

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
(ಅರಣ್ಯ ಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ

Office of the
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)



ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, 18ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ

ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 003

Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross

Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560 003

Telephone : 080 2334 6472

Email : apccffc@gmail.com

E-office File No. KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/35/2019-F

Encl: 2 Sets

E-80055

Date 24-01-2022

02- 02-

To,

Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment
M. S. Building, Bengaluru

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 0.32 hectare of forest land in Ramanamalai Block Forest (Ramgad Forest Block), near Jaisinghpur village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for existing approach road for Jaisingpur Iron Ore Mines (ML No. 2545) in favour of M/s Lakshmi Minerals, Hospet, Ballari District

Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/48654/2020 [FORM-A]

- Ref:**
1. Online proposal [FORM-A (PART-I)] re-submitted dated 21-11-2020 of M/s Lakshmi Minerals, Hospet, Ballari District r/w uploading of Acknowledgement on 28-12-2020 for having delivered hard copies of proposal to jurisdictional Deputy Conservator of Forests and Deputy Commissioner
 2. This office online communication dated 31-12-2020 to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division, Ballari [for processing of proposal] and 08-10-2021 [for submission of CA land details and other documents]
 3. Online submission of PART-II on 30-08-2021 by Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division [Letter No. M1/MNG/Lakshmi/ML No.2545/Road/2020-21 dated 20-07-2021 & 21-12-2021 (submitting of CA land details & other documents)]
 4. Online submission of PART-III on 21-09-2021 by Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle [Letter No. M1/MNG/CR-8/2005-06 dated 21-09-2021 and 31-12-2021]

1. M/s Lakshmi Minerals, Hospet, Ballari District [USER AGENCY] had submitted an online proposal [FORM-A (PART-I)] for diversion of 0.32 hectare of forest land in Ramanamalai Block Forest (Ramgad Forest Block), near Jaisinghpur village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for existing approach road for Jaisingpur Iron Ore Mines (ML No. 2545). The same was accepted by Nodal Officer (FCA) on 02-12-2020 for further processing. After receiving the acknowledgement online

from the User Agency for having delivered the hard copies to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division & Deputy Commissioner, Ballari District on 28-12-2020, the 'online link' was forwarded to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division on 31-12-2020 for field verification and processing under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. Location and component wise details of the project: The location and component wise details of the proposal are given below.

District, Taluk, Name of Forest	Village	Points	Length (in mtr)	Width (in mtr)	Area (in hectares)	Status of forest land
Ballari District, Sandur Taluk, Ramgad Forest Block	Jaisinghpur	Segment-1	106.25	10.25	0.109	Forest area
		Segment-2	106.00	10.25	0.109	
		Segment-3	98.50	10.25	0.101	
		Total (ha)			0.32	

3. DCF, Ballari Division Report: The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari has inspected the site on 15-07-2021. He has submitted his report in PART-II of the proposal to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle vide his letter dated 20-07-2021 and 21-12-2021 (ref-3) duly recommending the proposal. The details of the proposal as reported by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division r/w the reports of Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle and also of ICT Centre of Forest Department are as follows.

- The forest land proposed for diversion is in general landscape under eco-class-III (Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests) with up to 0.01 canopy density [open forest].
- There is no tree felling in the forest land proposed for diversion.
- The forest land proposed for diversion situated on a ridge to the proposed area having steep slope.
- Major wild animals found in the area include leopard, sloth bear, jackal, hares, peafowl, wild pig, grey partridge, indian porcupine, monitor lizard, four-horned antelope and pangolin etc.
- There are rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna reported in the area.
- The forest land proposed for diversion does not form part of any national park, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve, tiger reserve, elephant corridor, wildlife migration corridor, etc. Further, the proposed area is 8-75 km away from the Daroji sloth bear sanctuary and 6.58 km away from eco-sensitive zone of Daroji sloth bear sanctuary 36.70 km away from the Gudekote sloth bear sanctuary and 32.30 kms away from eco-sensitive zone of Gudekote sloth bear sanctuary.
- The forest land proposed for diversion is not located within eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) of any protected area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

- h. The forest land proposed for diversion is not located within one kilometre distance of any national park, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve, tiger reserve, elephant corridor, wildlife migration corridor, etc.
 - i. There are no protected archaeological/ heritage site/defence establishment or any other important monument located in the area.
 - j. The requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency is unavoidable and bare minimum for the project.
4. **CCF Ballari Circle Report:** The Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari has not inspected the site but has agreed with the report of Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballar. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari vide ref (4) has submitted his report in PART-III, and other information / documents and has recommended the proposal.
5. **Net Present Value (NPV):** The User Agency is required to pay the Net Present Value (NPV) of forest land proposed for diversion as per para 3.1 to 3.4 of the FC Guidelines communicated by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi vide F.No. 5-3/2011-FC (Vol-1) dated 06-01-2022. **The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to pay the charges towards Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land proposed for diversion.**
6. **Compensatory Afforestation (CA):** The User Agency is required to provide an equivalent extent of suitable non forest land in accordance with FC guidelines. Further, as per Government of Karnataka Order No. FEE 88 FLI 2016 dated 31-08-2016 pertaining to FC proposals of private User Agencies, such CA land needs to be a private land either as forest enclosure or adjoining an existing forest area in man-animal conflict zone. In addition, the User Agency is also required to pay the CA charges as per prevailing rates. Accordingly, the User Agency has identified an extent of 0.64 ha (1.59 Acres) of patta land in Sy No.92, Kallahalli village, Hosapete Taluk, Ballari District. The topo map, geo-referenced map, KML file and GPS readings of the proposed CA land have already been uploaded / submitted by the User Agency in PART-I of the proposal along with CD. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari vide ref (5) has submitted the relevant documents dated 31-12-2021 and the CA scheme issued / prepared by Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari. **The same are enclosed herewith. In addition, the User Agency has also given an undertaking to pay the CA charges.**
7. **Status of RoFR compliance:** Certificate in FORM-I under Forest Rights Act 2006 is not yet received from the Deputy Commissioner. M/s Lakshmi Minerals, Hosapete has requested Deputy Commissioner, Ballari District for issuance of the same vide letter dated 01-10-2020 copy of the request letter is enclosed with the proposal.
8. **Status of Mining Lease under MMDR Act:** The Government of Karnataka Commerce and Industries Department vide Notification No. CI 29 MMM 2005 dated 30-08-2005 has accorded sanction for mining lease in favour of M/s Lakshmi Minerals (ML No.2545) for a period of 30 years over an extent of 36.42

ha. Further, the Government of Karnataka, Department of Commerce and Industries vide letter No. CI 111 MMM 2015 dated 25-04-2015 has accorded sanction for deemed extension of mining lease (ML No.2545) up to 17-04-2057 as per the provisions of MMDR (Amendment) Act, 2015. **Accordingly, mining lease deed under MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 was executed on 02-08-2016 which is valid up to 17-04-2057.**

9. **Status of FC of the connected mining lease [ML No. 2487]:** Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (vide letter No. 4-KRC 161/2006-BAN dated 12-03-2007) and Government of Karnataka (Order No. FEE 152 FFM 2005 dated 23-03-2007) have accorded forest clearance for diversion of 36.42 ha of forest land in Jaisinghpur village, of Sandur Taluk for extraction of iron ore in favour of M/s Lakshmi Minerals, Hosapete for a period of 20 years. **Thus the present FC approval is valid up to 11-03-2027.**

The Government of Karnataka has accorded temporary permission vide letter No. FEE 15 FFM 2021 (e) dated 29-05-2021 to the above 0.32 ha said approach road for six months. The validity of the said temporary permission has expired on 22-12-2021. Further, this office vide letter of even number dated 20-12-2021 has requested the Government of Karnataka to extend the temporary permission for another six months to ML No.2545 for use of approach road.

In light of the facts stated above, it is requested to move the proposal with the Government of India for according 'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval for diversion of 0.32 hectare of forest land in Ramanamalai Block Forest (Ramgad Forest Block), near Jaisinghpur village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for existing approach road for Jaisinghpur Iron Ore Mines (ML No. 2545) in favour of M/s Lakshmi Minerals, Hosapete, Ballari District for a period up to 11-03-2027 for the connected mining lease and subject to the conditions specified in Annexure 'A'.

The hard copy of the proposal along with the relevant documents in 3 sets is submitted herewith for further needful. The present status of the proposal obtained from the web-portal is also appended for necessary action.

DS

ರಾಜ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ

ದಿನಾಂಕ 2-2-2022

Received 13 copies

Copy to the:

1. Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle, Ballari for information.
2. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division, Ballari for information.
3. M/s Lakshmi Minerals, No.601, 7th Main, Near Balanjaneya Temple, M.J. Nagar, Hosapete, Ballari District-583 201 for information with a request to obtain and submit the RoFR Compliance Certificate (in original) in prescribed format as mentioned above at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

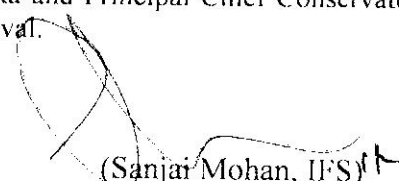
(Sanjai Mohan, IFS)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

d/c

ANNEXURE - 'A'

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged and it shall continue to be forest land.
2. The User Agency shall pay the applicable Net Present Value (NPV), Compensatory, Plantation cost of extraction of trees, Land lease rent and any other levies as per the conditions of approval.
3. The User Agency shall demarcate the lease area in the manner specified at the time of approval at its own cost.
4. The road shall be used for transportation of ore between sunrise and sunset only.
5. The lessee shall not sub-lease, mortgage & hypothecate the forest area.
6. The leased out area should be used for the purpose for which it is granted. In case the land is not used for the stipulated purpose within two years or when it is no longer needed for the stipulated purpose, the area would stand resumed to the Forest Department.
7. No change in Land Use Plan on forest land shall be done except with prior approval of Government of India under FC Act 1980.
8. The application for renewal of the lease in the prescribed form and manner shall be submitted at least six months prior to the expiry of forest lease. In case no renewal is sought, the Lessee shall hand over the lease.
9. No residential or commercial buildings shall be permitted in the forest area proposed for diversion.
10. No crushing / breaking of stones or labour camp shall be allowed on forest land and all waste / debris generated shall be scientifically disposed off outside the forest area.
11. Any damage to forest area because of implementation of the proposal shall be compensated by the Lessee. The extent of damage shall be assessed by the jurisdictional Deputy Conservator of Forests/ Conservator of Forests/ Chief Conservator of Forests.
12. The Lessee shall ensure that no avoidable harm is caused to the fauna and flora in and around the proposed area.
13. In case, any violation of the provisions of the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 & Rules, 1969 or other relevant Acts/Rules is reported during the lease period, the lease will be liable for forfeiture under Section 82 of Karnataka Forest Act, 1963. The Chief Conservator of Forests / Deputy Conservator of Forests concerned are authorized to take necessary action in this regard.
14. The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to any other clearances necessary under the prevailing statutes.
15. The User Agency shall also abide by other conditions those may be imposed by the Government of India, Government of Karnataka and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) before or after the approval.


(Sanjay Mohan, IFS)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

PART – IV

(To be filled in by the Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests or Head of Forest Department)

Detailed opinion & specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks

(While giving opinion, the adverse comments made by concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon).

Recommended for according 'in-principle' (Stage I) approval for **diversion of 0.32 hectare of forest land in Ramanamalai Block Forest (Ramgad Forest Block), near Jaisinghpur village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for existing approach road for Jaisingpur Iron Ore Mines (ML No. 2545) in favour of M/s Lakshmi Minerals, Hosapete, Ballari District for a period up to 11-03-2027 co-terminus with the FC approval for the connected mining lease and subject to the conditions specified in Annexure 'A'.**

Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/48654/2020

Signature:

Name:

RAJIV RANJAN IFS

Designation:

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Conservation) AND
Nodal Officer (FCA)

Countersigned by :

Name:

SANJAI MOHAN, IFS

Designation:

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

(Official Seal)

N.D.O. No: 48/2020-22

Date: 02-01-2022