

Respected Dube Ji,

This is to draw your kind attention and also the kind attention of Mahamhim Rajyapal Ji towards the fact given in the documents below which were given to the Environment protection and pollution control committee of the Jharkhand Vidhan Sabha of which I was convenor in that period vide letter no. 3789 dt. 17.11.08 of the PCCF, Govt. of Jharkhand. The issue was also raised by me before in the state assembly but remained unheard and inconclusive. At the time when several mining lease applications are in the pipe line for recommendation/grant before the state Govt. I feel it my duty to raised this point before you as well as before Mahamahim Rajyapal Ji in the interest of the state and the people.

- a) Letter from the D.G. Forest & Special Secretary, Govt. of India bearing no. 11-28/2002 FC dt. 16.07-2003 to the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Jharkhand. This letter directs the State Govt. to phase out the commercial activities i.e. mining from dense and reserve forests of the State. (Annex. 1)
- b) Letter from PCCF, Govt. of Jharkhand bearing no. 19 m-1 (5) 19/2003 dt. 14.02.2006 to the Secretary, Forest & Environment, Govt of Jharkhand. This letter requests the Govt. to notify in the Gazette the details of the inviolate compartments carved out by the department as per direction in the letter referred in Annex. 1 above. This letter also exhibits the details about phasing out of mining activities from the dense & reserved forests of Saranda & Porahat the decision to this effect was taken after high level meeting under the chairmanship of the principal secretary, Forests & Environment, Govt of Jharkhand on 28/29.03. (Annex. 2)
- c) The photo copy of the note side page no. 16 from the concerned file no. वन भूमि 12/06 demonstrating that the file was deliberately shelved for about a year to thwart the processes of Gazette notification of the inviolate compartments and phasing out of economic activities. The note says that the file lost its way but curiously there is no mention of the folder no. with which it was placed during the period when it lost the way. (Annex. 3)

It would not be out of context to mention that the inviolate compartments carved out of the dense & reserve Forests of Saranda & porahat were recommended for grant of mining lease by the Jharkhand Govt. to the Govt. of India in this very period in which the file was said to lost its way.

- d) Details of the mining leases given to various persons/institution so far in the Saranda & adjoining forest areas it is worth 14, 022.67 ha. (Annex.4)
- e) Details of the application submitted to the Jharkhand Govt. for grant of iron ore mining lease in the Saranda Forest area. Which is worth 51,836.70 ha. (Annex. 5)
- f) Details of the inviolate compartments in the Saranda & Porahat areas prepared by the officials of the department of forest & environment Govt. of Jharkhand. It is worth 63,119.89 ha. In Saranda area. It indicates that if state Govt. decides to grand mining lease to all the applicants the very existence of the Saranda forest will be under severe threat. (Annex.6)

From the facts given in the Annexure above it is clear that the vested interests in the mining sector are bent upon to destroy the world famous Saranda forest and adjoining forest areas. They just want to mine every inch of the area at the cost of Ecology, Environment, Biodiversity, Wiled life for which saranda is known world wide. It also indicates vicious role of the mining mafia and scamsters active in and around the State Govt. from mid 2006 to early 2009.

I request you to kindly look into the matter and do the needful in this regard in the interest of ecology and good governance in the state. Also the connection of the infamous iron ore scam better known as koda scam in Jharkhand with enormous delay in Gazette notification of inviolate compartments and phasing out of mining activities in saranda and nearby dense & reserve forests needs to be probed.

With warm regards,

Yours

Saryu Roy

To
Shri V.S. Dubey,
Advisor to the Governor,
Jharkhand, Ranchi.