

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: January, 2023

To

The Addl. Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries (Forests),
All States/ Union Territory Administrations.

S u b : Request for extending the guidelines for allowing commencement of mining operations in non-forest land before obtaining Stage-II FC for non-coal mining leases involving both forest and non-forest land similar to coal mines -reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to above mentioned subject and to inform that the issue related to extending the provisions provided for coal mines vide guidelines dated 10.12.2021 to non-coal mining leases was considered by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 27.12.2022. The detailed minutes of the said meeting is placed on the website of this Ministry; www.parivesh.nic.in. The FAC, after detailed deliberations in the matter observed that in respect of mining leases involving forest as well as non-forest land, working on non-forest land without ensuring the separate mining plan or lease for such non-forest of the lease may create *fait accompli* situations, which is not desirable in terms of directions contained in the Hon'ble Supreme Court orders.

2. Based on the recommendations made by the FAC and approval of the same by the competent authority of the Ministry, it is hereby clarified that after obtaining the Stage-I approval, deposition of compensatory levies and environment clearance, the State/UT Government or authorities concerned should prepare a separate Mining Plan or execute a separate mining lease for full or part of non-forest land involved in the mining lease before allowing mining operations in the non-forest land of such mining leases.

3. This issue with the approval of competent authority of the Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, All States/ Union Territories Administration.

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2. The Regional Officer, All Integrated Regional Office of MoEF&CC
3. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, All States/ Union Territories Administration.
4. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
5. Guard file