



भारत सरकार / Government of India  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change  
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय (पूर्व मध्य क्षेत्र) / Regional Office (East Central Zone)



No.FP/JH/MIN/20419/2016/3310

Dated 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

To

The PCCF-cum-Nodal Officer (FC)  
Forests, Environment & Climate Change Deptt.  
Government of Jharkhand  
Van Bhavan, Doranda, Ranchi.

Sub: Proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for diversion of 14.17 ha forest land in Karma village for Karma Stone Mining Project in favour of M/s Shri Ramchandra Mehta, Captain Anand, Aparna Devi in Hazaribagh West Forest Division of Jharkhand -reg.

Sir,

This refers to proposal forwarded vide Deptt. of Forests, Environment & Climate Change, Govt. of Jharkhand letter No. Van Bhumi-16/2017-1403/Va.Pa. dated 15.4.2019 on the above mentioned subject.

The proposal was considered in the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of Regional Empowered Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019. The recommendation of the committee is quoted as follows: "Since 26 stone quarry leases in Hazaribag district and 77 stone quarry leases in adjacent Koderma district have been accorded Environmental Clearance, it is necessary to take into account the full facts in respect of status of these numerous stone quarries, and the District Survey Reports (DSR) before considering any new proposal for stone quarries in forest lands in the context of forest conservation and sustainable mining. The committee desired that the details and full facts in this regard should be obtained from the concerned departments and authorities and the proposal may be considered by the committee thereafter."

The extract of the minutes of the said meeting of REC on the relevant agenda item and the Site Inspection Report are also enclosed for reference.

It is therefore appropriate that the proposal is re-examined in the State Forest Department along with the full facts in context of the observation and recommendation of REC under reference. Based on the outcome of such re-examination, the proposal could be withdrawn or otherwise if assessed to be necessary, the information sought and justification may be furnished for consideration of the same.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above.

*Bharat* 24/7/19  
Bharat Jyoti

Dy. Director General of Forests (Central)

o/c

Copy to:

The Addl. Chief Secretary, Forests, Environment & Climate Change Department,  
Government of Jharkhand, Nepal House, Ranchi

Extract of Minutes on Agenda Item No.6, 29th meeting of Regional Empowered Committee, ECZ Regional Office Ranchi held on 17.7.2019:

-----  
**Agenda No.6: Diversion of 14.17 ha forest land in Karma village for Karma Stone Mining Project in favour of M/s Shri Ramchandra Mehta, Captain Anand, Aparna Devi in Hazaribagh West Forest Division of Jharkhand.**

1. The proposal envisages diversion of 14.17 ha of forest land for stone mining in Hazaribag district of Jharkhand.
2. The legal status of the forest land is 4.3 ha demarcated Protected Forest and 9.87 ha un-demarcated Protected Forest land.
3. The area does not form part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere resources, Tiger Reserve. No rare/ endangered/ unique species of flora and fauna are reported in the area.
4. No protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defence establishment or any other important monument is stated to be located in the area.
5. Density of vegetation of land proposed for diversion is 0.3.
6. The forest land proposed for diversion is vulnerable to soil erosion.
7. Trees to be felled: 5 nos.
8. The certificates / documents under FRA, 2006 has been furnished.
9. The requirement of forest land for the project is unavoidable and is the barest minimum.
10. CA proposed over 14.17 ha non forest land in Garwa North Forest Division.
11. Geo-referenced map of forest land proposed for diversion is enclosed. Proposed forest land and CA land have been observed and verified on the Ministry's web based GIS Decision Support System.
12. Violation of FC Act 1980 has been reported on the northern part of Plot No.771 and 772p and it is reported that violation was not done by the User Agency.
13. The DFO, Nodal Officer (FC), Jharkhand and State Government have recommended the proposal for diversion.
14. The proposed site was observed on GIS based DSS and available satellite imagery indicated existence of other stone quarries and crushers in its close vicinity.
15. Earlier the proposal was discussed in 27<sup>th</sup> REC meeting held on 11.06.2019 and the Committee desired that a site inspection by the Regional Office should be undertaken. Site inspection was done by a team of officials from ECZ, Regional Office Ranchi on 21.06.2019.
16. The Member Secretary, SEIAA, Jharkhand vide letter No.292 dated 27.06.2019 has informed that total 26 projects in Hazaribag district were issued EC for stone quarry projects by SEIAA/ SEAC till 27.06.2019.

17. The Committee considered the salient findings of Site Inspection Report of the Regional Office, including incidence of illegal mining and anomalies in the approved mine plan for this proposal. It was further noted that currently 26 stone quarries in Hazaribag district are having Environmental Clearance and in the adjoining district of Koderma, there are 77 stone quarries with Environmental Clearance. It was also informed that the ECZ Regional Office has sought information from the State Mining & Geology Directorate regarding the number of mining leases for stone quarries and the *District Survey Report (DSR)* in respect of minor minerals in the context of sustainable mining, for Hazaribag and Koderma districts and the said information are still awaited.
18. The committee also heard the representative of the project proponent.

**Recommendation of REC:**

After deliberations, the committee was of the view that since 26 stone quarry leases in Hazaribag district and 77 stone quarry leases in adjacent Koderma district have been accorded Environmental Clearance, it is necessary to take into account the full facts in respect of status of these numerous stone quarries, and the *District Survey Reports (DSR)* before considering any new proposal for stone quarries in forest lands in the context of forest conservation and sustainable mining. The committee desired that the details and full facts in this regard should be obtained from the concerned departments and authorities and the proposal may be considered by the Committee thereafter.

---

Extract certified:

*Sujay Datta*  
24/7/19

Technical Officer  
M/o Environment, Forests & Climate Change  
Government of India  
Regional Office, Ranchi

