

Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1)(ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Bushahr Laghu Udyog, VPO Jhakri, Tehsil Rampur Bushahr for non-forestry use of 2.1532 ha of Protected Forest (1.4612 ha for mining lease and safety zone, 0.3400 ha for approach road and 0.3520 ha for staking of raw material) for already established Stone Crusher at Pashada, P.O. Khaneri within the jurisdiction of Rampur Forest Division, Tehsil- Rampur Bushahr, District- Shimla in the State of Himachal Pradesh (Online No. FP/HP/MIN/34194/2018)

1. As per the extant Rules and Guidelines under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, the Technical Officer of the RO, Chandigarh inspected the site on 23.10.2025.
2. The findings of the Inspecting Officer of Regional Office, Chandigarh is attached herewith and same is agreed upon. The main points of the field observations of the Inspecting Officer of Regional office are re-iterated as below: -
 - It has been observed that there is no dedicated approach to the site at present. The upper reaches of the site proposed for crusher are badly eroded and is exposed with small to large stones. The site proposed for mining is an established vertical rock formation with almost 90 degrees of slope. The area at present is naturally stacked and natural vegetation in form of bushes and scattered Pine trees is found. It will not be feasible to disturb the intact rocky hill as it can easily be presumed that mining operation will have irreversible adverse impact on the area. Looking at the adjacent area where landslides and erosion is visible, it is suggested not to consider the intact stable hill for mining as the mining operation will simply convert intact tight hill in to loose, fragile, erosion prone area.
 - The part of proposed area forms natural drainage system of the entire area and serve as main feeder for the local catchment. It was reported by the RFO that during recent monsoon the area had incidences of the soil erosion. It is prudent to mention that present status of the area is very vulnerable for erosion and landslides and future incidents cannot be ruled out. The area does not appear feasible for any commercial activity and establishment of crusher by blocking natural pathway of water with fragile and susceptible rock strata will have severe impacts, accordingly, it is highly recommended that the area should not be considered for establishment of crusher and should be treated for

possible landslides and site-specific interventions should be adopted by the State Forest Department.

- Besides the instant proposal (FP/HP/MIN/QRY/473175/2024), another proposal (FP/HP/MIN/QRY/473175/2024) is approx. 350 meters (aerial distance) away from this proposed renewal of mining lease, for which site inspection report has already been submitted to the Ministry. Both proposals may have serious repercussion on the landscape stability in the area, if the mining activities are allowed and requires urgent rehabilitation, restoration and stabilization, instead of further renewal.

3. The undersigned agree with the above field findings/observations of the Inspecting Officer of MoEF&CC, Regional Office, Chandigarh, and hence do not recommend for consideration for grant of forest clearance for renewal of existing mining lease.

Digitally signed by
Satya Prakash Negi
Date: 24-10-2025
10:20:39

Sd/-
(**Satya Prakash Negi**)
Deputy Director General of Forest (C)

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Name of the Inspecting Officer- N K Dimri, Technical Officer, Regional Office- Chandigarh on 23.10.2025.

Officials from the State Forest Department

1. Shri Ayush Gupta, Range Forest Officer
2. Sh. Munni Lal, BO

User Agency

M/S BUSHAHR LAGHU UDYOG

I. Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:

Protected forest

II. Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion: Item-wise break- up:

S.no	Component	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)
1.	Safety Zone	0.5488	0.00
2.	Mining Area	0.9124	0.00
3.	Proposed Haulage Road	0.2083	0.00
4.	Raw Material Staking & Ancillary Activities	0.4837	0.00
	Total	2.1532	0.00

III. Wildlife:

Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not

As per the details filled at serial no. 8 (i) of Part II, *Leopard, crow, sparrow, fox, Jungle fowl, Kabutar, snake, lizard & tota* etc are present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion.

IV. Vegetation:

i. Total number of trees to be affected: **Nil**

However, it has been observed during the inspection that proposed area for mining do have standing trees of Pine (*Pinus roxburghii*).

V. Background on the proposal:

The proposal is for non-forestry use of 2.1532 ha of Protected Forest (1.4612 ha for mining lease and safety zone, 0.3400 ha for approach road and 0.3520 ha for staking of raw material) for already established Stone Crusher at Pashada, P.O. Khaneri within the jurisdiction of Rampur Forest Division, Tehsil- Rampur Bushahr, District- Shimla in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

VI. Whether proposal involves violation of Van (Sanrakshan evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials.

No violation has been reported by DFO in part II. During sit visit also no commercial activity was recorded. The earlier approved stone crusher site has also now been naturally reclaimed by bushes and rolled over stones.

VII. Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether

rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not. Details be furnished specifically if rehabilitation plan would affect any other forest area by trans-locating oustees in and around the said forest:

As per record, no displacement of any person/Household was found.

VIII. Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious value. Whether any sacred grove or very old grown trees/forests exists in areas proposed for diversion:

As per record, the land being diverted has no socio-cultural/religious value.

Situation w.r.t. any Protected Area:

As per record, the instant proposal is not falling in any protected area.

IX. Field observations/Actionable Points/recommendations:-

1. It has been observed that there is no dedicated approach to the site at present. The upper reaches of the site proposed for crusher are badly eroded and is exposed with small to large stones. The site proposed for mining is an established vertical rock formation with almost 90 degree of slope. The area at present is naturally stacked and natural vegetation in form of bushes and scattered Pine trees is found. It will not be feasible to disturb the intact rocky hill as it can easily be presumed that mining operation will have irreversible adverse impact on the area. Looking at the adjacent area where landslides and erosion is visible, it is suggested not to consider the intact stable hill for mining as the mining operation will simply convert intact tight hill in to loose, fragile, erosion prone area.
2. The part of proposed area forms natural drainage system of the entire area and serve as main feeder for the local catchment. It was reported by the RFO that during recent monsoon the area had incidences of the soil erosion. It is prudent to mention that present status of the area is very vulnerable for erosion and landslides and future incidents cannot be ruled out. The area does not appear feasible for any commercial activity and establishment of crusher by blocking natural pathway of water with fragile and susceptible rock strata

will have severe impacts, accordingly, it is highly recommended that the area should not be considered for establishment of crusher and should be treated for possible landslides and site-specific interventions should be adopted by the State Forest Department.

3. Besides the instant proposal (FP/HP/MIN/QRV/473175/2024) an another proposal (FP/HP/MIN/QRV/473175/2024) for which site inspection report has already been submitted to the Ministry and is under consideration may not be considered for allowing mining and both areas required urgent rehabilitation, restoration and stabilization.



(N K Dimri)
Technical Officer (F)

Photographs taken during the Site Inspection



Site for crusher



Site proposed for mining



Downstream drainage from crusher site



Inspecting team



Landslide vulnerability of site



Earlier crusher site reclaimed naturally