

File No.: 8-06/2014-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi – 110003
Dated: As per E-sign

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Jharkhand,
Ranchi.

Subject: Proposal for seeking approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of 509.33 ha of forest land comprising of 401.78 ha of notified forest land and 107.55 recorded forest land for Opencast Coal Mining project of Chakla Coal Block in favour of M/s Hindalco Industries Limited in Latehar Forest Division of Jharkhand State (Proposal No. FP/JH/MIN/4117/2013) – regarding

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to Government of Jharkhand letter No. VAN Bhumi-01/2014-3110 dated 28.08.2025 on the above mentioned subject. In this context, it is informed that Site Inspection Report (SIR) has been received from Regional Office, Ranchi (Copy enclosed). As per the observations in the SIR the following the information on the following may be provided:

(i) There is a change in forest land from 509.33 Ha (original proposal) to 503.578 Ha (as mentioned in SIR). Therefore, comments/recommendation shall be submitted by the State Government regarding the actual forest area involved in the proposal alongwith Maps, KML files of forest area proposed for diversion.

(ii) The CA area is spread over 62 patches in 28 villages out of which one patch (Buruchinda) contains water body. Further, encroachments/occupation has been observed in five (5) patches (Thethaitangar, Sikri, Rankuli, Khatori, Pathri, Dhuria). The State Government should ensure that the CA land proposed is free from all encumbrances.

(iii) In addition, some of the proposed CA land have areas less than 5 ha. The State Government may ensure that the size of the CA lands proposed are in conformity with the guidelines issued under the The Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

(iv) As per Site inspection report it has been mentioned that the forest area of proposed mining site is very rich in terms of floral and faunal biodiversity with an ecologically significant gene-pool. The State Government shall submit comments in this regard.

(v) As per the SIR, it has been mentioned that the forest area proposed for

diversion may cause hindrance to the movement of elephants the the area. The comments of Chief Wildlife Warden in this regard shall be submitted.

(v) As per the SIR, it has been mentioned that there should be a study concerning Wildlife Habitat Vulnerability & Ecological Habitat Restoration by the specialised agency like Wildlife Institute of India before commencement of Open Cast Mining Operation. The State Govt. shall submit comments in this regard.

(vi) As per details in the SIR it has been mentioned that a Livelihood Security Plan for the future of the indigenous community should also be prepared and implemented under the guidance and supervision of State Forest Department represented by concerned DFO. The State Government shall submit comments in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi;
2. The Dy. DGF (Central), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Ranchi;
3. The Nodal Officer, Department of Forest, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.