

F. No. 8-04/2025-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi- 110003
Dated:13-08-2025

To

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

Sub: 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)- regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Himachal Pradesh letter No. FEE-B-F002/56/2025 dated 07.07.2025 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 the proposal in the Ministry, the following shortcomings are observed:

- i. From examination of KML file is it observed that mining is proposed at one side of the river. The State Government shall inform whether the proposal is according to para 7.6 of Consolidated Guidelines issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 by the Ministry, the Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016 and Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020 issued by MoEF&CC. Changes if any may be informed accordingly.
- ii. Lol was extended for one year from 03.06.2024 and it was valid till 02.06.2025, valid Lol needs to be submitted.
- iii. District Survey Report of Mandi District is not submitted. The State Government shall submit the report with recommendations to the Ministry.
- iv. Details about extraction route of the mined out minerals from the proposed site is not part of the proposal. The State Government shall provide the Legal status of the extraction route.

In view of the above, the State Government of Himachal Pradesh is requested to submit the information/documents, as indicated above, for further consideration of the proposal in the Ministry.

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 DDGF (Central) Regional Office, Chandigarh of MoEF&CC.
3. The Nodal Officer, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
4. The User Agency.
5. The Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading.