

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

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

Dated: 25 June, 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 Regional Office, Bhubaneswar's letter no. 8-154/FCE dated 23.04.2024 on above subject wherein a Site Inspection Report on the above mentioned proposal in response to Ministry's letter dated 04.02.2024 has been submitted. The facts of the proposals as reported by the State Govt. and has also reported by the Regional Office in his SIR was considered by the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 07.06.2024. The detailed minutes of the FAC meeting held on 07.06.2024 may be accessed on the website of this Ministry: www.parivesh.nic.in. The Advisory Committee, after going through the facts of the proposal observed that it is not clear whether there was any unauthorized use of forest-land by the user agency during the intervening period. The Committee, therefore, desired that the Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar may clarify the status of use of road and whether the same attracts the provisions of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980

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

proposal.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. PCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. User Agency.
4. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.