

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

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**Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,**  
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,  
New Delhi – 110003  
**Dated: April, 2023**

To,

**The Principal Secretary (Forests),**  
Government of Madhya Pradesh,  
Bhopal.

**Subject: Diversion of 14.00 ha Reserved Forest land in Compartment No. 454 of Junnadev Vishala Village of Jamai Range for Bharat Open Cast Coal Mine Phase-II in favour of M/s Western Coalfield Limited in Chhindwara District, Madhya Pradesh State (Online Proposal No. FP/MP/MIN/26356/2017) – regarding.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the PCCF (LM) and Nodal Officer, FCA, 1980, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh letter No. F-1/FP/MP/MIN/26356/2017/1291 dated 29.03.2023 on the above cited subject. In this regard, the following shortcomings have been observed in the information submitted by the State Government:

- i. Upon examination of the KML file through GIS-DSS tool, it was found that the boundaries of Mine lease area, 68.704 ha & 19.50 ha already diverted forest area have been changed again. Owing to these changes, this Ministry's vide its letter of even no. dated 16.08.2022 requested the State Govt. to upload the complete KML of instant project on PARIVESH on the basis of ground truthing. Thereafter, the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh vide their letter No F-1/FP/MP/MIN/26356/2017/3935 dated 22.11.2022 informed about uploading of the complete KML file. On examination of same the DSS analysis revealed that the total forest area within lease is found to be 145.427 ha instead of 152.728 ha as per proposal on PARIVESH. Accordingly, this Ministry vide letter dated 19.12.2022 requested again to upload the complete KML file as per proposal. After that the State Government vide letter No. F-1/FP/MP/MIN/26356/2017/343 dated 25.01.2023 informed that the total forest area within lease is 145.690 ha instead of 145.427 ha and further reported that the user agency has performed necessary correction in the forest area mentioned in online Part-I form on PARIVESH. The State Govt. again reiterated above said facts in their letter dated 29.03.2023. Keeping in view of the above mentioned facts, the Mining lease boundary has been examined by the DSS Cell of this Ministry wherein it has been reported that total 150.453 ha forest area is coming under Mining lease boundary. It is further reported that the above said analysis has been carried out on the basis of the Forest compartment boundary available on the State Forest Website. In this regard, the State Government is requested to examine the extent of forest land within mining lease and do the necessary correction.

- ii. It was reported that 14 ha forest land is required due to change in technology and extraction of substantial coal which is locked up in protective barrier within 68.704 ha diverted forest land for under-ground mining. Accordingly, State Govt was asked that nothing in this regard was reflected in the Mining plan. Moreover, vital project components like safety zone, external dump, infrastructure, approach road etc. should be reflected in the Mining plan and may be intimated by the State Government. However, the reply submitted by the State Govt does not mention anything about the Mining Plan in this regard.

Accordingly, it is requested to furnish the above mentioned information to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

**Assistant Inspector General of Forests**

**Copy to:**

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal;
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.