

Justification for locating the project in forest area

As per the Meghalaya State Forest Report, 2009 released by the Forest Survey of India, more than 77% of the land area of Meghalaya falls in the category of forest. As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 12.12.1996, most of the area on the basis of vegetation density comes under the category of deemed forest land. Under this situation the industries to be setup in the State outside the industrial parks will have to be necessarily located in the deemed forest area.

The Central Government in the year 1997 declared the North-Eastern Industrial Investment Promotion Policy which was further reviewed in 2007. Its main thrust is to encourage industries in rural areas and more so the mineral based industries. Since the applicant has already acquired the necessary environment clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 to set up an integrated cement plant of 1.5MTPA capacity at village Thangskai in Jaintia Hill district. Since Adhunik Cement Limited has installed the plant with all necessary statutory approval and plant is in operation and the land already been utilized by purchasing from the private individual. After construction of all the activities, in 2012 Joint Inspection Committee considered 14.138ha. of land as deemed forest land which is being utilized for approach road and some ancillary activity of the plant. In view of this since all the activities are completed for smooth running of the operating cement plant an area of 14.138 ha. for approach road, colony area and green belt development may be granted for non-forest activity.

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