



Coal Mine Project in Hasdeo Arand Forest Area Banned

Why in News?

- Recently, the Chhattisgarh government has put on hold three upcoming coal mine projects allotted to Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RRVUNL) in Hasdeo Arand forest area of Surguja division.

Key Points

- It is worth mentioning that the state government has taken this decision due to strong opposition from the local people and workers against these projects.
- Confirming the suspension of mining projects, Surguja District Magistrate Sanjeev Jha informed that three upcoming projects- Parsa, Parsa East and Kante Basan (PEKB) Phase II and Kante Extension Coal Mine, which are in various stages before the mine commences, has been put on hold till further orders.
- All the three mines have been allotted to RRVUNL and Adani Group is associated as MDO (Mine Developer and Operator). Work will continue in the mines where work is going on in the area.
- Locals claim that the coal mine will cause huge damage to biodiversity and environment. Mining in the ecologically sensitive Hasdeo Arand forest area will not only displace the tribals, but also increase the man-elephant conflict in the area.
- It is noteworthy that the state government had recently given final approval for the Parsa mine and PEKB's second phase coal mining projects on the request of the Rajasthan government.

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