

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi – 110003
Dated: February, 2024

To,

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

Subject: Proposal for Compensatory Afforestation on alternative sites in case of plantation through other schemes on the originally proposed compensatory/penal afforestation for Ara Open Cast Mining project of M/s Central Coalfield Limited-regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Jharkhand's letter No. VanBhumi-50/2023-4213/V.P. dated 07.11.2023 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government for plantation on alternative site. The proposal was considered by the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 17.01.2024. The minutes of the meeting of the AC may kindly be seen at www.parivesh.nic.in. After detailed deliberation on the matter, the Committee deferred the proposal for Compensatory Afforestation on alternative sites in case of plantation through other schemes on the originally proposed compensatory/penal afforestation for Ara Open Cast Mining project of M/s Central Coalfield Limited and decided that:

- i. The Regional Office, Ranchi shall submit a detailed site inspection report of newly proposed compensatory afforestation land along with the specific recommendations.
- ii. The State Government shall submit the reasons/justifications for not completing the compensatory afforestation despite the fact that the Stage-II approval was accorded in the year 2008.
- iii. The State shall give details as to how the plantation work will now be carried out as per existing wage rates/schedule of rates which would be substantially higher than the earlier rates when the proposal was approved.

In view of above, the State Government is requested to submit information, as indicated in point no. (ii) and (iii) above, as per recommendation of Advisory Committee, enabling further consideration of the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Suneet Bhardwaj)
Assistant 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 **with a request to submit a detailed site inspection report of DFA newly proposed compensatory afforestation**

land along with the specific recommendations as per recommendation of Advisory Committee indicated in point no. (i) above;

3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.