

F.No.8-8217-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(F.C. Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan, C.G.O. Complex,
Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.

New Delhi, the 16th April, 2003.
21st

To,
The Secretary (Forests),
Government of Orissa,
Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Diversion of 149.50 ha. of forest land for Basundhara (West) OCP of M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited in Sundergarh District of Orissa.
Ref: Compliance Report of the State Government vide letter No. 10(Cons.)109/2001/2096/F&E dated 3-2-2003

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No. 10F (Cons)1/97/2310/F&E dated: 6-2-1997 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section 3 of the aforesaid Act.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, and on the basis of the recommendation of the above mentioned Advisory Committee, the Central Government hereby conveys its approval under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 149.50 ha. of forest land (123.83 ha. of forest land and 25.67 ha. of non-forest land with tree cover which as per the orders of the Supreme Court dated 12.12.96 falls within the purview of forests) for Basundhara (West) OCP of M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited in Sundergarh District of Orissa, subject to fulfillment of following conditions:

1. Legal status of the forest shall remain unchanged.
2. Compensatory afforestation shall be raised over degraded forest land twice in extent to the forest land ($149.50 \times 2 = 299$ ha.) and shall be maintained at the project cost.
3. Safety zone shall be regenerated and maintained at the project cost.
4. Enrichment plantation to an extent of one and half times of safety zone area over degraded forest land elsewhere shall be raised and maintained at the project cost.
5. Minimum number of trees shall be felled under strict supervision of State Forest Department.
6. Phased reclamation and afforestation plan shall be implemented under strict supervision of State Forest Department and shall be monitored by the Regional CCF (Central).
7. Approved Mining Plan shall be followed strictly.
8. No labour camps shall be established on the forest land.

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9. Sufficient firewood shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourers at the project cost after purchase from the State Forest Department/Forest Development Corporation.
10. The User Agency shall ensure that there should be no damage to the available wildlife.
11. The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to the clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
12. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
13. Any other condition that the State Government as well as CCF (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar may impose from time to time for the protection and improvement of flora and fauna in the forest area.

Yours faithfully, |

Sd/— |

(ANURAG BAJPAI)
Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar.
2. The Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office(EZ), Bhubaneswar.
4. RO (Hqs.), New Delhi.
5. User Agency.
6. Guard file.


21/4/03

(ANURAG BAJPAI)
Asstt. Inspector General of Forests