

**AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2020**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>File No.</b>	<b>Name of the proposal</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Area Applied (in ha.)</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
1.	8-10/2020-FC	Proposal for diversion of 72.00 ha pf forest land for construction of Patpadi Tank Project in favour of Water Resources Department, Dewas District Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh	72.00	Irrigation	2
2.	8-08/2020-FC	Proposal for diversion of 409.53 Ha (387.13 ha Horizontal area as per ETS & DGPS Survey) of forest land in Keshavapur RF, MedchalMalkajgiri District for construction of 10 TMC reservoir at Kesshavapuram with associated components under Godavari river source for drinking water requirements to Hyderabad City in favour of HMWS&SB, Hyderabad.	Telangana	405.93	Drinking water	7
3.	8-06/2019-FC	Proposal for diversion of 162.45 ha of forest land in Indaram RF, Mancherial Range of Mancherial Forest Division in Mancherial District for grant of Mining Lease for Srirampur Open Cast-II Expansion Project in Jaipur Mandal, Mancherial District in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Srirampur Area Mancherial District	Telangana	162.45	Mining	14
4.	NIL	Policy Issue				22

## Agenda No. 1

File No. 8-10/2020-FC

**Sub: Proposal for diversion of 72.00 ha. of Forest Land for construction of Patpadi Tank Project in favour of Water Resources Department, Dewas District Madhya Pradesh State -regarding.**

1. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Land Management) and Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Madhya Pradesh vide their letter No. F-3/86/2018/10-11/16/2126 Bhopal dated 08<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 submitted a proposal to obtain prior approval of the Central Government, as per the provisions contained in Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 72.00 ha. of Forest Land for construction of Patpadi Tank Project in favour of Water Resources Department, Dewas District Madhya Pradesh State. Details of proposal may be accessed on PARIVESH portal and the online no. of the proposal is FP/MP/IRRIG/20556/2016.
2. Details indicated in the proposal submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh dated 08.07.2020 are as below:

### FACT SHEET

<b>1.</b>	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	<b>Proposal for diversion of 72.00 ha. of Forest Land for construction of Patpadi Tank Project in favour of Water Resources Department, Dewas District Madhya Pradesh State.</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Location:</b>	
(i)	State	Madhya Pradesh.
(ii)	District	Dewas.
(iii)	Category	Irrigation.
(iv)	Total period for which the forest land is proposed to be diverted (in year).	200 The said details about the lease period has been mentioned by the user agency in his part-I.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Detail of user agency</b>	
(i)	Name of the user agency	Water Resources Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh
(ii)	Nature of user agency	State Government.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Particular of Forests</b>	
(i)	Name of Forest Division	Dewas Territorial Division
(ii)	Area of Forest land proposed for Diversion	72.00 Ha.
(iii)	Legal Status of Forest land	Reserved Forest = 72.00 Ha.
(iv)	Density of Vegetation	Area = 72.00 Ha. Density = 0.7 (Very Dense Forest) Eco class = 3
<b>5.</b>	<b>Maps</b>	
	<b>i.</b> Differential GPS map of the area proposed for diversion	<b>Provided with the proposal.</b>
	<b>ii.</b> Differential GPS map of the area identified for raising CA	<b>Provided with the proposal.</b>
	<b>iii.</b> Survey of India toposheet on 1:50,000 scale showing the area proposed for diversion	<b>Provided with the proposal.</b>
	<b>iv.</b> Survey of India toposheet on 1:50,000 scale showing the area identified for CA	<b>Provided with the proposal.</b>
	<b>v.</b> Land use plan	<b>Not given.</b>
	<b>vi.</b> Forest Cover map	<b>Not given.</b>

6.	Vegetation																									
	i. Species-wise and diameter class wise enumeration of trees.	Details of Species – wise and diameter class wise enumeration of trees are available with the proposal.																								
	ii. Density	0.7																								
	iii. Number of trees to be felled	8,176 as per enumeration list submitted in part II of the proposal.																								
	iv. Working plan prescription for the forest land proposed for diversion.	Not provided with the proposal.																								
7.	Vulnerability of area to soil erosion	The area is not Vulnerable to erosion as per part II of the proposal.																								
8.	Details of wildlife present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion;	As per the wildlife census 2018, the following wildlife was found in the proposed forest area for diversion- <b>Hyena, Jackal, Langoor, Fox, Hare, Blue bull, Chinkara, Monkey etc.</b>																								
9.	Approximate distance of proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest.	Zero (0) As reported by the DFO in his part-II																								
10.	Whether forms part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc. (if so, the details of the area the comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden to be annexed)	No																								
11.	Whether any rare/ endangered/ unique species of flora and fauna found in the area if so, details thereof.	No																								
12.	Whether any protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area. If so, the details thereof with NOC from competent authority, if required.	No																								
13.	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency in col.2 of Part-I is unavoidable and bare minimum for the project. If no, recommended area item-wise with details of alternatives examined.	Yes, As per the details mentioned on part II of the proposal.																								
14.	Whether any work in violation of the Act has been carried out (Yes/ No). If yes, details of the same including period of work done, action taken on erring officials. Whether work in violation is still under progress.	No, As per the details mentioned on part II of the proposal.																								
15.	Details of Compensatory Afforestation Scheme:																									
	i. Details of non-forest area/ degraded forest area identified for compensatory Afforestation, its distance from adjoining forest, number of patches, size of each patch.	The Compensatory Afforestation has been proposed on equivalent non – forest land having extent 72.00 ha. of non-forest land in Dewas district of Madhya Pradesh. The following details is given as under:																								
	ii. Map showing non-forest/ degraded forest area identified for compensatory Afforestation and adjoining forest boundaries.																									
	iii. Detailed compensatory Afforestation scheme including species to be planted, implementing Agency, time schedule, cost structure etc.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No.</th> <th>Compartment no.</th> <th>Village</th> <th>Area (Ha.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>66 Min/1</td> <td>Jamgod</td> <td>27.560</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>806</td> <td>Anandpur Dungriya</td> <td>11.760</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td>836/1</td> <td></td> <td>14.290</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.</td> <td>197/2</td> <td>Khatambba</td> <td>18.390</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;"><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>72.00</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S. No.	Compartment no.	Village	Area (Ha.)	1.	66 Min/1	Jamgod	27.560	2.	806	Anandpur Dungriya	11.760	3.	836/1		14.290	4.	197/2	Khatambba	18.390	<b>Total</b>			<b>72.00</b>
S. No.	Compartment no.	Village	Area (Ha.)																							
1.	66 Min/1	Jamgod	27.560																							
2.	806	Anandpur Dungriya	11.760																							
3.	836/1		14.290																							
4.	197/2	Khatambba	18.390																							
<b>Total</b>			<b>72.00</b>																							
		The details of CA scheme with the provisions of maintenance for 11 years has been submitted.																								

	iv. Total financial outlay for compensatory Afforestation scheme.	<b>Rs.3,24,96,175/-</b> (Rupees three crores twenty four lakhs ninety six thousand one hundred seventy five only.)
	v. Certificate from competent authority regarding suitability of area identified for compensatory Afforestation and from management point of view. To be signed by the concerned Deputy Conservatory of Forests.	The Certificate has been issued by the DFO, Dewas, Government of Madhya Pradesh regarding suitability of area identified for Compensatory Afforestation.
16.	Documentary evidence in support of settlement of rights in accordance with the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 on the forest land proposed to be diverted enclosed.	<p>The District Collector, Khandwa, Government of Madhya Pradesh has issued a FRA certificate vide his letter No.2243 dated 18.05.2017 certifying the information in respect of all clauses of the MoEF's advisory dated 05.07.2013 i.e. diversion of 72.00 ha. forest land for facilities managed by the Government and safeguarding the rights of Primitive Tribal Group and Pre-Agricultural Communities as required under the Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, discussion on the proposal in meeting of concerned Gram Sabha (s) maintaining the prescribed quorum, etc. The concerned Gram Sabha (s) of Gram panchayat Patpadi in Dewas Tehsil.</p> <p><b>Documentary evidences in support of settlements of rights under the Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has not been given.</b></p>
17.	Site Inspection Report of the Divisional Forest Officer in compliance to the conditions stipulated in the col. 7 (xi, xii) 8 and 9 previous approval.	<p>The Site Inspection Report carried out by the Divisional Forest Officer, Dewas, Madhya Pradesh, is enclosed with the proposal.</p> <p><b>Specific recommendation of the DFO:</b> To provide irrigation about 1848 ha. of Uday Nagar Tehsil, District Dewas. It is recommended to divert 72.00 ha of forest land to user agency Executive Engineer, Water Resources Division, Dewas District. As per condition of FCA provision.</p> <p>(a) Green belt/fuel and fodder with irrigation will be developed on the user agency.</p> <p>(b) For wild life, undisturbed movement, suitable under passes and water should be made &amp; provide water for Wildlife management.</p>
18.	Whether the project requires environment clearance.	As reported by the State Government no Environment Clearance is required for this project.
19.	Status of Wildlife clearance.	Not applicable.
20.	Catchment Area Treatment Plan.	Not applicable.
21.	Total command area of the project	It is reported by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh the Command area of 1,848 Ha < 2,000 ha. The irrigation project falls in Minor Irrigation Project.
22.	Rehabilitation of Oustee	-No-
	Number of SC Families	
	Number of ST families	
	Number of Backward Families	
	Copies of R&R Plan	
23.	Cost Benefit Analysis	<p>The details are enclosed with the proposal. The cost benefit ratio as per detailed analysis is @10% interest on capital: 1.49 @5% interest on capital: 2.25</p> <p>Total benefit due to project is Rs.860.66 lakhs as per proposal.</p>

24.	Total Cost of the project	<b>Rs.4834.97/-</b> Lakhs it is reported by the State Government
25.	Employment Potential	Regular Employment = 50 persons Temporary Employment = 1020 (Number of person day).
26.	Undertakings to bear the cost of CA and NPV	The User Agency has given the under taking to bear the cost of NPV / CA
27.	Profile of the District / Department / Dewas Division.	
	Geographical Area of the Dist.	702000 Ha.
	Total Forest Area	191637 Ha.
	Total area diverted since 1980	Area 6189.431 ha. Number of case - 47
	Forest land including penal CA (in ha.)	0
	Progress of compensatory afforestation as on (date) 26.12.2019	
	(a) Forest land (in ha.)	18258.217
	(b) Non-forest land (in ha.)	1548.460
28.	<b>Recommendation with Specific conditions, (if any)</b>	
	DFO	<b>Specific recommendation of DFO:</b> To provide irrigation about 1848 ha. of Uday Nagar Tehsil, District Dewas. It is recommended to divert 72.00 ha of forest land to user agency Executive Engineer, Water Resources Division, Dewas District. As per condition of FCA provision. (a) Green belt/fuel and fodder with irrigation will be developed on the user agency. (b) For wild life, undisturbed movement, suitable under passes and water should be made & provide water for Wildlife management.  Recommended
	CF	Recommended
	PCCF/ Nodal Officer (FCA)	Recommended
	State Govt.	Recommended

3. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Land Management) and Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, State Government of Madhya Pradesh vide its letter dated 08.07.2020 submitted following additional information pertaining to the proposal:

- (i) Purpose wise breakup of forest land proposed for diversion has been given by the State Government / project proponent.
- (ii) The State Government has been recommended the proposal without any specific condition.
- (iii) The command area is 1848 ha. which is a minor irrigation project, therefore, CAT plan is not applicable.

4. The KML of proposed diversion area and CA area has been examined by the DSS cell of FC Division and following is observed:

**(a) Proposed diversion:**

- (i) Proposed forest area for diversion falls under Dewas district of Madhya Pradesh State and its calculated area is found 71.8265 ha.

Sl. No.	Component Name	Given Area (in ha.)	Calculated Area (in ha.)
1	Canal Patch 2	2.4506	2.4781
2	Canal Patch 1	0.0350	0.0349
3	Waste Weir	2.9130	2.9046
4	Forest Submergence Area	66.6015	66.4089
<b>Total</b>		<b>72.0001</b>	<b>71.8265</b>

- (ii) No Protected Area/ Tiger Reserve/ Tiger Corridor falls within 10 km from the proposed forest area.
- (iii) Proposed area for diversion classified as **High Conservation Value (HCV) Zone** based on Decision Rule 1 (due to hydrological rule) and **Not in High Conservation Value(HCV) Zone or Not-Inviolate** based on Decision Rule 2.
- (iv) Out of total forest area for diversion, 42 ha. of land classified as moderately dense forest, 12 ha. area of land as open forest and 18 ha. of land as Non Forest in terms of forest classes (as per the ISFR 2019) based on the interpretation of satellite data period 2017-2018.
- (v) Agriculture land is visible in the proposed forest land and the same can be verified through High resolution Google Earth Imageries.

**(b) Proposed CA:**

- (i) CA has been proposed in 4 patches which are located in Dewas district of Madhya Pradesh State.
- (ii) The calculated area of total land proposed for CA is found 71.80 ha. All four CA patches are proposed over non forest land.
- (iii) In terms of standards followed in ISFR 2019 (interpretation of satellite data period 2017-2018) regarding density classes:

S. No	CA Name	Given Area (in ha)	Calculated Area (in ha)	VDF	MDF	OF	NF
1	Khatamba Survey 197/2	18.39	18.34	0	0	0	18
2	Jamgod Survey No. 66/Min-1	27.56	27.48	0	0	10	17
3	Anandpur Survey 806	11.76	11.73	0	0	1	11
4	Anandpur Survey 836/1	14.29	14.25	0	0	3	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>72.00</b>	<b>71.80</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>58</b>

- (iv) Few constructions are visible in the proposed CA sites and same can be verified with the help of High resolution Google Earth imageries.

**5. Observations of FC Division:**

- (i) The present Cost Benefit ratio as submitted is adverse as it is reported by State Government that the total Cost of the project is Rs.4834.97/- lakhs whereas the total benefit due to project is reported as Rs.860.66/- lakhs.
- (ii) The present proposal is on the edge of the forest boundary as reported by the DFO in online Part-II i.e. distance of proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest is zero (0) km.

In view of the above facts related to the proposal, it is proposed that proposal may be submitted to the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC), in its meeting scheduled to be held on **18.08.2020.**

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## Agenda No. 2

**File No. 8-08/2020-FC**

**Sub: Proposal for diversion of 409.53 Ha (387.13 ha Horizontal area as per ETS & DGPS Survey) of forest land in Keshavapur RF, Medchal- Malkajgiri District for construction of 10 TMC reservoir at Keshavapuram with associated components under Godavari river source for drinking water requirements to Hyderabad City in favour of HMWS&SB, Hyderabad.-regarding.**

1. The Government of Telangana, Environment Forests, Science & Technology (For.I) Department vide their letter No.1430/For.I(1)/2020 dated 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 submitted a proposal to obtain prior approval of the Central Government, as per the provisions contained in Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mention subject. Details of proposal may be accessed on PARIVESH portal and the online no. of the proposal is **FP/TG/WATER/36146/2018**.
2. Preliminary scrutiny of the said proposal Ministry has observed the following shortcomings -
  - (i) No Objection Certificate regarding landowners of non-forest land is not submitted.
  - (ii) Cost Benefit analysis as per the latest guidelines of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has not been submitted along with proposal.
  - (iii) As per DSS analysis, for Compensatory Afforestation (CA) patches, it has been observed that all patches are located on hilly and undulating surface where top soil erosion has been observed. Site suitability for compensatory afforestation needs to be rechecked.
3. The above shortcomings were communicated to Govt. of Telangana vide this Ministry's letter dated 10.07.2020. Now, the PCCF (HoFF) Govt. Telangana vide their letter Ref. No.6564/20174/FCA-1 dated 15.07.2020 has forwarded requisite information in response to this Ministry's letter dated 10.07.2020 the same is given as under:

S. No.	Observations raised by the MoEF&CC, New Delhi dt.10.07.2020	Reply submitted by the PCCF (HoFF) Telangana dt. 15.07.2020.								
1.	No Objection Certificate regarding land owners of non-forest land is not submitted.	In this regard it is informed that the non-forest CA lands are the Government Revenue lands and NOC issued by the concerned Collector and District Magistrates, Siddipet, Suryapet and Yadadri-Bhuvangir has been furnished along with the proposal in reference to cited in also updated in ministry portal at "copy of non-encumbrance certificate" Colum at 'details of lands identified for CA for the forest land' column and also at 'present owner file' column of 'additional information details' column in part-I and also at 'Details of Compensatory Afforestation scheme' part-II.  The State Government has also issued the Government Orders transferring the said non-forest CA lands, which are uploaded at 'additional information details' column. However, the same are submitted again.								
2.	Cost Benefit analysis as per the latest guidelines of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has not been submitted along with proposal.	In this regard it is informed that the revised Cost-Benefit Analysis as per the latest guidelines of MoEF&CC has been given.								
3.	As per DSS analysis, for Compensatory Afforestation (CA) patches, it has been observed that all patches are located on hilly and undulating surface where top soil erosion has been observed. Site suitability for compensatory afforestation needs to be rechecked.	The PCCF (HOFF)(FCA), Telangana vide letter no, Ref.No.6564/201//FCA-1 dt 31.07.2020 informed that managing Director n, HMWSSB due to certain reason replaced CA land furnished before. The detail of the revised CA is given below: <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"><thead><tr><th style="text-align: center;">District</th><th style="text-align: center;">Area in (ha)</th><th style="text-align: center;">Number of plants proposed for planting</th><th style="text-align: center;">Total number of plants</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td style="text-align: center;">Siddipet</td><td style="text-align: center;">119.801</td><td style="text-align: center;">100.00</td><td style="text-align: center;">11980</td></tr></tbody></table>	District	Area in (ha)	Number of plants proposed for planting	Total number of plants	Siddipet	119.801	100.00	11980
District	Area in (ha)	Number of plants proposed for planting	Total number of plants							
Siddipet	119.801	100.00	11980							

		Yadari-Bhuvanagir	12.8919	200	2578
		Suryapet	279.777	200	55955
			12.00	1666	19992
		<b>Total</b>	<b>424.4694</b>		<b>90505</b>

It was also informed that the DFO Siddipet has inspected and reported that the revised areas for CA is suitable for planting (@ 100 plants per ha).

4. Details indicated in the proposal submitted by the Government of Telangana dated 30.06.2020 are as below:

**FACT SHEET**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	<b>Proposal for diversion of 409.53 Ha (387.13 ha Horizontal area as per ETS &amp; DGPS Survey) of forest land in Keshavapur RF, Medchal- Malkajgiri District for construction of 10 TMC reservoir at Keshavapuram with associated components under Godavari river source for drinking water requirements to Hyderabad City in favour of HMWS&amp;SB, Hyderabad.</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Location:</b>	
(i)	State	Telangana.
(ii)	District	Medchal.
(iii)	Category	Drinking water.
(iv)	Total period for which the forest land is proposed to be diverted (in year).	<b>Nil</b> The said details about the lease period has been mentioned by the user agency in his part-I.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Detail of user agency</b>	
(i)	Name of the user agency	Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply And Sewerage Board (HMWS&SB), Hyderabad.
(ii)	Nature of user agency	State Government.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Particular of Forests</b>	
(i)	Name of Forest Division	Medchal
(ii)	Area of Forest land proposed for Diversion	409.53 Ha.
(iii)	Legal Status of Forest land	Reserved Forest = 409.53 Ha.
(iv)	Density of Vegetation	Area = 409.53 Ha. Density = 0.1 Eco class = 3
<b>5.</b>	<b>Maps</b>	
	i. Differential GPS map of the area proposed for diversion	<b>Provided with the proposal.</b>
	ii. Differential GPS map of the area identified for raising CA	<b>Provided with the proposal.</b>
	iii. Survey of India toposheet on 1:50,000 scale showing the area proposed for diversion	<b>Provided with the proposal.</b>
	iv. Survey of India toposheet on 1:50,000 scale showing the area identified for CA	<b>Provided with the proposal.</b>
	v. Land use plan	<b>Uploaded in PARIVESH.</b>
	vi. Forest Cover map	<b>Not given.</b>

6.	Vegetation	
	i. Species-wise and diameter class wise enumeration of trees.	As per reported by the PCCF (HoFF), there are 139274 number (as per random sampling method done in 37 plots in the proposed area of diversion) trees are coming in the proposed area for diversion. Details of Species – wise and diameter class wise enumeration of trees are given.
	ii. Density	0.1
	iii. Number of trees to be felled	<b>139274 number</b> As per enumeration list submitted by the DFO of the proposal.
	iv. Working plan prescription for the forest land proposed for diversion.	Not provided with the proposal.
7.	Vulnerability of area to soil erosion	The area is not Vulnerable to erosion as per part II of the proposal.
8.	Details of wildlife present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion;	No.
9.	Approximate distance of proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest.	0 As reported by the DFO in his part-II.
10.	Whether forms part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc. (if so, the details of the area the comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden to be annexed)	No
11.	Whether any rare/ endangered/ unique species of flora and fauna found in the area if so, details thereof.	No
12.	Whether any protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area. If so, the details thereof with NOC from competent authority, if required.	No
13.	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency in col.2 of Part-I is unavoidable and bare minimum for the project. If no, recommended area item-wise with details of alternatives examined.	Yes, as per the details mentioned on part II of the proposal.
14.	Whether any work in violation of the Act has been carried out (Yes/ No). If yes, details of the same including period of work done, action taken on erring officials. Whether work in violation is still under progress.	No As per the details mentioned on part II of the proposal.
15.	Details of Compensatory Afforestation Scheme:	
	vi. Details of non-forest area/ degraded forest area identified for compensatory Afforestation, its distance from adjoining forest, number of patches, size of each patch.	The Compensatory Afforestation has been proposed on equivalent non-forest land having extent 424.4695 ha. of non-forest land in three districts namely Siddipet, Yadari-Bhuvanagir and Suryapet. The UA has also proposed CA site in degraded forest land (area: 350 ha) in Bhadradi-Kothagudem district to take up balance saplings plantation (i.e. 388850 nos) in nine different patches. The following details is given as under:
	vii. Map showing non-forest/ degraded forest area identified for compensatory Afforestation and adjoining forest boundaries.	

	iii. Detailed compensatory Afforestation scheme including species to be planted, implementing Agency, time schedule, cost structure etc.	<b>District</b>	<b>Area in (ha)</b>	<b>Number of plants proposed for planting</b>	<b>Total number of plants</b>
		Siddipet	119.801	100.00	11980
		Yadari-Bhuvanagir	12.8919	200	2578
		Suryapet	279.777	200	55955
			12.00	1666	19992
		<b>Total</b>	<b>424.4694</b>		<b>90505</b>
The details of CA scheme with the provisions of maintenance for 10 years has been submitted.					
	ix. Total financial outlay for compensatory Afforestation scheme.	Rs. 2995.45684/- Lakhs with respect to non-forest Land as The PCCF (HOFF)(FCA), Telangana vide letter no, Ref.No.6564/201//FCA-1 dt 31.07.2020			
	x. Certificate from competent authority regarding suitability of area identified for compensatory Afforestation and from management point of view. To be signed by the concerned Deputy Conservatory of Forests.	The Certificate issued by the concerned Authority, Government of Telangana regarding suitability of area identified for Compensatory Afforestation.			
16.	Documentary evidence in support of settlement of rights in accordance with the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 on the forest land proposed to be diverted enclosed.	<p>The District Collector, Government of Telangana has issued a FRA certificate vide his letter No.E2/1714/2018 dated 05.06.2020 certifying the information in respect of all clauses of the MoEF's advisory dated 05.07.2013 i.e. diversion of 409.53 Ha (387.13 ha Horizontal area as per ETS &amp; DGPS Survey) of forest land in Keshavapur RF, Medchal- Malkajgiri District, for facilities managed by the Government and safeguarding the rights of Primitive Tribal Group and Pre-Agricultural Communities as required under the Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, discussion on the proposal in meeting of concerned Gram Sabha (s) maintaining the prescribed quorum, etc.</p> <p><b>Documentary evidences in support of settlements of rights under the Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has also been given.</b></p>			
17.	Site Inspection Report of the Divisional Forest Officer in compliance to the conditions stipulated in the col. 7 (xi, xii) 8 and 9 previous approval.	The Site Inspection Report carried out by the Divisional Forest Officer, Medchal Government of Telangana, is enclosed with the proposal.			
18.	Whether the project requires environment clearance.	No			
19.	Status of Wildlife clearance.	Not applicable.			
20.	Catchment Area Treatment Plan.	Not applicable.			
21.	Total command area of the project	Not applicable.			

22.	Rehabilitation of Oustee	-No-
	Number of SC Families	
	Number of ST families	
	Number of Backward Families	
	Copies of R&R Plan	
23.	Cost Benefit Analysis	The details are enclosed with the proposal. The cost benefit ratio is 1.97.  Total annual benefit due to project is Rs.1070.85 cr as per proposal.
24.	Total Cost of the project	<b>Rs. 477759/-</b> Lakhs (As per Form A part 1 in parivesh.nic.in).
25.	Employment Potential	Regular Employment = 300 persons Temporary Employment = 0 (As per Form A part 1 in parivesh.nic.in).
26.	Undertakings to bear the cost of CA and NPV	The User Agency has submitted the undertaking to bear the cost of NPV / CA.
27.	<b>Recommendation with Specific conditions, (if any)</b>	
	DFO	<b>Specific recommendation of DFO:</b> Recommended without any specific recommendations (As per part 2 uploaded in parivesh.nic.in)
	CF/APCCF	Recommended stating that it is essential requirement for the people of Hyderabad.
	PCCF/ Nodal Officer (FCA)	Recommended based on the recommendations of DFO and APCCF
	State Govt.	Recommended without any specific recommendations.

5. The RO, Chennai vide letter no. F. No TSA 170/2020-CHN dated 5th Aug 2020 forwarded the site inspection report to this Ministry. It was informed that the inspection was carried out on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020 in the presence of Shri Chandra Sekhar Reddy IFS, APCCF Hyderabad Circle, Shri D.V. Reddy DFO and Shri Ravi Kumar Director, Water Board (Rep of UA).

A. Some of the Observations are listed below:

- (i) Most of the land in this forest block is plain and small hillocks are there on the South-Western and South-Eastern Side of the plot. A representative of UA cleared that, they are won't dig out the hillock area, but they will drill the rocks and get concrete bund in this area.
- (ii) After removing and uprooting of the natural vegetation, in the year 2001, 72,000 plants were planted by Urban Forestry wing of Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority, and now they are under different stages of maturity.
- (iii) As per the information provided by forest authorities, there are 1, 39,274 trees (as per random sampling method done in 37 plots in the proposed area of diversion) in the proposed area for diversion. The total value of the trees is Rs.111.825 lakhs as per enumeration report.
- (iv) At the time of inspection, no rare/endangered unique species of flora and fauna are found in this area. In the proposed site for diversion, there are no protected Archaeological/Heritage sites or any other important monuments.
- (v) The proposed area is not falling in any National park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant corridor.
- (vi) No work in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has taken place in the proposed site.
- (vii) No encroachments are found in the proposed site
- (viii) Two Electrical lines are passing through the forest area proposed for diversion. As per the records made available, these electrical lines were erected way back in 1976, and in such case, the UA has to get NOC from the concerned department and measures are to be taken for their shifting, if at all permission for land transfer is granted, before to the execution of work.
- (ix) As per the report of UA which is authenticated by SG that suitable alternative land is not available, so this Forest Land can be considered for transfer.

**B. Brief about the proposed CA Lands based on inspection:**

It was informed that State Government has proposed a CA scheme in 12 places falling in 11 areas totalling an area of 424.4695 ha. and proposed to plant 90,505 plants (as per the changed scheme). The areas that were proposed under the CA scheme have a mixture of topography—with hillocks, moderately sloppy areas and some areas have a good depth of soil. In these lands, the standing crop at places is moderate to heavily lopped and, in some areas, the crop is prominently developed. DDGF(C) has submitted area wise inspection report with photos.

Some of the important facts observed are listed below with respect to 11 CA site proposed by the State government:

**(a) Mahammadabad CA area:**

- Area of the proposed CA land is 12.8919 ha. The trees here are moderately lopped and with the protection, they will get a chance to grow into trees. There is enough of area for planting. No encroachments are found in this area.

**(b) Kasarlapad CA Area:**

- Area of the proposed CA land is 23.0564 ha.
- During the inspection, it was found that a water sump and water pipelines, were constructed recently under Mission Bhagiratha scheme. As per the District Collector, these structures were constructed without the knowledge of local officials just a few days before. As it is not possible for removing these structures, he mentioned that an area of 1 acre has been reduced, even though this construction is in 0.37 acres only.

**(c) Adivemula CA Area:**

- Area of the proposed CA land is 120.4766 ha. As per DSS 76 Hecs are under 5/DS1 Dry Deciduous Scrub and as per Google earth images an area of about 66 hecs is plantable area

**(d) Thimmapuram CA Area:**

- Area of the proposed CA area is 44.3023 ha. Patta Lands are inside the proposed area, which have been delineated on the map, but no right of way is provided to the patta holders. UA has to delineate land for right of way and resurvey the area should be done, and the same has to be uploaded on to Parivesh Portal.

**(e) Ramavaram CA Area:**

- Area of the proposed CA land is 63.7908 ha. There is a temporary shed in the proposed area, which should be removed. There is a Patta Land inside the proposed area, which has been delineated.

**(f) Chilkur CA Area:**

- Area of the proposed CA land is 28.0456 ha.
- There is a Patta Land inside the proposed area, which has been delineated, but a right of way has to be given to them or the patta holders must be relocated.
- **At the time of inspection few people mentioned that they are cultivating lands which come to about 4 acres. Issues related to these people also must be addressed.**
- **An electricity line is passing through one corner of this area, area under it must be delineated and right of way also to be given to the department concerned or the lines must be shifted out of the area.**

**(g) Ravipadu CA Area:**

- Area of the proposed CA land is 12.1053 ha. There is a Patta Land inside the proposed area in one corner of the plot and it has been delineated.

**(h) Regonda CA Area:**

- Area of the proposed CA land is 23.2816 ha. An Adit tunnel is going under the proposed CA area.
- Local officials clarified that this audit tunnel has been plugged by the concerned department and they won't need it to be opened in future. Technically speaking, Adit tunnel is an entrance to an underground mine which is horizontal or nearly horizontal, by which the mine can be entered, drained of water, ventilated, and minerals extracted at the lowest convenient level.
- Here, in this case, water is flown through 8 km underground waterway/ tunnel. Adit tunnel, under this proposed CA area, has been constructed, so that, the excavated soil, boulders and other debris can be taken out without taking them way back up to the entrance of the main tunnel.
- Once the main tunnel is constructed Adit tunnels are so tightly closed, otherwise, the gushing waters cause immense damage to surroundings.
- During the inspection, I am briefed that the Adit tunnel has been tightly plugged, and the concerned department does not need the area in future.
- **In larger interest, NOC may be obtained from the concerned department.**

**(i) Ramavaram CA Area:**

- Area of the proposed CA land is 24.9237 ha. A good habitat for the Sloth Bears. As per Google Earth images, an area of about 14.0449 ha is plantable area.

**(j) Ummapur CA Area:**

- Area of the proposed CA land is 41.6121 ha.

- There is a Granite mining area falling just outside the proposed CA land. Officers at the time of inspection appraised that as per the approved mining plan, it has a safety area/zone. This mining area must be fenced all around it, at the cost of miner or the cost of UA.

6. The KML of proposed diversion area and CA area has been examined by the DSS cell of FC Division and following is observed:

**(a) Proposed diversion:**

- Proposed area for diversion of forest land falls under Rangareddy district of Telangana State.
- Calculated area of the forest land proposed for reservoir is found **387.98 ha**. whereas the area given in the proposal for diversion is 409.53 ha. It is also mentioned in the proposal that the horizontal area as per ETS & DGPS survey of the proposed land is 387.13 ha.
- Proposed area for diversion classified as **Not in High Conservation Value (HCV) Zone** based on Decision Rule 1 and Decision Rule 2.
- Out of total forest area for diversion, 62 ha is classified as open forest, 277 ha. area as scrub, 2 ha. as water and 46 ha. as Non-Forest in terms of forest classes (as per the ISFR 2019) based on the interpretation of satellite data period 2017-2018.
- Plantation is visible in the proposed forest land for diversion.

**(b) Proposed CA:**

- CA has been proposed in 15 patches which are located in Karimnagar and Nalgonda district of Telangana State. All CA sites has been proposed over non forest land.
- Some of the proposed CA sites has rocky terrain.
- Out of total area proposed for CA, 13 ha of land is classified as open forest, 257 ha as scrub and 154 ha of land as non-forest in terms of forest classes (as per the ISFR 2019) based on the interpretation of satellite data period 2017-2018. Patchwise details is given below:

S. No.	Village Name	Given Area (in ha.)	Calculated Area (in ha.)	Very Dense Forest	Mod. Dense Forest	Open Forest	Scrub	Non-Forest
1.	Mahammadabad	12.8919	12.8919	0	0	0	0	13
2.	Adivemula	120.4766	120.4770	0	0	0	115	6
3.	Ramavaram	63.7908	63.7908	0	0	0	36	28
4.	Regonda	23.2816	23.2816	0	0	0	16	7
5.	Ummapur	41.6121	6.2897	0	0	0	4	3
6.	Ummapur		35.3224	0	0	0	33	2
7.	Mirzapur	29.9832	11.9462	0	0	7	0	4
8.	Mirzapur		15.8964	0	0	0	12	4
9.	Mirzapur		2.1406	0	0	0	0	2
10.	Ramavaram	24.9237	24.9237	0	0	6	13	6
11.	Thimmapuram	44.3023	44.3023	0	0	0	12	32
12.	kasarlpadu	23.0564	23.0564	0	0	0	0	23
13.	Chilkur	28.0456	28.0456	0	0	0	6	22
14.	Ravipahad	12.1053	1.7991	0	0	0	2	
15.	Ravipahad		10.3062	0	0	0	8	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>424.4695</b>	<b>424.4699</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>154</b>

- As mentioned in the site inspection report submitted by RO (Central), 9 CA site has been proposed in degraded forest land (area: 350 ha) to take up balance saplings plantation. The KML/ Shapefile of these 9 DFL CA sites is not available on PARIVESH website.

7. Observations of the Division:

- i. The shortcomings observed were communicated vide this Ministry's letter dt 10.07.2020 to Govt. of Telangana vide this Ministry's letter dated 10.07.2020. But the response to the ministry's letter has been send by PCCF (HoFF) Govt. Telangana vide their letter Ref. No.6564/20174/FCA-1 dated 15.07.2020.
- ii. As mentioned in the site inspection report submitted by RO (Central), nine CA site has been proposed in degraded forest land (area: 350 ha) to take up balance saplings plantation. The KML/ Shape file of these nine DFL CA sites is not available on PARIVESH website.
- iii. Financial outlay for compensatory Afforestation scheme proposed for degraded forest land is not mentioned.
- iv. Total period for which the area is proposed to be diverted is not mentioned in Parivesh.nic.in.

In view of the above facts related to the proposal, it is proposed that proposal may be submitted to the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC), in its meeting scheduled to be held on **18.08.2020**.

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**Agenda No. 3**

**File No. 8-06/2019-FC**

**Sub: Proposal for diversion of 162.45 ha of forest land in Indaram RF, Mancherial Range of Mancherial Forest Division in Mancherial District for grant of Mining Lease for Srirampur Open Cast-II Expansion Project in Jaipur Mandal, Mancherial District in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Srirampur Area Mancherial District- reg.**

1. The State Government of Telangana, Environment, Forest, Science and Technology (For .I) Department, vide their letter No.460/For.I(1)/2019 dated 13.02.2019 submitted the above mentioned proposal to obtain prior approval of Central Government, in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Details of proposal may be accessed on PARIVESH portal and the online no. of the proposal is **FP/TG/MIN/29918/2017**.
2. Details indicated in the proposal submitted by the Government of Telangana are as below-

**FACT SHEET**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Name of the proposal.</b>	<b>Proposal for diversion of 162.45 ha of forest land in Indaram RF, Mancherial Range of Mancherial Forest Division in Mancherial District for grant of Mining Lease for Srirampur Open Cast-II Expansion Project in Jaipur Mandal, Mancherial District in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Srirampur Area Mancherial District.</b>
<b>2.</b>	Location:-  (i) State (ii) District (iii) Category	Telangana. Mancherial. Mining.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Details of the user agency</b>	
<b>(i)</b>	Name of the user agency	M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Srirampur Area Mancherial District.
<b>(ii)</b>	Nature of the user agency	Central PSU.
<b>(iii)</b>	Total period for which the forest land is proposed to be diverted (in year).	<b>Not given.</b>
<b>4.</b>	Particulars of Forests:- (i) Name of forest Division (ii) Forest Block (iii) Forest area involved (iv) Compartment Nos. (v) Legal Status / Sy. No.	Mancherial Forest Division. - 162.45 ha. - Reserve Forest Notified Under Section-15

	(vi) Maps	(i) Indaram RF vide Notification No.234/235 dated 30.01.1349F. (ii) Indaram Ext.II RF vide G.O.No.174 F&RD (For.II), dated 13.04.1981 (Jaipur) (iii) Ramraopet (CA) area Un Notified.  <b>Submitted.</b>
5.	(i) Vegetation (ii) Density  (iii) Number of trees to be felled.	Eco-Class-3 100.45 ha. Between 0.2 to 0.3 & Balance 62.007 ha. – Moderately dense. 34621 number of trees/poles to be felled. in the area proposed for diversion.
6.	Species-wise local/(Scientific names) and girth-wise enumeration of trees at FRL.	Species wise, diameter class wise enumeration. The abstract tree growth, density class wise is submitted.
7.	Working plan prescription for the forest land proposed for diversion;	Nil.
8.	Brief note on vulnerability of the forest area to erosion.	Due to this project no adverse impact takes place.
9.	Approximate distance of the proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest	Within RF.
10.	Whether forms part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc. (if so, the details of the area the comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden to be annexed)	Area proposed for diversion is a not a part of National park, Wildlife sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc. It is not falling in any Eco Sensitive Zone.
11.	Details of wildlife present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion.	No.
12.	Whether the forest land proposed for diversion is located within eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) of the Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act,1972 (Note: In case, ESZ of a Protected Area is not notified, then 10 kms distance from boundary of the Protected Area should be treated as ESZ.	No.
13.	Whether any national park, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve, tiger reserve, elephant corridor, wildlife migration corridor etc., is located within 1 Km. from boundary of the forest land proposed for diversion.	No.
14.	Whether area is significant from wildlife point of view	-
15.	Whether any rare / endangered unique species of flora and fauna found in the area. If so, details thereof.	No.
16.	Whether any protected archaeological / heritage site / Defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.	No.

17.	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency in col. 2 of Part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project. If no, recommended area item-wise with details of alternatives examined.	Yes.																
18.	Whether any work in violation of the Act has been carried out (Yes/No). If yes, details of the same including period of work done, action taken on erring officials. Whether work in violation is still in progress.	No.																
(i)	Details of violation (s):																	
(ii)	Period of work done (Year):																	
(iii)	Area of forest land involved in violation (in ha.)																	
(iv)	Whether work in violation is still in progress (Yes / No)																	
19.	Compensatory Afforestation	<p>An area measuring 325 ha. identified in double DFL in (2) patches in(7 Compartments) Mancherial Range of RF Indaram i.e.,</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name of the Beat &amp; Section</th> <th>Compt. No.</th> <th>Name of the RF</th> <th>Area identified for CA in Ha.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mancherial Beat of Mancherial Section</td> <td>691,693 &amp; 698</td> <td>Indaram</td> <td>100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Venkatapur Beat of Mandmarri Section</td> <td>687,688,689 &amp; 690</td> <td>Indaram</td> <td>225.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><b>325.00</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Suitability Certificate has not been submitted by the concerned authority.</b></p> <p>CA scheme has been submitted.</p>	Name of the Beat & Section	Compt. No.	Name of the RF	Area identified for CA in Ha.	Mancherial Beat of Mancherial Section	691,693 & 698	Indaram	100.00	Venkatapur Beat of Mandmarri Section	687,688,689 & 690	Indaram	225.00	<b>Total</b>			<b>325.00</b>
Name of the Beat & Section	Compt. No.	Name of the RF	Area identified for CA in Ha.															
Mancherial Beat of Mancherial Section	691,693 & 698	Indaram	100.00															
Venkatapur Beat of Mandmarri Section	687,688,689 & 690	Indaram	225.00															
<b>Total</b>			<b>325.00</b>															
20.	Total financial Out lay for CA (in lakhs)	Rs.1811.12973/-																
21.	CAT Plan	Not applicable.																
22.	Rehabilitation of Oustees	No.																
23.	Employment Potential Permanent / Temporary.	437 permanent 750 Temporary																
24.	Whether clearance under the Environment (protection) Act, 1986 is required?	Yes, EC application yet to be submitted.																

25.	Status of Wildlife Clearance	No
26.	Cost Benefit analysis.	Rs.1:89.33 Ratio
27.	Total Cost of the Project (Rupees in lakhs)	Rs.27273 lakhs
28.	Site Inspection Report of the Divisional Forest Officer in compliance to the conditions stipulated in the col. 7 (xi, xii) 8 and 9 previous approval.	Site Inspection Report as carried by Divisional Forest Officer, Mancherial is enclosed with the proposal.
29.	Recommendations:	-
	(i) DFO	Recommended.  The proposal is recommended with the following conditions, keeping in view of the overall development of the local people in the Telangana State: <b>1.</b> The SCCL is havening (2) ongoing open cast mining projects, namely SRP-1 and RKP OC, besides 4 underground mines. These 2 mines will produce 829.31 Million tons of over burden dump. The SCCL is also having plan to open new mines namely Indaram OC which will produce about 382.000 Million tons of over burden in its life time. If over burden restoration is not simultaneous and as per scientific standards there is possibilities for damage to flora and fauna in adjoining fields besides moving if soil into adjacent water bodies due to soil erosion from these over burdens. It is essential that magnitude of such restoration shall be understood first then only monitoring of such works can be done by forest officials. Hence, it is essential to expose a team of forest officers at least 10 Officers to World's best practices being followed to restore over burden s etc., in coal mining like places in Hunter valley Australia / New Zealand the cost of which shall be borne by the User Agency. <b>2.</b> The area equivalent to the diverted area to be developed in adjoining degraded forest land as a part of Forest Rejuvenation, as is being done elsewhere in Telangana state, in between Mancherial to Jaipur, by the User Agency in consultation with forest department.
	(ii) CCF	Recommended
	(iii) PCCF / Nodal Officer	Recommended
	(iv) State Government	Recommended
30.	Compliance of Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.	The District Collector, Mancherial, Government of Telangana vide his letter No.D4/1232/2017 dated 10.08.2018 has issued a FRA certificate for diversion of 162.45 ha of forest land in Indaram RF, Mancherial Range of Mancherial Forest Division in Mancherial District for grant of Mining Lease for Srirampur Open Cast-II Expansion Project in Jaipur Mandal, Mancherial District in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Srirampur Area Mancherial District.  Documentary evidences in support of settlements of rights under the Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, has been submitted.
31.	Division/District Profile, Adilabad,	
	(i) Total Geographical area (in Ha.)	123599.8 ha.

	(i) Total forest area (in Ha.)	55005.6 ha.
	(iii) Total forest area diverted since 1980	4421.971 28 cases
	(i) Total area proposed for afforested since 1980 (a) forest land including penal Compensatory Afforestation (b) non-forest land.	1089.141 ha. Nil
	(v) Total area afforested since 1980 30.09.2018 (a) Forest land (b) Non-forest land	17.772 ha. 224.830
<b>32.</b>	Date of issue of the letter of Intent (LOI) for grant of mining lease.	State Mines and Geology Department Letter No.13016/1/2017-PCA dated 21.08.2017.
(a)	Total area of the mining lease	212.66 ha
(b)	Area of forest land located in the mining lease (in ha.)	162.45 ha.
<b>33.</b>	Details of mining lease	
(i)	Date of approval of mining plan	21 <sup>st</sup> August, 2017
(iii)	Date of execution of mining lease	Not provided.
(iv)	Mine Plan	16 <sup>th</sup> April, 2014 <b>Not provided.</b>
(v)	Progressive Mine Closure Plan	<b>Not provided.</b>
(vi)	Date of earlier approval obtained under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.	<b>Not provided.</b>

1. Purpose wise breakup of the total land required is given below:

S. No.	Description	Forest land (in Ha.)	Non-forest (in Ha.)	Total (Ha.)
1.	Quarry Area	139.45	36.54	175.96
2.	Safe Barrier & Drain along the Quarry	23.00	13.70	36.70
3.	Total land	162.45	50.21	212.66

2. The user agency has submitted undertakings to bear the cost of CA and NPV.

**3. The Suitability Certificate of suitable for plantation has not been given by the Concerned Authority.**

4. The forest land proposed to be diverted has been inspected by Shri L. Chandrasekar, DIG (Central), Regional office (SEZ), Chennai. Additional information furnished in the inspection report submitted by the Regional Office (SEZ), Chennai vide their letter No.4-TSA151/2019-CHN/0999 dated 20.06.2019 are as below:

The site inspection report of above subject proposal submitted by Shri. Chandrasekhar, DIGF (C), RO (SEZ), Chennai. This project is an expansion project of an existing Srirampur Open Cast-II in Jaipur Mandal, Srirampur area in Mancherial District of Telangana. As observed by the DIGF(C), the project is recommended subject to following conditions:

i) M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), is a Government company jointly owned by Government of Telangana and Government of India and is largely seen as a responsible company towards compliance to various laws of Forestry and environment. Though, the compliance towards conditions imposed in forestry diversions is more or less satisfactory but off late it is seen that the company is

violating the provisions of environment clearances. The violation pertains to increase in production more than the stipulated in environment clearance granted to various projects. The matter was brought to their notice and as well as Ministry from time to time. In fact, during the appraisal of one project of diversion of 285.44 ha of forest land in Lankapalli RF of Khamman Division the Ministry has sought for overall compliance of the SCCL and nominated a committee comprising of ADGF(C), RO (SEZ), Chennai and Shri. Sandeep Sharma, AIG of the Ministry and the report was also submitted to the Ministry at that time.

- ii) As the Hon'ble Supreme Court has viewed the violations very seriously in WP (Civil) No. 114/2014 in the matter of Common Cause Versus Union Indian and others it is seen that the project authorities in its 4 existing projects appears to have submitted one undertaking saying that they will not repeat any such violations in future.

But nevertheless, it is advisable to obtain the views of the State Government of Telangana in the matter along with the commitment from there management for not repeating such violations in future before processing this proposal further.

5. The same was forwarded to the State Government of Telangana for their comments vide this Ministry's letter dated 04.07.2019.
6. Now, the State Government of Telangana, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology (For.I) Department, Hyderabad vide their letter No. No.460/For.I (1)/2019 dated 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 forwarded additional information in respect of this Ministry's letter dated 04.07.2019. Further it is reported by the PCCF & HoFF Government of Telangana vide letter dated 23.08.2019 has forwarded a para-wise comments on the remarks of DDG (C) RO, Chennai which are as follows:

- (i) The M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), is a Government company jointly owned by Government of Telangana and Government of India and is largely seen as a responsible company towards compliance to various laws of Forestry and Environment. Though, the compliance towards conditions imposed in forestry diversions is more or less satisfactory but off late it is seen that company is violating the provisions of environment clearances. The violation pertains to increase in production more than the stipulated in environment clearance granted to various projects. The matter was brought to their notice and as well as Ministry from time. In fact, during the appraisal of none project of diversion of 285.44 ha of forest land in Lankapalli RF of Khammam Division of Ministry has sought over for all compliance of the SCCL and nominated a committee comprising of ADGF (C), RO (SEZ), Chennai and Shri. Sandeep Sharma, AIG of the Ministry and the report was also submitted to the Ministry at that time.

**Reply:** M/s, Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) has stated that it is presently operating 30 underground mines and 18 opencast mines in Telangana State and the annual production for the year 2019-20 ha been set at 70 MT. The coal produced from SCCL mines is being supplied to mainly Thermal Power plants like NTPC, APGENCO, MAHAGENCO, KPCL etc., in order to meet the power requirement of southern states and thereby reducing burden on forex reserves due to import of coal.

The M/s. SCCL further stated that it is having plans of enhancing annual coal production by opening new mines/ expansion of existing mines to meet the demand for coal and is in the process of obtaining Environmental Clearance for such mines, Earlier the SCCL has exceeded the coal production capacity in (18) mines, however all control measures were taken to ensure pollution loads are not exceeded and as such treated these proposals as violation cases. The SCCL has submitted affidavits for 18 violation mines on 04.03.2019 and 07.03.2019 as required as MoEF & CC issued notification vide. S.O.No. 804 (E), dated 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2018. The EAC (Violation)of MoEF&CC, Govt. of India considered these proposals and recommended for issue of ToR to all these proposals. Accordingly, till now ToRs have been issued for the following projects (copies enclosed). The ToRs of remaining projects are under progress.

S. No.	Name of the Project	MoEF&CC Lr. No. and date of issue of ToR
1.	GDK-1&3, GDK-2&2A and GDK-5 Inclines.	F.No. 23-78/2018-IA(III), dt. 26.06.2018.

2.	Godavarikhani-7 Life Extension UG Coal Mine	F.No. 23-72/2018-IA(III), dt. 13.05.2018.
3.	IK-IA Incline UG Coal Mine	F.No. 23-79/2018-IA(III), dt. 04.04.2019.
4.	RK-8 Incline UG Coal Mine	F.No. 23-70/2018-IA(III), dt. 13.05.2019.
5.	VK-7 Incline UG Coal Mine	F.No. 23-773/2018-IA(III), dt. 19.06.2018.
6.	Jalagam Vengala Rao Opencast-II Expansion Project.	F.No. 23-77/2018-IA(III), dt. 08.08.2019.

M/s. SCCL further stated that existing Srirampur Opencast-II project located in Srirampur village of Mancherial Mandal and District of Telangana state is not in the above list of 18 mines. The Environmental Clearance for this project was granted by MOEF&CC for a rated capacity of 2.5 Mtpa vide letter No. J-11015/212/2007-IA. II(M), dated 11/7/2008 (copy enclosed). The coal extracted from this project is supplied to Thermal power plants. In view of large demand of coal for power generation in Telangana State, SCCL proposed for expansion of the project by annexing the dip side property to the existing SRP OCP-II, thereby increasing the rated capacity from 2.5 Mtpa to 3.5 Mtpa in 1604.11 ha. Accordingly, SCCL obtained Terms of Reference (ToR) for expansion of the project from 2.5 MTPA to 3.50 vide MOEF&CC reference No. j-11015/212/2007-IA. II(M), dated 02.02.2018 (copy enclosed). Under the name of SRP OC-II Expansion Project and MoEF&CC will be requested for issue of revised EC (3.5 MTPA). For this expansion, diversion of 162.45 ha of forestland in Indaram RF is required. The Environment conditions stipulated in EC conditions of SRP OC-II are being complied without any violation.

- (ii) As the Hon'ble Supreme Court has viewed the violations very seriously in WP (Civil) No. 114/2014 in the matter of Common Cause Versus Union of India and others, it is seen that the project authorities in its 4 existing projects appears to have submitted one undertakings saying that they will not repeat any such violations in future.

S. No.	Observations raised by the MoEF&CC, New Delhi vide letter dt.20.02.2020	Reply submitted by the PCCF (HoFF) Telangana vide letter dt. 05.08.2020.
	The Suitability Certificate of suitable for plantation has not been given by the Concerned Authority.	<p>In this regard it is informed that the CF&amp; FDPT, Kawal TR, Nirmal has reported (copy enclosed) that the FDO, Mancherial has submitted a Site Suitability certificate along with the revised CA scheme for the identified degraded forest land for CA over 324.90 ha of double degraded RF in lieu of the forest land proposed for diversion. It is submitted that there is no change in CA DFL areas already furnished with the proposal.</p> <p>Further, the FDO, Mancherial reported that comp. No. 691, 693, 698 of Indaram of Mancherial beat are having canopy density of 0.2 to 0.4 ha and the compt. No. 687,688,689,690 and 805 of Indaram RF and Indaram ext. RF of Venkatapur beat are having canopy density of 0.2 to 0.4 ha. Further reported that all the areas except Compt. No. 687 &amp; 690 of Venkatapur beat are in Degraded Forest Improvement Circle and Compt. No. 687 &amp; 690 are included in "Conservation Working Circle" of Working Plan.</p> <p>Further reported that out of the proposed area of 324.90 ha of degraded forest land, an area of 170 ha is suitable for</p>

		<p>raising plantation under Semi Mechanical Method and total no. of plants proposed to be planted are 188870 nos. The balance area of 154.90 ha is suitable for treatment under Assisted Natural regeneration (ANR) and planting 30980 No's of plants in large gaps (average 200 plants per ha.) SMC works are proposed to be taken up in the entire area.</p> <p>The revised CA scheme is prepared for an financial outlay of Rs 1789.765 lakhs with 10 years of maintenance for consideration. Site Suitability Certificate submitted.</p>																																
	The State Government has not submitted a copy of approved Mining and Progressive Mine Closure Plan.	It was informed that User Agency has submitted a copy of Mine Plan (III revision) and Mine Closure Plan of SRP OC-II project (SRP OC II Expansion Project) Srirampur, approved by Ministry of Coal, GoI vide letter no. 13016/1/2017/-PCA, dt 21.08.2017 and the same is enclosed.																																
	The user agency has not been provided a lease period in the part-I.	<p>It was informed that user Agency has submitted that the proposed area of diversion is falling in 3 mining lease which are as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">S. No.</th> <th rowspan="2">Name of the Mining Lease</th> <th rowspan="2">Area in (ha)</th> <th rowspan="2">G.O. No &amp; Date</th> <th colspan="2">Validity Period</th> </tr> <tr> <th>From</th> <th>To</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>North Godavari Mining Lease</td> <td>45.22</td> <td>01, Dt. 12.01.2015</td> <td>22.05.2010</td> <td>21.05. 2030</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>Sri Rampur Mining Lease</td> <td>11.13</td> <td>42, Dt. 11.02.2008</td> <td>28.06.2008</td> <td>27.06.2038</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td>Indaram Mining Lease</td> <td>106.10</td> <td>15, Dt. 23.01.2006</td> <td>24.07.2000</td> <td>23.07.2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>162.45</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Further, reported that regarding Indaram Mining lease, M/s SCCL has applied for renewal of Indaram Mining lease on 06.04.2019 through online and submitted to Asst. Director of Mines &amp; Geology, Mancherial on 08.04.2019 and it is under consideration with the Director (Mines &amp; Geology Dept.,). As per the rule 24A of Mineral Concession Rules-1960(MCR-1960), the lease period will be considered as deemed to be extended till approved by the State Govt. The copies of GO's issued by the State Govt. for mining lease mentioned in the table, the copy of the application of SCCL to the Asst. Director of Mines &amp; Geology, Mancherial and copy of MCR-1960 are enclosed as furnished by M/s SCCL.</p>	S. No.	Name of the Mining Lease	Area in (ha)	G.O. No & Date	Validity Period		From	To	1.	North Godavari Mining Lease	45.22	01, Dt. 12.01.2015	22.05.2010	21.05. 2030	2.	Sri Rampur Mining Lease	11.13	42, Dt. 11.02.2008	28.06.2008	27.06.2038	3.	Indaram Mining Lease	106.10	15, Dt. 23.01.2006	24.07.2000	23.07.2020		<b>Total</b>	<b>162.45</b>			
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**Reply:** The M/s. SCCL has stated that it has submitted affidavits for all 18 violation mines to MoEF&CC with an undertaking as all the statutory requirements and final judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017 in W.P. No. 114/2014 in the matter of 'Common Cause vs Union of India & Others' shall be complied and with a further commitment of such violation will not be repeated in future on 04.03.2019 and 07.03.2019. As there is no violation neither under E(P)Act, 1986 nor under F(C) Act, 1980 for SRP OC-II expansion project.

7. After examination of the proposal the Ministry has observed the following shortcomings as listed below and the ministry vide its letter dt 20.02.2020.
  - i. The Suitability Certificate of suitable for plantation has not been given by the Concerned Authority.
  - ii. The State Government has not submitted a copy of approved Mining and Progressive Mine Closure Plan.
  - iii. The user agency has not been provide a lease period in the part-I.
8. The PCCF (HoFF), vide letter no. 9917/2017/FCA-1/PS dt 05.08.2020 has furnished the reply for the above queries and the same is given in the below table:-
9. Observations:
  - i. The lease period submitted by the State Government for the area proposed to be diverted is in three parts i.e. North Godavari Mining (45.22 ha), Sri Rampur Mining Lease (11.13 ha) and Indaram Mining (106.10 ha). Out of these three Indaram Mining Lease of area 106.10 ha mining lease has been expired on 23.07.2020. It was informed that they have applied for renewal of lease.

In view of the above facts related to the proposal, it is proposed that proposal may be submitted to the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC), in its meeting scheduled to be held on **18.08.2020.**

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## **Policy Issue**

### **Agenda No. 4**

**F. No. 5-3/2007-FC**

**Sub: Guidelines related to prospecting/explorations in forest area; modification of guidelines given under para 6.8(v) of the Chapter -6 of Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - regarding.**

1. **The relevant guidelines pertaining to prospecting in forest areas, as given under para 6.8 (v) are given as under:**

For prospecting of minerals (including hydrocarbons) which requires drilling of more than 25 boreholes of maximum 4" dia per 10sq. km and/ or felling of trees, the following guidelines will be followed:

- a. For seismic survey prior permission of Central Government under the Act would be required. NPV @ 1% will be charged of total lease area proposed for prospecting.
- b. The user agency shall apply for diversion of forest area for prospecting and the proposal will be processed as per the procedure laid down in Rule 5 and 6 of Forest (Conservation) Amendment, Rules 2016.
- c. In case of proposal in forest area with vegetation density between 0.1 and 0.4 NPV @ 2% will be charged for the total lease area proposed for prospecting.
- d. In case of survey for coal, lignite, ferrous and non-ferrous minerals using core drilling technology in forest land having vegetation density between 0.4 and 0.7, the State Government shall forward the on-line application to the Regional Office of the Ministry for approval. The REC may consider the proposal and may grant approval on merit to the concerned State/UT, with mandatory conditions inter alia that user agency will pay NPV @ 5.0 percent of the total prospecting lease area in which exploration/prospecting /survey is proposed.
- e. Both in-principle and final approval may be granted by the Regional Office in one go. The amount of NPV and/or payments towards planting of trees, shall be deposited online in the stipulated account, as per the

instructions issued by Ministry of EF&CC from time to time. State government shall ensure that the NPV and other levies, if any, have been deposited prior to commencement of actual work.

- f. Any amount of NPV deposited in the stipulated Government account is non-refundable. However, the NPV deposited for prospecting in the area, will be adjusted against the estimated NPV to be levied, in case the approval is obtained for diversion of the same forest land for mineral extraction, under section 2 of FCA 1980.
  - g. Permission for carrying out survey/investigation/prospecting/ exploration or any payment of NPV deposited for such operations will not confer any right with user agency to get forest clearance of that particular land under section 2(ii) of FCA 1980. All decisions will be taken as per procedure prescribed in Forest Conservation Rules 2003 (as amended up to date) and on merit.
  - h. User agency shall submit complete plan of operation for prospecting in the entire forest area in the mining block prior to start of work to the Nodal officer of the State.
    - i. User agency shall prepare a plan to plant 20 tall trees per bore-hole area. The cost of preparation of plan and plantation shall be borne by the user agency. State government shall ensure that the plants are planted on abandoned bore-hole area or degraded forest land, as per prescription of working plan.
2. Subsequently, on the request of Ministry of Mines and also from the Directorate General of Hydrocarbon, the Ministry on 30.09.2019 issued specific guidelines, specific to Hydrocarbon sector, as given under:
- (i) For the purpose of Seismic survey, the maximum permissible number of shot holes may be fixed as 80 per sq km of maximum size of 6.5 inch each so that reliable data can be collected. The permission for such temporary activity can be granted at state level.
  - (ii) Vehicle/tractor mounted drilling rig equipment can be allowed only for drilling of shot holes in the grids which falls in open area and which are adjoining to existing forest paths after due permission of local forest officer. In other areas manual drilling through Dekhi/ tripod structure with jet flesh unit or portable mechanical (rig) drilling machine may be allowed. The vehicle carrying the compressor and observation trucks shall be parked in open areas.
  - (iii) No tree felling and construction of new roads will be allowed. However, user agency can use the existing forest road /paths with permission of local forest officer.
  - (iv) User agency shall plant at least two tall plants near the shot hole site before leaving the site. In case if it is not possible to do the same then user agency shall deposit cost of two tall plants along with 10 years maintenance cost per shot hole with concern DFO. State Government shall ensure that the money charged shall be used to supplement plantation in degraded forest area as per working plan prescriptions.
  - (v) Prima facie the activity does not cause any permanent damage. User agency shall take all precaution that the contractor and labour engaged by them do not cause any damage to flora and fauna of the area. Any incidence of damage by the staff/ labour /contractors of user agency shall be treated as negligence on part of user agency and shall be dealt as per law.
  - (vi) Permission granted for conducting seismic survey over forest land shall in no manner be construed as surety for getting actual diversion of forest land under section(ii)of FCA 1980.The case under section 2(ii) of FCA will be considered independently on merits and case to case basis.
  - (vii) The process of exploration drilling for hydrocarbon in 130 m x130 m area causes total damage to vegetation (both floral and faunal elements) in the area and cannot be considered as temporary vegetation change. It is a case of proper diversion for the purpose of FCA 1980 and must be considered for processing with application in form A of FCA rules and not under Form C. This will enable the user agency to use the area fully and can change the land use within the diverted area if the change in land use plan is approved by any Government agency.
  - (viii) The approach road to the exploratory site shall be part of the total proposal.
  - (ix) State Government shall not insist on approval under section 2(iii) of FCA 1980 at the time of PEL (Petroleum exploration license). However, the user agencies shall to take all statutory permission before executing of lease/breaking of forest land.
3. Recently, representations have been received from the Ministry of mine to further relax the provisions of the FC Act for undertaking prospecting/exploration in forest area for metallic & non-metallic minerals and hydrocarbons.

4. To address the concerns of Ministry of mines, a meeting was held between Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and Secretary, Ministry of Mines on 21.07.2020 in the MoEF&CC to discuss the issues related to prospecting and exploration of minerals in forest areas vis-à-vis provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Officials of Ministry of Mines and Forest Conservation Division, MoEF&CC also attended the meeting. Following was discussed during the meeting:
- (i) Secretary, Ministry of Mines briefed the issues related to prospecting and exploration in the forest areas and desired interventions from the MoEF&CC.
  - (ii) Officials of the Ministry of Mines requested that prospecting and exploration in forest area may be exempted from the purview of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. It was further informed that all cases of explorations are not converted into mining, only 1 in 100 is converted to mining. It was therefore, submitted that payment of NPV is one of the major hurdle delaying the exploration/prospecting of coal blocks and also it is not feasible charge NPV from the unsuccessful blocks as it is exorbitantly higher the actual cost of NPV.
  - (iii) Secretary, EF&CC has advocated that NPV is being charged by the MoEF&CC in compliance to Supreme Court order dated 30.10.2002 and it will not be appropriate for the Ministry to exempt NPV under the current situation.
  - (iv) Officials of the M/o Mines have also raised the issues related to procedural formalities and after deliberations on these issues, it was desired that being procedural in nature, they may be resolved at IG(FC) level by eliminating the difficulties and streamlining the procedure, to the extent possible.
5. Following decisions were taken after detailed deliberations:
- (i) Instead of charging NPV for 2% of 5% of the total forest area, NPV of actual impact area of actual number of boreholes proposed for prospecting should be charged.
  - (ii) A committee headed by IG (FC) comprising of official of Ministry of Mines and Forest Conservation Division of MoEF&CC may look into the procedural issues for these resolutions.
6. In pursuance to the decision taken in the meeting dated 21.07.2020, a meeting was held on 22.0.2020 between the officials of the M/o Mines and IGF(FC) wherein officials of the M/o Mines desired the following:
- (i) to incorporate exploration, as a category akin to prospecting in the online application and accordingly, Form – C may be modified.
  - (ii) to introduce more flexibility in prescribing scales of map to be submitted for prospecting/exploration rather than insisting for single scale of 1:50,000.
7. In light of above, it is to mention that necessary modification in Form - C have been proposed and the same has been incorporated into the Draft FC Rules, 2020. Draft FC Rules have been submitted for the approval of the competent authority.
8. Above developments in the matter were further deliberated in the FC Division and it was concluded that guidelines for prospecting were issued based on the recommendation of the FAC, it will therefore be appropriate to place the matter, along with above development, before the FAC for its considerations and appropriate recommendations.

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