

Return of land already diverted land by Eastern Coalfields Limited:

- Eastern Coalfields Limited is operating its mines in the states of West Bengal and Jharkhand.
- Rajmahal OCP is one of the projects of ECL operating in the Godda District of Jharkhand. For the said project 17.64 Ha of forest land was diverted in the year 1993. The said land has been biologically reclaimed by ECL and has been handed over to the State Forest Department on 30.01.2019 (Copy attached as Annexure-I).

Reclamation effort by ECL

Bio-reclamation and massive tree plantation has been one of the key thrust areas of ECL to improve the environment and physical landscape.

ECL is having MoU with West Bengal Forest Development Corporation (WBFDC) to raise the green belt of about 100.00 Ha/ annum with its subsequent maintenance for 04 years. Till 30.10.2022, ECL has brought more than 3000 Ha of land under green cover by planting more than 06 Million trees in and around mining areas. Out of which plantation over 44.61 Ha degraded land has been done in Bankola Area of ECL in last 10 years. In the next 05 years, ECL has planned to plant 1.62 Million trees over more than 700 Ha land. The survival of saplings is being ensured by joint inspection in presence of officials from the State Forest Department and also through satellite surveillance. Beside existing 26 Nos of gardens/ parks, ECL has planned to develop three more parks in Raniganj Coalfields.



OB Dump Plantation at Shankarpur OCP, Kenda Area,



Orchard Plantation, Sodepur Area, ECL



Jhanjra Ecological Park, ECL



Gunjan Ecological Park, ECL

[Signature]
7/11/2022
महाप्रबंधक/General Manager
पर्यावरण विभाग/इंजीनियरिंग मुख्यालय
Environment Deptt./ECL. HQ

[Signature]

ADDITIONAL NOTE: REPLY TO EDS RAISED AT PARIVESH PORTAL

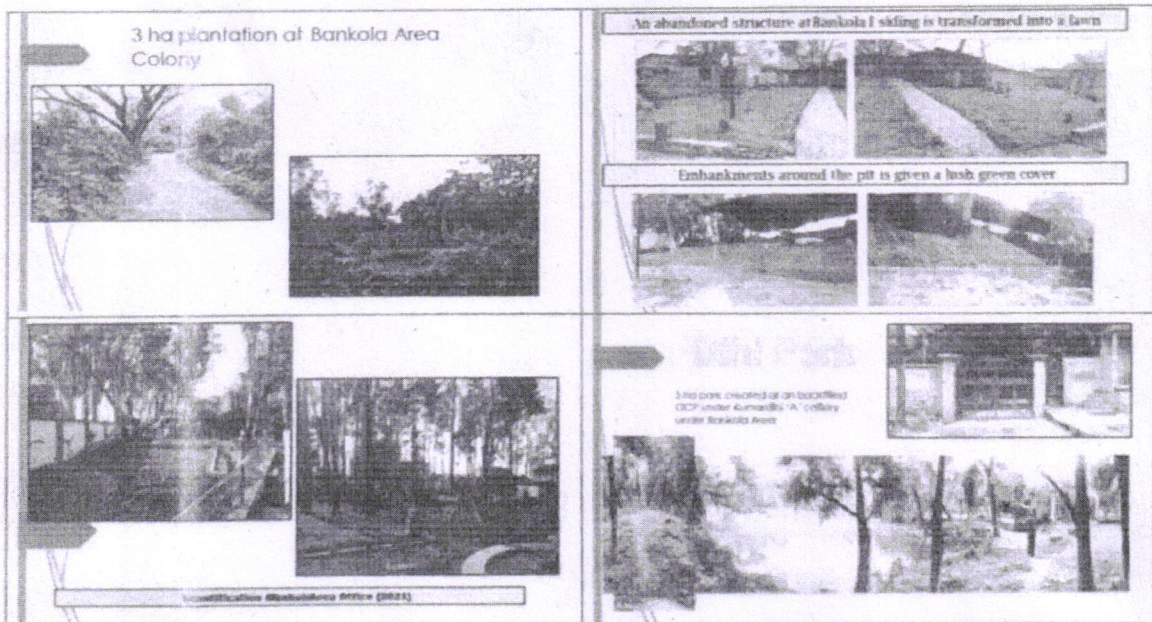
In addition to our response Ref. GM/BA/cnv/22-23/27 dated 05.12.2022. The details are furnished below:

Plantation done adjacent to Tilaboni UG under Bankola Area by Green Projects Wing, WBFDC (erstwhile WBWDCL)

Year	Location	Area Covered (ha)	Saplings Planted (nos.)
2022-23	Plain Land under Khandra Colliery	4 ha	10,000
2021-22	Subsided Land at Shyamsundarpur Colliery	10 ha	25,000
2020-21	Subsided Land at Shyamsundarpur Colliery	10 ha	25,000
2016-17	Subsided Land at Sankalp Khani under Bankola Colliery	12 ha	30,000
2015-16	Roadside Plantation at Nakrakonda-Kumardihi B colliery	5 ha	12,500
2013-14	Orchard plantation at Bankola Area Colony under Shankarpur Colliery	3 ha	1,200

Beautification and Parks developed adjacent to Tilaboni UG under Bankola Area

Parks and landscaping have been developed at various places in vicinity to Tilaboni UG. A few images are annexed herewith:



[Signature]
7/12/2022
General Manager
Environment & Forest
Eastern Coalfields Limited

[Signature]
General Manager
Bankola Area
Eastern Coalfields Limited

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05/12/22

EASTERN COAL FIELDS LIMITED
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)
Office of the General Manager
Bankola Area



P.O. Ukhra, PS. Andal
District : Paschim Burdwan
West Bengal-713363
CIN - U10101WB1975GOI030295
Ph.: No. 0341-2665491/492/493/494
Fax No. 0341-2665366

Ref. No.: G.M./BA/BM/22-23/27

Dated: 05.12.22

To,
The Divisional Forest Officer,
Durgapur Division, Aranya Pally,
Shastri Avenue, Durgapur, West Bengal - 713212

Subject: Diversion of 38.38 Ha of forest Land for Tilaboni UGP -reg.

