

**DIVERSION OF 146.996 HA FOREST LAND FOR INTEGRATED COAL MINING INCLUDING POST MINE RECLAMATION IN MARKI MANGLI II COAL BLOCK IN YE VATMAL DISTRICT OF MAHARASHTRA IN FAVOUR OF YAZDANI INTERNATIONAL PVT LTD**

**Name of the Inspecting Officer:** C. B. Tashildar, IFS, Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central), Regional Office, MoEF& CC, Nagpur.

**Officials present:**

Inspection and Date	Officials from the Forest Department	Officials from the User Agency
Inspection of the forest area proposed for diversion. Date: 06/03/2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sh. Kiran Jagtap, IFS, DCF Pandharkawada.</li> <li>Sh. Rahman Shaikh, Assistant Manager, FDCM Yavatmal.</li> <li>Sh. M. D. Gite, RFO, FDCM, Wani.</li> <li>Sh. T. N. Salunkhe, RFO (Territorial), Mukutban.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sh. Sharad Satramwar, Dy. General Manager, Yazdani group.</li> <li>Sh. P. K. Gandhi, Project Consultant.</li> </ol>
Inspection of the non-forest area proposed for CA. Date: 07/03/2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sh. Taufik Mulla, Round Officer, Sangameshwar.</li> <li>Sh. Akash Kadukar, Forest Guard, Aravli.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sh. V. R. Jagtap, Project Consultant.</li> <li>Sh. P. K. Gandhi, Project Consultant.</li> </ol>

**Date of Site Inspection:** 06/03/2024 and 07/03/2024.

**Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:**

Sr. No.	Village	Forest	Area (ha)	Class of Forest	Density	Legal Status
1	Pardi	Comp. No. 20A (Part)	59.821	Eco Class-III	MDF	RF with FDCM
2	Pardi	A Class RF Comp. No. 19 (Part)	0.571	Eco Class-III	MDF	RF with FDCM
3	Pardi	A Class RF Comp. No. 20B (Part)	58.686	Eco Class-III	MDF	RF with Forest Department
4	Pardi	C Class forest S No, 9	7.93	Eco Class-III	MDF	RF with Forest Department
5	Sawali	C Class forest S No. 10 (P)	2.763	Eco Class-III	MDF	Unclassed forest with Forest Dept
6	Ruikot	Unclassed forest S. No. 1 (Part) village Ruikot (1.303 + 15.922)	17.225	Eco Class-III	MDF	Unclassed forest with Forest Dept
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>146.996</b>			

**A. Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion:**

Sr. No.	Component	Proposed for mining	Post mining
1	Land under Excavation	144.542	0
2	Backfilled and Reclaimed land	-	37.06
3	Excavated void	-	51.78
4	External OB Dumps	-	52.00
5	Safety zone/Green belt	2.454	2.454
6	Nalha	#	#
7	Settling pond	#	#
8	Road & Infrastructure	#	#
9	Rationalization of area	-	3.702
10	Garland drains	#	#
11	Embankments	#	#
	<b>Total</b>	<b>146.996</b>	<b>146.996</b>

# = Not proposed in forest area

**B. Wildlife: Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not:** Yes. The compartments mentioned in the locations are covered in TCP of Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra. The User Agency has moved for SCNBWL's approval.

**C. Vegetation:**

**i. Details of total number of trees to be felled:**

Total Trees enumerated = 113425.

All trees are proposed to be felled except those located in the safety zone. Number of trees present in the safety zone is not known/not specifically enumerated.

**ii. Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem in the area:** There will be a significant impact of the removal of trees from the area on the ecosystem, especially a tiger habitat. The dominant trees species are- *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Tectona grandis*, *Chloroxylon swietenia*, *Diospyos melanoxylon* and *Lagerstroemia parviflora*. According to the User Agency, the tree cutting will be carried out in a phased manner followed by plantation with native species to compensate for the loss of tree cover.

**D. Compensatory afforestation:** According to the State Government, the User Agency will hand over 148.4123 ha. non-forest land at village Ratambi, Taluka Sangameshwar, Dist. Ratnagiri, to the Forest Department. The said non-forest land falls within the deemed 10 km ESZ of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve and is rich in biodiversity, having density more than 0.4. No plantation or crop improvement can be taken up on such biodiversity-rich area. Hence, this non-forest land can be mutated in favour of the State Forest Department and actual Compensatory Afforestation can be



taken up over nearest possible degraded forest land from the proposed area for diversion. As per the State Government, the Details of such degraded forest land will be submitted before final approval (mentioned in letter dated 02/08/2023).

1. **Whether land for compensatory afforestation is suitable from plantation and management point of view or not:** No. Non-forest land proposed to be handed over in-lieu of the forest area under diversion is not suitable for plantation. The Chiplun Forest Division has proposed plantation @ 1100 plants/ha in the said non-forest area, which is not possible (and should not be encouraged) because of the steep slopes, rocky area and biodiversity-rich landscape. As per the Rule 13 (1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, "*Provided further that if the non-forest land being made available for compensatory afforestation already bears vegetation of 0.4 canopy density or more, there shall not be an additional requirement of planting of trees on such land but a programme for improvement of the forest crop shall be implemented by the Forest Department in a time-bound manner.*". Since the non-forest land is rich in biodiversity and forms part of the ESZ of the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve, no crop-improvement may be undertaken as it will deteriorate the existing biodiversity. Instead, the User Agency may be asked to :
  - i) deposit the cost of plantation on the nearest degraded forest land along with incentives, if applicable, as per the Rules.
  - ii) deposit the cost of the protection of the said non-forest land.
2. **Whether land for compensatory afforestation is free from encroachments/other encumbrances:** Yes.
3. **Whether land for compensatory a forestation is important from Religious/Archaeological point of view:** No
4. **Land identified for raising compensatory a forestation is in how many patches, whether patches are compact or not:** Explained above.
5. **Map with details:** Map of CA area enclosed in the proposal.
6. **Total financial outlay:** NA.
- E. **Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials:** No.
- F. **Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not. Details be furnished specifically if rehabilitation plan would affect any other forest area by trans-locating outsets in and around the said forest:** No
- G. **Reclamation Plan:** As per approved mining plan
- H. **Details on catchment and command area under the project:** Not applicable
- I. **Cost benefit ratio:** 1: 9.012
- J. **Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/ State Government:** Enclosed in the proposal.

**K. Recommendations of DDGF (Central) Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur along with detail reasons:** Separately attached.

**L. Detailed comments on whether there are any alternatives routes/alignments for locating the project on the non-forest land:** Site specific.

**M. Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious value. Whether any sacred grove or very old grown trees/forests exists in areas proposed for diversion:** No, socio-culture/religious value is not hampered due to land proposed for diversion.

**N. Situation w.r.t. any Protected Area:** The proposal falls in the TCP of Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra.

**O. Any other information relating to the project:**

1. Photographs (attached).
2. Safety zone has not been suitably demarcated in certain places. The same may be ensured by the User Agency and the State Forest Department.
3. As per the Rule 13 (7), a scheme of Compensatory Afforestation is also be required for the safety zone. The same may be submitted by the State Forest Department.
4. Since the non-forest land identified for raising CA falls under deemed 10 km ESZ of the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve, the same may be simply protected, instead of undertaking plantation or crop improvement.
5. Inspected sites:

Sr. No.	Inspected Site	Com. No.	Boundary Pillar No.
1	Forest area proposed for diversion	20B	59, 61, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68 and 69
2		20A (FDCM)	71, 72, 73
3		C-32	40, 42, 45, 46
4	Non-forest land proposed for CA	Survey No. 11 and 1A	-

  
(C. B. Tashildar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central),  
Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur

**Proposal No. FP/MH/MIN/145510/2021**

**Recommendations of the DDGF (Central) Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur.**

**The proposal is recommended subject to fulfilment of the following:**

1. Safety zone has not been suitably demarcated in certain places. The same may be ensured by the User Agency and the State Forest Department.
2. As per the Rule 13 (7), a scheme of Compensatory Afforestation is also be required for the safety zone. The same may be submitted by the State Forest Department.
3. Since the non-forest land identified for raising CA falls under deemed 10 km ESZ of the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve and is rich in biodiversity, the same may be simply protected, instead of undertaking plantation or crop improvement. The actual plantation may be undertaken in the nearest degraded forest land.
4. The recommendation is subject to the approval from the SC NBWL.

  
**(Dr. V. George Jenner)**  
DDGF (Central),

Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur



## Photographs

### A) Inspection of the forest area proposed for diversion:









B) Inspection of the non-forest land proposed for undertaking CA:

