

File No. **FC-11/165/2024-FC**
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

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

To

The Addl. Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries (Forests),
All State Governments/ Union territory Administrations.

Sub: Extension of validity period of FC approvals, for which land has been acquired under Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957 (CBA (A&D), 1957)- regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Chhattisgarh's letter No. 5-21/2024/10-2 dated 10.03.2025 on the above subject and to inform that the matter related to validity extension of approval granted under the Adhiniyam to coal mining projects by the State Governments was considered by the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 12.06.2025. Minutes of the meeting of the AC may kindly be accessed at <https://parivesh.nic.in/>. The Committee considered and deliberated the provisions of relevant guidelines in light of opinions received in the matter from the Ministry of Coal and Ministry and Mines of Government of India.

Based on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee and approval of the same by the Competent Authority of MoEF&CC, New Delhi the Central Government hereby amends the guidelines related to validity of approvals granted to coal mining leases, as given under para 7.7 (ii) and para 7.7 (iii) of the Consolidated Guidelines and Clarifications issued under the Adhiniyam as under:

“ 7.7 Coal mining

(ii) The validity of clearance granted under the Adhiniyam shall be coterminous with the validity of lease granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 or co-terminus with the validity of coal mine granted under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957, as the case may be.

(iii) In case of existing coal mining leases, period of validity of approvals accorded under clause (ii) of subsection (1) of section-2 of the Adhiniyam, 1980 shall be extended and shall be deemed to have been extended up to a period co-terminus with the period of mining lease granted under the Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 or co-terminus with the validity of coal mine granted under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957, as the case may be subject to following conditions:

(a) Realization of NPV by the State Government, if not already

realized, within the period specified by the MoEF&CC.

(b) In case NPV has not been already realized and the State Government fails to realize NPV as mentioned in (a) above, approval accorded under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam shall be kept in abeyance till such time NPV is realized.

(c) These provisions, notwithstanding anything contained therein, shall not apply to forest land falling in a mining lease for which renewal has been rejected, or which has been determined or lapsed.

This issue with the approval of Competent Authority of the Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'E'

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, All State Governments/UT Administrations.
2. The Dy. Director General Forest (Central), All Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
3. Nodal Officer (Van Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan), Forest Department, O/o PCCF, All State/UT Governments.
4. Director, NIC, MoEF&CC, with a request to upload the guidelines on PARIVESH
5. Guard File