

Sub: Revision of the specific condition no, (i) of the FAC meeting held on 21.09.2020 regarding proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of of 54.668 ha. of forest land for extraction/collection of sand, stone and bajri from bed of river Yamuna mining project by Randeep Singh, Mauza and Mohal Bhagani, District Sirmour, within the jurisdiction of Paonta Forest Division, District, Sirmour Himachal Pradesh (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/MIN/34137/2018

1. The Government of Himachal Pradesh, Forest Department vide their letter No.Ft.48-3758/2018 (FCA) dated 18th January, 2020 has submitted a fresh proposal to obtain prior approval of the Central Government, under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 54.668 ha. of forest land for extraction/collection of sand, stone and bajri from bed of river Yamuna mining project by Randeep Singh, Mauza and Mohal Bhagani, District Sirmour, within the jurisdiction of Paonta Forest Division, District, Sirmour Himachal Pradesh.
2. The above stated agenda item was considered in FAC meeting on **21.09.2020**. Corresponding agenda note may be seen at **parivesh.nic.in**.
3. FAC, after thorough deliberation and discussion with DDG Regional Office, Dehradun, Nodal Officer (FCA), Himachal Pradesh and DFO, Paonta Sahib, (Through Video Conference) recommended the proposal with general, standard and following specific conditions:
 - i. **Extraction of minor mineral shall be carried out manually. Further, heavy vehicle and heavy machineries shall not be used for extraction and transportation of sand, stone and Bajri from the river bed.**
 - ii. The extraction of minor mineral shall be as per DSR study report and the annual quantity shall not exceed the average of extractions in the years of 2013-14 to 2015-16.
 - iii. As per DSS analysis, out of total proposed C.A area, 3 ha of land is classified as Very Dense Forest, 4 ha of land is classified as Moderately Dense Forest. Therefore, the State Government shall identify degraded/open forest/non-forest land in lieu of above mentioned VDF and MDF for taking up C.A.
 - iv. Bamboo plantation shall be raised between the mining area in the river bed and the nearby agricultural fields on the river bank to avoid erosion of agriculture field at the project cost.
4. During the processing of the file for approval of the competent authority on the recommendation of the FAC made in its meeting dated 21.09.2020 a representation has been received from the User Agency for requesting to modifying the condition no. (i) of the Para 4 above. Copy of the presentation is enclosed.
5. As per the request of the User Agency we may amend the condition no. (i) as follows:
 - i. **Extraction of minor mineral shall be carried out manually. Further, heavy machineries shall not be used for extraction/collection of sand, stone and Bajri from the river bed.**

6. In view of the above, if approved, this matter may be considered in the forthcoming FAC meeting scheduled to be held on 25.11.2020.
