

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jorbagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 01st August, 2022

To,

The Regional Officer,
Integrated Regional Office,
Ranchi.

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 247.50 ha forest land (out of total lease area of 1936.06 ha) in favour of M/s Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) for iron ore mining in Kiriburu- Meghahatuburu group of Iron Ore mines located in District West Singhbhum (Jharkhand) – reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Jharkhand's letter No. Van Bhumi 29/2008-991/V.P. dated 29.03.2022 on above mentioned subject, forwarding therewith additional information sought by the Ministry vide letter dated 02.09.2021 and to say that the above proposal was considered by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 15.07.2022. The minutes of the aforesaid meeting may be accessed at www.parivesh.nic.in. After examining the proposal, the FAC decided to defer the proposal and desired that Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry shall revisit the area and prepare a detailed report on the following aspects:

- i. Detail of permanent structures observed in the mining leases of the user agency in relation with the violation of provisions of FC Act, 1980, if any, committed in the construction of said structures.
- ii. Status of change in the scope of the project, if any, affected by the user agency during the lapse of a considerable period of almost 12 years from the date of grant of Stage-I approval on 18.10.2010. A factual situation of the ground reality may be documented and submitted to the Ministry.
- iii. As the considerable time has elapsed, the project affected trees may be re-enumerated and an abstract showing details of the project affected trees, along with change in their number, needs to be furnished in consultation with the State Forest Department. Moreover, suitability of CA land proposed over degraded forest land may also be verified by the IRO.
- iv. Unambiguous information, with supporting details relating to status of reclamation and land handed over back to the State Forest Department. IRO may furnish its clear recommendation on the claim of the user agency to hand over 172.2 ha of forest area after receiving the Stage-II approval after detailed

analysis of the reclamation measures adopted by the user agency and technical or administrative constraints, if any, involved.

v. Any other information that IRO may deem relevant.

In view of the above, I am directed to request the IRO to submit the inspection report of the area, as per the observations of the FAC, to the Ministry for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully
Sd/-
(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist D (FC)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator Forests, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi
2. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi
3. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Ranchi
4. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
5. Guard File