

INSPECTION REPORT OF BHOTANG COPPER MINES OF SIKKIM MINING CORPORATION

The mine was inspected by the undersigned on 02/07/2017 accompanied by Shri Saran Silal, Sr. Mining Engineer of DGM Sikkim. The mine is located on the NH 31A, nearest town is Rangpo which is 2 km away from mine and about 60 km. from Gangtok on NH 31A. The latitude of the area is N 27 8' to 27 15' and longitude is East 88 30' to 88 40'. The total lease area is 34.48 hect. Out of which 10.5 hect. Is forest land, 15.5 hect. Is in water course(Tista River), 5 Hect. Is agricultural land, 2.5 hect. Building and structure and 1.4 hect. Is fall under road. As per list submitted by State Govt. the lease period is renewed on 13/6/2000 for 20 years and lease period likely to be expired on 13/06/2020.


It was reported by the Mining Engineer, DGM, Sikkim that mining operation in the Bhotang Copper Mine is stopped in 2004 and submitted the final Mine closure Plan to Regional Office, IBM, Kolkata for approval. The final Mine closure plan was not approved by COM(CZ) vide letter no.314(3)/2010-MCCM(CZ)FMCP-3 dt. 26/4/2011 due to non submission of modified Final Mine Closure Plan within the stipulated time.

During the inspection of mine it was observed that no mining activities in the lease area. The mine has been developed below the national highway as well as below Tista river. The underground development has been carried out by opening of 3 adits along with slopes of the hillocks from 400 mRL to 150mRL. The underground working has been developed by main levels, sub-levels and box holes etc.

As reported, all the underground stops have been worked out in between 350 mRL to 150 mRL and worked out area has been back filled by Cement concrete and pebbles. During the inspection it is also observed most of the lease area have been occupied for the industrial purpose by the State Govt. The details of industries situated in the lease area is given in Annex-I

As mentioned above the most of the lease area has already been occupied by industrial purpose only 0.96 hect. Area have remain with the Sikkim Mining Corporation and that area has been decided for developing the training institute by the State DGM. All the underground working have been back filled by the cement concrete and pebbles and there is no scope for reclamation and rehabilitation in this lease area, as because the area has already been used for industrial purpose.

Encl : Photograph of the Bhotang lease area

  
( G.C.MEENA)  
Regional Controller of Mines