

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

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

**Dated: 6th March, 2023**

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

**Sub:-Proposal for non-forestry use of 402.966 ha of forest land in favour of M/s South Eastern Coalfield Limited for Kusmunda and Laxman Opencast Coal Mining Projects in Korba District of Chhattisgarh –**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Chhattisgarh's letter no. 5-04/2007/10-2 dated 27.01.2023 (received in the Ministry on 13.02.2023) on above subject forwarding additional information in response to this Ministry's letter dt 10.06.2022 and to say that after examination of the same the following are observed:

- i. The KML file of 538.951 ha which is suitable for plantation in Mahasamund Forest Division is not available. In this regard the same shall be submitted.
- ii. KML file of penal CA land (402.996 ha of degraded forest land @ 1000 seedlings per hectare) is not available. In this regard the same shall be submitted
- iii. The State govt. vide earlier letter dt 7.01.2022, informed that an Amount of Rs. 26,60,55,884/- & Rs. 2,66,06,233/- was paid through RTGS vide references UTR No UTIBH 18178057032 Dt. 27/06/18 & UTR No. SBINR52020032400022523 Dt. 23.03.2020 to Chhattisgarh Ad-hoc CAMPA. However, the instant amount is not reflected in the PARIVESH portal. In this regard the state Govt. is requested to rectify the amount wrt Penal CA paid by the User Agency and provide the details.
- iv. As per the condition (ix) of the Ministry's Stage-I approval letter dt 26.04.2018 '*Mined out forest area already reclaimed by UA should be handed over back to State forest dept. with a view to bring it under the ambit of core forestry management prior to Stage-II approval*' in this regard the UA has only provided an undertaking. The State Govt. is requested to clarify whether the land already reclaimed is handed over to the State Forest Department by the UA?
- v. The State Govt. is requested to submit the surrender schedule as per this Ministry's Stage-I approval letter dt 26.04.2018 wrt condition no (x).
- vi. Compliance of condition no (xi) regarding notification of reclaimed revenue forest land under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 is not submitted. In this regard, action taken by the State Government to notify the reclaimed revenue forest land needs to be intimated to the Ministry.

In view of the above, the State Government is requested to furnish information/documents, as indicated above, to the Ministry for further necessary

action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,  
*X 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 (Central), 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