

**F. No. 8-74/2016-FC**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change  
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,  
New Delhi - 110003.  
Dated: 12 September, 2017

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
Government of Jharkhand,  
Ranchi.

**Sub.: Application of M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Limited seeking approval of MoEF&CC under Section 2(iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 over 537 ha (537 ha ML area including Safety Zone Area of 26.57 ha + 2.13 ha outside Lease for conveyor Corridor) of forest land for Jeraldaburu Iron Ore Mining Lease in Ghatkuri RF and Kashiya Pecha PF XXVI of Saranda Forest Division West Singhbhum District in Jharkhand.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. Van Bhoomi – 30/2016-5715 dated 21.12.2016 submitting the above subject proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The said proposal was placed before Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 25.04.2017 and 20.07.2017. The detailed minutes of the FAC meetings held on 26.12.2016 and 17.08.2017 are placed on the website of this Ministry: [www.forestclearance.nic.in](http://www.forestclearance.nic.in).

2. After going through the judgement in the matter in FAC meeting held on 17.08.2017, the FAC observed that the State Government had reported that the matter related to validity of letter of intent is sub-judice. The Forest (Conservation) Act guidelines 2.1 (vi) was perused. It clearly says that "State Government are advised not to consider/process cases, which are pending in various courts or sub-judice to avoid all sort of administrative and legal complications". Therefore, the FAC recommended not to grant permission to the State Government for the proposal concerning over 537 ha (537 ha ML area including Safety Zone Area of 26.57 ha + 2.13 ha outside Lease for conveyor Corridor) of forest land for Jeraldaburu Iron Ore Mining Lease in Ghatkuri RF and Kashiya Pecha PF XXVI of Saranda Forest Division West Singhbhum District in Jharkhand under Section 2(iii) of FC Act till the final orders of the Hon'ble High Court on applicability of provisions of Section 10-A (2) (c) of MMDR Act.2015 are passed

In view of above, I am directed to convey the approval of competent authority for not to grant prior approval for concerning over 537 ha (537 ha ML area including Safety Zone Area of 26.57 ha + 2.13 ha outside Lease for conveyor Corridor) of forest land for Jeraldaburu Iron Ore Mining Lease in Ghatkuri RF and Kashiya Pecha PF XXVI of Saranda Forest Division West Singhbhum District in Jharkhand under Section 2(iii) of FC Act till the final orders of the Hon'ble High Court.

Yours faithfully,

(Nisheet Saxena)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
2. The Nodal Officer, FCA O/o PCCF, Forest Department, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
3. The Addl. PCCF(Central), Regional Office, Ranchi.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.

(Nisheet Saxena)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)