

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

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

**Dated: March, 2023**

To  
The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
Government of Chhattisgarh,  
Raipur.

**Sub: Renewal of diversion of 33.84 ha of broken up forest land (out of total 424.429 ha of forest land in lease area) in respect of Deepika Expansion open cast mining project in favour of M/a SECL in Korba District of Chhattisgarh– reg.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to Government of Chhattisgarh's letter no. 5-45/2006/10-2 dated 01.02.2023 on above subject forwarding compliance report of conditions stipulated in Stage-I approval dated 03.03.2010 and to say that after examination of the compliance report following observations are noted:

- i. The State Govt. has submitted the compliance report in response to this Ministry's letter dt 03.03.2010 after a lapse of 13 years. Therefore the State govt. may provide a valid and cogent justification for exorbitant delay in submission of complete compliance report beyond stipulated period of 5 years.
- ii. With reference to compliance to condition no. 1 (b) of Stage-I approval regarding notification of non-forest land identified for CA under section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the State govt. has not provided any updated progress. In this regard, the State govt. is requested to provide the status of notification wrt the non- forest land.
- iii. State Government is requested to provide details of area fully reclaimed and afforested from the already diverted forest area as per the condition no. 16 of Stage-I approval dt 03.03.2010.
- iv. Ministry vide its guideline dated 6.01.2022 read with 28.03.2022 has revised the rates to NPV. The new rates are applicable in the instant proposal. In this regard, State Government is requested to realize the differential amount of NPV, liable in light of aforementioned guidelines from the user agency and the detail of the same shall be intimated to the Ministry.
- v. Further, considering the revised NPV rates, the C:B ratio may also require revised consideration, accordingly comments/revised C:B ratio may be submitted.
- vi. State Government informed that user agency has deposited the funds towards compensatory levies in account of CAMPA through RTGS. However, approved CAMPA format is not provided by the State Government to obtain confirmation from NA-CAMPA. The same is required for further confirmation of the compensatory levies paid.
- vii. Almost a period of 13 years has been elapsed since the Stage-I approval was granted to project. During the intervening period project parameters submitted while granting 'in-principle' approval might have also changed, therefore updated status of various project parameters such as change in the number of project affected trees, vegetation density,

area proposed for diversion, scope of the project, etc. may be intimated along with other such updated information which the State Government considers necessary to be informed to the Ministry.

- viii. The State Govt. is requested to submit the KML files of the area proposed for diversion and the area identified for CA land along with the safety zone and 1.5 times plantation area.
- ix. The State Govt. is requested to offer its comments whether the Safety Zone is accordance with Chapter 7, para 7.9 of this Ministry's Comprehensive Guidelines issued in 2019.
- x. The State Government is requested to submit the updated status of the approved mining plan and validity of mining lease wrt the instant proposal.
- xi. The State Govt. is requested to submit an undertaking by UA wrt the condition no. 10 of Stage-I approval letter dt 3.03.2010.
- xii. The State Govt. is requested to provide documents/ details on the non-applicability of R&R plan wrt the instant proposal.
- xiii. Detail of non-forestry activity, if any, carried out by the user agency in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 needs to be intimated and in case the violation was/has been committed, detailed action taken report on the violation of FC Act, 1980 may also be submitted by the State.

In view of the above, I am directed to request the State Government to furnish information/documents, as indicated above, to the Ministry for further necessary action in the matter.

Further, the original file of the instant proposal is not traceable in the Ministry therefore the State Government is requested to provide a legible copy of the proposal, along with copies of correspondences between the State and Ministry to enable this Ministry to reconstruct the shadow file for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

*A Mittal*  
06/03/23

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

**Copy to:**

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, Raipur.
3. The Nodal officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division