

**F. No. 8-26/2019-FC**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change  
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road  
New Delhi-110003

**Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2019**

To,

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

**Sub.: Proposal for diversion of 1243.270 ha of forest land involve in the mining lease area over 1322.019 ha of Dubna-Sakradihi Iron and Manganese Ore Mines of M/s OMC Ltd in Keonjhar District, Odisha.**

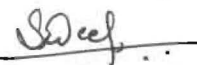
Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Odisha's letter No. 10F (Cons) 77/19-17138/F&E dated 06.09.2019 submitted above subject proposal seeking prior approval of Government of India, under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act. 1980. After examination of the proposal following is observed:

- i. The CA scheme for 979.38 ha against the proposal of diversion of 1243.270 ha has been given. Further, the State Government mentioned that the broken up forest land involved in the mining lease area 258.599 ha and therefore another Non- forest land of 258.599 need to be identified for CA and for time being in order to save delay in processing of forest diversion proposal the user agency has submitted an undertaking to provide the CA land against pre-1980 broken up forest land if decided by FAC. Whereas para 2.4 (iv) of Handbook of Guidelines of FCA, 1980 "*Provisions of CA will be applicable for renewal of a mining lease, including the area broken up prior to 25.10.1980, if the same was not applied earlier*". Therefore, the CA scheme shall revise and forward it with their suitability and approval of competent authority. The shape file/KML file for revised CA sites may also be furnished for further consideration of the proposal.
- ii. Cost benefit Analysis is not available with the proposal.
- iii. State Government reported that the canopy density of the applied forest area varies from 0.3 to 0.7 and the average canopy density is taken as 0.5. Therefore, the actual area falling within density 0.7 may be given.
- iv. It is mentioned in web-portal of this Ministry- [www.parivesh.nic.in](http://www.parivesh.nic.in) that total numbers of trees to be felled is 92220, whereas in physical copy of the proposal, total number of trees to be felled is 2,87,382, this needs clarification.
- v. The State Government reported that production of Iron Ore from 1994-95 to 2006-07 is done without approval under FC Act, 1980. Therefore, the total production of Iron ore done, if without such approval and present status of cases may be given.

In view of above, the State Government is requested to submit documents/information/ clarification as indicated above for further consideration of the proposal in this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,



**(Sandeep Sharma)**

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
2. The Nodal Officer, Office of the PCCF, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Dy. Director General (Central) Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC.
6. Guard file.