



कार्यालय : वन प्रमण्डल पदाधिकारी, चतरा दक्षिणी वन प्रमण्डल, चतरा।  
वन भवन, चतरा – 825401



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पत्रांक: 166

दिनांक : 22-01-2024

सेवा में,

वन संरक्षक,  
प्रादेशिक अंचल, चतरा।

विषय :- सी0सी0एल0 द्वारा चन्द्रगुप्त खुली खदान कोल परियोजना हेतु 699.38 हे0 (चतरा दक्षिणी वन प्रमण्डल अन्तर्गत- 400.96 हे0 एवं हजारीबाग पश्चिमी वन प्रमण्डल अन्तर्गत- 298.42 हे0) वन भूमि अपयोजन (ऑनलाईन प्रस्ताव सं0- **PF/JH/MIN/140599/2021**) प्रस्ताव के संबंध में।

प्रसंग :- 1. भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, न्यू दिल्ली का पत्रांक **8-24/2023-FC** दिनांक 22.09.2023  
2. प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक –सह- कार्यकारी निदेशक, बंजर भूमि विकास बोर्ड, झारखण्ड, राँची का पत्रांक 979 दिनांक 03.10.2023

महाशय,

उपर्युक्त विषयक प्रासंगिक पत्र 1 द्वारा 15 बिन्दुओं पर पृच्छा की गई है। उक्त के आलोक में परियोजना पदाधिकारी, चन्द्रगुप्त खुली खदान परियोजना, आम्रपाली चन्द्रगुप्त एरिया, सी0सी0एल0, भी.टी.सी. भवन, होन्हे, टण्डवा ने अपने पत्रांक **GM(AC)/PO(Chandragupta)/2023-24/220** दिनांक 18.12.2023 द्वारा बिन्दुवार अनुपालन प्रतिवेदन समर्पित किया गया है। अनुपालन की स्थिति निम्नवत है-

Condition No.	Queries raised by GoI	Compliance report	Annexure
1	3	5	
i)	<b>As Schedule-I species have been reported in the area and DFO also mentioned the fragmentation of wildlife habitat, comments of PCCF (Wildlife) and CWLW Jharkhand on the likely impact of the project on the movement of wildlife in general and elephant in particular needs to be furnished by the State. Further, comments may also be furnished on the adequacy of mitigation measures like Site Specific Wildlife Management Plan or Comprehensive Integrated Wildlife Management proposed for the area.</b>	<p>The applied area is a good habitat of wildlife. Its surrounding area also, being a good habitat of many wild animals, shall definitely bear some impact on wild animals inhabiting the area for which a Wildlife Management Plan shall be required. The Asian Elephant, the endangered one, through do not reside in the proposed area permanently, they visit these areas every year in search food and fodder and damage the crops, houses etc.,</p> <p>In order to minimize the impact of the proposed mining operation on the environment, it is considered absolutely necessary to prepare a site-specific wildlife management plan and implement it at the expense of the user agency in order to accept the proposed proposal.</p> <p>The comments on adequacy of mitigation measures shall be made after receipt of such mitigation plans prepared as compliance of in-principle approval.</p> <p>In this regard, the user agency has submitted a certificate of Undertaking. (Enclosed as annexure-III)</p>	<b>I, II &amp; III</b>

