are non-site specific activities, and normally not considered on the forest land. The state govt. shall explore the possibility to shift the same to non-forest areas and provide the proper justification in this regard.

The State Government is accordingly requested to submit the requisite information for further necessary action in the mater.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Suneet Bhardwaj)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. DDGF (Central), Integrated Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar.
3. APCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneshwar.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.