

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From  
Sri N. Prateep Kumar, IFS.,  
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests &  
Head of Forest Force,  
Andhra Pradesh,  
Guntur - 522 004.

To  
The Secretary to the Government,  
Environment, Forests, Science &  
Technology Department,  
Andhra Pradesh, Velagapudi,  
Amaravati - 522 503.

**Ref. no. EFS02-15029/38/2019-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-1 ,**  
**Dated:26/12/2021.**

Sir,

Sub:-APFD - F (C) Act, 1980 - Diversion of 4.98 ha of forest land in Compartment no.460 of Pachigunta RF, Chittoor Range, Chittoor East WL Division in favour of M/s.Sweety Granites, (Prop: Sri D.James), for grant of quarry lease for Black Granite - Proposal submitted - Reg.

Ref:-

1. Director of Mines and Geology, Vijayawada Lr. no. 3855/R5-1/2019, Dt.17.07.2019.
2. PCCF & HoFF, A.P., Guntur Rc.no.EFS02-15029/38/2019-FCA SEC/PCCF/FCA-2, Dt.20.01.2021.
3. CCF, WLM Circle, Tirupati, Rc.no.425/2020/M1, Dt.23.08.2021 & 23.10.2021.
4. Director of Mines and Geology, Vijayawada Lr. no. 3855/D13-1/2019, Dt.25.11.2021.

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It is submitted that, the Director of Mines and Geology, Ibrahimpatnam, in the reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited has forwarded a proposal for diversion of 4.98 ha of forest land in Compartment no.460 of Pachigunta RF, Chittoor Range, Chittoor East WL Division in favour of M/s. Sweety Granites, Prop: Sri D.James, for grant of quarry lease for Black Granite and further submitted additional information in the reference 4th cited.

While forwarding the application, the Director of Mines and Geology, Ibrahimpatnam has furnished the following information.

- The type of mineral i.e., Black Granite is available only in forest land and it is very rare in quality which is also not yet identified in non-forest lands.
- There are no quarry leases existing in the forest land and the proposal is a fresh proposal.
- Black Granite is a minor mineral which is regulated by the Andhra Pradesh Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1996 and the provisions laid down under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015 are applicable.
- Details of mineral availability, annual production in the State of Andhra Pradesh as below;

Name of the Mineral	No.of existing leases	Total capacity of existing leases (in cbm)	Average annual production (in cbm)	Present requirement per anum (in cbm)
Black Granite (G-20 variety)	16	79879	12,500	1,00,000

With the above information, the Director of Mines and Geology, Ibrahimpatnam has requested to process for diversion of 4.98 ha of forest land in Compartment no.460 of Pachigunta RF, Chittoor Range, Chittoor East Division in favour of M/s. Sweety Granites, Prop: Sri D.James, for grant of quarry lease for Black Granite.

Subsequently, the Proprietor, M/s. Sweety Granites, Chittoor District has uploaded the proposal in the Ministry's website for diversion of 4.98 ha of forest land in Compartment no.460 of Pachigunta RF, Chittoor Range, Chittoor East WL Division in favour of M/s. Sweety Granites, Prop: Sri D.James, for grant of quarry lease for Black Granite. The proposal is registered with unique no. FP/AP/QRY/113754/2020, Dt.16.12.2020.

The proposal was forwarded to the Chief Conservator of Forests, WLM Circle, Tirupati and the Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East WL, in the reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited, for processing the proposal as per the Forest Conservation Rules, 2003 and guidelines issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Chief Conservator of Forests, WLM Circle, Tirupati in the reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited, has submitted the proposal duly processed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The details of the proposal are as follows.

**The User Agency has furnished the following information in Part-I:**

- For locating the project in forest area, the User Agency has justified that, the mineral Black Granite deposits available in the applied forest area is very high quality and having good demand in India for construction purpose as well as in foreign countries. The quality of mineral is not available outside the RF other than in the applied forest area and as such applied for mining lease after exploring all other alternatives.
- Cost of the project Rs.315.00 lakh.
- The user Agency has furnished the DGPS authenticated maps for the area proposed for diversion and CA land respectively.
- Statement showing the details of forest area involved:

Sl.no.	Purpose	Area in ha.
1	Mining area& Dumping area	3.73
2	Safety zone area	0.92

3	Road area	0.33
	<b>Total area</b>	<b>4.98</b>

- The User Agency has submitted that there will be no displacement of people due to this project and there is no requirement of Cost-Benefit analysis.
- The user agency has indicated the safety zone area for the proposed mining in the authenticated DGPS map.
- The User Agency has submitted undertakings to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of compensatory afforestation in the identified CA land, payment of N.P.V. and addl.NPV, cost of tree extraction charges as decided by the Forest Department.
- Non-forest land for compensatory afforestation has been identified over an extent of 5.32 ha. in Sy.no.167 of Vajragiri Village, Mangampeta Panchayat, Owk Mandal, Kurnool District.
- The User Agency has submitted that the employment likely to be generated due to this project is 50 number of persons (Permanent) and 100 number of person-days (Temporary).

**The Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East WL has furnished the following information in part-II:**

- Site was inspected on 02.06.2021 along with staff and representatives of M/s. Sweety Granites.
- Area of the forest land proposed for diversion is as follows.

Sl.no.	Purpose	Area in ha.
1	Mining area & Dumping area	3.73
2	Safety zone area	0.92
3	Road area	0.33
	<b>Total area</b>	<b>4.98</b>

- Pachigunta RF is notified u/s 16 of Forest Act, 1882, in G.O.No.548, Revenue dt. 01.07.1889.
- Density of vegetation is 0.20 (Eco-Class-III). Tropical Dry Deciduous Open forests.
- 89 no. trees are to be felled in the proposed diversion area.
- The flora existing in the proposed area are Kommi (Webera corymbosa), Neem (Azadirachta indica), Neeruddi (Polchandrone falcate), Reppala (Wrightia tinctoria), Narava (Premna tomentosa), Sundra (Acacia sundra), Moduga (Butea monosperma) etc.
- The proposed area is covered with huge boulders& sheet rock. A few little patches of tree growth is present. Hence, there will be no impact of project on the soil erosion in the proposed area.
- The proposed mining area is approximately at distance of 52 m or 0.052 km from the RF boundary.
- The proposed area for diversion in Pachigunta RF does not fall under National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve and elephant corridor etc.,
- There are no rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna found in the proposed diversion area.
- There are no protected archaeological/heritage site/defense

- establishments or any other important monuments are located in the area.
- The forest land required for diversion is the barest minimum.
  - No violations were taken place in the proposed area by M/s. Sweety Granites, Chittoor District.
  - The proposed area is approximately at a distance of 46 km from Koundinya Wild Life Sanctuary and 48 km from Sri Venkateswara National Park.
  - The proposed area for mining is not overlapping with any other mining areas. There is no VSS area in the proposed mining area and no areas covered under RoFR Act, 2006.
  - Non-forest land for compensatory afforestation has been identified over an extent of 5.32 ha. in Sy.no.167 of Vajragiri Village, Mangampeta Panchayat, Owk Mandal, Kurnool District. The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool has inspected the non-forest land identified for CA on 20.04.2021 and stated that the CA land is adjacent and contiguous to Compartment no.305 of Owk RF. The soil is red soil and suitable for raising plantation with forest species. CA land identified is not overlapping with the CA lands identified for other projects.
  - The DFO, Kurnool has prepared the Compensatory Afforestation scheme with a financial outlay of Rs.60.382 lakh for the period from 2022-23 to 2033-34.
  - The DFO, Chittoor East WL has prepared the Scheme for fencing, protection, regeneration and raising and maintenance of enrichment plantation over an extent of 1.40 ha. (0.92x 1 1/2= 1.38 or 1.40) of degraded forest area in Compartment no.460, Pachigunta RF & Beat, Chittoor East Range, Chittoor East WL Division in lieu of safety zone area of 0.92 ha. with Rs.5.45 lakh.
  - Mining plan approved by Deputy Director of Mines & Geology, Chittoor in Lr.no.2456/MP/BG/CTR/2021, dt. 29.09.2021 for a period of (5) years.
  - Statement showing the calculation of Net Present Value in the proposed area for diversion is detailed below.

Sl.no.	Eco-Value Class	Eco-Class	Total area proposed (ha.)	Net Present Value (Rate/ha.) (in Lakh)	Total cost of NPV (in Lakh)
1	Class-III (open forest)	III	4.98	6.26	31.175

The Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East has submitted the RoFR certificate as required under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in Form-II, furnished by the District Collector, Chittoor.

**The Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East WL has recommended the proposal in part-II.**

**The Chief Conservator of Forests, WLM Circle, Tirupati has agreed with the information given in part-II by the Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East and recommended the proposal in part-III.**

In view of the above, the statutory proforma proposal for diversion of 4.98 ha of forest land in Compartment no.460 of Pachigunta RF, Chittoor Range, Chittoor East WL Division in favour of M/s. Sweety Granites, (Prop: Sri D.James), for grant of quarry lease for Black Granite, in (4) sets is submitted herewith.

The Government are requested to submit the proposal to the Government of India for according Stage-I clearance in respect of the subject project.

Encl:- As above

Yours faithfully,  
**N Prateep Kumar Ifs**  
Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests &  
Head of Forest Force

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests, WLM Circle, Tirupati for information.

Copy to the Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East WL for information.

Copy to the Proprietor: Sri D.James, M/s. Sweety Granites, D.No.2-1251/4SA. Nalanda Nagar, B.V.Reddy Colony, Chittoor District for information.

#### **PART-IV**

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

17	Detailed opinion and specific recommendations 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.
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Date:26/12/2021 Signature

Place: Guntur Name : N Prateep Kumar Ifs

Office Seal: Principal Chief Conservator Of Forests



Diversion of 4.98 ha of forest land in Chittoor East WL 25  
division in favour of M/s. Sreeley Granites for grant of quarry lease  
for Black Granite

**PART-IV**

(TO BE FILLED BY THE NODAL OFFICER OR PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS OR  
HEAD OF FOREST DEPARTMENT)

17	Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance of 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.
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Date: 26-12-2021.

Place: Guntur.

Signature

Name Official Seal  
**N. Prateep Kumar, IFS.,**  
**Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &**  
**Head of Forest Force,**  
**Andhra Pradesh, Guntur**