



भारत सरकार /GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, भोपाल/ REGIONAL OFFICE, BHOPAL
Kendriya Paryavaran Bhavan, Link Road No.3, E-5, Ravi Shankar Nagar,
BHOPAL - 462016 (M.P.)
TEL: 0755-2466525 E-mail: rowz.bpl-mef@nic.in



File No. 8-33/2015-FCVol/350

Dated: 21/01/2025

To,

The Additional Director General of Forests (FC)
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj
New Delhi - 110 003.

Sub: Site Inspection for diversion of 4.654 ha Revenue forest land in Khasra No 13/1, 14/1 & 826 of Village Beliya and Atariya, Keshwahi Forest Range of South Shahdol Forest Division for Rampur Batura OCP in favour of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) under the Shahdol District of Madhya Pradesh State (Online No. FP/MP/MIN/18959/2016)- regarding.


Ref: MoEF&CC, New Delhi letter no. 8-33/2015-FCVol/I/89779 dated 09.12.2024.

Sir,

With respect to the subject and reference cited above, the Site Inspection Report of Regional Office, Bhopal in respect of 4.654 ha Revenue forest land in Khasra No 13/1, 14/1 & 826 of Village Beliya and Atariya, Keshwahi Forest Range of South Shahdol Forest Division for Rampur Batura OCP in favour of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) under the Shahdol District of Madhya Pradesh State is submitted herewith for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully

Encl : As above.


(A.K. Sinha)
Dy. Director General of Forests (C)

Copy to:

Shri Suneet Bhardwaj, AIGF, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (FC Division), Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bag Road, Aliganj, New Delhi.

Field Inspection Report of A.K. Sinha, IFS, DDGF (C), RO Bhopal

Ref: GoI, MoEF&CC (FC Division), letter No. 8-33/2015-FCVol, Dated- 09/12/2024.

Date of Inspection : 06/01/2025

Officers present at the time of inspection:-

1. A. K. Sinha, Dy. Director General of Forests (C), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal.
2. Shri P Srikrishna - AGM, Sohagpur Area, SECL
3. Shri A. K. Saxena - Nodal Officer Forest, Sohagpur Area, SECL
4. Shri Sandeep - Sub Area Manager, Sohagpur Area, SECL
5. Shri Badshah Rawat - Sub DFO, Shahdol
6. Shri Ankur Tiwari - Forest Range Officer, Keshwahi
7. Shri Brijesh Tiwari - Forest Beat Officer-Karra wan
8. Other Forest Officials - Forest Division

Title of the Project:		Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 4.654 ha Revenue Forest land in Khasra no. 13/1, 14/1 & 826 of village Beliya and Atariya, Keshwahi Forest Range of South Shahdol Forest Division for Rampur Batura OCP in favour of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) under the Shahdol District of Madhya Pradesh State. (Online proposal No. FP/MP/MIN/18959/2016)																					
1.	Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:	Revenue Forest: 4.654 ha																					
2.	Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion:	The proposed area is for Open Cast Coal Mining in Shahdol District. Following is the proposed area Division/Range:- <table><tr><th>No.</th><th>Component</th><th>Name of Forest Division</th><th>Range</th><th>Revenue Khasra No.</th><th>Area (ha)</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>SURFACE RIGHT</td><td>South Shahdol</td><td>Keshwahi</td><td>13/1, 14/1 & 826</td><td>4.654</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Total</td><td>4.654</td></tr></table>				No.	Component	Name of Forest Division	Range	Revenue Khasra No.	Area (ha)	1	SURFACE RIGHT	South Shahdol	Keshwahi	13/1, 14/1 & 826	4.654	Total					4.654
No.	Component	Name of Forest Division	Range	Revenue Khasra No.	Area (ha)																		
1	SURFACE RIGHT	South Shahdol	Keshwahi	13/1, 14/1 & 826	4.654																		
Total					4.654																		

3.	Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof:	No																		
4.	Total cost of the Project at present rates:	Rs. 120816 Lakhs (As per online Part-I)																		
5.	Wildlife:	Jackal, Wild Boar, Monkeys, etc.																		
6.	Vegetation:	<p>Eco Class-4 and Crown Density is 0.1 to 0.2 the main species present in field are as follows :-</p> <p>i. <i>Butea monosperma</i> ii. <i>Terminalia bellirica</i> iii. <i>Aegle marmelos</i> iv. <i>Terminalia arjuna</i> v. <i>Madhuca indica</i> vi. <i>Ziayphus xylopyra</i> vii. <i>Eucalyptus</i> viii. <i>Mangifera indica</i> ix. <i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> x. <i>Ficus benghalensis</i> xi. <i>Lannea coromandelica</i> xii. <i>Lagerstroemia parviflora</i> xiii. <i>Misc. Species</i></p>																		
7.	Background note on the proposal:	<p>Rampur Batura is a green field opencast project in the western part of Sohagpur area in SECL, Bilaspur. It is a 4 MTY project having a coal reserve of 65.50 MT of G6 Grade.</p> <p>This 4.654 ha of revenue forest having an extractable reserve of 3.50 lakh tonnes of coal, required to be diverted for mining purpose, is an integral and inalienable part of the project.</p>																		
8.	Compensatory Afforestation:	<p>As per SIR</p> <table><tr><th>Sr. No.</th><th>Forest Division</th><th>District</th><th>Forest Range</th><th>Forest Compartment no.</th><th>Area (ha)</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>South Shahdol</td><td>Shahdol</td><td>Keshwahi</td><td>RF-1042</td><td>9.308</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Total</td><td>9.308</td></tr></table>	Sr. No.	Forest Division	District	Forest Range	Forest Compartment no.	Area (ha)	1	South Shahdol	Shahdol	Keshwahi	RF-1042	9.308	Total					9.308
Sr. No.	Forest Division	District	Forest Range	Forest Compartment no.	Area (ha)															
1	South Shahdol	Shahdol	Keshwahi	RF-1042	9.308															
Total					9.308															

9.	Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action Taken against the concerned officials:	No
10.	Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not:	No
11.	Reclamation Plan: (If applicable, submit details and Financial allocation:	Reclamation plan is included in approved Mining Plan.
12.	Details on catchment and command area under the project:	Not applicable.
13.	Cost benefit ratio:	1:0.017 (as per online Part-I)
14.	Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:	The proposal is recommended by the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & State Government in Part-IV & Part-V.
15.	Utility of the Project:	In light of escalating demand of coal from thermal power due to increasing demand of electricity and also from other consumers like cement, fertilizer, etc., it is pertinent to open this project to fulfill the industries and national demand of coal based plants and other perspective encompassing employment and sustainable growth of the region.

16.	Whether land being diverted has any socio cultural/religious value:	No.
17.	Situation w.r.t. Any P.A.	Proposed area is neither a part of any protected area nor within 10 km of any protected area.
18.	Any other information relating to the Project:	
19.	Specific comments/ observation of inspecting officer	

INSPECTION OF THE PROPOSED DIVERSION AREA

Date of Inspection: 06/01/2025

Division-Shahdol; Range- Keshwahi; Beat-karra wan; Revneue Forest Khasra-13/1 (1.748 ha),14/1 (1.049 ha)& 826 (1.857 ha), Total Area-4.654 ha

Khasra no. (13/1). Area-1.748 ha

This proposed revenue forest belongs to the Sivar of Beliya village. The area is having flat terrain with sandy loam soil having considerable depth. The vegetation in the area is sparse and is an open forest with canopy density around 0.1. The flora and fauna naturally occurring in the area is as given in column no. 06 and column no. 05 respectively. In some patches some cultivation by local villagers was noticed, which were observed to be passive in nature. The representatives of the User Agency informed that the said cultivation would be evicted at the time of mining. The area, on one side is bounded by a seasonal Jamuna nala. This Jamuna nala drains into Katna Nala.

Khasra no. (14/1). Area-1.049 ha

This proposed revenue forest belongs to the Sivar of Beliya village. The Khasra no. 13/1 & 14/1 are separated by a seasonal Jamuna nala. The area is having flat terrain with sandy loam soil having considerable depth. The vegetation in the area is sparse and is an open forest with canopy density around 0.1. The flora and fauna naturally occurring in the area is as given in column no. 06 and column no. 05 respectively. The regeneration of *Butea monosperma* was found to be excellent. In some patches some cultivation by local villagers were noticed, which were observed to be passive in nature. The representatives of the User Agency informed that the said cultivation would be evicted at the time of mining.

Khasra no. 826, Area-1.857 ha

This proposed revenue forest belongs to the Sivar of Ataria village. The area is having flat terrain with sandy loam soil having considerable depth. The vegetation in the area is sparse and is an open forest with canopy density around 0.1 to 0.2. The flora and fauna naturally occurring in the area is as given in column no. 06 and column no. 05 respectively. The regeneration of *Butea monosperma* was found to be excellent.

There was no non-forestry activity found in all the three patches mentioned above. Therefore, there is no violation found in the area proposed for diversion.

INSPECTION OF CA AREA

Date of Inspection : 06/01/2025

Officers present at the time of inspection:-

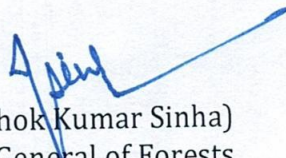
- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. A. K. Sinha, Dy. Director General of Forests (C), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal. | |
| 2. Shri P Srikrishna | - AGM, Sohagpur Area, SECL |
| 3. Shri A. K. Saxsena | - Nodal Officer Forest, Sohagpur Area, SECL |
| 4. Shri Sandeep | - Sub Area Manager, Sohagpur Area, SECL |
| 5. Shri Badshah Rawat | - Sub DFO, Shahdol |
| 6. Shri Ankur Tiwari | - Forest Range Officer, Keshwahi |
| 7. Shri Brijesh Tiwari | - Forest beat Officer-Karra wan |
| 8. Other Forest Officials | - Forest Division |

Division- Shahdol, Range-Keshwahi, Beat-Karra wan, Forest Compartment no.-RF-1042, Area-9.308 Ha

The area was found to be plain with gently sloping into a seasonal stream. There were excellent regeneration of *Diospyros melanoxylon* and *Butea monosperma* in patches. The general vegetation in the area comprised of *Shorea robusta*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Syzygium cumini*, *Lagerstroemia parviflora*, etc. These trees were found to be matured and having good canopy. It was also observed that there were certain rocky outcrops in patches. The top soil was almost found to be eroded due to gently sloping ground. Taking these facts into account, it would be difficult to accommodate 9308 plants in the said area for plantation. Therefore, the CA area is

required to be increased accordingly to accommodate 9308 plants. As the area is gently sloping, the soil and moisture conservation works like Contour trenches, Staggered contour trenches, Percolation tanks, etc. are suggested for better rejuvenation of the area. The Wildlife in the area includes Wild pigs, Langoors, Sloth bear, Jackals, Hares, etc.

20	Recommendations Of Regional Deputy Director General of Forests (C) along with detailed reasons:	The project is recommended for approval subject to the observations as mentioned in the note above.
21.	Regional Head shall give detailed comments on whether there are any alternatives routes/alignments for locating the project on the non-forest land:	The proposal is for mining of Coal which is site specific in nature. Therefore, there cannot be any alternative to the proposal.


 (Ashok Kumar Sinha)
 Dy. Director General of Forests
 Regional Office, Bhopal

Photographs of Inspection

Inspection photographs of Diversion Area



Inspection photographs of CA Area



