

/3579/2021

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,  
New Delhi: 110003,

Dated: 8th February, 2021

To

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

**Sub: Clarification on undertaking mining operations as per changed land use envisaged in New Mining Plan – reg.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Odisha's letter no. FE-DIV-FLD-0033-2020-15366/F&E dated **06.10.2020**, received in the Ministry on 17.12.2020 on the above subject seeking clarification on mining operation in the auctioned mining leases. In this connection, following is clarified:

- i. Ministry vide its guidelines dated 31.03.2020 has already clarified that new lessee shall continue mining operations on the land, in which mining operations were carried out by the previous lessee, for a maximum period of two years from the date of commencement of new lease on the same terms and conditions which was stipulated in the approval under FCA-1980, obtained by the previous lessee.
- ii. For undertaking mining operations as per changed land use envisaged in new mining plan, the user agency needs to seek prior approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 within the stipulated period of 2 years.

This issued with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,  
Sd/-  
(Charan Jeet Singh)  
Scientist D

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office of MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar
3. The Nodal Officer, O/o PCCF, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell