

No. HPFD-F05/95/2023 (FCA),
Forest Department, Himachal Pradesh

From: Nodal Officer-cum-PCCF (FCA),
O/o Pr. CCF (HoFF), H.P.

To: The Deputy Inspector General of Forest,
Sub Office, Ministry of Environment,
Forest and Climate Change, CGO Complex,
Shivalik Khand, Longwood, Shimla, HP.

Dated Shimla-1, the

Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Neel Kanth Mining for non-forestry use of 1.5452 ha Unclassed forest for extraction of Sand, Stone & Bajari at Sarshkan Tehsil Dharampur, District- Mandi in the State of Himachal Pradesh (Online proposal No. FP/HP/MIN/118435/2021).

Sir,

Kindly refer to your office letter I/127430/2025 dated 13.08.2025 on the subject cited proposal.

2. The point-wise reply to the observation as raised vide your above referred communication is submitted as below:-

1. CF Mandi has replied that the mining site has been allotted strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guideline, 2016 and the Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020 issued by the MoEF & CC. The proposal is fully compliant with para 7.6 of the Consolidated Guidelines under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. Hence, the proposed mining operations are in line with the prescribed regulatory framework.
2. The Letter of Intent (LoI) was extended for one year from 03.06.2024 and was valid up to 02.06.2025. An application for further extension of the LoI has already been submitted to the competent authority. A copy of the LoI has been uploaded in additional information against Sr. No. 9 of Part -I.
3. The District Survey Report (DSR) of Mandi District has already been approved by SEIAA, Himachal Pradesh and the allotted project area is duly mentioned in the approved DSR has been uploaded in additional information against Sr. No. 7 of Part -I.
4. The user agency has submitted that the Patwari (Village Revenue Officer) report regarding the extraction route and *Tatima* has already

been obtained. The area shown in the route map is the same as that submitted with the project proposal, and no additional land is involved beyond what has already been proposed. This road has existed for around 50–60 years and is used by the public at large. The land where this road exists is classified as *Gair Mumkin Khad*. The Patwari report, *Tatima*, and *Nakkal Jamabandi* have been uploaded as additional information against Sr. No. 8 at Annexure-2 of Part-I.

Yours faithfully,

Nodal Officer-cum-PCCF (FCA)
O/o Pr. CCF (HoFF), H.P.