Ref:- Proposal no. FP/WB/MIN/41301/2019 in the PARIVESH Portal

Dear Sir,

In reference to the above subject and EDS raised in the PARIVESH Portal on 08.09.2022, following points are submitted for your kind consideration please:

1. With respect to the total forest land within the leasehold of Tilaboni UGP, following points are submitted:

As per the Project Report (PR) of Tilaboni UGP which was approved by CIL board in February, 2019, the total project area of Tilaboni UG Project is 869.00 Ha. The entire project area has been divided into Tilaboni Block/ Mine no.1 and Tilaboni Block/ Mine no. 2. The break-up of land as mentioned in the PR in Chapter -21 Page -1 is given below -

Sl. No.	Particulars	Tilaboni Block/ Mine No. 1			Tilaboni Extn. Block/ Mine No.2	Total
		Within ECL Leasehold*	Outside ECL Leasehold	Total Tilaboni Block		
1	Road	3.16		3.16	1.05	4.21
2	Built-up Area	27.20		27.20	36.26	63.46
3	Nala bank	8.18		8.18	21.35	29.53
4	Forest Land	36.14		36.14	2.30	38.44
5	Danga/Waste land	121.37		121.37	34.15	155.52
6	Agricultural land	239.95	30.00	269.95	308.94	578.89
	Total	436.00	30.00	466.00	403.00	869.00

*Figures of ECL Leasehold as per colliery record.

Reference 1: Chapter-21, Page-1 of PR for Tilaboni UGP

The existing mining leasehold area for Tilaboni UG mine is 436 ha (Mine No. 1) which will be required for present mining under the instant proposal of forest diversion. Additional mining leasehold of 30 Ha in this Mine no. 1 is agricultural land and will be taken as per requirement. For remaining 403 Ha in Mine No. 2 ECL is not having lease and will be taken up in the future when Mine no. 2 will be implemented.

Based on the records available with BL&LRO (Durgapur-Faridpur) and BL&LRO (Pandabeswar), forest land for Mine No.1 was found to be 39.98 ha. Further, as per letter no.335/UK-8 dated: *Laudoha, the 16/09/2021* of Forest Range Officer, Ukhra Range, it was directed to keep 1.60 ha out of 39.98 ha forest land under retention due to presence of beat office complex and entrance road to the beat office on the said forest land. Accordingly, 1.60 ha forest land has been excluded from the

initial application as per advise of the State Forest Department and thus, modified application for diversion of 38.38 ha forest land has been made in the Portal.

2. Your kind attention is also drawn towards the Para 7.8(i)(a) of the Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 describing the maximum permissible tensile strain in the forest land. In order to comply with the above guidelines,
- A subsidence prediction report (through 3_D numerical model) for Tilaboni UG mine has been prepared by *Centre of Advanced Studies, Department of Mining Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (Banaras Hindu University)*, in March 2020. An undertaking has also been given by ECL to implement the recommendations of the said report.
 - During analysis of the report, the Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Govt. of India has mentioned that the subsidence prediction report depicts maximum tensile strain in the forest area after 5th year of mining as 27.19 mm/m. Also, Nodal Officer, Govt. of West Bengal in its recommendation in Part-IV has mentioned a maximum tensile strain of 91.77mm/m at the end of 25 years.
 - As surface strain predicted is more than 20mm/m following has been advised by the State Government in the part-IV of the application.
 - ❖ NPV rates will have to be paid at normal rates.
 - Cost of plantation (including ten years' maintenance) of ten times the specified number of 13085 nos. of trees on the diverted forest land may be levied from the User Agency by way of Compensatory Afforestation (CA). Also, State Forest Department has recommended the proposal with Compensatory afforestation Scheme prepared for double the area of degraded forest land over 76.80 Ha amounting to Rs. 4.72 Crores.

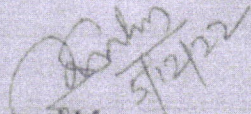
Though ECL will take all the precautions and recommendations given in the Subsidence Prediction Report and an undertaking has also been given in this regard, in light of the above recommendations of the State Government and ECL undertakes to abide by the recommendations of the State Govt. and agree for the following:

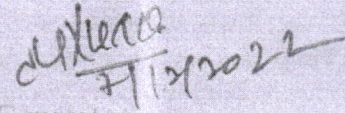
- Net present Value rates as applicable will be deposited.
- Compensatory Afforestation scheme over double the area of degraded forest land over 76.80 Ha amounting to Rs. 4.72 Crores as prepared by DFO, Durgapur, Govt. of West Bengal will be implemented/paid.

The Tilaboni Project is an underground mining project causing less adverse impact of mining on the environment. Further, all necessary precautionary measures will be undertaken to reduce the impact of mining on the forest land. As such, above points are submitted for your kind consideration for further processing of Stage-I Forest Diversion proposal of Tilaboni UGP.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,


General Manager
Bankola Area
Eastern Coalfields Limited


महाप्रबन्धक/General Manager
पर्यावरण विभाग/Environment Department
Environment Department, HQ