

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

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

**Dated: September, 2023**

To

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

**Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s Odisha Coal & Power Ltd (OCPL) for non-forestry use of 342.87 ha of forest land for development of Dip Side Manoharpur Coal Mining Project in Sundargarh District of Sundargarh Forest Division, Odisha (Online Proposal no. FP/OR/MIN/37631/2018).**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Odisha's letter No.FE-DIV-FLD-0016-2023-3667 dated 27.02.2023 and additional information submitted on 29.08.2023 on the above mentioned subject proposal, seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to request that the Integrated Regional Office, Bhubaneswar of this Ministry may kindly inspect the area proposed for diversion, area identified for raising compensatory afforestation and submit a compliance report/monitoring report of the area granted earlier for this mines.

2. The SIR should contain clear observations about the connectivity of the proposed mining area, the density on ground, the crop composition, the impact of mining on the watershed of the surrounding area, impact of the mining on the elephant dispersal/habitat and on the basis of the SIR give clear recommendations. It has also been directed to convey that that in the event of the SIR being submitted by the DIGF (C), the SIR should also have the remarks and recommendation of the DDG(C). The SIR may be sent within 15 days of issue of this letter .

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

**(Dr. Surabhi Rai)**

Dy. Inspector General of Forests

**Copy to:**

1. Principle Secretary (Forests), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

