

F. No.8-53/2003-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi-110 003

Dated: 20th April 2004

6th May

To,
The Secretary (Forests)
Government of Jharkhand
Ranchi.

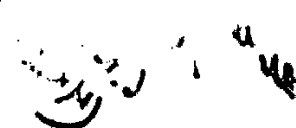
Sub: Diversion of 90.10 ha of forest land for Argada under ground mining project in favour of Central Coal fields Ltd. District Hazaribagh, Jharkhand.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter no. Vanbhumi-53/2003-1749 dated 05.04.2003 and subsequent letter no. Vanbhumi-53/2003-6560 dated 16.12.2003 and Director (T) CCL's letter no. GM (Env. & For.)/2004/204 dated 18.02.2004 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, the Central government hereby agrees **in-principle** for diversion of 90.10 ha of forest land for Argada under ground mining project in favour of Central Coal fields Ltd. District Hazaribagh, Jharkhand, subject to fulfillment of following conditions.

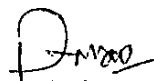
- (a) The Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised and maintained over degraded forest land double in extent to the area used at the surface for making an opening for under ground mine, at the cost of User Agency.
- (b) The Penal Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised and maintained over degraded forest land twice in extent to the area used in violation of the FC Act at the cost of User Agency.
- (c) The User Agency shall create, fence and maintain a Safety Zone around the mining area.
- (d) The 3-Dimensional numerical modeling for subsidence prediction shall be got done by the user agency through an expert mining Engineer/Organization to assess the impact of underground mining on the surface and report may be submitted to the Ministry.
- (e) The User Agency shall protect the entire area with stonewall fencing and carry out gap planting wherever required in consultation with the Forest Department, at their own cost.
- (f) For reclamation works the top soil should be preserved, wherever feasible, and should be used for reclamation.



- (g) In case of new proposals for diversion of forest land for mining a rehabilitation/reclamation plan should be prepared showing year wise reclamation plan and list of indigenous species. The annual report about the progress of reclamation should be submitted to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional Office, Bhuvneshwar.
- (h) The User Agency shall submit action taken report over various issues discussed in a meeting in the chamber of IGF (FC) on 31.03.2003 which relates to setting up of committee to look into rehabilitation of mines, afforestation, declaration of afforested non-forest area as Reserve Forests, creation of reservoir lakes etc alongwith the progress of reclamation of abandoned mines.
- (i) The State Government should charge Net Present Value from the User Agency as directed by Hon'ble Supreme Court and as per the guidelines issued vide Ministry of Environment & Forests' s letters no. 5-1/98-FC (Pt II) dated 18th September and 22nd September 2003. The State Government shall transfer these and other funds to Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Agency (CAMPA) as and when created.

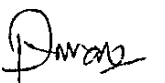
3. After receipt of the compliance report on the fulfillment of the above mentioned conditions of the para 2 above from the State Government, formal approval will be issued in this regard under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Transfer of forest land to the user agency should not be effected by the State Government till formal order approving diversion of forest land are issued by the Central Government.

Yours faithfully


(Pankaj Asthana)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
2. The Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forest, Regional Office, Bhuvneshwar.
4. The Regional Office (Hq.), New Delhi.
5. User Agency.
6. PS to IGF (FC).
7. Guard File.


(Pankaj Asthana)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Issued
27/5/04
6.05.04
(4/29/04)