

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bagh Road Aliganj
New Delhi-110003
Dated: May, 2024

To

The Special Chief Secretary (Forests),
EFS & T Department, Telangana Secretariat,
Government of Telangana,
Hyderabad.

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) Telangana, for non-forestry use of 151.8517 ha of forest land falling in Yellandu division for proposed JK OC project at Yellandu division Telangana State. –regarding (Online proposal No. FP/TG/MIN/49581/2020)

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Telangana's letter No. 3219/For.I (1)/2022 dated 04.04.2024 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section-2 (1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, and to say that the said proposal has been examined by the Advisory Committee (AC) constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act in its meeting held on 30.04.2024.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the Government of Telangana and based on the decision of the Advisory Committee, the Government of Telangana is requested to submit the following information's / documents for further action in the matter:

- i. The State Government is required to submit the details that how much coal reserve has been excavated from the UG mines so far and how much coal reserve is available in the proposed forest land for diversion with justification for seeking surface rights for open cast mining.
- ii. The detailed action plan to remove the noted encroachment from the 68.00 ha out of 106.3042 ha forest land proposed for diversion as well as in the 18 ha which is part of earlier diverted 124.96 ha shall be submitted. Further, the details of the eligible families to be considered as per the provisions of the RFCTLAR Act, 2013 shall be provided. Also, the State Govt. shall clarify, whether any R&R plan is required for the same.
- iii. In the additional 45.5477 ha proposed for diversion, graveyards/ cemeteries, BT road, electrical substation and some pathways were observed at a few locations. In this regard the State Govt. is required to submit the NOCs for the concerned departments (i.e. Road & building and Electricity) and action plan for removal/shifting of the noted structures in this part of the forest land.

- iv. As per the proposed land use 0.3510 ha area below river/Nala/canal has been proposed to be diverted. In this regard, the State Government is required to submit the NOC from the concerned department of State Govt.
- v. As per the site inspection report by the Regional Office the exact area proposed for the CA (NFL-rehabilitated OB dump area), is not demarcated completely (verified and measured) and there may be a possibility of encroachment in the fringe areas. In this regard the State Govt. shall demarcate the area and submit exact details along with plan to protect the said area for its protection and management.
- vi. Clear recommendation from the DDGF Regional Office, Chennai shall be submitted within 15 days.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), Forest Department, Government of Telangana.
2. DDGF (Central), MoEF&CC's RO Chennai.
3. IGF (Central), sub office Hyderabad.
4. APCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF (HoFF), Government of Telangana.
5. User Agency.
6. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.