

Reminder

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi – 1100 03.

Dated: 14th September, 2017

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Odisha,
Bhubaneswar.

Sub.: Proposal for diversion of balance forest land of 84.707 ha including 4.488 ha coming within the safety zone within the applied RML area 101.171 ha located entirely within the Baitrani RF II of Keonjhar district (excluding 16.464 ha of forest land inclusive of 0.812 ha. of safety zone broken up prior to 1980 already diverted under FC Act, 1980 earlier during Original Mining lease period) for mining of Iron and manganese ore in Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Ore mines by M/s D. C. Jain during Mining lease Period to be granted / executed under MMDR Amendment Act, 2015.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even no. dated 04.01.2016 informing that the above subject proposal was placed before Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting convened on 24th December, 2015 and after examination, the FAC recommended to obtain the following information/documents for further necessary action:-

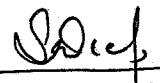
- g) State Govt. of Odisha shall inform the ministry about the orders passed in WP 993/2015 before the Hon'ble High Court of Odisha and also the revisionary petition pending with the competent authority.
- h) As the total forest area involved in the mining lease is more than 100 ha including area already diverted, the Regional Office shall carryout site inspection of the area and provide a consolidated report including violations pointed out by DFO, Keonjhar and also the land use change sought by the user agency.
- i) Compliance of FRA 2006 has not been provided according to the ministry's guidelines.
- j) The State Government shall report regarding the Compliance to the conditions of stage-II approval with respect to already diverted 14.465 ha forest land of the ministry dated

14.11.2005. The state will also specifically apprise the FAC regarding CA & Penal CA raised and whether the plantation has been raised by state forest department as proposed.

- k) The NPV rates needs to be revised upwards as the results of the DSS indicate that large part of the proposed area falls in the Medium Density Forests category having crown density of 0.40 to 0.70.
 - l) Since the area falls in Keonjhar District, suitable clarification regarding whether such proposals can be cleared pending the NEERI study should be sought from IA division of the MoEFCC.
2. But the desired information is still awaited from the State Government of Odisha.

In view of above, the Stated Govt. is again requested to provide the above information /documents **within one month** otherwise it would be presumed that the State Govt. is not interested in the instant proposal and the process shall be started to close the proposal.

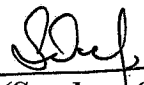
Yours faithfully,


(Sandeep Sharma) 14.9.17

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. The Direct General, Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, and Uttarakhand: **In continuation of this Ministry's letter of even no. dated 06.01.2016 whereby it was requested to examine and submit a report about inviolate area to this Ministry for further necessary action. The same is still pending and again requesting to expedite.**
3. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office (Eastern Zone), Bhubaneswar: **with a request to carry out site inspection as recommended by FAC at para 1(b) above, and to send a consolidated report including violations pointed out by DFO, Keonjhar and also the land use change sought by the user agency.**
4. The Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
5. User Agency.
6. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF, New Delhi.
7. Guard File.


(Sandeep Sharma) 14.9.17

Assistant Inspector General of Forests