

Government of Maharashtra

By Speed Post

No.FLD-36A16/CR-402/F-10

Revenue and Forest Deptt.,

Mantralaya, Mumbai- 32.

Date:- 21.08.2025

To,

The Secretary,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Government of India,
New Delhi.


Sub.-Forest Land - Gadchiroli

Proposal for Prior approval under section 2 (1) (iii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for 153.09 ha. forest land for Iron Ore mining at village Surjagad Wooria Hill Bhamragad, Tahsil Etapalli, Dist. Gadchiroli in favour of M/s. Gopani Iron & Power (India) Private Limited. (FP/MH/MIN/19549/2007)

- Ref: 1. Your Office Letter No. 8-61/2016-FC, Dated 20.08.2025.
2. APCCF & Nodal Officer Letter No. Desk-17/FCA-S1/ PID-19549 / Gadchiroli / 1188, Dt.20.08.2025.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division), Government of India, New Delhi vide letter under reference No.1 has forwarded for necessary action.

2. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur has submitted compliance report to the Government of Maharashtra vide letter under reference no.2, Compliance Report submitted by the APCCF & Nodal Officer is self-explanatory and attached herewith for further necessary action in the matter.


(Ganesh Jadhao)
Under Secretary to
the Government of Maharashtra
Under Secretary
Revenue and Forests Department
Hutatma Rajguru Chowk
Madam Cama Road, Mantralaya
Mumbai 400 032

Encl : As above.

Copy to:

- 1) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur.
- 2) Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Nagpur.
- 3) Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Gadchiroli
- 4) Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhamragarh Division, Allapalli



Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forests Force),
Maharashtra State

Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer,
1st Floor, B Wing, Van Bhavan, Ramgiri Road, Civil Lines, Nagpur- 440 001
Tel.No.: 0712- 2556916 ; E-mail: apccfnodal@mahaforest.gov.in

By Speed Post / E-mail

No.: Desk-17/FCA-S1/PID-19549/Gadchiroli/ 188
Nagpur- 440 001, Date 20/08/2025

To,

✓ The Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests),
Revenue & Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mumbai- 32

Sub.: Proposal for prior approval under section 2 (1) (iii) of Van (Sanrakshan
Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for 145.231 ha. (originally
proposed 153.09 ha.) forest land for Iron Ore mining at village Surjagad
Wooria Hill Bhamragad, Tahsil Etapalli, Dist. Gadchiroli in Maharashtra
State in favour of M/s Gopani Iron & Power (India) Private Limited-
regarding.
(Parivesh Proposal No. FP/MH/MIN/19549/2007)


Ref.: The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Forest
Conservation Division), Government of India, New Delhi letter No.8-61
/2016-FC, dated 20/08/2025.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division),
Government of India, New Delhi vide letter under the reference has forwarded Office
Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India on 01/08/2025 to the
Government of Maharashtra, Revenue & Forest Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai.

The Ministry of Mines, Government of India clearly mentioned '*the Letter of Intent
issued by the State Government on 04/09/2006 is valid.*'

With reference to the above letter, the proposal is recommended for forward submission
to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India. Government
of Maharashtra is requested to forward the proposal to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and
Climate Change, Government of India.

Encl:- As above.

 20/8/25

(Naresh Zurmure)

Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer

F. No. 8-61/2016-FC

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road
New Delhi- 110003
Dated: 20-08-2025

To
The Principal Secretary (Forests)
Government of Maharashtra
Mumbai.

Subject: Proposal for prior approval under section 2 (1) (iii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for 145.231 ha (originally proposed 153.09 ha) forest land for Iron Ore mining at village Surjagad Wooria Hill Bhamragad, Tahsil Etapali, Dist. Gadchiroli in Maharashtra State in favour of M/s Gopani Iron & Power (India) Pvt. Ltd - regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 13.08.2025 (copy enclosed) on the above mentioned subject and to forward herewith the copy of Ministry of Mines O.M. number 16/60-2025-Mines VI dated 01.08.2025 (copy enclosed) for further necessary action please.

Yours faithfully,

Digitally signed by
Suneet Bhardwaj
Date: 20-08-2025

Sd/-
(Suneet Bhardwaj)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

10:30:59

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Department of Forest, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
2. DDGF (Central), MoEF&CC's Regional Office at Nagpur.
3. APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading.

No. 16/60/2025-Mines VI
Government of India
Ministry of Mines

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 1st Aug, 2025

Office Memorandum

Subject: Proposal for prior approval under Section 2 (1) (ii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for 153.09 ha forest land for Iron Ore mining at village Surjagad Wooria Hill Bhamragad, Tahsil Etapali, Dist. Gadchiroli in Maharashtra State in favour of M/s Gopani Iron & Power (India) Pvt. Ltd.

The undersigned is directed to refer to letter dated 30.04.2025 (copy enclosed) received from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on the subject mentioned above wherein the comments of Ministry of Mines have been sought in the matter keeping in view the Section 10A(2)(c) and other provisions of MMDR Act.

2. The matter has been examined in the Ministry and it is observed that in the instant case the Letter of Intent for grant of mining lease for mineral iron ore was issued by the State Government in favor of M/s Gopani Iron & Power (India) Pvt. Ltd. on 04.09.2006. Therefore, the instant case falls within the ambit of Section 10A(2)(c) of the MMDR Act.
3. As per the provisions of Section 10A(2)(c) of the MMDR Act and Rule 8(4) of the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules 2016, mining lease in the instant case was required to be executed and registered within a period of two years from the date of commencement of the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 i.e. on or before 11.01.2017. However, the mining lease in the instant case has not been executed.
4. In this instant case Govt. of Maharashtra have already issued letter for validation of LOI on 19/12/2023 in which they have clearly stated that "LOI is still valid" as per the direction of Hon'ble Hight court Mumbai bench nagpur dt. 06/01/2017 & 12/09/2017.
5. In view of above, the Letter of Intent issued by the State Government on 04.09.2006 is valid.
6. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Encl.: As stated above

Digitally signed by
VINOD KUMAR

Date: 01-08-2025

14:32:50
(Vinod Kumar)

Under Secretary, Government of India
Tel. No.: 011-23383946
Email: vinod.kr71@nic.in

To
The Secretary,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh,
New Delhi - 110003.

No enclosure forward with this letter.
JSA (CP) 1/15/2025

Proposal for prior approval under section 2 (1) (iii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for 145.231 ha (originally proposed 153.09 ha) forest land for Iron Ore mining at village Surjagad Wooria Hill Bhamragad, Tahsil Etapali, Dist. Gadchiroli in Maharashtra State in favour of M/s Gopani Iron & Power (India) Pvt. Ltd- regarding.

FC Division ME FCC < fcdiv-mefcc@gov.in >

Thu, 14 Aug 2025 7:13:54 PM +0530

To "Principal Department" < pccfhoffngp@mahaforest.gov.in >, "pccfcentral-ngp-mef" < pccfcentral-ngp-mef@gov.in >, "Additional Forest" < apccfcon@mahaforest.gov.in >, "psec revenue" < psec.revenue@maharashtra.gov.in >, "sec forest" < sec.forest@maharashtra.gov.in >
Cc "R Raghu Prasad" < raghu.prasad@gov.in >, "Suneet Bhardwaj" < hp179.ifs@nic.in >, "adityafc54" < adityafc54@gmail.com >, "FC Division ME FCC" < fcdiv-mefcc@gov.in >

Respected Madam/Sir

Kindly find the attached letter dated 13.08.2025 along with enclosures in respect of the Proposal for prior approval under section 2 (1) (iii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for 145.231 ha (originally proposed 153.09 ha) forest land for Iron Ore mining at village Surjagad Wooria Hill Bhamragad, Tahsil Etapali, Dist. Gadchiroli in Maharashtra State in favour of M/s Gopani Iron & Power (India) Pvt. Ltd- regarding – for further necessary action.

Regards

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Forest Conservation Division
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Jor Bagh Road Aliganj
New Delhi-110003
011-20819388



2 Attachment(s)

letter to State Govt..pdf
90.4 KB

Ministry of Mines OM-2.pdf
70.1 KB

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road
New Delhi- 110003
Dated:11-08-2025

To
The Principal Secretary (Forests)
Government of Maharashtra
Mumbai.

Subject: Proposal for prior approval under section 2 (1) (iii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for 145.231 ha (originally proposed 153.09 ha) forest land for Iron Ore mining at village Surjagad Wooria Hill Bhamragad, Tahsil Etapali, Dist. Gadchiroli in Maharashtra State in favour of M/s Gopani Iron & Power (India) Pvt. Ltd- regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Govt. of Maharashtra vide letter No. FLD 36A16/C.R.402/F-10 dated 15.12.2016 and further clarification/details provided vide letter dated 24.03.2017, 26.09.2024 and 14.05.2025 on the proposal mentioned in above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and to say that the proposal was considered in the Advisory Committee meeting held on 30.07.2025. The detailed minutes of the said meeting is placed on the website of this Ministry: www.parivesh.nic.in. After examination of the proposal the Committee deferred the proposal for want of the following information:

- i. The comments/opinion received from the Ministry of Mines regarding the validity of the Letter of Intent (LoI) shall be forwarded to the State Government. The State Government shall submit the proposal only after a valid LoI is issued in favour of the User Agency
3. In view of above, the copy of the OM No. 6/60/2025-Mines VI dated 09.07.2025 received from the Ministry of Mines is enclosed and State is requested to take necessary action in the matter as per the decision of the Advisory Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above.

