

(PARIVESH 1.0)**(Minutes of the Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC) held on 06.07.2026)****Agenda No. 1****File No. 3ASC/131/2022-GHY**

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 diversion of 5.11 ha of deemed forest land for operation of Bheleuguri Stone Mahal in favour of Md. Kamal Ahmed in Doboka Reserved Forest under Nagaon Division, in Hojai District of Assam (Online proposal No. FP/AS/QRY/148460/2021)- regarding.

1. The agenda item was considered by the AC in its meeting held on 06.07.2026. The corresponding agenda note may be seen at www.parivesh.nic.in. The DDGF (Central), Regional Office, MoEFCC, Shillong and Nodal Officer, Government of Assam attend the meeting.
2. During the meeting, all the facts and background of the proposal, along with examination of the proposal in the DSS were presented and explained by the Member Secretary before the AC. The Committee was also apprised of the relevant provisions under other Acts, Rules and Guidelines relevant to the proposal and their significance.
3. The Committee, after detailed deliberations noted the following:
 - i. The Advisory Committee noted that the instant proposal was considered in its earlier meeting held on 23.09.2024, 16.04.2025 and 25.08.2025. The Committee, after taking into consideration of the information furnished by the State Government desired following information from the State:
 - a. The State Government shall prepare a long term sustainable mining plan for carrying out optimum mining in the districts where such mining is being taken and proposed in future. The said plan shall take into consideration the finding of District Survey Report regarding total reserve available and quantities of reserves which can be excavated in a sustainable manner.
 - b. To mitigate the impact of the proposed mining activities on the wildlife including the elephants, a comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan for the landscape, in consultation with an institute of repute, should be prepared and submitted to the Ministry.
 - c. KML files of the all existing mines and proposed mines in the area will be submitted by the State.
 - ii. The State Government submitted its reply online on 25.02.2026, informing the following:
 - a. In compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Bench, Kolkata dated 23.07.2024 in O.A. No. 86/2024/EZ and IA No. 32/2024/EZ, the Government of Assam constituted an Internal Committee and a District-level Committee vide Notification Nos. E. No. 535050/15 dated 17.09.2024 and ECF No. 535050/852 dated 17.09.2024, respectively, for preparation and monitoring of District Survey Reports (DSRs). Accordingly,

the District Survey Report of Divisional Forest Officer, Nagaon South Division, Hojai has been prepared strictly in accordance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 10.11.2021 passed in Civil Appeal Nos. 3661-3662 of 2020 (State of Bihar & Others vs. Pawan Kumar & Others) and thereafter examined and duly approved by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) in its meeting held on 29.08.2025. An expert consultant M/s Gaheli Environmental Laboratory certified, Accredited by NABL.

- b. The approved DSR of Hojai District comprehensively assesses the availability of minor mineral resources, including stone and specifies category-wise reserves, replenishment potential, environmental sensitivity and scientifically determined sustainable extraction limits. The Bheleuguri Stone Mahal is one of the identified stone-bearing areas within the district and its mineral potential, environmental constraints and carrying capacity have been duly considered as part of the district-level assessment.
 - c. The long-term sustainable mining for Bheleuguri Stone Mahal is envisaged to be implemented strictly within the framework of the approved DSR. The annual and lease-period extraction shall be regulated in accordance with the mineable reserves and sustainable quantities assessed in the DSR, ensuring that mining activity remains within the ecological carrying capacity of the area. Further, site-specific Mining Plan is already prepared and approved by the competent authority, incorporating safeguards prescribed under the Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016, EMGSM-2020 (as applicable) and other statutory provisions.
 - d. Thus, the approved DSR of Hojai District serves as the foundational long-term sustainable mining framework for Bheleuguri Stone Mahal, ensuring optimum and regulated extraction of stone in an environmentally sound and sustainable manner, while safeguarding surrounding habitations, drainage and ecological features.
 - e. A team of experts from WII carried out a detailed site inspection of the proposed stone mining area on 07.12.2025 in association with the Nagaon Division. As per the findings of the Site Inspection Report submitted by WII, the proposed Bheleuguri Stone Mahal is located within Doboka Reserve Forest and is situated at a considerable distance from notified Protected Areas, Tiger corridors and Elephant corridors. The nearest Elephant corridor is located at a distance of approximately 51 km and no designated Elephant movement corridor passes through or near the proposed quarry area. Based on field observations, secondary data and expert assessment, WII has provided a set of site-specific mitigation measures and wildlife conservation recommendations to minimise potential impacts of the proposed mining activities.
- iii. Compensatory Afforestation has been proposed over 5.311 ha of equivalent non-forest land in single patch in Monglai Phunglo village, Garampani range under Dima Hasao (West) Haflong Forest Division in Dima Hasao district of Assam. CA scheme with 10 years of maintenance is provided. Site suitability certificate has been furnished by the concerned DFO. The CA site was inspected by the Regional Office, Shillong wherein it has been informed that identified CA site is suitable from plantation and management point of view

and free from encroachments/other encumbrances.

- iv. The Committee was informed that the State Government has mentioned that approved DSR of Hojai District comprehensively assesses the availability of minor mineral resources, including stone and specifies category-wise reserves, replenishment potential, environmental sensitivity and scientifically determined sustainable extraction limits. The DSR has been approved by the SEIAA in its meeting held on 29.08.2025. The Bheleuguri Stone Mahal is one of the identified stone-bearing areas within the district and its mineral potential, environmental constraints and carrying capacity have been duly considered as part of the district-level assessment.
- v. That the area proposed for diversion is part of Kaziranga Karbi Anglong Elephant Reserve. PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with certain conditions. Further, comments from Project Elephant Division has also been obtained. WII carried out a detailed site inspection of the proposed stone mining area on 07.12.2025 in association with the Nagaon Division and recommended the proposal with certain conditions.
- vi. Earlier a proposal for diversion of 0.99 ha was accorded by the Central Government on 26.09.2000 and the same was expired on 2010. The Committee observed that excess area appears to have been broken in violation of the Adhiniyam. The Nodal Officer, Assam appraised the Committee that excess area was broken in between 2012-2014 as illegal mining. No violation has been done by the present user agency.
- vii. The Nodal Officer further informed the Committee that legal action had been initiated under the provisions of the Assam Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2013 (AMMC Rules, 2013). It was stated that the vehicles involved in the illegal activity had been seized and penalties imposed on the offenders. However, the Committee observed that no action had been reported under the provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. Accordingly, the Committee directed the State Government to furnish complete details of the action taken under the AMMC Rules, 2013, including the number and particulars of vehicles seized, quantity of illegally extracted mineral/material seized, quantum of penalties imposed, status of recovery, and any other consequential action taken, so as to establish that effective and credible enforcement action has been undertaken in the matter.
- viii. The Committee further observed that the occurrence of such unauthorized use of forest land necessitates the need for a robust preventive and monitoring framework. Accordingly, the State Government need to formulate and implement a comprehensive mechanism to prevent recurrence of such violations, including appropriate monitoring, surveillance, enforcement and accountability measures. A detailed action plan in this regard may be prepared and submitted to the Ministry for its consideration.

4. **Decision of the Advisory Committee:** The Committee after detailed discussion and deliberation, decided to defer the proposal for obtaining the following information from the State Government:

- i. The State Government shall furnish complete details of the action taken under the relevant Forest laws and under the AMMC Rules, 2013, including

the number and particulars of vehicles seized, quantity of illegally extracted mineral/material seized, quantum of penalties imposed, status of recovery, and any other consequential action taken, so as to establish that effective and credible enforcement action has been undertaken against the unauthorised use of forest land for illegal mining activities.

- ii. The State Government shall also formulate and implement a comprehensive mechanism to prevent recurrence of such violations, including appropriate monitoring, surveillance, enforcement and accountability measures. A detailed action plan in this regard may be prepared and submitted to the Ministry for its consideration.

Agenda No. 6

File No. 8-12/2025-FC

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 564.9 ha Forest land for Rajbar E & D Coal Mine in Auranga Coalfield allotted to M/s Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Ltd. (TVNL), Government of Jharkhand Undertaking for power generation under Latehar District of Jharkhand (Online proposal No. FP/JH/MIN/48598/2020)- regarding.

1. The agenda item was considered by the AC in its meeting held on 06.07.2026. The corresponding agenda note may be seen at www.parivesh.nic.in. The DDGF (Central), Regional Office, MoEFCC, Ranchi and Nodal Officer, Government of Jharkhand attended the meeting.
2. During the meeting, all the facts and background of the proposal, along with examination of the proposal in the DSS were presented and explained by the Member Secretary before the AC. The Committee was also apprised of the relevant provisions under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and other Acts, Rules and Guidelines relevant to the proposal and their significance.
3. The Advisory Committee (AC) after thorough deliberation on the proposal, noted the following:
 - i. Proposal involves diversion of 564.9 ha Forest land for Rajbar E & D Coal Mine in Auranga Coalfield allotted to M/s Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Ltd. (TVNL), Government of Jharkhand Undertaking for power generation under Latehar District of Jharkhand.
 - ii. Component wise details submitted in the proposal are as under:

Sl. No.	Component	Forest Land (ha.)	Non-Forest Land (ha.)
(i)	Excavation Area	520.36	741.64
(ii)	Road	4.88	6.12
(iii)	Garland Drain	2.21	2.09
(iv)	Embankment	5.98	3.52
(v)	E.T.P., Magazine & Sed. Tank	2.8	0

(vi)	CHP with Coal Storage area	12.7	0
(vii)	Safety Zone	6.84	6.43
(viii)	Green Belting Area (Forest land revised from 4.16 ha)	8.13	11.47
(ix)	Electrical Substation	0	2
(x)	Work Shop	0	2.9
(xi)	Store	0	1.9
(xii)	Office	0	1.9
(xiii)	Township (reduced the forest land from 3.97 ha to 0 ha)	0	6.13
(xiv)	Undisturbed Area	1	0
	Total	564.9	786.10

- iii. The legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion is Protected Forest (535.45 ha) and Jungle Jhari land (29.45 ha). Canopy density in the proposed area is reported to be 0.4 of Eco class III with 65809 tree felling involved during implementation of the project.
- iv. Proposal does not fall within 10 Km radius of the boundary of any PAs. No protected archaeological / heritage site / defence establishment or any other important monuments is located in the area has been reported. Certificates to this effect have been submitted by DFO concerned.
- v. The instant proposal falls under Not-Inviolate or Not-in High conservation zone (NHCV) category as per the Decision Rule- II. However, as per Decision Rule- I, the proposal fall In High Conservation Zone as per the due to presence of Sukri River adjacent to the proposed forest land for diversion.
- vi. Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal, Government of India has allotted Rajbar E & D Coal Block, situated in District Latehar in the State of Jharkhand to Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited (TVNL), a Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking vide Order no. 103/19/2015/NA, dated 30.06.2015. The coal produced from the mine will be for captive use of extension power units (660 MW x 2).
- vii. Further it is submitted that, the underground mining is planned to commence operations from 8th-9th year of commencement of opencast operation. The idea is to keep the U/G working at least about 500 m away from opencast blasting faces. This U/G mine will progress keeping a safe distance from OC mine blasting faces. There will not be any simultaneous operations of opencast and under ground workings at the same place. After depletion of reserves in North side of opencast mine only and underground working will be done in North West region. Underground mining will be carried out for seam I & II beneath the opencast workings and within the lease boundary, and no separate forest land is required for underground mining.
- viii. State Government has proposed Compensatory Afforestation over 1148 ha. degraded forest land in Garhwa North Forest Division. CA scheme with 10 years of maintenance is provided. Site suitability certificate has been furnished by the concerned DFO.
- ix. The Committee was informed that DFO has mentioned in his site inspection report that:

- a. Four mega coal projects (Upcoming mines at Banhardi-1.5 km & Chakla Coal Mines-12 km; and operational mines at Sikni-4.5 km & Tubed-6.5 km) are close to this proposed mining site. Therefore, it is very important to consider the complete landscape and cumulative impact of these mining operations at every step of decision making and planning. Palamu WLS at 34 Km, Betla NP at 35 Km, Lawalong WLS at 20 Km, ESZ of PWLS-BNP-MWS-PTR at 18 Km, ESZ of Law along WS at 14 Km.
- b. The forest area of proposed mining site is very rich in terms of floral and faunal biodiversity with an ecologically significant gene-pool. Therefore, a sincere effort is needed to preserve the germplasm of the area by conducting a thorough biodiversity and ethno botanical study.
- c. A serious consideration is needed in regard of water regime of the whole catchments area because after implementation of the proposed project few streams will get compromised in entirety or partially and the entire fragile ecosystem would be affected by water crisis a few years down the line.
- d. The area proposed for diversion is also prone to soil erosion. Open cast mining and associated activities would involve activities like breaking of land and removal of earth, specially the top soil, in the area and beyond. Thus, the entire land scape will become further vulnerable to soil erosion and degradation. Therefore, a Comprehensive Soil and Moisture Conservation Plan should be prepared and implemented treating the entire land scape to ensure that the detrimental impact of open cast coal mining on the adjacent vast expanse of forest shall be minimised.
- e. Herds of elephant's roam in and around the proposed area for diversion. Incidents of Human-Animal conflicts are likely to increase further with more fragmentation and loss of habitat due to open cast mining projects in and around the area (four mega projects nearby). Therefore, it is very much required to prepare and implement a plan for minimising losses due to such incidents of human-animal conflict in and around the area collectively by forest department and User Agency in cooperation with locals.
- x. No violation of the Adhiniyam have been reported. Authorities in the State Government have recommended the proposal.
- xi. DDGF (C), Regional Office, Ranchi has recommended the proposal with conditions like fencing, protection and afforestation within designated 7.5 mtrs. All non-site-specific ancillary facilities shall be shifted to non-forest land. Proper and scientific top soil management. Overburden dump shall be maintained with properly constructed footwall. Site specific Wildlife Management Plan.
- xii. The Committee was informed that the State Government has revised the land use plan and reduced the township part from 3.97 ha to 0 ha and added the area to the greenbelt (revised from 4.16 ha to 8.13 ha). On the matter of Coal Handling plant (12.7 ha) – the State has mentioned that CHP and coal storage yard were planned in non-coal bearing area, within the allotted block boundary and near to Mine entry, to avoid transportation of coal to longer distances with high-capacity Dump trucks of 100 T. Furthermore, there is no sufficient non forest land available in non-coal bearing area. However, this structure will be dismantled as soon as mining operations are completed at the end 48th year as a part of final mine closure and plantation will be

developed.

- xiii. The Ministry, after preliminary examination of the proposal, observed shortcomings viz site inspection report of Nodal Officer, clarification whether the MoC has allowed to exclude 17 ha Coal bearing area from the original allocation, clarification regarding open cast mining or underground mining along with 3D subsidence prediction model, clarification regarding creation of void inside mining area, clarification regarding coal evacuation plan; requirement of electricity and water, shifting of non-site-specific activities to non-forest land, comments of CWLW, NOC from Water Resource Department, SMC plan, ethno botanical study, observation of DSS, factual details regarding number of trees to be felled, details of work carried out as per the working plan and clarification whether the allotment of Coal block in favour of present user agency is still valid as on date etc. Additional information was requested from the State on 27.01.2026. The Regional Office on 31.01.2026 was also requested to submit an inspection report.
 - xiv. The State Government submitted its reply online on 04.05.2026. examination of the same revealed that certain shortcomings viz. details of forest land involved, if any, for construction of transmission line, necessary correction in Part- I on Parivesh portal to maintain green belt inside of township, NOC from Water Resource Department and SMC plan etc. were observed. Additional information was requested from the State on 05.06.2026.
 - xv. The State Government submitted its reply online on 25.06.2026 stating that there is not requirement of forest land in the process of establishment of HT power line from Latehar to the project site, user agency has made necessary correction in Part- I on Parivesh portal and submitted copy of revised item wise land breakup and revised land use plan, the request of user agency is under active consideration of Water Resource Department; undertaking to submit CAT plan before Stage- II approval has been submitted by user agency. Comprehensive Soil & Moisture Conservation (SMC) plan is under preparation; undertaking to submit plan before Stage- II approval is submitted by user agency. The Committee noted the same.
4. **Decision of the Advisory Committee:** The Committee after detailed discussion and deliberation with the DDGF (Central), Regional Office, Ranchi and Nodal Officer, Government of Jharkhand and after going through the facts of the proposal, the Committee decided to '**defer**' the proposal with the following observations:
- i. Since extant proposal is adjacent to Sukri River, the State Government shall obtain NoC from Water Resource Department and submit to the Ministry along with copy of the report prepared by IIT, Roorkee.
 - ii. Serious consideration is needed with regard of water regime of the whole catchment area since few streams will get compromised in entirety or partially and the entire fragile ecosystem would be affected. The State Government should bring out the details on the mitigation measures proposed on the potential impacts on the water regime.
 - iii. The State Government in their recommendation has mentioned that the Soil & Moisture Conservation (SMC) Plan is necessary to mitigate the impact of the said proposal. Therefore, the State Government shall submit an approved

- copy of Soil & Moisture Conservation (SMC) Plan.
- iv. As per the proposal, 64,809 trees are proposed to be felled on the proposed forest land. The State Government shall furnish detailed phase-wise & year-wise tree-felling plan, the corresponding area proposed to be mined during each phase, and phase-wise maps along with KML files of the progressive tree-felling area.
 - v. The State Government shall submit KML files for the modified land use plan for the project indicating the modified extent of Township and Greenbelt in the proposed land.
 - vi. The State Government shall submit the details of the overburden dumping area. Suitable modifications in the land use plan, as applicable, may be submitted.

Agenda No. 10

Proposal No: FP/MP/MIN/23750/2017

Sub: Diversion of 40.468 ha forest land in village Phadki (Mohgaon) for Bauxite mining and various construction activities in favour of M/s Dharamsi Morarji Chemical Company Limited (Mumbai) in the Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh State (Proposal No. FP/MP/MIN/23750/2017) – reg.

1. The above stated agenda item was considered by the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 06.07.2026. The corresponding agenda note may be seen at www.parivesh.nic.in. The Dy. DGF (Central), RO, Bhopal and Nodal Officer, Government of Madhya Pradesh were present in the meeting.
2. During the meeting, all the facts and background of the proposal, along with examination of the proposal in the DSS were presented and explained to the AC. The Committee was also apprised of the relevant provisions under other Acts, Rules and Guidelines relevant to the proposal and their significance.
3. The Advisory Committee (AC) after thorough deliberation and discussion observed the following:
 - i. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Land Management) and Nodal Officer under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 Satpura Bhawan, Government of Madhya Pradesh vide their letter No. F-1/FP/MP/MIN/23750/2017/1439 dated 03.05.2021 forwarded a proposal to obtain prior approval of the Central Government, in terms of the Section-2 of the Van (Sanrakshan evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 40.468 ha forest land in village Phadki (Mohgaon) for Bauxite mining and various construction activities in favour of M/s Dharamsi Morarji Chemical Company Limited (Mumbai) in the Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh State.
 - ii. The area proposed for renewal of mining lease was prospected by pitting during the past lease period. The Mines were first broken in 1978 even before the FCA-1980 was in existence and that the requisite permissions were taken from the forest department apart

from the allocation of the area for Bauxite mining from the relevant authorities. Before the FCA-1980 came into existence, an area of 6.07 Ha had already been broken for Bauxite mining. Before breaking the area and even after, explorative mining were being carried out. Results of the aforementioned explorative mining clearly indicate that the mine fall under A-category and the feasibility axis for the same falls under UNFC as the deposit is F-1. Main contents of mineral are Al_2O_3 and SiO_2 with presence of Fe_2O_3 as an impurity. Bauxite of the lease area is of chemical and refractory grade.

- iii. Mining lease for bauxite was granted to M/s Dharamsi Morarji Chemical Co Ltd Mumbai in Village-Phadki Mohgaon DistBalaghat over an area of 40.468 Hect. vide State Govt Order No 3/113/77/x11 for 20 years for the period 02/12/1978 to 01/12/1998. During this period mining was done on a very small scale. Application for renewal of mining lease was submitted by them on 29/11/1997 As the lease area is a forest land and clearance from forest deptt. was delayed. M/s Dharamji Morarji Chemical Company Limited filed a petition application in the Hon'ble High Court of Madhya Pradesh vide petition No.328/1999. The Hon'ble High Court directed Madhya Pradesh Govt. for renewal of mining lease. The MP Govt. Vide letter no F3-173/90/12/2 dated 26/07/2011 directed the lessee to submit information on certain points. Last Mining Plan was approved vide letter no, BGT/BX/MPLN-1136/NGP dated 06/09/2013 covering period up to 31/03/2018.
- iv. The State Government submitted that the land proposed for diversion of 40.468 ha of reserved forest is having the canopy density of the 0.4 to 0.6 of Eco Class III. There are 11942 number of trees are proposed to be felled in the subject proposal.
- v. The State Government submitted that the District Collector Balaghat has issued the certificate vide letter dated 19.07.2017 along with the relevant documents.
- vi. The State Govt. submitted that the boundary of the nearest protected area is 12.2 km from the boundary of buffer zone and 18.6 km from the boundary of Kanha National Park. Further, it has been stated that there is a presence of the Panther or leopard, Bear, sambar, spotted deer, Jakal, Langur etc. in and around the land proposed for diversion.
- vii. The state govt. has recommended the proposal subject to preparation of a Wildlife Management Plan. The Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with Site Specific Wildlife Management Plan for a period of five years.
- viii. The Regional Controller of Mines has approved the Mining plan vide letter dated 09.04.2024. The Collector, Mining Department, Balaghat in its order dated 30.05.2015 extended the lease by 01.12.2028.
- ix. The area proposed for renewal of mining lease was prospected by pitting during the past lease period. The Mines were first broken in

1978 even before the FCA-1980 was in existence and that the requisite permissions were taken from the forest department apart from the allocation of the area for Bauxite mining from the relevant authorities. Before the FCA-1980 came into existence, an area of 6.07 Ha had already been broken for Bauxite mining.

x. The land use plan of the proposal is as under:

Sl. No.	Component	Area (ha.)
i.	Barrier Zone	1.917
ii.	Temp. path/ road	0.1
iii.	Temp. site service/ Office/ Store/ Shelter/ Common room/ toilet etc.	0.01
iv.	Temp. Dumping	0.1
v.	Temp. Soil Stacking	0.24
vi.	Proposed Mining Area	36.659
vii.	Non minable Area	1.442
	Total	40.468

- xi. Against the land proposed for diversion of the 40.468 ha, the State Govt. has identified the CA land over an area of 40.829 ha of non forest land in 4 patches. The State Govt. submitted that, out of the proposed non-forest land for CA, an area of 1.2 ha is occupied by an existing road, river, and water bodies. Therefore, in lieu of the area unavailable for plantation, the remaining compensatory plantation has been proposed over 3.468 ha in Reserved Forest (RF) Compartment No. 1550. A Compensatory Afforestation (CA) Scheme for the said area has been prepared.
- xii. The Regional Office in its SIR has recommended the proposal.
- xiii. The State Government has submitted that the land identified for Compensatory Afforestation falls under the administrative control of the Revenue Department and that its legal status is maintained in the revenue records. It has further been stated that the land was inadvertently recorded as revenue forest land in the revenue records, which was subsequently corrected by a detailed order of the competent Revenue Authority declaring it to be revenue land (non-forest land). Accordingly, the State Government has stated that the land may be treated as non-forest land based on the corrected revenue records.
- xiv. The State Government has submitted that the land identified for Compensatory Afforestation is private revenue land and that the entries such as "Chhote Jhad Ka Jungle", "Satkata Jungle", etc., were erroneously recorded in the khasra records. It has been stated that, upon an application submitted by the User Agency, the Revenue Department conducted an inquiry and passed orders deleting these entries from the revenue records and replacing them with the number of shrubs/trees. The present land classification has been recorded as "Padat" (fallow land), and the State Government has contended that the land is revenue land and not revenue forest land.
- xv. The State Government submitted that the mine predates the enactment

of the Adhiniyam, 1980. It has been stated that, prior to the Adhiniyam, mineral transportation was carried out through a route used by the Forest Department for coupe operations. Since the enforcement of the Adhiniyam, the existing approved transportation route has been included in the present proposal, and the said non-mineable area of 1.442 ha forms part of the approved 40.468 ha required for the haul road

