

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj
New Delhi: 1100 03,

Dated: August, 2023

To,

The Additional Secretary (Forests),
EFS & T Department Telangana Secretariat,
Government of Telangana,
Hyderabad.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 151.8517 ha. of forest land falling in Yellandu division for proposed JK OC project at Yellandu division in favour of M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Limited. –regarding (Online proposal No. FP/TG/MIN/49581/2020).

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Telangana's letter No.3219/For.I (1)/2022 dated 06.06.2022 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, forwarding the additional information in response to this Ministry's letter dated 18.01.2023. After examination of the additional information the Ministry has observed the following shortcomings:

- i. The observations raised by the Ministry's letter dated 18.01.2023 wrt point No. (i), (ii), (iii), (vii), (xi) and (xii) regarding KML/shape files of the area were not found with the State Govt. letter dt 14.07.2023 and neither it is uploaded in PARIVESH. The same require submission for further analysis.
- ii. It has been informed that the Old Dargah & Burial Ground existing near Timber Depot in proposed area for diversion is under the control of the Forest Department. Further, it was stated that the UA will provide alternate site for the purpose. In this regard the State Govt. is requested to provide the details of the alternative sites identified.
- iii. From the site inspection carried out by the Sub-office, Hyderabad it was learnt that about 68.00 ha out of 106.3042 ha forest land (part of the total area proposed for diversion is 151.8517 ha) proposed for diversion is under encroachment and there are some claims under process under FRA. In addition, in this forest land, encroachments by way of cultivation of agricultural crops and commercial establishments like poultry shed, shops, dwelling house etc. were also noticed as per site inspection report. In this regard, the State Govt is requested to offer its comments and action taken for

removal of encroachments.

- iv. As per the site inspection carried out by the sub-office, Hyderabad it was learnt that the balance forest land i.e. 18 ha which is the part of earlier diversion of 124.96 ha approved by the Ministry vide F.No. 8-260/1985-FC, dated 20.07.2018 is also under encroachment. In this regard, the State Govt is requested to offer its comments and action taken report for removal of encroachment.
- v. From the site inspection carried out by the Sub-office, Hyderabad it was learnt that in the additional 45.5477 ha proposed for diversion, graveyards/cemeteries, BT road, electrical substation and some pathways were observed at a few locations. In this regard the State Govt may offer the comments and the action taken report in this regard.
- vi. It was learnt from the site inspection report that the forest area now proposed i.e. 45.5477 ha. for diversion was not part of any earlier approved diversion. However, underground mining has been carried out in this area without any approval. In such a case the violation has been carried out by the user agency. In this regard, the State Govt. is requested to offer its comments and submit the action taken report.
- vii. It was informed in the site inspection report, that the amalgamated mine named as Jawahar Khani Opencast (JK OC) will have an area of 1114.507 ha which includes 167.46 ha forest land as indicated at Para 8.1.2 of the approved Mining Plan. However, the forest area now proposed for diversion i.e. 45.5477 ha is not shown as forest land in this Mining Plan. In this regard, the State Govt. shall offer its comments.
- viii. As per para 1.20 of hand book of guidelines issued by this Ministry, if the State Govt. does not furnish the reply in 90 days, the proposal may be rejected by the Central Government. In the instant case the Ministry on 18.01.2023 sought the EDS and the State Govt. has submitted the reply on 14.07.2023. Therefore the State Govt. may clarify that why the instant proposal shall not be rejected with immediate effect

In view of above the State Govt. is requested to furnish the information/documents/clarification as mentioned above to the Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

1. The PCCF & HoFF, Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad.
2. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Government of Telangana,

Hyderabad.

3. The DDGF(C), Regional Office, Chennai, MoEF&CC.
4. The IGF(C),Sub-office, Hyderabad, MoEF&CC.
5. The Monitoring Cell, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
6. User Agency.