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F. No. 8-31/99-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(FC Division)

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

Dated : 18th January 2007

To
The Secretary (Forests),
Government of Chhattisgarh,
Raipur.

Sub: Diversion of 192.250 ha of forest land for iron ore mining in favour of M/s Jayaswals Neco Limited in District Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No. F-5/69/98/10/3 dated 07.12.1998 and subsequent letter of even No. dated 19.05.2004 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the above proposal was examined by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under Section-3 of the Act.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of the recommendation of the above mentioned Advisory Committee, the Central Government granted in-principle approval vide letter of even no. dated 11.08.2004, for diversion of 91.00 ha of forest land, subject to certain conditions. The compliance of these conditions was submitted vide letter No. Land Management/Khanij/3829 dated 21.12.2006. After consideration of the proposal and compliance of various conditions by the State Government, the Central Government hereby conveys its approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 35.74 ha of forest land, as Phase-I, for iron ore mining in favour of M/s Jayaswals Neco Limited in District Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh, subject to the fulfilment of following conditions:-

- (i) Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
- (ii) Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised over orange areas double in extent to the forest land being diverted and shall be maintained at the project cost.
- (iii) The orange areas identified for Compensatory Afforestation shall be declared as Reserved Forests under Indian Forest Act, 1927 or relevant State Act. The Nodal Officer shall submit compliance within six months in this regard.
- (iv) The mining lease period under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 shall be co-terminus with the current lease granted under MMRD Act, 1957.
- (v) The State Government shall deposit NPV and all other funds with the Ad-hoc Body of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) in Account No. CA 1591 of Corporation Bank (A Government of India Enterprises), Block-11, Ground Floor, C.G.O. Complex, Phase-I, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003, as per the instructions communicated vide letter No. 5-2/2006-FC dated 20.05.2006.
- (vi) RCC pillars of 4 feet height shall be erected to demarcate the area by the user agency at the project cost and will be marked with forward and back bearings.

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- (vii) The user agency shall raise, fence and maintain a safety zone around the mining area and will also raise and maintain the plantation over an area one and half times in extent of the safety zone at the project cost.
 - (viii) The reclamation plan shall be implemented by the user agency and an annual report shall be sent to the Nodal Officer and the RCCF, Bhopal. If it is found from the annual report that the reclamation plan is not being adhered to by the user agency, the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, the annual programme is completed for that year.
 - (ix) The top soil shall be protected at the project cost.
 - (x) The State Government shall submit compliance report for the remaining 55.26 ha of forest land out of 91.00 ha approved in-principle for diversion vide letter dated 11.08.2004. The final approval in respect of remaining 55.26 ha of forest land will be issued only after receipt of the compliance report. In the meanwhile, the user agency shall protect and maintain the area, at the project cost and under the supervision of the State Forest Department.
 - (xi) Trees shall be felled only when it becomes necessary and that too under strict supervision of State Forest Department, and at the cost of the project.
 - (xii) No labour camps shall be established on the forest land.
 - (xiii) All necessary measures should be taken by the user agency to protect the environment.
 - (xiv) Sufficient firewood shall be provided by the user agency to the labourers at the project cost after purchase from the State Forest Department/Forest Development Corporation.
 - (xv) The user agency shall ensure that there should be no damage to the available wildlife.
 - (xvi) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
 - (xvii) The forest land thus diverted shall be non-transferable. Whenever the forest land is not required, it shall be surrendered to the State Forest Department under intimation to this Ministry.


The State Government shall take all steps to ensure compliance of various conditions.

Yours faithfully,

(Pankaj Asthana)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to :-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
2. The Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forest, Regional Office, Bhopal.
4. User Agency.
5. Guard File.
6. Monitoring Cell of FC Section.


(Pankaj Asthana)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests