Government of Odisha Forest & Environment Department -0-

Memo No. <u>173</u> /F&E, Dated: 03.01.18 No.10F (Cons) 158/2015

(A)

Copy of the letter F. No. 8-27/ 2016-FC dt.06.12.2017 of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change pertaining to diversion of balance forest land 401.7824ha including 7.2807 ha of safety zone out of total forest land of 519.7472 ha within total ML area of 618.576 ha for Iron ore mining in Gandhamardan (Block-A) in Keonjhar district by M/s OMC Ltd. forwarded to the Pr. CCF, Odisha/ Pr. CCF(WL)& CWLW, Odisha with reference to memo No.23352/F&E dt.14.11.2017 for kind information and necessary action.

It is here to be stated that the above said proposal was deferred by Ministry till the submission of approved Biodiversity Conservation Plan of Gandhamardan Region.

Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 174 /F&E, Dt: 03.01.18

Copy with copy of enclosures forwarded to the RCCF, Rourkela/ RCCF, Bhawanipatna/ DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division/ DFO, Kalahandi(South) Division with reference to memo No.23353/F&E dt.14.11.2017 for information and necessary action.

Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 175 /F&E, Dt: 03.01.18

Copy with copy of enclosures forwarded to the Steel & Mines Department/ Collector, Keonjhar with reference to memo No.23354/F&E dt.14.11.2017 for information and necessary action.

Special Secretary to Government

Memo No. 176 /F&E, Dt: 03.01.18

Copy with copy of enclosures forwarded to the MD, M/s OMC Ltd., OMC House, Bhubaneswar with reference to his representation dtd.13.11.2017 to ACS, F&E Department for information and necessary action.

Special Secretary to Government

No. 8-27/2016-FC Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (FC Division)

14.122012

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bag Road, New Delhi - 110003. Dated: 6THDecember, 2017

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

Sub: Diversion of balance forest land 401.7824 ha. including 7.2807 ha of safety zone out of total forest land of 519.7472 ha within total Mining Lease area of 618.576 ha for Iron Ore Mining in Gandhamardan (Block-A) Mining lease in Keonjhar District, Odisha of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. during 2nd Renewal of Mining lease period (likely to extended up to 31.03.2020 as per Amended provision of MMDR Act, 2015.

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. 10F (Cons) 158/2015/6513/F&E dated 07.04.2016 submitting the above subject proposal for 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 16.11.2017. The detailed minutes of the FAC meeting held on 16.11.2017 is placed on the website of this Ministry: www. forestclearance.nic.in.

However, the State Government vide their letter No. 10F (Cons) 158/2015/23350/F&E dated 14.11.2017 requested to defer the proposal. Accordingly, on the request of the State Government the FAC decided to defer the project proposal till the submission of approved Biodiversity Conservation Plan of Gandhamardan Region by the State Government.

Yours faithfully,

(Sandeep Sharma 6. 12.17

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

3 DEC 201

Sir.

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- 2. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- 3. The Addl. PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar
- 4. User Agency
- 5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC
- 6. Guard File

12.17

(Sandeep \$harma) Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)