

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

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Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj  
New Delhi - 110003.  
**Dated: September, 2023**

To  
DDGF (Central),  
MoEF&CC's Integrated Regional Office,  
At Bhubaneswar (Odisha)

**Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (iii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s Raga Tradecon Pvt. Ltd. for grant of mining lease over 66.242 ha of forest within Netrabandha Pahar (west) iron ore block in Villages Baldihi and Sanua under Bonai Forest Division of Sundergarh District of Odisha State (Online Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/153576/2022)**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter no. FE-DIV-FLD-0026-2023-5707/FE&CC dated 28.03.2023 on above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2(iii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The proposal was considered by the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 11.09.2023. The detailed minutes of the AC meeting may be accessed on the website of this Ministry: [www.parivesh.nic.in](http://www.parivesh.nic.in). The AC decided that recommendation made under agenda item no. 11 discussed in the AC meeting held on 17.07.2023 will apply **mutatis-mutandis** to the extant proposal. The committee therefore decided to defer the proposal with following observations:

- i. Directions were given that in this regard, detailed consultations with the State Govt. authorities and other stakeholders including mining lessees shall be carried out by the DDGF (C) Bhubaneswar by involving Ministry officials and WII and report shall be submitted in 45 days. As almost 60 days have already elapsed and such report has not yet been received, DDGF(C) Bhubaneswar should expedite and submit its report latest by 30.09.2023 and present the cases in next FAC.
- ii. There are many non-site specific activities like Waste dump, Mineral stacking

yard/Mineral Storage/processing etc. which have been proposed on forest land. DDGF (C) during consultation as proposed in para (i) above, shall also explore the possibility to locate the same on non-forest land.

2. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully

**(Dr. Surabhi Rai)**

Dy. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. Principle Secretary (Forest), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. PCCF (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. PCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division.
6. Guard file.