

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

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

To,
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.

Sir,

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.

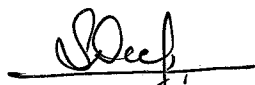
Yours faithfully,


(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

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


(Sandeep Sharma)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)