

Site inspection report : The proposal seeking Forest Clearance u/s.2(ii) FCA 1980 for an area of 32.693ha plant premise in respect of Hills Cement Company Limited

A proposal seeking Forest Clearance (U/S.2. Forest (Conservation) Act 1980) for an area of deemed forest land of 32.693ha within the plant premises area in respect of Hill Cement Company Limited has been received by this office. The Company have submitted the said proposal in compliance of the JIT-I report submitted based on the Joint inspection conducted by the APCCF, Regional Office under MoEF &CC Shillong and State Forest Department, Meghalaya Shillong in the year 2012. As per the report, it is mentioned that *out of the whole Cement plant premises area OF 68.313Ha (includes lime stone mining site of 4ha), not less than 50% has been ascertained as Forest land*, and hence, the company submitted the proposal to seek Forest clearance u/s.2 of FCA 1980.

On receiving the same, on 26th July 2021, the undersigned along with the Deputy Conservator of Forests (FC Act), Meghalaya Shillong, the Assistant Conservator of Forests (P) Jaintia Hills Territorial Division and Representatives from the user agency have conducted an Inspection to the proposed site for seeking Forest clearance and the observation made thereof as follows:

1. The area proposed for seeking forest clearance (u/s.2. Forest (Conservation) Act 1980) measured to be 32.693ha and is a part of plant premises area of 64.313ha (excluding the lime stone mine of 4ha).
2. Out of the proposed area mentioned above, an area of 9.59ha is a mainly consists of Shrubs, herbs and some few scattered trees namely *Schema wallichii*, *Costonopsis* spp, few miscellaneous spp. and few numbers of bamboo clumps.
3. An area of 12.12 ha has already been broken for construction of Manthir, Effluent Treatment Plant, labour colony and other allied activities. As reported by the user agency the cement plant and other ancillary structures were established in the plant premise area of 68.313ha (The broken area of 12.12 ha is also a part of it) after the due consent (No objection Certificate and the status of the land issued by the competent Authority from the JHADC and Forest Department of Meghalaya. The same has been mentioned in the Para. 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 3.4 and 3.5 in the JIT- report submitted based on the Joint inspection conducted in the year 2012. However knowing the status of the land after Joint Inspection conducted in the year 2012 and subsequent directions issued Vide. Letter. No. MFG.16/50/HCCCL/4039 from the office of PCCF& HoFF and from the office of undersigned Vide. Letter No. JH/FCA/2015-16/Pt. IV/B/1344 dated- 3.7.2020 the user agency has complied to submit the above proposal for seeking for Forest Clearance under section. 2(ii) of Forest Conservation Act 1980 and the same is under process.
4. In addition, the proposed area is **not a part of Protected/ Reserve Forest** notified in the state of Meghalaya.
5. Further, there is **no protected archaeological/heritage sites/ defense establishments has been found nearby areas.**
6. **No studies on rare/ endangered/ unique species of flora and fauna have been made till date.**
7. Further there is no notified Bio Diversity Heritage sites nearby areas.

Place: Sowai

Date: 20.08.2021


Divisional Forest Officer,
Jaintia Hills Territorial Division,
Jowai