

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 1st, September, 2023

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests),
Government of Odisha,
Bhubaneswar

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s Rungta Mines Ltd. for non-forestry use of 156.978 ha of forest land (147.803 ha in Bonai Forest Division & 9.175 ha in Keonjhar Forest Division) for Iron Ore Mining and ancillary activities with in Jumka Pathiriposhi Pahar Iron Ore Block under Forest Division and District Sundergarh and Keonjhar of Odisha State-reg. (Online proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/150048/2021)

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the above mentioned subject and inform that the the subject cited proposal was considered by the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 21.08.2023. The AC After thorough deliberation and discussion with DDGF (Central), RO Bhubaneswar deferred the proposal and recommended to constitute a sub-committee to visit the area, examine the proposal holistically, and give recommendations in view of the area being in High Conservation Zone as per Decision Rule 1 and 2 of DSS, and human animal conflict situation. As per extant Rules and guidelines a comprehensive proposal including the road and transmission line was required to be submitted, whereas the state has mentioned that separate proposals are being submitted for road and transmission line. The committee shall therefore also examine the necessity and justification of the separate proposals for road and transmission line. The committee shall comprise of the following members:

- i. Shri Manoj Pant, Non-official member of the Advisory Committee.
- ii. Shri AT Mishra, DDGF (Central), MoEF&CC's RO Bhubaneswar.
- iii. Shri Sushant Nanda, PCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA). Government of Odisha.
- iv. Dr. Dheeraj Mittal, AIGF, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

The committee shall submit its report with a period of 15 days.

In this regard the State Government is requested to provide all necessary assistance and the requisite information/documents to the committee.

Yours faithfully

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

Copy to:

- i. PCCF (HoFF), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- ii. DDGF (Central), Integrated Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar.
- iii. APCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- iv. User Agency.
- v. Monitoring Cell of FC Division.