

File No.:8-209/1991-FC(vol)
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 diversion of 101.00 ha of forest land for Parej East Opencast mining project in favour of M/s CCL in Hazaribagh District, Jharkhand (Online No. FP/JH/MIN/36228/2018)

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to Government of Jharkhand letter No. Van Bhumi-11/2023-3817 dated 11.11.2025 received in FC Division 18.11.2025 on the above mentioned subject. In this context, the proposal has been examined in the Ministry. The observations of the Ministry on the proposal are as follows:-

(i) The instant proposal is for more than 100 Ha. Accordingly, the State Government is requested to submit the Site Inspection Report of the Nodal Officer as per the provisions of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

(ii) In reply to earlier EDS raised by this Ministry vide letter dated 01st August, 2023, the State Government has not submitted the complete compliance report on all the conditions imposed on the approval accorded earlier for diversion of 45.04 ha of forest land on 28.04.1993 and 7.1 ha of forest land on 17.07.2008. The State Government shall submit the compliance through RO Ranchi.

(iii) Earlier, the CF, Territorial Circle, Bokaro during his Site inspection reported that out of 98.29ha GMJJ land, 55.20 ha forest land was broken prior to the year 1996. In this context, the State has now reported that the NPV for the area of 56.39 Ha (which include 55.20 Ha broken GMJJ land before 1996) was paid in light of the MOEF&CC, New Delhi letter F No 11-599/2014 FC dated 01.04.2015. Therefore, the following additional details are also required;

(a) The guideline issued by the Ministry vide its letter No F No 11-599/2014 FC dated 01.04.2015 was meant for according General approval under Section 2(iii). The State shall clarify whether any general approval is accorded by the State Government. The State shall also submitted the area involved in the general approval.

(b) The State Govt. shall also clarify whether the NPV was collected for the entire forest land located within the lease or otherwise. The details in this regard shall also be submitted.

(iv) The details of work in violation of VSSA, 1980 over unbroken land of 43.09 ha GMJJ land and 1.05 Ha of Notified forest land, if any, shall also be submitted.

(v) It has been informed by the State that the Stage-II granted for the notified forest land of area 43.52 Ha Vide Ministry letter no 8-209/1991-FC on dated 28.04.1993 in favour of Parej East OCP of M/s CCL for 10 years which was valid till the year 2003. Therefore, the State Govt. shall clarify whether the Non-forestry activity is going on in the 43.52 ha along with detailed report indicating the chronology of mining in the forest land, present status and date on which the mining was stopped, renewal/ working permission granted by the State Forest etc.

(vi) The State Govt. shall clarify whether the user agency has carried out mining in the project area on or after the date 12.12.1996 or otherwise. The reason behind delayed submission of forest diversion proposal for the entire forest land in the project area also be clarified.

(vii) In reply to earlier EDS raised by this Ministry vide letter dated 01st August, 2023, the State Government has informed that OB will be dumped internally for the purpose of back filling only on already broken GMJJ land. However, the justification behind not shifting the Non-site specific activities like Infrastructure (workshop, office, road, colony etc) from the forest land to the Non-Forest land has not been given. The State Government needs to submit the justification for the same.

(viii) In reply to earlier EDS raised by this Ministry vide letter dated 01st August, 2023, the mining plan for the 399 ha revised project/ lease area has been found uploaded online on PARIVESH. However, the mine closure/ reclamation plan has been given for an area of 379 ha. Therefore, revised and updated mining plan along with progressive mine closure plan needs submission.

(ix) In reply to earlier EDS raised by this Ministry vide letter dated 01st August, 2023, the State Government has forwarded an undertaking to pay 0.5% of total project cost towards the cost of implementation of the Soil Moisture Conservation Plan. The proposal is for open-cast coal mines. The State Government has not submitted details of SMC measures alongwith mitigation measure/ plan to check the soil erosion in the proposed forest land. Therefore, State Government shall submit the details in this regard.

(x) In reply to earlier EDS raised by this Ministry vide letter dated 01st August, 2023, the State Govt reported that the Bokaro Nadi is flowing at minimum 200m distance from proposed project area. Therefore, the comment/ NoC from the water resource department was sought earlier along with the proposed measures to mitigate the impact of the project on the hydrological regime. This information has not been submitted. The State Govt. shall submit the same.

(xi) In reply to EDS raised by this Ministry vide letter dated 01st August, 2023, the State Govt. has submitted the CA site suitability certificate for CA sites. However, the CA site suitability certificate the details of Compartment No 523P has not been

included. Therefore, the State Govt. shall clarify whether the State Govt. has changed this CA patch or not.

(xii) In reply to earlier raised by this Ministry vide letter dated 01st August, 2023, the State Govt. has reported that the UA has submitted an undertaking to pay 2% of total project cost for Wildlife Management Plan (WLMP). However, the comment of the CWLW, Govt. of Jharkhand on the instant proposal has not been submitted. The same needs submission.

(xiii) As per the DSS analysis, the following have been observed;

(a) The KML file of earlier diverted 7.1 ha of forest land has been found enclosed in the Pen Drive. However, the user agency has submitted invalid KML file due to which the same cannot be examined through DSS.

(b) It has been reported that the 52.34 ha forest land shall not be utilized. However, on examination of the 52.34 ha forest land KML file through Google imagery, it is revealed that a part of 52.34 ha forest land is being utilized by the user agency for mineral transportation. Furthermore, part of the forest land is also being utilized by the user agency for connecting the coal stock yard. This needs justification and the area of 52.34 ha forest land presently put under Non-forestry use needs to be included in the instant proposal.

(c) The KML file/ map showing the different components of the project, including those proposed to be undertaken on non-forest land has not been submitted.

(d) Fresh construction of buildings in the proposed forest land can be seen through satellite imagery. This needs clarification and whether such construction work is part of instant proposal or otherwise.

After receipt of the above information, the proposal will be further examined in the Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

(Prashant Rajagopal)
Deputy 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.