ii)	<b>The authorities in the State Forest Department have recommended preparation of various Plans and their implementation either before or concurrently with the mining operations. Detail of such plans, in tabular form indicating clearly against them, their tentative cost, time required for preparation and duration of implementation, etc. need to be furnished by the State.</b>	The plans as recommended by State Forest department along with their tentative cost, time required for preparation and duration of implementation is given as under																	
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Plans</th> <th>Tentative cost (In Rs)</th> <th>Time required for Preparation</th> <th>Duration of Implementation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Wildlife Management Plan</td> <td>35-45 Crore</td> <td>One month after grant of In-principle approval</td> <td>Over a period of 10 years of operation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Soil &amp; Moisture Conservation Plan</td> <td>25-35 Crore</td> <td>One month after grant of In-principle approval</td> <td>Over a period of 10 years of operation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Top soil management plan</td> <td>25-35 Crore</td> <td>One month after grant of In-principle approval</td> <td>Over a period of 10 years of operation</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Plans	Tentative cost (In Rs)	Time required for Preparation	Duration of Implementation	Wildlife Management Plan	35-45 Crore	One month after grant of In-principle approval	Over a period of 10 years of operation	Soil & Moisture Conservation Plan	25-35 Crore	One month after grant of In-principle approval	Over a period of 10 years of operation	Top soil management plan	25-35 Crore	One month after grant of In-principle approval	Over a period of 10 years of operation	
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iii)	<b>In online Part-II, it has been reported that the proposed forest land is moderately vulnerable to erosion. Therefore, mitigation measures in this regard needs submission.</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. User Agency shall prepare and submit the above-mentioned plans once In-principle approval is granted to them and the actual cost shall be deposited in CAMPA Account before actual breaking/ non-forestry use of the forest land.</li> <li>2. In this regard, the user agency has submitted a certificate of Undertaking. (Enclosed as annexure-III)</li> </ol>	III																
iv)	<b>Cost benefit Ratio has been estimated as 1:81.92 which is exorbitantly high. The analysis may be revisited by the user agency by applying appropriate economic tools to accurately estimate the various parameters and detailed analysis thereof may be submitted to the Ministry.</b>	In this regard User agency has submitted revised Cost-Benefit Analysis in light of guidelines issued by MoEF&CC, GoI in this regard dated 06-01-2022. Enclosed as annexure- V	V																
v)	<b>Detail of safety zone of the mining leases for raising afforestation has not been submitted along with the proposal. Same needs to be submitted along with complete detail of supporting attributes such as afforestation scheme, suitability certificate, KML files, etc.</b>	<p>The User Agency has left a patch of 7.5 m of forest all along the Coal Block boundary as Proposed Safety Zone. The area of safety zone comes to be 2.9 Ha which is part of 699.38 Ha of forest land diversion proposal.</p> <p>Compensatory afforestation plan over double degraded forest land has already been identified for 1400 Ha which also includes CA area against the 2.9 Ha of safety zone.</p> <p>The afforestation scheme of entire 1400 Ha along with suitability certificate, KML file of 1400 Ha CA land (which includes 5.8 Ha CA demarcated separately in Damdoya Village against 2.9 Ha safety</p>	VI																

