

Forest Land- Gadchiroli

Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of 937.077 ha forest land for Scientific exploration and excavation and systematic recovery of low grade iron ore (i.e. Hematite quartzite) from adjacent existing mines in Village Hedri, Bande & Parsalgondi, Round-Parsalgondi, Range-Etapalli of District Gadchiroli in the State of Maharashtra in favour of M/s Lloyds Metals And Energy Limited.

**Government of Maharashtra
Revenue and Forest Department
Government Order No.FLD-36A24/C.R.100/F-10
Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032.
Date:- 04.05.2026.**

Reference:

- 1) Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, letter No.Desk-17/FCA-S1/PID-454750/Gadchiroli/3567, Dt.28.03.2024.
- 2) Government of Maharashtra letter No.FLD-36A24/C.R.100/F-10, dt.11.06.2024.
- 3) Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, (FC Division), letter No. FP/MH/IND/454750/2023, dt. 12.05.2025.
- 4) Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Letter No. Desk-17/FCA-S2/PID-454750/Gadchiroli/2620, Dt.05.02.2026.
- 5) Government of Maharashtra letter No.FLD-36A24/C.R.100/F-10, dt.16.02.2026.
- 6) Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India (FC Division) letter No. FP/MH/IND/454750/2023, dt. 15.04.2026.
- 7) Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Letter No. Desk-17/Nodal/Gadchiroli Circle/PID-454750/178, Dt.23.04.2026.

Order:-

Whereas, the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Nagpur vide letter under reference No.1 has submitted a proposal to the State Government for diversion of 937.077 ha. forest land under Section-2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for scientific exploration & excavation and systematic recovery of low grade iron ore (i.e. Hematite quartzite) from adjacent existing mines in Village - Hedri, Bande & Parsalgondi, Round-Parsalgondi, Range-Etapalli of District Gadchiroli in the State of Maharashtra;

AND whereas, the State Government vide under letter reference No.2 has sent the proposal for approval of Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India (FC Division);

AND whereas, the Government of India after due consideration, vide letter under reference No.3, accorded 'In-principle' approval to divert the 937.077 ha. Forest Land for the above project under section 2 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The said approval is subject to fulfillment of certain conditions by the User Agency;

AND whereas, the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur vide letter under reference No.4 has submitted compliance of those conditions to the State of Maharashtra;

AND whereas, the State Government vide letters under reference No.5 has submitted compliance of those conditions to the Government of India;

AND whereas, the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India (FC Division), vide under reference no. 6 accorded 'Final approval' to divert the of 937.077 ha of Forest land in favour of M/s Lloyds Metals And Energy Limited, Gadchiroli for Scientific exploration and excavation and systematic recovery of low grade iron ore (i.e. Hematite quartzite) from adjacent existing mines in Village Hedri, Bande & Parsalgondi, Round-Parsalgondi, Range-Etapalli of District Gadchiroli in the State of Maharashtra under section 2 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980;

AND whereas, the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur vide letter under reference No.7 has requested State Government to issue diversion order in the matter;

NOW, therefore, Government of Maharashtra hereby directs that the area of 937.077 ha consisting of Reserved Forest and Protected Forest, Land more specifically described in the proposal submitted vide letter under reference No. 1 and as per details given in the Schedule given below, be diverted to the User Agency, i.e. M/s Lloyds Metals And Energy Limited, Gadchiroli for Scientific exploration and excavation and systematic recovery of low grade iron ore (i.e. Hematite quartzite) from adjacent existing mines in Village Hedri, Bande & Parsalgondi, Round-Parsalgondi, Range-Etapalli of District Gadchiroli in the State of Maharashtra.

The diversion shall be effected subject to the terms and conditions mentioned in the letters dated 12.05.2025 and dated 15.04.2026 of MoEF&CC, Government of India (FC Division). This approval for diversion of forest land is also subject to compliance of following conditions by the User Agency-

