

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(FC Division)

Indira ParyavaranBhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: February, 2022

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Jharkhand,
Ranchi.

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 226.67 hectares of forest land in favour of M/s Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) for Karo Opencast Coal Mining Project in District Bokaro (Jharkhand) – reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Jharkhand's letter No. no. Van-Bhumi-02/2009/121/VP dated 19.01.2022, **received in this office on 14.02.2022**, on the above subject forwarding a report on the compliance of conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval dated 24.12.2018 and to say that examination of said compliance report in the Ministry revealed the following:

- i. Sites of degraded forest land identified for raising CA, as approved by the Ministry over an area of 652.9952 ha have been changed and new degraded forest land of 480 ha has now been proposed for raising CA. However, supporting details such as Differential GPS map (along with KML files), site specific CA scheme and suitability certificate also needs to be submitted by the State.
- ii. Similarly, detail of degraded forest and identified for raising afforestation in lieu of 1.5 times the area of safety zone may be submitted along with its KML files and afforestation scheme.
- iii. In compliance to condition no (v) regarding plantation in all available areas to reduce pollution, the State Government has mentioned that user agency needs to take more measures as dust pollution is causing lots of health and other problems to people in the area. Therefore, copy of Plan for undertaking plantation, as envisaged in the extant condition, may be submitted by the State.
- iv. Condition no. (vi) has been complied with in the form of undertaking only. Details of voids identified and earmarked for dumping of ash generated from the nearby Bokaro TPS needs to be provided by the State.
- v. Condition no. (vii) has not been complied with as the Regional Wildlife Management Plan has not been prepared so far. Further, the State Government has suggested for preparation of a Site-Specific Wildlife Management Plan and has accordingly solicited amendment in the extant condition. Moreover, Site-Specific Wildlife Management Plan, advocated by the State, has not been prepared yet. The State Government needs to ensure compliance of this condition.
- vi. Condition no. (xiv) has been complied with in the form of undertaking only. Plans which should have been submitted in support of compliance of extant condition, have been proposed to be submitted within a month period. Copy of

Plan, as envisaged in the extant condition may be submitted by the State.

vii. Land surrender schedule in compliance to condition no. (xvi) has not been submitted. The same needs to be submitted.

viii. Complete compliance of Forest Rights Act, 2006 has not been submitted. Documentary evidences in support of settlement of rights viz. records of consultation and meeting of Forest rights Committee/Gram Sabha, Sub-Divisional Level Committee and the District Level Committee also needs to be submitted by the State.

In view of the above, I am directed to request the State Government to submit information on shortcomings, as indicated above, to this Ministry for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Charan Jeet Singh)

Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator Forests, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi
2. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi
3. The Deputy Director General (Central), Regional Office, Ranchi.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC
6. Guard file