

PART-III

(To be filled by the concerned Chief Conservator of Forests)

Fresh proposal for diversion of 484.0733 ha of forest land for mining lease in Swamymalai Forest Block of Sandur Taluk, Ballari District in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd., Bengaluru.

Online Application No.FP/KA/MIN/32658/2018 dated:-16-03-2018.

1	Whether site, where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by concerned Chief Conservator of Forests (Yes/No). If yes, the date of inspection and observations made in the form of inspection note to be enclosed.	Yes. I have also inspected the proposed site on 06-12-2019 and affirm the views of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division, Ballari in rejecting the diversion of forest land.
2	Whether the concerned Chief Conservator of Forests agree with the information given in Part-II and the recommendations of Deputy Conservator of Forests.	I agree with the information given in the Part-II and recommendations of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division, Ballari.
3	Specific recommendation of concerned Chief Conservator of Forests for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with detailed reasons.	I recommend for rejecting the forest land diversion over an extent of 484.07333 ha in the larger interest of protection and bio-diversity value of the forest land under the FC Act, 1980. Site inspection report enclosed.

Place: Ballari
Date:07-12-2019.

Signature: 
Name : (Lingaraja S.S)
Seal : Chief Conservator of Forests,
Ballari Circle, Ballari.

Site inspection report

I have inspected the this proposed diversion 484.0733 ha of forest land in favor of M/s Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) on 6-12-2019, the proposed forest land for diversion is in swami malai forest Block of Sandur Range. Which is a Section 4 notified Area vide Notification Number FFD-29, FAF-84, Dated 28-02-1985.

The proposed forest land is not part of any PA. but is having a thick dry deciduous Forests interspersed with grassy blanks. Most of these areas are pure patches of Anogeissus and Boswellia forests which are very unique. This forest Is home to Indian leopard, sloth bear, Indian wolf, and many more flora and fauna. From the report of DCF it found that there are about 99390 trees to be cut, if this area is to be diverted for the mining purpose. An approximate 5 Sq Km is to be diverted in this land scape question of passing this area under DSS Criteria fixed for identification of inviolate areas arises. which unfortunately could not be done at this level, and Recommend to subject this area to pass this test as well.

Besides above observation I have read the report of DCF regarding the annual production cap on iron ore as fixed by the Honorable Supreme court in its order in WP No 562/2009. as this is the legal matter involving Rule of the land as fixed by The Honorable Apex court, I hope this issue will also be taken in to consideration while taking decision on this matter.

Over all I recommend not to consider this diversion in the interest of forest, wildlife, water security and soil health of this land scape as its already subjected to severe damage by existing mines.


Chief Conservator of Forests,
Ballari Circle, Ballari.