



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
NAGPUR BENCH : NAGPUR

PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION NO.20/2024
(Prakruti Foundation, Chandrapur Vs. Union of India and others)

Office Notes, Office Memoranda of Coram,
appearances, Court's orders of directions
and Registrar's orders

Court's or Judge's orders

Mr. M.I. Dhattrak, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. N.S. Deshpande, Deputy Solicitor General of India for respondent No.1.
Mr. Nachiket Moharir, Advocate for respondent Nos.2 and 3.
Mr. N.S. Rao, Assistant Government Pleader for respondent Nos.4 to 6 and 9.

CORAM: NITIN W. SAMBRE & MRS.VRUSHALI V. JOSHI, JJ.
DATED: 4.12.2024.

Heard.

2. The issue in the petition pertains to diversion of the forest land to the extent of 121.58 Hectors for opencast mining of Durgapur Deep Extension Opencast Project in favour of the respondent Western Coalfields Limited in Chandrapur district.
3. It is seen from the communication of the respondent W.C.L. that in the area of 121.58 Hectors of land, total 27385 trees were found as was reported by the Range Forest Officer, Chandrapur.
4. Inspite of three chances none of the respondents have chosen to file their reply. Rather, the conduct of the respondents gives an impression of adopting delaying practice.
5. That being so, we restrain the respondents from carrying out any operation relating to felling of the trees.

6. By way of last chance, we grant three weeks time to file reply in the matter.

7. Stand over to 8.1.2025.

(MRS.VRUSHALI V.JOSHI, J.)

(NITIN W. SAMBRE, J.)