

F. No. 8-10/2024-FC (E-239871)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jor bagh Road
New Delhi- 110003
Dated: 17-04-2026

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests)
Government of Chhattisgarh
Raipur.

Subject: 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 66.020 ha (57 ha mining lease and 9.02 ha approach road) of forest land for Chhotedongar Iron Ore Mine in favour of M/s Bajrang Power & Ispat in Narayanpur District in the State of Chhattisgarh (Proposal No. FP/CG/MIN/11479/2015)– reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to Government of Chhattisgarh's letter dated 23.02.2026 on the above mentioned subject and to say that the location of the forest area currently proposed for mining is the same as that of the previous proposal which was considered in the Advisory Committee meeting held on 26.12.2016. The Advisory Committee based on the DSS analysis observed that the proposed forest land is in the middle of a very dense forest land and any intervention is expected to change the adjoining pristine forest. Accordingly, the proposal was not recommended.

2. Given that the matter has already been examined and rejected by the Advisory Committee, and noting that the present proposal contains no new facts or material changes, the Ministry is of the view that the proposal does not warrant re-examination at this stage.

3. This issues with the approval of the component authority.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Deepika Chaudhary)
Deputy Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
2. DDGF (Central), MoEF&CC's Regional Office, at Nagpur.
3. APCCF–cum-Nodal Officer, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading.