

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

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

**Dated: April, 2023**

To

Addl. Chief Secretary (Forest),  
Government of Odisha,  
Bhubaneswar

**Sub: Permission for grant of lease under Section -2 (iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s Kashvi Power & Steel Pvt. Ltd. for non-forestry use of 60.508 ha of Dholta Pahar Iron Ore Block through e-auction sale in sarkunda Reserved Forest in Bonai Forest Division under Sundargarh District, Odisha –reg. (Online No. FP/OR/Others/152380/2022)**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter no. FE-DIV-FLD-0029-2023-5748/FE&CC dated 28.03.2023 on above mentioned subject, seeking permission for grant of lease under Section-2 (iii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After preliminary examination of the proposal the State Govt is requested to submit the following information for further consideration of the proposal:

- i. As per DSS analysis, based upon decision Rule 1, and 2 the area falls in High Conservation Value Zone. Moreover, the area is also an important wildlife habitat. The justification for proposing mining in this biodiversity rich area is required.
- ii. The State Govt. shall examine and submit a detailed report on the possible impact of mining on forest and wildlife in this area.
- iii. The proposed area is a very dense forest and Elephant Movement has also been reported in the area proposed for diversion. Therefore, comments of PCCF (Wildlife) and CWLW, Odisha needs to be provided by the State Government.
- iv. Mining activities in this pristine/virgin and very dense forest area would also require road, electricity and water. State shall submit the details of how such requirements will be met.

Yours faithfully

Sd/-

**(Suneet Bhardwaj)**

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. PCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA) Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
3. DDGF (Central), MoEF&CC's Integrated Regional Office, A/3, Chandersekharpur, Bhubaneswar (Odisha)
4. User Agency.

5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division.