

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003

Dated: 25th May, 2023

To,

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

Subject: Diversion of 1026.438 ha of forest land for coal mining Pakribarwadih Project in favour of M/s NTPC Ltd. in Hazaribag West Forest Division in Hazaribag District of Jharkhand - Modification in condition of Stage-II approval and violation of FC Act - regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Jharkhand's letter no. vanbhumi-75/2009-1915 V.P. dated 08.07.2022 requesting for modification of condition no. 8 of Stage-II approval dated 17.09.2010 issued under Section 2 (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The said condition at Sr no. 8 of the approval dated 17.09.2010 is as under:

"The user agency will take up program for at least 50 m green belt along the sides of the Pakwa nallah and Dumhani nallah from the initial years under the supervision of the state forest department".

2. The request of the State Government was considered by the Advisory Committee in its meeting held on 25.04.2023. After careful examination of the request of the State Government, on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, and its acceptance by the competent authority in this Ministry, the Central Government hereby accords its approval to modify the condition no. 8 of the Stage-II approval dated 17.09.2010 as under:

"The user agency shall restore and conserve the Khorra Nalla (west) and Pakwa Nalla (east) watersheds on priority basis under supervision of the forest department and expert hydrologists/agencies and develop their watershed status as per the Survey of India toposheet no. 73 E/I. A greenbelt of 100 meters on either side of both Khorra Nalla and Pakwa Nalla shall be maintained".

3. Further, in total disregard to the conditions of approval, the user agency has mined out the area and changed the course of the Dumuhani nala which was actually required to be protected and maintained as green belt. In view of this, it has been decided that the penalty shall be imposed for violation committed over the forest area (1026.438 ha) without approval equal to five times the normal NPV

plus simple interest of 12 % from the date of actual violation committed till the deposition of penalty.

4. The remaining conditions stipulated in approval dated 17.09.2010 for instant proposal shall remain the same.

5. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

Signed by

Suneet Bhardwaj

Date: 25-05-2023 15:00:30

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. Principal Chief Conservation of Forests, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi
2. Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office (Eastern Zone), Ranchi
3. Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Govt.of Jharkhand, Ranchi
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi