

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

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**Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,**  
 Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,  
 New Delhi - 110003  
**Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023**

To,

**The Principal Secretary (Forests),**  
 Department of Environment & Forests,  
 Government of Rajasthan,  
 Jaipur

**Subject: Diversion of 149.3002 ha of forest land for open cast Iron Ore Mining in favour of M/s Ojaswi Marble & Granite Pvt. Ltd. in District Sikar, Rajasthan.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Rajasthan's letter No. P. 1(11) Van/2014 dated 03.12.2014 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the said proposal has been examined by the Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

2. After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, and its acceptance by the competent authority in this Ministry, ***In-principle /Stage-I approval*** of the Central Government is hereby accorded for diversion of 149.3002 ha of forest land for open cast Iron Ore Mining in favour of M/s Ojaswi Marble & Granite Pvt. Ltd. in District Sikar, Rajasthan subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. *No mining will be done in a width of 150 mts on both side of the water course and regular monitoring of the silt levels in the water body will be done by the State Forest Department;*
- iii. *Green belt will be created in a width of 100 mts on both side of the water course;*
- iv. *0.15 ha Govt. land in the Khasra No.3186/88, Vikas Nagar, Tehsil Khairwada, Rajasthan which is transferred in favour of State Forest Department by vide District Collector Udaipur's order dated 03.02.2023 shall be notified as RF/PF along with the NFL proposed for Compensatory Afforestation prior to Stage-II approval;*
- v. **Compensatory Afforestation:**
  - a. The Compensatory afforestation over equivalent identified non-forest land of 149.30 ha. ( 135.03 ha in Udaipur District and 14.27 ha. in Pratapgarh District shall be raised by the State Forest Department at the project

  
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cost. Since the identified non-forest land cannot accommodate 1000 plants/ha, therefore balance seedlings shall be planted over identified 242.31 ha degraded forest land (DFL) [(226 ha DFL in Udaipur District and 16.31 ha DFL in Pratapgarh District] as per the prescription of the Working Plan at the cost of the User Agency;


- b. The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars, if required on the CA land, shall be deposited in advance by the user agency. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include afforestation of indigenous species with appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;
- c. The non-forest land identified for CA shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department and subsequently notified by the State Government as RF under Section - 4 or PF under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act before Stage-II approval. A copy of the Notification shall be submitted along with the compliance of Stage-I approval;
- d. The KML files of diverted area and the CA areas shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details prior to Stage II approval;
- vi. The User Agency shall transfer the funds towards the cost of Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal in accordance with the MoEF&CC's guidelines dated 6.01.2022 read with guidelines dated 22.03.2022;
- vii. **Safety Zone Management:** Following activities, at project cost, shall be undertaken by the user agency for the management of safety zone as per relevant guidelines issued by this Ministry:
  - a. User agency shall ensure demarcation of safety zone (7.5 meter strip all along the inner boundary of the mining lease area), and its fencing, protection and regeneration by erecting adequate number of 6 feet high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates with barbed wire fencing and deploying adequate number of watchers under the supervision of the State Forest Department;
  - b. Boundary of the safety zone of the mining lease, adjacent to habitation/roads, should be properly fenced by the user agency;
  - c. Safety zone shall be maintained as green belt around mining lease and regeneration shall be taken up in this area by the user agency at project cost under the supervision of the State Forest Department;
  - d. Afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone, shall also be done at the project cost under the supervisions of the State Forest Department. The degraded forest land (DFL) so selected will be informed to the MoEF & CC with shape files before Stage-II approval and afforestation will be done within three years from the date of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department; and
  - e. The State Government and the user agency shall ensure that safety zone is maintained as per the prescribed norms;

  
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- viii. The cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;
- ix. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited in CAMPA account only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>). Amount deposited through other modes will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance;
- x. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector;
- xi. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
- xii. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the present rate, the user agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
- xiii. Trees should be felled in phased manner as per the requirement in the approved Mining Plan with prior permission of concerned DFO;
- xiv. The user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- xv. The User Agency shall undertake mining in a phased manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the User Agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Government and the concerned Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the concern Regional Officer (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities area satisfactorily executed;
- xvi. The User Agency shall comply with the Hon'ble Supreme Court order on re-grassing, and re-grass the mining area and any other areas which may have been disturbed due to mining to restore them to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna, etc. in a timely manner;
- xvii. Period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;
- xviii. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- xix. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
- xx. The layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;

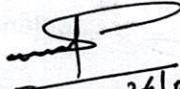
  
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- xxi. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- xxii. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
- xxiii. The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;
- xxiv. Any other condition that the concerned Integrated Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, with prior approval of competent authority, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
- xxv. The user agency shall comply all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project; and
- xxvi. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.

After receipt of compliance report on fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be effected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Suneet Bhardwaj) 26/05/23

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

**Copy to: -**

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur;
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office of MoEF&CC, Jaipur, Rajasthan;
3. The Nodal Officer(FCA), O/o the PCCF, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur;
4. User Agency;and
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.