



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &  
CLIMATE CHANGE  
Sub-Office, Raipur  
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NAYA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR, CHHATTISGARH -  
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File No.:FC-8/22/2023-IRO-RAIPUR/ 36

Date: 27.06.2025

To,

Principal Secretary (Forests),  
Government of Chhattisgarh,  
Forest Department, Mantralaya,  
Mahanadi Bhavan, Nava Raipur,  
Atal Nagar (Chhattisgarh).

**Sub: Diversion of 2.025 ha Forest land for non-forest purpose under forest conservation Act, 1980 in favour of Jayaswal NECO Industry Limited Siltra, Raipur proposed for alternative Approach Road for transportation of iron ore at Chhotedongar Iron Ore Mine, Narayanpur District in the State of Chhattisgarh- reg.**

The undersigned is directed to refer to the State Government of Chhattisgarh vide letter no. F-5-18/2023/10-2 dated 16.08.2023 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980**. After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, 'in-principle' approval was accorded by the Central Government vide its letter of even number dated 29.02.2024. The State Government of Chhattisgarh vide letter no. F-5-18/2023/10-2 dated 13.06.2025 submitted compliance report and requested to grant final approval to the proposal.

After careful consideration of the proposal and compliance report, I am directed to convey the Central Government's 'final approval' under Section- 2 of the **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980** for diversion of 2.025 ha Forest land for non-forest purpose under forest conservation Act, 1980 in favour of Jayaswal NECO Industry Limited Siltra, Raipur proposed for alternative Approach Road for transportation of iron ore at Chhotedongar Iron Ore Mine, Narayanpur District in the State of Chhattisgarh subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The proposed road is a haul road and will not be converted to paved road. Width of RoW (right of way) for the Road shall be limited to 20 m. Old road approved by the ministry which is included on 91.00 ha proposal (Diversion of remaining 101.25 ha of forest land (Originally applied area for 192.25 out of which 91.0 ha 'in-principle' approved) in favour of M/s Jayaswal NECO Industries Limited for mining of iron ore located in village Chhote Donger, District Narayanpur, State Chhattisgarh) will be used exclusively for security purposes only;
- iii. The proposed roads after the completion of the project with the existing carriageway in the forest area, which will not be used, shall be plantation/re-



vegetation of indigenous species work done by the concerned forest department at the cost of the user agency and the land shall be handed over back to the State Forest Department.

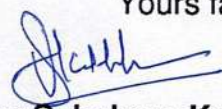
- iv. Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department carried out in equal area of 2.025 ha Non-Forest land (Private land) in Village Kaudosalhebhat, Koylibeda range at khasra no. 18 in West Bhanuparatappur Forest Division, Kanker from the amount which is already been realized from the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided;
- v. **The non-forest land transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department and NFL shall be notified by the State Government as RF under Section-4 or Protected Forests under section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant section(s) of the local Forest Act, before handing over of the forest area to the User Agency for non forestry activity. Copy of the notification shall be submitted to this office for record purpose;**
- vi. The compensatory afforestation scheme, as approved, shall be implemented by the State Forest Department at the project cost within a period of three years from the date of grant of 'Final' approval;
- vii. Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becomes due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency.
- viii. User agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and tree felling shall be done at the cost of the User Agency;
- ix. The boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting 4 feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar;
- x. The State Government of Chhattisgarh shall ensure settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (No. 2 of 2007) before issuing an order for handing over of forest land to the User Agency as per Rule- 11 (7) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 dated 29.11.2023;
- xi. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- xii. User agency shall raise strip plantation on both sides and central verge of the road as per the IRC norms;
- xiii. Speed regulating signage will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas;
- xiv. To improve the Forest/Tree cover and to reduce pollution, as mandated in National Forest Policy, 1988 and Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 respectively, the User Agency shall raise 7500 plants of forestry species along with bamboo, fruit bearing, medicinal, ornamental indigenous/local for 10 years. At least 50% of seedlings shall be planted in the vicinity of project area and remaining 50% of seedlings shall be distributed among villagers as



- per choice of villagers. The concerned JFMC's shall maintain record of plantation/ seedling distribution to villagers;
- xv. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
  - xvi. The State Forest Department shall ensure that all proposed structures provide safe passage for the smooth movement of wildlife and cattle as suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India in manual entitled "Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts of Linear Infrastructure on Wildlife, published in 2016.
  - xvii. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
  - xviii. The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
  - xix. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
  - xx. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
  - xxi. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less;
  - xxii. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India.
  - xxiii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980** and action would be taken as per the provision of **Adhiniyam** and rules/guidelines issued there under.
  - xxiv. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.


**This is issued with the approval of Competent Authority, Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur.**

Yours faithfully,

 27/06/25  
(Vijay Sahebrao Kanthale)  
AIGF (Central)

**Copy to:**

- i. The PCCF & HoFF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Sector-19, Aranya Bhavan, Atal Nagar, Naya Raipur (CG).
- ii. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Chhattisgarh, Sector-19, Aranya Bhavan, Atal Nagar, Naya Raipur (CG).
- iii. User Agency.
- iv. Guard File

 27/06/25  
(Vijay Sahebrao Kanthale)