- xvi. the State Government has submitted that, as per the approved Mining Plan, the site services area will be utilized for temporary service facilities and temporary staff accommodation. It has further been stated that water requirements will be met through water tankers, while electricity will be supplied through solar energy.
 - xvii. With regard to the justification for delay in submission of the proposal, the State Govt. submitted that after the order by the Honourable High Court dated 14.12.2000, the UA applied to the Mineral Department for the renewal of this mine. The Mineral Department repeatedly sought additional information for this renewal, which were provided by us from time to time. Ultimately this mine was renovated by the Mineral Department in the year 2015.
 - xviii. The State Govt. has submitted that the User Agency has already utilised the 6.07 ha of forest land. Out of the 6.07 ha land, 3.066 ha was utilised for the Mining and balance for the OB dump.
 - xix. The Committee further observed that there is a presence of the Panther or leopard, Bear, sambar, spotted deer, Jakal, Langur etc. in and around the land proposed for diversion. Accordingly, the State Govt. has recommended the proposal subject to preparation of a Wildlife Management Plan. The Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with Site Specific Wildlife Management Plan for a period of five years.
 - xx. The Committee further observed that the land proposed for diversion is vulnerable to soil erosion.
 - xxi. The Committee observed that the State Government has not furnished the component wise KML files of the land proposed for diversion.
 - xxii. The Committee observed that the out of the 6.07 ha land, 3.066 ha was utilised for the Mining and balance for the OB dump.
 - xxiii. The Committee further observed that the Mining plan for the subject proposal was approved in the year 2024 and the lease for the mine is going to expire in the year 2028.
1. **Decision of the Advisory Committee:** The Committee had detailed discussion and deliberation with the Dy. DGF (Central), RO, Bhopal and Nodal Officer, Government of Madhya Pradesh. After going through the facts of the proposal and submissions made by the Nodal Officer, Government of Madhya Pradesh, the Committee '**deferred**' the proposal for the want of the following information:
- i. The State Government shall furnish a component-wise breakup of the land proposed for diversion, ensuring that it is commensurate with the approved Mining Plan. A comparative tabular statement indicating the component-wise land-use breakup as per the approved Mining Plan vis-à-vis the instant proposal shall also be submitted. Further, the State

Government shall furnish the component-wise KML files of the land proposed for diversion.

- ii. The mining lease for bauxite over an area of 40.468 ha in Village Phadki Mohgaon, District Balaghat, was granted to M/s Dharamsi Morarji Chemical Co. Ltd., Mumbai for a period of 20 years, i.e., from 02.12.1978 to 01.12.1998. Subsequently, the Collector (Mining), Balaghat, vide order dated 30.05.2015, extended the lease up to 01.12.2028. Accordingly, the State Government may be requested to clarify whether mining operations were continued after the expiry of the original lease on 01.12.1998 and, if so, under what authority. The State Government may also be requested to furnish a detailed chronological account of all approvals, renewals, extensions, and other statutory orders relating to the mining lease from its initial grant in 1978 till date.
- iii. The State Government shall clarify the reasons for not obtaining the prior approval of the Central Government under the provisions of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 before extending the mining lease in the year 2015.

(Confirmed through E-mail)

Dr. KR Sree Harsha
(non-official Member)

(Confirmed through E-mail)

Shri Nityanand Srivastava
(non-official Member)

(Confirmed through E-mail)

Shri Manoj Pant
(non-official Member)

(Confirmed through E-mail)

Shri Ramesh Kumar Pandey
Additional Director General of Forests (WL)
(Member)

(Confirmed on file)

Shri Santosh Tiwari
Additional Director General of Forests (FC)
(Member)

(Confirmed on file)

Shri R. Raghu Prasad
Inspector General of Forests
(Member Secretary)

(Approved)

Shri Sushil Kumar Awasthi
(Director General of Forests and Special Secretary)

(Chairperson)