		zone) and KML file of 2.9 Ha safety zone, are enclosed in the form of <b>CD</b> enclosed by user agency as <b>Annexure VI</b> .																																																													
vi)	From the purpose-wise breakup of forest land, the following may be ascertained:																																																														
a)	An area of 0.14 ha has been proposed for diversion of Nadi/nalla. The status of feasibility reports for said diversion along with comments of Water Resource Department on the feasibility of said proposed diversion needs to be informed by the State.	<p>1) A DPR of Chhotki Stream diversion and straightening of the meander notch of Barki River prepared by IIT Roorkee has been submitted by the User Agency. (The DPR enclosed by user agency in the form of <b>CD</b> as <b>Annexure VII</b>)</p> <p>Diversion proposal has been recommended by Chief Engineer (Water Resources Department), Jal Bhawan, Ranchi for issuance of <b>NOC</b>. (The recommendation along with comments of Water Resource Department has been enclosed by user agency as <b>Annexure VIII</b>).</p>	VII & VIII																																																												
b)	An area of 13.94 ha of forest land has been proposed for infrastructure while only 2.3 ha only has been proposed in non-forest land. The State Government may therefore assess the legitimacy of site-specificity of various infrastructural components and possibility to shift non-site-specific components to the non-forest land.	<p>As per the advice of MOEFCC, the land-use proposed in the earlier submitted Form-A has been revised by the User Agency with a view to reduce forest land for infrastructural components. The earlier and proposed land-use is given below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">S N</th> <th rowspan="2">Component</th> <th colspan="3">Earlier Land-Use for Infrastructure</th> <th colspan="3">Revised Land-Use for infrastructure</th> <th rowspan="2">% Change in Forest Land</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Forest Land</th> <th>Non-Forest Land</th> <th>Total Area (in Ha)</th> <th>Forest Land</th> <th>Non-Forest Land</th> <th>Total Area (in Ha)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>(3-6)/3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>CHP</td> <td>9.30</td> <td>5.52</td> <td>14.82</td> <td>4.45</td> <td>3.41</td> <td>7.86</td> <td>- 52 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Infrastructure (Field Workshop, Substation etc)</td> <td>13.94</td> <td>2.30</td> <td>16.24</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>11.56</td> <td>11.56</td> <td>- 100 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Road, bridge, culvert</td> <td>4.38</td> <td>14.20</td> <td>18.58</td> <td>4.38</td> <td>14.20</td> <td>18.58</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Total</td> <td>27.62</td> <td>22.02</td> <td>49.64</td> <td>8.83</td> <td>29.17</td> <td>38.00</td> <td>-68 %</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The plan is enclosed as <b>Annexure IX</b>.</p>	S N	Component	Earlier Land-Use for Infrastructure			Revised Land-Use for infrastructure			% Change in Forest Land	Forest Land	Non-Forest Land	Total Area (in Ha)	Forest Land	Non-Forest Land	Total Area (in Ha)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	(3-6)/3	1	CHP	9.30	5.52	14.82	4.45	3.41	7.86	- 52 %	2	Infrastructure (Field Workshop, Substation etc)	13.94	2.30	16.24	0.00	11.56	11.56	- 100 %	3	Road, bridge, culvert	4.38	14.20	18.58	4.38	14.20	18.58	0		Total	27.62	22.02	49.64	8.83	29.17	38.00	-68 %	IX
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c)	A total forest land of 36.82 ha of forest land has been proposed for Green belt which is in addition to 2.9 ha of forest land earmarked for safety zone. Rationalize for including green belt area in the project which could otherwise be excluded from the project	<p>1) The location map of the project shows that the proposed project is bounded by Mining (existing as well as proposed) projects on all the four sides, rendering the management of forest patch difficult by the Forest Department.</p> <p>2) The User Agency has submitted that, in compliance of generic condition of the EC approval, belt of width not less than 7.5 mtrs shall be developed all along the mine lease area. This apart, the statutory barriers against surface features like river, nallah, public road etc are to be maintained as per Coal Mines Regulation 2017. As a best practice measure, the area left as</p>																																																													

	<p>and be managed by the Forest Department. Considered view of the State Government in this regard needs to be furnished</p>	<p>barriers is developed and maintained as Green Belt with a view to enhance the plantation cover and decrease the carbon footprint. Such green belts also function as wind breaks.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3) The User Agency has submitted that, the area is also required to maintain mine boundary in continuity and to divert entire forest land falling within the project boundary.</li> <li>4) Also the User Agency has submitted that they have proposed the green belt as part of mitigation measures for dust suppression.</li> </ol> <p>It is evident from above that it will be very difficult for State Forest department to manage the intervening parcels of forest land bounded by mining activities and statutory restrictions against surface features. In view of this, it is proposed to maintain these parcels of land as green belt aggregating to 55.61 Ha (which includes 36.82 ha green belt proposed earlier plus 18.79 Ha of Forest land now made available due to shifting of infrastructural activities to non-forest land) as green belt as shown in the revised land use. The forest area earmarked as green belt will be kept and maintained as such, and no non-forestry activity should be undertaken therein.</p>	
d)	<p>Details of area proposed for dumping of overburden is not available in the purpose-wise breakup. Comments in this regard may be provided by the State Government.</p>	<p>The User Agency has submitted that,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Chandragupta OCP mine has been planned in a sustainable manner and &gt;95% of OB will be dumped internally so as to minimize the land degradation to the minimum extent possible.</li> <li>2) Total volume of overburden expected to be generated in Chandragupta OCP is 995.34 Mn cum. Out of this, 946.96 Mn cum (=95%) is proposed as internal dump without affecting any external surface area other than the quarry itself.</li> <li>3) Only 48.38 Mn cum is proposed to be dumped externally in the nearest adjoining operational mine of Central Coalfields Limited i.e., Amrapali OCP.</li> </ol> <p>Integrated Dump plan of Amrapali OCP incorporating 48.38 Mn m<sup>3</sup> of Chandragupt OCP is enclosed by User Agency as <b>Annexure X</b> Copy of Dumping Strategy as per the approved PR of Chandragupt Project and Amrapali project has been enclosed by User Agency as <b>Annexure XI</b></p>	X & XI

*Handwritten signature*

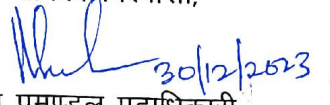
vii	Analysis of the area proposed for diversion and area proposed for CA area using DSS analysis revealed the following which needs clarification:	A total of 802.05 Ha has been earmarked for CA. The details of CA land with compensatory afforestation scheme, revised KML files, DGPS & Topo Maps are enclosed as Annexure: XIV.	XIV
a)	Google imagery shows the presence of Settlements, Roads and Agriculture land etc. within the proposed forest land for diversion	The User Agency has submitted that the roads passing through the Forest area within the coal block will be shifted outside the Coal block boundary along with shifting of village habitat and encroachers at the time of commencement of mining operations.	XII
b)	As per Google imagery, Tandwa Barrage has been constructed after the year 2016 over the Garhi Nadi (River) and part of barrage project is falling in the forest patch which has been proposed for diversion.	<p>The User Agency has submitted that, the barrage is not falling in the forest patch proposed for diversion. The barrage structure is approximately 140 mtrs away from the project boundary. However, a small part of stone pitched embankment is touching the South-Western boundary of the project at an approximate distance of 20 mtrs only.</p> <p>As per the approved Project Report of Chandragupt OCP:          “The Southern Boundary has been fixed leaving a barrier of 100 mtr from the southern geological block boundary of Pachra South block.”          As such, the quarry edge will be 100 mtrs away from the embankment.</p> <p><b>(Barrage Location Plan is enclosed by User Agency in the form of CD &amp; Hard copy as Annexure XIII)</b></p>	XIII
c)	Google imagery shows the encroachment of Agriculture land, plantation activities and presence of settlement in CA patches.	A total of 800.00 Ha of degraded forest land was proposed as CA land in Chatra South Forest Division. In light of the observations made by MoEF&CC, GoI vide letter dated 22-09-2023, the CA sites were physically verified. Upon verification of the proposed CA sites, a total of 254.25 Ha of degraded forest land was found unfit for CA plantations due to presence of trees, encroachments, water bodies etc.	XIV
d)	An earthen pond created recently in the CA patch	Rest 545.75 Ha. of degraded forest land was found fit for CA plantations. In this regard encumbrance free alternative fresh CA land	

	namely Mahuari and New Road has been constructed in the CA patch namely Village – Kendua.	to the tune of 256.30 Ha (Chatra South: 47.3 Ha & Chatra North: 209 Ha) along with CA Scheme, Suitability Certificate has been made available. Hence, a total of 802.05 Ha (545.25 Ha + 256.30 Ha) has been earmarked for CA. The details of CA land with compensatory afforestation scheme, revised KML files, DGPS & Topo Maps are enclosed as Annexure: XIV.	
e)	Out of total 1400 ha (DSS Calculated) forest land proposed for CA, 31 ha of land is characterized with Moderately Dense Forest.		
viii)	Quantitative details of deaths of human and elephants in last five years may be furnished by the State along with details of existing and proposed elephant corridors in the landscape.	The User Agency has attached quantitative details of deaths of Human and Elephants in last five years i.e., 2019-20 to 2023-24 under Chatra South Forest Division as Annexure-XV. There is no Notified Elephant Corridors in Chatra South Forest Division. On the basis of elephant movements, three elephant corridors have been proposed in Chatra South forest division. However, the proposed mining project does not fall on any of these proposed elephant corridors.	XV
ix)	External dump is being proposed in 86.16 ha of land in Amrapali OCP, which is not given in the proposal but included in Mining Plan. Therefore, compliance status of Amrapali OCP shall be submitted.	The User Agency has submitted that the external dump of Chandragupta OCP is proposed in an area of 89.16 Ha of land in Amrapali OCP. The approval of Project report enclosed in the form of CD of Amrapali OCP along with approved dumping strategy plan is attached as Annexure XVI for quick perusal. The compliance status of already diverted forest proposal of 531.64 Ha in respect of Amrapali OCP is enclosed Compliance report of Amrapali by User Agency as Annexure XVII)	XVI & XVII
x)	In case Amrapali OCP is not of the UA then an NOC from the UA of Amrapali OCP shall be submitted.	Both Amrapali OCP and Chandragupta OCP are the projects of Central Coalfields Limited under the administrative control of 'Amrapali & Chandragupt Area'. As such, no NOC is required for Chandragupta OCP from Amrapali OCP.	
xi)	Amrapali OCP boundary is in the west side of the Barki River, the impact of having mining on both the sides of river will require deep understanding of the impact of hydrology of the river, so comments of the State shall be submitted in this regard.	CMPDIL, Ranchi has prepared a Report on the Anticipated Impacts of proposed mining on either side of Barki River and its management plan. (Report of CMPDIL is attached by User Agency as Annexure-XVIII). Following are the key findings of the report: 1) There shall not be any obstruction to the flow of Barki River. Mining is proposed by leaving approx. 100 m on Amrapali side and 60 m on Chandragupt side from the HFL of the River. 2) This safety zone will act as a buffer between the natural stream and active mining area, thereby safeguarding the banks of Barki River from erosion, keeping the catchment area for stream assisted by natural channel slope, sustaining the stream flow, and preserving the riverine eco-system. 3) During heavy rainfall conditions, the active mine sumps will act as surge ponds and effectively reduce the peak flow rates in Barki River. Thus, Barki River will not experience any flooding-related problems during heavy rainfall.	XVII I

		<p>Additionally, as part of the study on diversion of Chutki nalla, IIT Roorkee has conducted a study on Barki river also. The study states that Barki has a catchment of 231.50 sq km.</p> <p>The study suggests no risk of flooding on the surrounding landscape. Also any deficit in natural run-off will be compensated by mine discharge and run-off from reclaimed land and hence there will not be any variation in the flow of Barki river.</p> <p>Therefore, it can be ascertained that there will not be any direct impact of proposed mining on the surface hydrology of Barki River.</p> <p>Control measures like toe wall, garland drain, check dams and siltation ponds to arrest siltation, and ETP with oil and grease removal mechanism to treat workshop effluents, will be in place. ( The DPR from IIT,ROORKEE is enclosed in the form of CD by User Agency as Annexure VII)</p>	
xii)	A high level bridge over Barki river needs to be constructed to connect the proposed OCP, the location of the bridge and its connectivity should be shown through KML for further DSS analysis.	A high-level bridge over Barki river for connectivity with the Chandragupt OCP is proposed by the user Agency. The KML file is attached <i>in the form of CD</i> by User Agency as Annexure XIX)	XIX
xiii)	Chotki river falling in the proposed site has to be diverted as per the proposal but the site inspection report or the comments of the State is silent on it, specially about its impact on the water security and hydrological cycle downstream.	<p>The User Agency has submitted that the Sub Divisional Officer, Waterways Subdivision, Hazaribagh of Govt of Jharkhand has carried out site inspection of Chhotki river and submitted report to Executive Engineer, Water Resource Department with comments and recommendation.</p> <p>The diversion proposal has further been recommended by Chief Engineer (Water Resources Department), Jal Bhawan, Ranchi for issuance of NoC.</p>	
xiv)	Since the area has elephant therefore the cases of the Human Elephant conflicts in the district needs to be looked into, for which deaths of human and elephants in the Chatra and Hazaribagh district in last five years to be provided. Loss of property and crop damage and compensation given and pending should also be provided.	Quantitative details of deaths of human and elephants and Loss of property and crop damage and compensation in last five years i.e., 2019-20 to 2023-24 under Chatra South Forest Division (Details enclosed as Annexure-XV)	

xv)	<b>Recommendation of the CWLW will be needed specially regarding need of wildlife management and mitigation of conflict plan.</b>	The CWLW has given comments regarding need of wildlife Management and mitigation of Man and animal conflict. (Copy enclosed as Annexure I)	I • '
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अतः भारत सरकार द्वारा की गई आपत्ति का बिन्दुवार निराकरण प्रतिवेदन 8 प्रतियों में सानुलग्कन भेजते हुए अनुरोध है कि अपने स्तर से यथोचित कार्रवाई करने की कृपा की जाय।  
अनु०-यथोक्त।

आपका विश्वासी,  
  
वन प्रमण्डल पदाधिकारी,  
चतरा दक्षिणी वन प्रमण्डल।