

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi – 110003
Dated: As per E-Sign

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Madhya Pradesh,
Bhopal.

Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 502 ha of forest land for renewal of lease for Rajnagar RO Underground Coal Mining Project in Anup-Nagar District of Madhya Pradesh in favour of M/s South Eastern Coalfield Limited and also diversion of 123.56 ha forest land (a part of 502.00 ha) for surface use for the same project – regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Madhya Pradesh's letter No. F-1/428/2006/10-11/5819 on above subject forwarding compliance report of conditions stipulated in Stage-I approval dated 10.01.2008 and to say that after examination of the compliance report the following shortcomings has been observed:

- i. The condition nos. 2 (i) and 2 (iv) of the Stage –I approval letter dated 10.01.2008 have been imposed by the Advisory Committee after due deliberations and keeping all aspects in view. These conditions imposed by the AC are therefore required to be complied in letter and spirit.
- ii. The Ministry vide its guideline dated 6.01.2022 read with guidelines dated 22.03.2022 has revised the rates to NPV to be realized from the user agencies in lieu of diversion of forest land. State Government may accordingly realize the differential amount of NPV, liable in light of aforementioned guidelines from the user agency and the detail of the same may be intimated to the Ministry.
- iii. In compliance to condition no. 2 (ii) and 2 (iii) of Stage-I approval, Non-forest land identified for raising compensatory afforestation has not been transferred and mutated in favour of the state forest department. The same need to be complied.
- iv. In compliance to condition no. 2 (xiv) of Stage-I approval, State Government has not intimated action against the persons involved in the violation Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and not submitted an action report to the Ministry.
- v. In compliance to condition no. 2 (xv) of Stage-I approval, Regional Office, Bhopal has not taken immediate legal action for violation of the Forest

(Conservation) Act, 1980.

- vi. A period of almost 17 years has been elapsed since the Stage-I approval was granted to project. During the intervening period project parameters agreed 'in-principle' approval might have been 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 intimated along with other such updated information which the State Government considers necessary to be informed to the Ministry.
- vii. 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 intimated by the State.
- 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 Government is requested to submit the updated status of the approved mining plan and validity of mining lease wrt the instant proposal.
- x. Since the proposal underground mining, the State government is requested to furnish its comments whether in future is there any plan of converting the UG mines to Opencast.
- xi. Subsidence prediction report needs to be submitted by the State Government.

Accordingly, it is requested to furnish the above mentioned information to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Digitally signed by
SUNEET BHARDWAJ
Date: 15-04-2025
14:48:55

(Suneet Bhardwaj)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
2. The Dy. DGF (Central), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal;
3. The Nodal Officer, Department of Forest Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.