The Secretary (Forests),
Government of Madhya Pradesh,
Bhopal.

Sub: Renewal of mining lease over 1767.100 hectare of forest land in favour of M/s NMDC Ltd., Bailadilla Iron Ore project in Distt. Bastar.

I am directed to refer to your letters No. F-5/34/97/10/3 dt. 29.4.1997 and even No. F-5/33/97/10/5 dt. 15.5.1999 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section 3 of the aforesaid Act.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of recommendation of the above mentioned Advisory Committee, the Central Government hereby conveys its approval under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for renewal of mining lease over 874.924 hectare of forest land (180.320 hectare already broken up for mining lease and fresh area to be broken up) of 662.287 hectare blank area to be afforested in favour of M/s NMDC Ltd., Bailadilla Iron Ore project in Distt. Bastar subject to following conditions:

Legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.
Compensatory afforestation will be carried out over degraded forest land twice the area due to 694.604 hectare i.e. 1389.208 hectares a project cost - Rs
Entire land covered by mining lease should be kept free from encroachments and encroachments should be removed immediately.

Afforestation will be carried out over 662.287 hectare of blank area at the project cost. Detailed afforestation scheme of native tree species in this regard will be prepared after consultation with the State Forest Department and submitted to this Ministry within the period of three months positively. A committee consisting of CF(Central), Regional Office, Bhopal being the nodal office of the State Government and CF(Territorial shall monitor progress of afforestation). The entire area of 662.287 hectare will be fenced at the cost of agency and maintained as green area.
Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area will be done at the project cost.

Besides this, afforestation over one and half times of safety zone area in degraded forest elsewhere will be done at the project cost.

Depreciation of mining lease area will be done on the ground at project cost using four feet high reinforced concrete pillars with serial numbers, forward & back bearings and distance from pillar to pillar.

The user agency will make arrangement for free supply of fuelwood preferably alternate energy source to labourers and staff working on the project site so as to avoid any pressure on the adjacent forest areas.

Recalculation of lease areas will be done as per plan in consultation with the State Forest Department at the cost of user agency.

The period of permission for lease under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will be for 2 years co-terminus with lease under MMKD Act, 1957 w.e.f. the date of expiry of previous lease.

The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to the clearance under the Environmental Protection Act, 1986, if applicable.

Any other condition that the State Govt. or the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bangalore may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation and protection of forests.

No. 426 in the matter of VP(C) No. 202/95, as per this order, modalities in respect of various types of afforestation, fencing & protection of safety zone, reclamation plan, etc. are being worked by this Ministry. Therefore, an amount of Rs. 10,80,31,887/- realised from the user may account of above works in the instant proposal should be kept intact in the Reserves and shall not be utilised till further order.

Yours faithfully,

(R.K. GUPTA)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
2. No. 426 in the matter of VP(C) No. 202/95.
3. The Regional Office, Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
4. The Forest Officer, Regional Office, Bhopal.
5. The Project Manager, M/s HMDC Ltd., Balladila Iron Ore Project, Kirandul-494 556.

(R.K. GUPTA)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests