

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

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**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: Diversion of 53.142 ha forest land in compartment No PF-261, Waidhan Range of Singrauli Forest Division for Khadia Expansion Open Cast Coal Mine Project by M/s Northern Coalfields Ltd. (NCL) under Singrauli District of Madhya Pradesh State (Online No FP/MP/MIN/149270/2021) - regarding.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the APCCF (LM) and Nodal Officer, Government of Madhya Pradesh letter no. F-1/FP/MP/MIN/149270/2021/4171 dated 05.08.2024 on the above cited subject forwarding the required information. The examination of the said information has revealed that:

- i. The State Govt. shall clarify whether the project requires separate Wildlife Management Plan or otherwise. In addition, the status of implementation of the wildlife management plan prepared for Dudhichua mine shall be submitted.
- ii. The variation in the forest area within the lease has been observed as the total Mine lease of Khadia OCP is 1697.906 ha, out of which 750 ha approved Forest land is in Uttar Pradesh State and remaining 187.623 ha approved Forest land [180 ha forest approved for Khadia & 7.623 ha forest land approved for Bina extension OCP has been proposed to be included in Khadia OCP] is in Madhya Pradesh State and the user agency has submitted instant forest diversion proposal for 53.142 ha forest land. Hence, total forest land within the lease is found to be 990.765 ha whereas the State Govt. has stated that the total forest within the lease area is 904.765 ha. This variation needs clarification.
- iii. The variation in the approved forest land has been noticed in the State Govt. letter dated 05.08.2024 because as per the approval granted by Ministry vide letter no. 8-298/87-FC dated 30.7.1990 for an area of 1305.00 ha which includes 750 ha for Khadia OCP Mine whereas State Govt. mentioned that 664 ha has been approved for Khadia OCP Mine in Uttar Pradesh State. This variation needs clarification.
- iv. The State Govt. has not submitted/uploaded the technically approved CA scheme/crop improvement program along with site suitability certificate for

- non forest land proposed for CA which needs submission.
- v. The State Govt. shall submit the KML file of 360 ha degraded forest land for CA which was then approved against forest diversion proposal of 180 ha.
  - vi. The State Govt. shall submit the Map/ KML file showing the mineral transportation routes and the additional requirement of forest land if any.
  - vii. As per DSS analysis (**copy enclosed**), small part of proposed CA land on NFL is falling in the forest compartment boundary i.e. Range: Sagoni, Block: Padari , Division: Damoh. The State Govt. shall look into the matter and shall ensure that the CA is proposed on Non Forest land which is suitable and free from all encumbrances.
  - viii. The DGPS Map and Survey of India Toposheet map showing the proposed Non Forest Land for CA shall be uploaded online.
  - ix. The reason for non-inclusion of forest land under Uttar Pradesh State in the instant lease has not been clarified.
  - x. Based upon the compartment boundaries available on the DSS, the forest land within the lease was found 242.574 ha out of which the State Govt. has given details of 240.765 ha forest land only. Hence, status of 1.809 ha forest land shall be clarified.

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

Yours sincerely,

**Encl. As Above**

Signed by

Suneet Bhardwaj

Date: 17-09-2024 18:16:26

Sd/-

(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.

**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 53.142 ha forest land in compartment No PF-261, Waidhan Range of Singrauli Forest Division for Khadia Expansion Open Cast Coal Mine Project by M/s Northern Coalfields Ltd. (NCL) under Singrauli District of Madhya Pradesh State (Online No FP/MP/MIN/149270/2021)–regarding.**

The Government of Madhya Pradesh vide their letter No. F-1/FP/MP/MIN/149270/2021/4171 dated 05.08.2024 (uploaded on 07.08.2024 in the PARIVESH) has submit information/documents. In response to vide Ministry letter dated 28.02.2024. The examination of the same through GIS-DSS tool is as under:-

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Observation raised of the MoEF&amp;CC</b>	<b>Comments of the DSS Cell, FC</b>
ii	Present status of Compensatory Afforestation (CA) which was then approved in case of 180 ha diverted forest land needs submission along with the KML files.	In this regard, the State Govt. has not submitted the KML file of 360 ha degraded forest land for CA which was then approved against forest diversion proposal of 180 ha.
vii	Details of coal evacuation plan and involvement/ requirement of additional forest land, if any, shall be intimated.	In this regard, the State Govt. has not submitted the Map/ KML file showing the mineral transportation route has not been submitted by the State Govt.
viii	Satellite imagery shows that safety zone in the Khadia and the adjoining mine has not been maintained. The State Govt. shall submit the justification along with the status of safety zone maintained in the mined out area.	In this regard, the State Govt. has given their clarification for not maintaining the safety zone in the Khadia OCP. Hence, no further comments from the DSS Cell, FC.
ix	Given the density of 0.5 of the 53.142 ha forest land, number of project affected trees reported as 27342 appears to be have been estimated on lower side as the proposed area is having Very Dense Forest (VDF) & Moderately Dense Forest (MDF) based on DSS analysis. Therefore, same needs to be reconfirmed by the State.	In this regard, the State Govt. has submitted their clarification regarding number of trees in the proposed forest land. As per DSS analysis, 32 ha of land is characterized with Very Dense Forest and 21 ha of land is having Moderately Dense Forest and 1 ha is Non-forest/ Non-wooded in terms of forest classes (as per the ISFR 2021) based on the interpretation of satellite data period 2019.
xiii	The State Government has proposed degraded forest land (DFL) for CA in the instant proposal. However, as per Para (1) of the Rule-13 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023	In this regard, the State Govt. has now uploaded the KML file of Non-forest land (NFL) for CA in Part-II form. ii) The State Govt. proposed NFL for CA falls under Village: Ghughari Range Hatta, Khasra No 73, Damoh District iii) The Software calculated area of the Non-

	<p>incorporated in Consolidated Guidelines and Clarifications issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 2023 issued by the Ministry on dated 29.12.2023 says that “an user agency shall provide land which is neither notified as forest under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 (16 of 1927) or any other law nor managed as forest by the Forest Department and it shall also bear the cost of raising compensatory afforestation over such land”. Therefore the User agency shall provide the details of non-forest land for raising compensatory afforestation along with KML file and required documents.</p>	<p>forest land for CA is found 53.142 ha  iv) As per DSS analysis, small part of proposed CA land on NFL is falling in the forest compartment boundary i.e. Range: Sagoni, Block: Padari , Division: Damoh.  v) 34 ha is Moderately Dense Forest, 18 ha is Open forest and 2 ha is Non-forest/ Non-wooded in terms of standard followed in the ISFR-2021.  <b>vi) However, DGPS Map and Survey of India Toposheet map showing the proposed NFL for CA has not been uploaded on PARIVESH.</b></p>																									
<p>xiv</p>	<p>The user agency shall upload the KML file of the proposed diversion area as per the component wise break-up given in online form.</p>	<p>In this regard, the State Govt. has now uploaded the KML file of component wise breakup of Part-I form on PARIVESH. The details are of the KML file are as under:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="775 1003 1409 1285"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Component wise breakup</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S.no</th> <th>Component</th> <th>Forest Land(ha.)</th> <th>Non-Forest Land(ha.)</th> <th>KML Area</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Mining of Coal</td> <td>51.975</td> <td>0</td> <td>51.976</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Safety Zone area</td> <td>1.167</td> <td>0</td> <td>1.166</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>53.142</b></td> <td><b>0</b></td> <td><b>53.142</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component wise breakup					S.no	Component	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)	KML Area	1	Mining of Coal	51.975	0	51.976	2	Safety Zone area	1.167	0	1.166	<b>Total</b>		<b>53.142</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>53.142</b>
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S.no	Component	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)	KML Area																							
1	Mining of Coal	51.975	0	51.976																							
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<b>Total</b>		<b>53.142</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>53.142</b>																							
<p>xv</p>	<p>The user agency has uploaded the KML file of Mining lease boundary and its total area is found to be 1697.906 ha and a part of the Mining lease area is also located in the Uttar Pradesh State. Further in the said Mining lease KML file, the user agency has excluded some portion falling in the forest land and reason for such deletion is not available in the proposal. This needs clarification.</p>	<p>In this regard, the reason behind non-inclusion of forest land under Uttar Pradesh State in the instant lease has not been clarified.</p>																									
<p>xvi</p>	<p>Out of 1697.906 ha area of the Mining lease, total forest land reported in the lease is 901.906 ha. Out of this 901.906 ha forest land majority part is located in the Uttar Pradesh State. This needs justification. Therefore, the user agency/state shall</p>	<p>In this regard, the State Govt. has informed that इस बिन्दु के सम्बन्ध में आवेदक संस्था द्वारा प्रतिवेदित किया गया है कि 20 एमटीपीए की संशोधित खनन योजना अनुसार कुल रकबा 1697.906 हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र में 904.765 हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र वनभूमि है । रकबा 904.765 हे. मे से 664.00 हेक्टेयर वनभूमि क्षेत्र उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य में स्थित है, जिसकी भारत सरकार पर्यावरण वन मंत्रालय नई</p>																									

	provide the complete/correct KML file of forest land in the lease.	दिल्ली द्वारा पत्र क्रमांक 8-298/87-FC दिनांक 30.07.1990 से स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई है। उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य की 664.00 हे. की और मध्य प्रदेश राज्य की रकबा 180.00 हेक्टेयर रकबा 7.623 हेक्टेयर एवं रकबा 53.142 हेक्टेयर वनभूमि की KML File ऑनलाईन प्रस्ताव के भाग-1 के अनुक्रमांक- C (a) (1), (2), (3), & (4) पर अपलोड की गई है। The KML files of 664 ha approved forest land in Uttar Pradesh State, KML file of 180 ha approved forest land in Madhya Pradesh State and KML file of 7.623 proposed to be included in Khadia Project from the approved forest land for Bina extension Project has been found uploaded on PARIVESH.
xvii	As per DSS analysis the total forest land within the State of Madhya Pradesh is found to be 242.574 ha. Further out of this 242.574 ha forest land, the user agency has taken approval under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for an area of 180 ha and submitted the instant diversion proposal for an area of 53.142 ha. Hence, the status of balance 9.432 ha forest land needs submission.	In this regard, based upon the compartment boundaries available on the DSS, the forest land within the lease was found 242.574 ha out of which the State Govt. has given details of 240.765 ha forest land. Hence, status of 1.809 ha forest land has not been clarified by the State Govt.
xix	The area proposed for diversion is having high biological richness as per DSS analysis. The justification for proposing such biodiversity rich area for mining shall be submitted. Also the State Govt. shall submit the status of unbroken area available in the vicinity of the proposed diversion and within the mining lease area.	In this regard, the State Govt. has given their clarification. Hence, no further comments from the DSS Cell, FC

Submitted please

**Prashant Tiwari,**  
Sr. Technical Associate,  
DSS Cell (FC),  
06.09.2024

**Google imagery showing the non-inclusion of forest land/area under the Uttar Pradesh State in the instant lease**



**Google imagery showing the KML file of 904.765 ha forest land within lease as uploaded on PARIVESH**

