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SITE INSPECTION REPORT

Proposal under section 2 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 for diversion of 564.90 ha forest land for Rajbar E & D Coal Mine in Auranga Coalfield allotted to M/s Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited (TVNL) under Latehar District of Jharkhand State.

Proposal No: FP/JH/MIN/48598/2020

The site inspection in respect of the proposal was conducted by the undersigned along with Shri S.R.Natesha, RCCF, Palamu, Shri Prawesh Agarwal, CF, Medininagar-cum-DFO, Latehar, Shri V P Kamboj, Deputy Director, Wasteland Development Board, Jharkhand, Shri Rajesh Ranjan, ESE TVNL, and other representatives from forest department and User Agency on 9th February, 2026.

The proposal has been submitted for diversion of 564.90 ha forest land for coal mining in Rajbar E & D Coal Mines of M/s TVNL located in Latehar and Chandwa forest range of Latehar Forest Division. The coal block has been allocated by Ministry of Coal, Government of India vide Order no.103/19/2015/NA, dated 30.06.2015. The coal produced from the mine will be for captive use of extension power units (660 MW x 2). The proposed expansion power units shall be stationed at Lalpania village, near Tenughat Reservoir in Bokaro District of the State of Jharkhand. The coal mine shall be operated through opencast mechanized mining technology. As per approved Mining Plan the mining lease / project area covers an area of 1351 Ha., where the Non-Forest land covers an area of 786.10 Ha and Forest area covers 564.90 Ha [about 535.45 Ha is notified forest & 29.45 Ha is deemed forest (Jungle-Jhari)].

The proposed mining site has patches of dense Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest. The area is dominated by Shorea robusta (Sal) and its associate species.

The forest area proposed for diversion is ecologically significant from a wildlife conservation perspective as it supports rich floral & faunal diversity and is part of the proposed migratory routes of wild Elephants. The area is home to diverse plant species and a range of mammals, reptiles and avifauna. Some of the important fauna include, Elephant, Jackal, Wild Boar, Barking Deer, Hyena, Porcupine, Mongoose, Indian Python, Common karait, Rusuells Viper, Common Sand Boa, Indian Chameleon, Indian Pealfowl, Owls, Bulbul, Sunbirds, Baya, Black Dronge, Quails etc. are commonly found in the area. Therefore, a comprehensive site-specific wildlife Management Plan is recommended for mitigating the consequent impacts (both short term and long term) on wildlife.

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The terrain is undulating and highly prone to erosion as seen from gully erosions found during the inspection. The proposed area is part of significant ecological and hydrological landscape. The operation of mine will alter the drainage pattern in the catchment which will lead to higher erosion and potential disruption of the fragile ecosystem, potentially leading to a water crisis in the future. Hence a Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan, Soil & Moisture Conservation (SMC) Plan is necessary to mitigate the effect and protect the soil. The proposed mining project involves felling of about 68,509 trees as reported by DFO, Latehar.

The proposed project of coal mining is recommended keeping in mind the larger public interest and energy security, provided the above concerns get adequately addressed. Hence, the diversion of 564.90 hectares of forest land for the proposed Rajbar E&D Coal Mining Project in Latehar District is recommended taking into consideration the mitigative measures, regarding wildlife, forest and environment. Photograph of the site visit of the project area is attached.



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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests-cum-
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