

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jor bagh Road
New Delhi– 110003
Dated:07-03-2025

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Department of Environment and Forests,
Government of Himachal Pradesh.
Shimla.

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 Bushahr Laghu Udyog, VPO Jhakri, Tehsil Rampur Bushahr for non-forestry use of 2.1532 ha of Protected Forest (1.4612 ha for mining lease and safety zone, 0.3400 ha for approach road and 0.3520 ha for staking of raw material) for already established Stone Crusher at Pashada, P.O. Khaneri within the jurisdiction of Rampur Forest Division, Tehsil- Rampur Bushahr, District- Shimla in the State of Himachal Pradesh (Online No. FP/HP/MIN/34194/2018)– regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to State Government of Himachal Pradesh letter No. Ft.48-3737/2018 (FCA) dated 22.03.2019 on the above-mentioned subject seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, and to say that after examination of proposal the following shortcoming is observed:

- i. DFO, Rampur Forest Division has mentioned in his Part- II that there is no violation of Adhiniyam, whereas, as per DSS report non-forestry work is visible in the lower part of proposed area. Clarification in this regard needs to be submitted by the State Government. If there is any violation in the area, detailed violation report mentioning extent and nature of violation and action taken against the officers responsible for violation may be submitted.
- ii. Mining plan was issued by Department of Industries vide letter No. Udyog-Bhu(Khani-4)Laghu-9/2015-13775 dated 31.03.2018 for a period of 5 years. Revised mining plan needs to be submitted.
- iii. Site inspection report submitted by DFO, Rampur along with the proposal is done in 2018, almost 6 years has been lapsed. During the intervening period of almost 6 years, forest composition might have been changed. Therefore, a revised site inspection report may be submitted as on today.
- iv. In the proposal, width of the road was mentioned as 14 mtr, Regional Office in their EDS dated 14.06.2022 had requested State Government to review and revise the average width of the approach road in accordance with FC guideline. Wherein, the State Government have replied in their reply that

DFO, Rampur has intimated that the average width of the proposed road has been reduced to 5 mtrs. In this regard, due to reduction in width of the road, change in area proposed for road and total area proposed for diversion, if any, may be intimated by the State Government.

- v. An area of 0.352 ha forest land has been proposed for stacking of raw materials. Justification for the same needs to be submitted. Further, the State Government may also explore the possibility of shifting the same to non-forest land and revised area, if any, may be intimated to the Ministry.
- vi. Proposed forest land for diversion is located at an approx. aerial distance of 8.39 km from Rubi Bhapa WLS and 9.86 km in Daranghati WLS. Comments from PCCF (Wildlife)/CWLV from conservation point of view and with regards to distance from ESZ for Rubi Bhapa WLS and Daranghati WLS needs to be submitted.
- vii. Calculated area of shape file/ KML file of Forest land proposed for diversion is 2.70 ha. whereas, area proposed for diversion is 2.1532 ha. Discrepancy of 0.5468 ha is observed. Revised KML file (component wise) for exact area proposed for diversion needs to be submitted.
- viii. As per DSS, observation based on Google Earth: solid structure is visible in area proposed for CA. Clarification in the regard needs to be submitted by the State Government.
- ix. Legal status of proposed CA site cannot be verified due to unavailability of RF/PF boundary for the State of Himachal Pradesh on DSS. State Government is requested to submit KML file of compartment boundary of area proposed for Compensatory Afforestation.

In view of the above, the State Govt. is requested to submit the information, as indicated above, to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(S. Sundar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
2. The Dy. DGF (Central), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Chandigarh.
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading.