

9

**F. No. 8-82/2014-FC**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)  
\*\*\*\*

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road  
New Delhi -110003.

Dated: 3.7.  
June, 2018

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
Government of Odisha,  
Bhubaneswar.

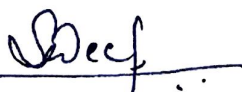
**Sub: Diversion of 1,038.187 hectares of Revenue and DLC forest land including 4.051 hectares under safety zone within the lease hold area of 1,914.063 hectares allocated for opencast coal project (OCP) by M/s. MNH Shakti Ltd. (Talabira II and III OCP) in Jharsuguda and Sambalpur Forest Division within the jurisdiction of Jharsuguda district and Sambalpur district of Odisha- Subsequent re-allotment of Talabira II and III OCP coal blocks in favour of M/s. Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) India Limited following cancellation of allotment the said coal blocks to the prior allottee i.e. M/s. MNH Shakti Ltd. as per Hon'ble Supreme Court's order .**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter No. 10F (Cons)/72/2013/14211/F&E dated 06.07.2017 and 10F(Cons)/246/17/9380/F&E dated 21.04.2018 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The said proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

2. On the recommendations of Ministry of Coal vide their letter no. 13016/69/2004-CA-I dated 10.11.2005 and Forest Advisory Committee, *In-principle /Stage-I approval* is hereby granted for diversion of 1,038.187 hectares of Revenue and DLC forest land including 4.051 hectares under safety zone within the lease hold area of 1,914.063 hectares allocated for opencast coal project (OCP) under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in Jharsuguda and Sambalpur Forest Division within the jurisdiction of Jharsuguda district and Sambalpur district of Odisha- in favour of M/s. Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) India Limited subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) The user agency is a Central PSU. Compensatory Afforestation can be raised over double degraded forest land. From analysis of the area it is learnt that user agency had provided only 1568.08 ha of degraded forest land for CA instead of stipulated requirement of 2076.34 ha of CA area. Status of land identified for CA, as per record submitted, is degraded forest and degraded revenue forest kism land. State government shall clarify the status of degraded and revenue forest kism land (i.e. 534.081 ha at Rangali tehsil and Maneswar Tehsil) and further submit detail CA scheme of CA for balance area after DSS analysis before stage II approval.
- (iii) An approved revised CA scheme for 2076.34 ha shall be submitted by the State

  
3.7.18