

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: 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2022

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
Department of Forest and Environment,  
Government of Madhya Pradesh,  
Bhopal.

**Subject: Diversion of 150.098 ha Forest land including 61.656 ha forest land in Forest Compartment No. RF-710, PF-730 A & PF-730 B of Parasiya Range of West Chhindwara Forest Division and 88.442 ha Revenue forest land under various Khasra's for Brahampuri Open Cast & underground Coal Mining Project in favour of M/s Birla Corporation Limited under Chhindwara District of Madhya Pradesh State (Online No. FP/MP/MIN/51637/2020) - reg.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer the APCCF (LM) and Nodal Officer, FCA, 1980, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh letter No. F-1/830/2021/10-11/4241 dated 20.12.2021 forwarding a fresh proposal on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After examining the proposal, the following observations are made:

- i. High resolution satellite imagery shows the presence of Agricultural land and Settlements within the Mining lease boundary. The same needs clarification.
- ii. High resolution satellite imagery shows the Non-forestry/ mining is visible near to the instant mine lease boundary. The same needs clarification.
- iii. The KML file of safety zone comprising 2 ha area has not been found uploaded on PARIVESH.
- iv. As per online Part-I, it is mentioned that an area of 146.407 ha shall be used for Under-ground mining whereas only 2.998 ha in the Non-forest land is proposed for Dumping. The same is required to be examined in view of the total quantity of muck/overburden dump volume to be generated. The complete detail in this regard may be submitted.
- v. In Part-1 of the application form, a copy of the Subsidence report has uploaded against the Mining Plan. The approval letter has also not been uploaded at the designated place. The same is required to be corrected. Moreover it has been observed that the Mining plan for the instant project was prepared in the year 2008. The relevance and the validity of the same after a

gap of 14 years is required to be looked into.

vi. The component wise breakup shows that 1.965 ha forest area is proposed to be used for offices etc. Justification for not using non-forest land for this purpose may be specified.

vii. The Cost Benefit analysis is required to be revised as per the guidelines of the Ministry and keeping in view the revised rates of the NPV.

viii. The State Govt. in Part-II has reported the Forest density as 0.6 whereas only 668 number of trees have been enumerated in the 150.098 Ha forest land. This needs clarification.

ix. State Govt. will ensure to submit a copy of the approved Mine reclamation or Mine Closure plan in case of open cast/underground mine respectively.

Accordingly, it is requested to furnish the above mentioned information to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

  
(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests 21/01/2022

**Copy to:**

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest and Environment, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal;
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest and Environment, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.