



STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS, ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HoFF
PLOT NO. GD-2/12, ARANYA BHAWAN, CHANDRASEKHARPUR
BHUBANESWAR-751023

E-mail:- nodal.pccfodisha@gmail.com

No. **20745** /9F (MG) – 18/2015
Dated, Bhubaneswar the **10th** October' 2025

From

Dr. K. Murugesan, IFS
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act)
O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar

To

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (F.C. Division)
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road
New Delhi-110003

Sub:- Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2(1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of balance forest land of 89.961 ha (Fresh area 79.367 ha and 10.594 ha earlier diverted area for renewal and land use change) (Originally proposed area of 84.707 ha) in favour of Sri Avin Jain (Heir of Late Shri D.C.Jain) for mining of Iron and Manganese Ore in Dalpahar Iron and Manganese Ore mines located in Baitarani RF II, District Keonjhar (Odisha) – Compliance to Advisory Committee observations dated 06.10.2025 regarding.

Ref:- F.No. 8-31/2015-FC dated 06.10.2025 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Sir,

Apropos to the subject cited above, this is to inform that Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (FC Division), New Delhi has requested to furnish compliance to Advisory Committee observations vide letter dated 06.10.2025. The compliance is furnished below:-

Observation No. (i) :- The 10.594 hectare area which is already diverted is represented by multiple small, scattered patches throughout the proposed lease, rather than as a single consolidated block. Therefore, the State shall verify the precise location of the 10.594 hectares of diverted area and submit a detailed layout of the same supported by documentary evidence.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, it is to inform that the Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Mining lease, over 251.00 acres or 101.171 ha, was previously granted to M/s M.A. Tulloch & Co (P) Ltd, in Dec 1956, for the excavation of manganese ore, and for many years the mining was carried out by the lessees up to July 1972. Thereafter, the work was dispensed with. Surface Right was granted in a phased manner from 1956 to 1964. Number of quarries over an area of 16.464 ha were developed by M/s M.A. Tulloch & Co (P) Ltd. As the mining was carried out manually during those days, only float manganese ores visible at the surface were extracted and hence, the workings are found in small and scattered patches instead of a single consolidated block, as is generally observed in present-day mechanized mining of Iron and Manganese Ore.

This lease was subsequently granted for a period of 20 years and was executed on 09.06.1986 for Iron and Manganese Ore in favour of Shri D. C. Jain. The lease comprised a total forest area of 101.171 hectares. A forest diversion proposal over 97.084 ha (101.171 ha - 4.087 ha safety zone along the ML boundary) was submitted to the Government of India, MoEF, New Delhi for consideration vide F&E Department Letter No. 14739/F&E dated 14.09.2000. The areas already mined out (broken up) by M/s M.A. Tulloch & Co. (P) Ltd. prior to 1980 were jointly verified by officials from the Mining, Forest and Revenue Departments in September 1999 with detailed forward/ backward bearings, and distances from pillar to pillar were recorded for 10 blocks and shown in plan (Copy enclosed as **Annexure-I**), while filing the diversion proposal under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Based on the said report, final approval of Government of India, MoEF was obtained for 16.469 ha vide F.No. 8-103/2000-FC dated 14.11.2005 (Copy enclosed as **Annexure II**) only for the broken area.

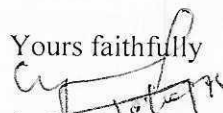
As per the FAC observations cited above, the total area of the present mining lease of M/s D C Jain is 89.961 ha, which comprises 79.367 ha of virgin forest land and 10.594 ha of already broken & diverted forest area in Baitarani RF under Keonjhar Forest division. The precise location of the area has been verified repeatedly in the past and present, not only by the State Government alone but by the Regional Office of Bhubaneswar. Surveys were carried out by joint teams, and the DGPS survey has been vetted by the Odisha Space Application Center. The documents in support of the above are as below:-

- A) The area was jointly verified in September 1999 by mining and forest officials, with detailed forward and backward bearings. A copy of the same alongwith the authenticated map duly signed by all concerned is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.
- B) A copy of the Stage-I/in-principle letter dated 28.11.2002 and Final approval order dated 14.11.2005 of 16.469 ha of diverted land (broken up) by Govt.of India, MoEF, New Delhi is enclosed as **Annexure II Series**.
- C) The map showing the details of the diverted land (broken up) totaling to 10.594 ha within the Mining Lease of Dalpahar Iron & Mining (Block-A) over 89.961 ha duly signed by all concerned is enclosed as **Annexure-III**. Further, the user agency has submitted a drone survey map showing the mining lease area of Dalpahar Iron & Manganese Ore mines over 89.961 ha with superimposing of already diverted area over 10.594 ha (already broken up) which is enclosed as **Annexure-IIIA**.
- D) The map showing DGPS survey and joint verification by Forest, Revenue and mining officials with vetting by ORSAC in 2014 is enclosed as **Annexure IV**.
- E) A copy of the Site Inspection Report by DFO Keonjhar on dated 11.04.2015 attached as **Annexure-V**.
- F) A copy of the Site Inspection Report of the Regional Office, Govt. of India, MoEF & CC, Bhubaneswar on 07.01.2025 is enclosed as **Annexure-VI**.

In view of the above, the compliance to the Advisory Committee observations of GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi dated 06.10.2025 is sent herewith for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Encl: Compliance in one set

Yours faithfully


Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)

Memo No. 20746 /Dt. 10.10.2025

Copy forwarded to the Dy. Director General of Forests (Central), MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to F.No. 8-31/2015-FC dated 06.10.2025 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Memo No. 20747 /Dt. 10.10.2025
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy alongwith the compliance report forwarded to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to F.No. 8-31/2015-FC dated 06.10.2025 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Encl: Compliance in one set

Memo No. 20748 /Dt. 10.10.2025
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle for information and necessary action.

Memo No. 20749 /Dt. 10.10.2025
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Forest Division for information and necessary action.

Memo No. 20750 /Dt. 10.10.2025
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Copy forwarded to Avin Jain, POA, C/o Dharamchand Jain (Mining Lessee), Dharam Villa, 12-A, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Ring Road, Lajpat Nagar IV, New Delhi-110024 for information and necessary action with reference to F.No. 8-31/2015-FC dated 06.10.2025 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)