

Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi: 110003

Dated: 10th June, 2022

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Chhattisgarh, Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhavan,
New Raipur (CG).

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 – reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Chhattisgarh's letter no.F-04/2007/10-2 dated 7.01.2022, received in this office on 14.03.2022, on the above subject forwarding a additional information as sought by the Ministry in its letter dated 23.08.2021 and to say that examination of said information in the Ministry revealed the following:

- i. Details of the degraded forest land, suitability certificate from the DCF concerned and soft copies of KML/shape files etc. have not been submitted along with the compliance, the same needs to be furnished by the State.
- ii. Compliance of condition no (xi) regarding notification of reclaimed revenue forest land under the Indian Forest Act, 1927, no updated progress has been informed by the State. Action taken by the State Government to notify the reclaimed revenue forest land needs to be intimated to the Ministry
- iii. Cost of implementation of provisions of the CAT plan have not been realized from the user agency. Detail of money deposited into the account of CAMPA needs to be intimated by the State. The user agency has submitted a bank Guarantee of Rs. 1 crore with the Forest Department.
- iv. Compliance of condition no (xi) regarding notification of reclaimed revenue forest land under the Indian Forest Act, 1927, no updated progress has been informed by the State. Action taken by the State Government to notify the reclaimed revenue forest land needs to be intimated to the Ministry.
- v. Supporting detail viz. afforestation scheme and its KML/Shape files in respect of afforestation over degraded forest land of 1.5 times the area of safety zone, has not been submitted by the State Government.
- vi. In compliance to condition no (xvi) of Stage-I approval, a Monitoring Committee with DCF as member has been stated to be constituted by the State to monitor the compliance of various conditions stipulated by the Government of India and implementation of reclamation plan. However, copy of order constituting the Committee, stated to be submitted, has not been received along with the compliance.

vii. Condition no (xiii) of Stage-I approval has not been complied with fully by the State Government. The compliance of the same may be ensured by the State. The State Government may also take action in accordance with the Ministry's guidelines dated 7.06.2022 and intimate the same to the Ministry along with compliance of other observation, as indicated above.

In view of the above, the State Government is requested to submit information on the shortcomings, as indicated above, to this Ministry for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Raipur
3. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Jail Road, Aranya Bhavan, Raipur
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
6. Guard file