Digitally signed by
Suneet Bhardwaj
Date: 13-08-2025
17:54:40

Sd/-
(Suneet Bhardwaj)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
2. DDGF (Central), MoEF&CC's Regional Office, at Nagpur.
3. APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
4. User Agency.

5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading.

No. 16/60/2025-Mines VI
Government of India
Ministry of Mines

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 9th July, 2025

Office Memorandum

Subject: Proposal for prior approval under Section 2 (1) (iii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for 153.09 ha forest land for Iron Ore mining at village Surjagad Wooria Hill Bhamragad, Tahsil Etapali, Dist. Gadchiroli in Maharashtra State in favour of M/s Gopani Iron & Power (India) Pvt. Ltd.

The undersigned is directed to refer to letter dated 30.04.2025 (copy enclosed) received from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on the subject mentioned above wherein the comments of Ministry of Mines have been sought in the matter keeping in view the Section 10A(2)(c) and other provisions of MMDR Act.

2. The matter has been examined in the Ministry and it is observed that in the instant case the Letter of Intent for grant of mining lease for mineral iron ore was issued by the State Government in favor of M/s Gopani Iron & Power (India) Pvt. Ltd. on 04.09.2006. Therefore, the instant case falls within the ambit of Section 10A(2)(c) of the MMDR Act.

3. As per the provisions of Section 10A(2)(c) of the MMDR Act and Rule 8(4) of the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016, the mining lease in the instant case was required to be executed and registered within a period of two years from the date of commencement of the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 i.e. on or before 11.01.2017. However, the mining lease in the instant case has not been executed.

4. In view of above, the Letter of Intent issued by the State Government on 04.09.2006 has become infructuous and void.

5. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Encl.: As stated above

Digitally signed by
VINOD KUMAR
Date: 09-07-2025
20:23:51
(Vinod Kumar)

Under Secretary Government of India
Tel. No.: 011-23383946
Email: vinod.kr71@nic.in

To

The Secretary,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh,
New Delhi - 110003.

Copy to:

1. The Director General of Forest & Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh, New Delhi.
2. The Addl. Chief Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
3. The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur.



Government of Maharashtra
Industry, Labour, Energy and Mining Department
Ground Floor, Anex Building, Hutatma Rajguru Squer, Mantralaya,
Mumbai-400 032.

Email ID :- laxmikant.dhoke@nic.in

Date :19.12.2023

No.MMN-1123/C.R.121/Industry-9A

To,

Gopani Iron and Power (India) Pvt.Ltd.
52/A, Bharat Chamber, Baroda Street,
Carnac Bunder, Masjid (E), Mumbai-400 009.

Subject : Regarding the term of the letter of intent given in the
context of Mauje Surjagad, Dist.Etapalli,

Dist.Gadchiroli 153.09 here. Iron Ore Mines

Ref:- 1) Government Letter No.MMN-1004/P.No.737/Udyog-9
Dated 28/06/2006

2) Your letter dated Nirank and received on date 27/10/2023

3) Director, Geo. and b. Letter from Directorate, Nagpur
No.MLV-G-71/2023/3577 dt.10/11/2023

Kindly refer to your letter mentioned above, it has been requested to State Govt. that, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt.of India has sought information from your on the status of validity of "Letter of Intent" along with relevant details, therefore communicating the following details and status of this issue.

It is inform you that, prior permission was obtained from the Central Government vide 01/06/2006 for allotment of the subject mining lease in favor of your company. On the basis of this prior approval of the Central Government, "Letter of Intent" was issued to Gopani Iron and Power (India) Pvt.Ltd. dated 28/06/2006 and 04/09/2006 subject to terms and conditins like environmental clearance, forest department clearance and mining plan approval within six months.

In this Matter Hon,ble High Court on dated 06/01/2017 passed following order, "By way of interim order, we direct that the proposal of the petitioner shall not lapse till next date." And dated 12/09/2017.....

"Facts in the present matter show that on 15/10/2004, application for Mining Lease was moved and respondent No.3 recommended it on 27/12/2005. On 01/06/2006, respondent No.1- Ministry of Mines accorded approval under Section 5(1) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. On 04/09/2006, an order was also passed for granting it subject to Environmental Clearance and approved from the Forest Department. The Environmental Clearance was given on 13/10/2008.


When the provisions of above mentioned Act were amended in January, 2015 the only forest clearance was under consideration.

At the state, it is not in dispute that the Forest Advisory Committee has on 25/04/2017 looked into the case and recommended the petitioner's proposal for approval under Section 2(iii) of Forest Conservation Act, 1980. Reply filed by respondent No.2 before this Court brings on record subsequent developments. The Minutes of Meeting of Forest Advisory Committee dated 28/07/2017 reveal that because of Guideline 2.1 (VI) contained in Manual which advises the State Government not to consider / process cases, which are pending in various Courts or su judice to avoid all sorts of administrative legal complication; the Forest Advisory Committee thought it proper to recommend in negative i.e. not to grant permission to the State Government under Section 2(iii) till final orders of High Court on applicability of provisions of Section 10-A. (2)(c) of the Amended provisions.

In the present matter, respondents do not dispute that the Letter of Intent (LOI) has been issued to the petitioner on 04/09/2006. In view of this position, it is apparent that the favorable recommendation to the Forest Advisory Committee dated 25/04/2017 needs to be looked into on merits by respondent No.1 and pendency of petition before this Court cannot be a ground to postpone it. Accordingly, we direct respondent No.1 to consider that recommendation on merits, within a period of three months from today. With these directions, we partly allow the Writ petition and dispose it off. No order as to costs.

In this context it is to mention that, out of the permission to be obtained by the Company, which was mentioned in the Letter of Intent, only NOC from the Forest Department of the Central Government is yet to be obtained.

In view of above context and as requested by the Central Forest Advisory Committee vide its letter dated 26/10/2017 and as per the order passed in Writ Petition No.126/2017 dated 06/01/2017 and dated 12/09/2017. In this context the Mining Department has examined the matter carefully whether the Letter of Intent is still valid or not. After examining the case in detailed, it is to convey you that the Letter of Intent issued by the State Govt. is still valid. Therefore, you are requested to submit the required clearances i.e. Forest Clearance to the State Govt. so that to further process the matter for issuance of Mining lease for Iron Ore block.


(Laxmikant Dhoke)
Joint Secretary,
Govt. of Maharashtra

Copy to-

- 1) Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, 27 Khanij Bhavan, Shivaji Nagar, Nagpur.
- 2) District Mining Officer, District Gadchiroli, Gadchiroli.

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

No. MMN-1004/C.R.737/IND-9
Industries, Energy and Labour Department
Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.
Date : 4th September 2006

To,
✓ The Managing Director,
Gopani Iron and Power (India) Pvt.Ltd.,
Uttam house, No-2, Ground Floor,
P.D'Mello Road, 37, Baroda Street,
Carnac Bunder, Mumbai-400-009

Subject : Application for Grant of Mining Lease for Iron Ore over
an area of 153.09 hectares at village Surjagad Wooria Hil
Bhamragad range, Tahsil Etapalli Distt-Gadchiroli,
Maharashtra in favour of M/s Gopani Iron and Power
(India) Pvt.Ltd. for a period of 20 (twenty) years.

Reference: 1) Government Letter of even No. dated 28.06.2006
2) Your letter dated 01/09/2006.

I am directed to refer to the Government letter of even number dated 28.06.2006 and to say that the Government of India as per their letter No. 5/1/2006-MIV, dated 1.6.2006 conveyed the approval of Central Government subject to outcome of the revision application pending against State Govt's order No.MMN-1004/CR-737/IND-9, dated 27.12.2005, to grant the Mining Lease for Iron Ore over an area of 153.09 hectares at village Surjagad Wooria Hill Bhamragad range, Tahsil Etapalli Distt-Gadchiroli, in favour of your company and accordingly a letter of indent was issued vide Govt. letter dated 28.06.2006. On your request as per letter dated 1.09.2006 this revised letter of indent is issued herewith.

The proposed area for grant of Mining Lease is as detailed below:

Compartment No.	Area (ha.)
197	130.17
198	22.92
Total	153.09

ATTESTED

Ka Bhakt
Govt. Labour Officer
Chandrapur.

You are requested to submit the consent letters of the surface right owners in respect of private land, permission to use forest land for mining purpose from the Forest department, necessary clearance to use land owned by Tribals for mining from competent authority, the site clearance certificate from Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India as per Central Government, Circular No.-J-20012/ 11/ 98-IA.II(M), dated 28 th October 2004, and a Mining Plan duly approved by Indian Bureau of Mines within six month from the receipt of this letter to process the matter further. A copy of map of the area recommended for grant of M.L. is enclosed.

Yours faithfully,



(V. S. Kulkarni),

Under Secretary to Govt.

Copy - 1) Ministry of Mines, Government of India, New Delhi With reference to their Letter No. 5/ /2006-MIV, dated 1.6.2006.

2) Director, Geology and Mining, Nagpur.

3) Select file

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

No. MMN-1004/C.R.737/IND-9
Industries, Energy and Labour Department
Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.
Date : 28 th June 2006

To,

✓ The Managing Director,
Gopani Iron and Power (India) Pvt. Ltd.
Uttam house, No-2, Ground Floor,
P.D'Mello Road, 37, Baroda Street,
Carnac Bunder, Mumbai-400-009

Subject : Application for Grant of Mining Lease for Iron Ore over an area of 153.09 hectares at village Surjagad Wooria Hill Bhamragad range, Tahsil Etapalli Distt-Gadchiroli, Maharashtra in favour of M/s Gopani Iron and Power (India) Pvt.Ltd. for a period of 20 (twenty) years.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government letter of even number dated 27.12.2005 and to say that the Government of India as per their letter No. 5/1/2006-MIV, dated 1.6.2006 conveyed the approval of Central Government subject to outcome of the revision application pending against State Govt's order No. MMN-1004/CR-737/IND-9, dated 27.12.2005, to grant the Mining Lease for Iron Ore over an area of 153.09 hectares at village Surjagad Wooria Hill Bhamragad range, Tahsil Etapalli Distt-Gadchiroli, in favour of your company.

A copy of Government of India's letter is enclosed herewith.

You are requested to submit the consent letters of the surface right owners in respect of private land, permission to use forest land for mining purpose from the Forest department, necessary clearance to use land owned by Tribals for mining from competent authority and the site clearance certificate from Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India as per Central Government, Circular No.-J-20012/ 11/ 98-IA.II(M), dated 28 th October 2004, to process the matter further.

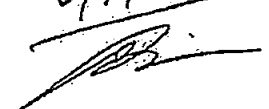
Yours faithfully,


(V. S. Kulkarni),

Under Secretary to Govt.

Copy - 1 Ministry of Mines, Government of India, New Delhi. With reference to their Letter No. 5/1/2006-MIV, dated 1.6.2006.

2) Select file

Recd 6/7/06.


9833
951262

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES

REGISTERED

5/1/2006-M.IV

New Delhi 1st June. 2006

The Secretary to the Govt. of Maharashtra,
Industries, Energy and Labour Dept.,
Mantralaya, Mumbai-32.

Subject: Grant of mining lease for mineral iron ore over an area of 153.09 hecets. in Surjagad Wooria Hill, Bhamragad range, taluk Etapalli, distt. Gadchiroli, Maharashtra in favour of M/s Copani Iron and Power (India) Pvt. Ltd. for a period of 20 (twenty) years.

I am directed to refer to your letter No. MMN-1004/C.R.737/IND-9 dated 27.12.2005 on the subject mentioned above and to convey the approval of Central Govt. under Section 5 (1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, to the grant of mining lease for mineral iron ore over an area of 153.09 hecets. in Surjagad Wooria Hill, Bhamragad range, taluk Etapalli, distt. Gadchiroli, Maharashtra in favour of M/s Copani Iron and Power (India) Pvt. Ltd. for a period of 20 (twenty) years by invoking the provisions of Sec 11(5) of the Act and also subject to outcome of the revision application per the State Govt's order No. MMN-1004/C.R.737/IND-9 dated 27.12.2005.

2. Before allowing the grant of mining lease, the State Govt. may kindly ensure the compliance of the amended provisions of the MM(D&R) Act, 1957 and M.C.Rules, 1966 and other applicable Acts and Rules including Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and Environmental Notification dated 27.1.1994 as amended by MoEF.

A copy of the order passed by the State Govt in the matter may kindly be furnished to this Ministry for record.

(K.P. Mishra)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India

Recd./Copy to :

The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001.

The Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Mineral Exploration Corpn. Ltd. High Land Drive Road, Seminary Hills, NAGPUR-440006

3 to Minister(Mines) 4 Guard file. 5. Revision Cell

(K.P. Mishra)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India