1. The Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Gadchiroli, in consultation with PCCF (Wildlife), will ensure that wildlife clearance is not required for the project, before actual handing over of forest land to the User Agency.
2. The User Agency shall comply with all the conditions stipulated in the ‘in-principle’ and ‘final approval’ letters of MoEF&CC, Government of India (FC Division), referred above. The Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Gadchiroli shall ensure the strict compliance of the conditions by the User Agency and shall furnish the report in this regard to Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur from time to time.
3. For ensuring the compliances and for monitoring the duly prescribed activities and also to carry out other statutory duties, user agency shall facilitate unhindered access/entry in the area to the local forest Officer. In case the user agency prohibits the free access or create hindrances, the permission given under this Order for the diversion of forest area for the non-forest use shall be withdrawn.
4. Non-compliance of any of the conditions mentioned in MoEF&CC, Government of India (FC Division) letters dated 12.05.2025 and dated 15.04.2026, in this order and Rules & Guidelines made / issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980, shall amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 and action would be taken accordingly.
5. In case of non-compliance of any of the above conditions, the Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Gadchiroli shall report through the State Government to Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India (FC Division) as per procedure laid down in guidelines under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980.

SCHEDULE

Sl. No.	Particulars	Name of Village	Sur./ Gut No.	Compt. No.	Area in ha.	Legal Status
1	BHQ Beneficiation Plant of Capacity 45 MTPA & Allied Activities	Hedri	56(P)	SE 274	68.872	RF/PF
				SE301	44.654	
2	Support Infrastructure & Utility Like Workshop, Laboratory, Admin Building, Electrical Sub Station, etc		56(P)	SE274	56.009	
				SE275	7.73	
				SE301	8.322	
				SE300	2.379	
			SE298	4.143		
3	Raw Material Storage & Handing Facilities		56 (p)	SE274	30.000	
4	Electrical Switch Yard		17/1,17/2, 17/3	SE274	3.930	
				SE275	0.620	

5	Water Storage, Product & Waste Handling System		56 (p)	SE274	35.343
6	Raw Material Testing Yard with Environmental Lab.		56 (p)	SE274	11.542
7	Tailing Storage Yard with Environmental Safeguard Measures	Hedri	101(p)	SE274	21.332
				SE275	85.582
		Bande	10 & 12	SE196	4.154
				SE197	67.454
				SE273	203.762
		Parsalgondi	217	SE273	59.223
				SE275	45.316
SE276	121.346				
				SE280	0.082
8	Road & Drainage	Hedri	56 (P)	SE274	3.177
				SE301	9.66
9	15 mtrs Green Belt along the Applied Boundary except Road for In & Out And Area Retained for Gap Plantation	Hedri	56, 101, 17/1, 17/2, 17/3	SE274	12.807
				SE275	4.28
				SE298	0.576
				SE300	0.166
				SE301	3.56
		Bande	10 & 12	SE196	0.48
				SE197	3.56
				SE273	11.006
		Parsalgondi	217	SE273	0.456
				SE275	1.172
SE276	4.109				
				SE280	0.273
Total					937.077
					RF/PF

This Government Order is available on Government of Maharashtra's website www.maharashtra.gov.in with Reference No.202605041220340019. This order has been signed digitally.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra.

(Sanjay Jadhav)
Under Secretary to the Government of Maharashtra

Copy:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi.
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur.
3. Deputy Director General of Forest (Central), Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, Nagpur.
4. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Maharashtra State, Nagpur

5. Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & CEO, Maha-CAMPA, Nagpur.
6. Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Nagpur.
7. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Conservation), Nagpur.
8. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Gadchiroli.
9. Collector, Gadchiroli.
10. Chief Executive Officer, Zilha Parishad, Gadchiroli.
11. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhamragarh.
12. M/s. Lloyds Metals & Energy Limited, Gadchiroli.
13. Select File.

I. Collector- Gadchiroli, Chief Executive Officer, Zilha Parishad, Gadchiroli and Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhamragarh are hereby directed to forward the copy of this order to concerned Heads of Local Bodies, Panchayats, Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government and they shall also ensure the display of this order on their notice board as well as on the notice board of local self-government bodies for the information of general public.

II. M/s. Lloyds Metals & Energy Limited, Gadchiroli, is hereby directed to publish the entire order of forest clearances granted in verbatim along with the details of Survey No., Gut No., area and legal status of each Survey, Gut No. etc. and along with the conditions and safe guards imposed by the Central Government while granting forest clearances in two widely circulated daily newspapers, one in vernacular language and other in English language. Copy of the Newspapers be submitted to Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Gadchiroli, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhamragarh.

III. Heads of Local Bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government are hereby directed to display the same on their notice board for 30 days from the date of receipt for the information of general public.