No. 8-63/2007-FC Government of India Ministry of Environment & Forests

Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi Dated the 8th Janauary, 2010

To

The Principal Secretary, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneshwar.

Subject:

Diversion of 1253.225 ha of forest land for establishment of Integrated Steel Plant and Captive Port by POSCO-India Pvt. Ltd, Jagatshinghpur district of Orissa.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to our letter of even number dated 29th December, 2009 conveying the approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 1253.225 ha of forest land for establishment of Integrated Steel Plant and Captive Port by POSCO-India Pvt. Ltd, Jagatshinghpur district of Orissa. In order to implement the project it is clarified that the project can go ahead only after the conditions of MoEF letter dated 3rd August, 2009 including the condition related to informed consent of the tribal people is fulfilled as per the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

The Condition No. 14 stipulated in our letter of even number dated 29th December, 2009 also says that the approval was subject to fulfilment of the following conditions besides the other 15 conditions stipulated:

"14. The rights of the tribal people will be settled as per the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Forest (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 before implementation of the project."

The State Government is, therefore, requested that the conditions stipulated in our various orders shall be fulfilled in their true spirit.

Yours faithfully,

(Ansar Ahmed)

Inspector General of Forests