



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/24815/2017/3652

Dated 10th December, 2019

To

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

Sub: Diversion of 4.856 ha of forest land for *Paharpur Stone Deposit* in favour of M/s Jai Baba Patalpuri Stone Mines and Crusher (Pvt.) Limited in Giridih East Forest Division of Jharkhand.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to letter No. Van Bhumi-17/2019-4149/Va. Pa. dated 24.10.2019 on the above mentioned subject and to inform that the proposal has been scrutinized and it is felt that information and clarifications are required in respect of the following observations:

- i) As per information recorded in District Survey Report (DSR other than sand) of District Giridih, Jharkhand accessed from website, there are 138 stone quarry leases in Giridih District and 61 of these stone quarry leases are in working condition. In view of this situation, for consideration of diversion of forest land for any new stone quarry, it is necessary to authoritatively ascertain and objectively assess the factual status of these 138 stone quarry leases (61 working and 77 non-working) regarding the following points:
 - a) Current availability of mineable stone deposits/reserves in these 138 stone quarries;
 - b) Status of closure/implementation of mine closure plan as per statutory provisions of such quarries that have actually been exhausted of mineable stone deposits.– Concerns of forest conservation, environment protection and sustainable mining require assessment of these aspects.
- ii) The statement in Part II to the effect that almost all stone deposits of the Giridih Forest Division are situated in forest areas needs to be verified and confirmed with the concerned State Government Department. Further, the rationale while recommending the proposal regarding illegal stone quarries also does not sufficiently justify consideration of this proposal, without full information and assessment on above aspects. The case for new lease of stone quarries in forest land in Giridih

district should be based on credible ascertainment and objective assessment of compelling and unavoidable necessity and environmental prudence.

2. Besides above, the following defects, discrepancies and deficits in the proposal also need to be rectified or attended to:

- i) In the online web portal (parivesh.nic.in), the instant proposal is recorded as “not recommended” by the concerned Conservator of Forests. In the hard copy, the proposal has been recorded as recommended by the concerned Conservator of Forests. The online and hard copy should not have such contradictory versions.
- ii) As reported in the component wise break-up for land use in the proposal, 1.584 ha of the total proposed area of 4.856 ha is mentioned as “unused”, although it is included in forest land proposed for diversion. This anomaly/discrepancy needs to be clarified.
- iii) Part-I hard copy is not signed by the User Agency.

Therefore, it is requested that information, clarifications and removal of defects/deficits on the aforementioned points may be made available for further processing of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,


(Sujoy Dutta)

 Technical Officer (Forestry)

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