

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,  
New Delhi - 110003  
Dated: 14 January, 2020

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
Department of Forests and Environment,  
Government of Uttarakhand,  
Dehradun

**Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of Uttarakhand Forest Development Corporation, Dehradun for renewal of collection of Minor Minerals from 628.8 ha forest land of Song River 1, 2, 3 and Jakhan 1, 2 for 10 years under Dehradun Forest Division, Uttarakhand regarding (Online proposal no. FP/UK/MIN/38285/2019).**

Sir,


I am directed to refer to the State Government of Uttarakhand's letter No.971/X-4-19/2(51)/2019 dated 23rd September, 2019 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section -2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The said proposal was placed before Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 19.12.2019 and the detailed minutes of the FAC meeting are placed on the website of this Ministry: [www.parivesh.nic.in](http://www.parivesh.nic.in).

2. FAC after thorough deliberations and discussions, observed that the proposal of 1325 ha of forest land has been approved under Section -2 of FC Act, 1980 for collection of minor minerals in past for 10 years. The State Government has not submitted the history of mined out area in past and the reason for submitting the proposal for the reduced area of 628.8 ha. There is no study available for any possible adverse effect of such mining on the flow of the river. In view of the above, FAC deferred the proposal with following directions:

- i. The State Government shall conduct a study to ascertain the impact of such mining in upstream and downstream. The study shall come out with clear recommendation as how such mining is useful in maintaining the natural flow of the river and health of adjoining forest. It should cover the impact of mining in the area in last 10 years. The study may correlate satellite imageries of last 10 years. It may also be ascertained that how much loose boulders and sand can be collected for the purpose of mining every year. The study may be conducted through a recognised institute of repute.
- ii. It may be clarified that if the mining lease has been revised for 696.2 ha or not. The status of remaining forest area may be clarified. (1325-628.8 = 696.2 ha).
- iii. KML file of CA area, as applicable be provided.

In view of the above, the State Government of Uttarakhand is requested to submit the information/Justification, as indicated above, to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Sandeep Sharma) 14/1/2020  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun.
2. The DDGF (Central), Regional Office (NCZ), Dehradun.
3. The Nodal Officer, (FCA), Forest Department, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun.
4. User Agency.
5. Forest Conservation Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.