

Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)

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Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj  
New Delhi - 110003

**Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2022**

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests)  
Government of Uttarakhand  
Dehradun

**Sub: Renewal of diversion of forest land of 384.69 ha of forest land in favour of Uttarakhand Forest Development Corporation, Tanakpur for collection of Minor Minerals from Sharda River in Haldwani Forest Divisions, District Champawat (Uttarakhand) (Online proposal no. FP/UK/MIN/154581/2022) – reg. .**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the APCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA) Govt. of Uttarakhand's letter No. 1066/FP/UK/MIN/154581/2022 dated 19.10.2022 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and inform that following shortcomings have been observed in the additional information submitted by the state :

- i. The State/UA has applied for the renewal of diversion of forest land for next 10 years, however, the mining plan has been approved upto February 2023 only. Further, the State has informed that the mining plan is under process for approval for 5 more years. In this regard the approved mining plan for commensurate time period is required to be provided.
- ii. As per the DSS report some of the CA sites are partially falling within proposed area for mining. These CA sites are Sharda Tapu 35 & 38 (25 ha), Sharda Tapu 37 (63 ha), Sharda Tapu 42 (16 ha) and Sharda Tapu 42 (20 ha). This needs clarification.
- iii. KML file of the safety zone has not been provided by the State. However, State Govt has provided a map of safety zone area. The KML file has been created with the help of Geo coordinates provided along with the map. Thereafter overlapping the safety zone (SZ) KML file on the proposed mining area of Sharda river it is observed that approx. 95 ha area proposed for mining is overlapping with the safety zone. Correct KML file and map of safety zone shall therefore be submitted.
- iv. Cost Benefit Analysis has not been submitted as per the format prescribed in the FCA, Handbook of guidelines dated 28.03.2019.
- v. The State Govt has provided the survival percentage of various CA plantations

which varies from 70-100%. However, in the site inspection carried out by the IRO in June 2022(SIR enclosed), it was mentioned that some areas like Sharda Tapu no. 36 (area 15.0 ot of 20.0 ha) and Sharda Tapu no. 34 & 35 (area 13.0 ha out of 20 ha) have been washed out by flood. This discrepancy needs justification.

Yours faithfully,

**Sd/-**  
**(Suneet Bhardwaj)**  
**Asst. Inspector General of Forests**

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), Govt. of Uttarakhand, Department of Forest, Dehradun
2. Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Dehradun
3. APCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA) Govt. of Uttarakhand, Department of Forest, Dehradun.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell of the FC Division for uploading on the PARIVESH portal.