

## ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

### GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,  
ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ

Office of the  
Deputy Conservator of Forests  
Ballari Division, Ballari



ರೇಡಿಯೋ ಪಾರ್ಕ್, ಐಟಿ ಕಾಲೇಜ್ ಎದುರುಗಡೆ,  
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### SITE INSPECTION REPORT

The proposed site for diversion of 19.17 hectares [Revised from 13.98 Ha] Forest land in Swamymalai Block, Sandur South Range, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Downhill Conveyor System which includes Service Road, Approach Road & DHC infrastructure area from Narasimha Iron ore Mine ML No.2148 to BP Plant area in favour of M/s. MSPL Limited, Hospet was inspected personally by me on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023 & 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023.

M/s. MSPL Limited, Hospet has submitted online application for diversion of 19.17 hectares [Revised from 13.98 Ha] of forest land in Swamymalai Block, Sandur South Range, Sandur taluk, Ballari District for Downhill Conveyor System which includes Service Road, Approach Road & DHC infrastructure area from Narasimha Iron ore Mine ML No.2148 to BP Plant area in favour of M/s. MSPL Limited, Hospet vide Online Application No. FP/KA/MIN/144985/2021 [FORM-A] under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The proposed unit of land measuring 19.17 ha falls in Swamymalai (SM) Block. The Forest is of Eco class-III with Southern Dry Deciduous type of Forests. The proposed area is sparsely vegetated with trees like, *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Grewia tiliacifolia*, *Chaloraxylon glaucum*, *Santalum album* (Sandal), *Stereospermum chelonoides* etc. Situated on a ridge to the proposed area is having steep slope. Hence, Soil erosion could be an issue. User Agency should take necessary steps to prevent soil erosion and related impact on the proposed site. Enumeration of the trees that need to be felled has been done.

**Extent of Pipe Conveyor Belt proposal:** Total area of proposal is 19.95 hectares. Out of this 0.78 hectares falls in revenue land and 19.17 hectares falls in forest land. The user agency has submitted the Downhill conveyor proposal for diversion **19.17 hectares** of Forest land at Swamymalai Block, Sandur South Range, Sandur for Pipe Conveyor Belt at Mining Lease No.2148. Component wise area breakup is mentioned below;

#### I. About Forest land;

Sl. No.	Area applied for Forest Clearance	Length (meters)	Width (meters)	Area (In ha)	Remarks
1	DHPC infrastructure	50.00	50.00	0.250	This proposed area falls in Swamymalai Forest block of Section-04 notified area vide Notification No. FFD-29, FAF-84, Dated: 28.02.1985
2	DHPC Corridor, which includes approach road (C1 to A)	640.00	30.00	1.920	
3	DHPC Corridor, which includes approach road (B to C2)	1990.00	30.00	5.970	
4	Road – S10	440.00	15.00	0.660	
5	Road – S11	1060.00	15.00	1.590	
6	Road – S12	200.00	15.00	0.300	
7	Road – S13	20.00	15.00	0.030	
8	Road – S14	60.00	15.00	0.090	
Sub total				10.810	

Sl. No.	Area applied for Forest Clearance	Length (meters)	Width (meters)	Area (In ha)	Remarks
9	DHPC Corridor, which includes approach road (A to B)	1310.00	30.00	3.930	This proposed area falls in Swamymalai Forest block of Section-04 notified area vide Notification No. FFD-29, FAF-84, Dated: 28.02.1985 which falls in M/s.SMIORE MMDR lease area and FC not obtained by M/s. SMIORE
10	Road – S1	353.33	15.00	0.530	
11	Road – S2	380.00	15.00	0.570	
12	Road – S3	546.67	15.00	0.820	
13	Road – S4	386.67	15.00	0.580	
14	Road – S5	660.00	15.00	0.990	
15	Road – S6	373.33	15.00	0.560	
16	Road – S7	180.00	15.00	0.270	
17	Road – S8	62.00	15.00	0.093	
18	Road – S9	11.00	15.00	0.017	
Sub total				8.360	
Grand total				19.170	

The proposed area was situated on a ridge and is having steep slope. Hence, the proposal project may lead to high Soil erosion along the slope, impacting the entire watershed. In this regard, office of the undersigned has suggested the user Agency to prepare Catchment Area Treatment Plan(CATP) to take necessary steps to prevent soil erosion and related impact on the proposed site.

## II. About Revenue land;

Proposed DHPC Passes through Revenue land over an extent 0.78 ha in Sy.No.110B of Somalapura Village, Sandur Taluk. In this regard, M/s. Resources pellets concentrates Private Limited(RPCL) has submitted the objection and requested not to process this FC proposal as proposed non-forest area belongs to them in Sy.No.110B of Somalapura Village, Sandur Taluk. Further to this, the undersigned has raised the EDS vide letter Dt.29.05.2023 to M/s. MSPL Limited to clarify this issue. In their reply to this EDS, the User Agency (M/s. MSPL Limited) mentioned that, these proposed non-forest land belongs to Government land and not private or patta land.

However, in the light of above mentioned circumstance, the legality of the status of revenue / patta land has to be clarified by the Revenue authorities. In this regard, the User agency (M/s. MSPL limited) may be directed to obtain necessary clarification or NOCs from Revenue authorities before approval of FC clearance.


In this regard, the User Agency (M/s. MSPL Limited) has submitted the undertaking mentioning that, *"M/s. MSPL Limited hereby undertakes to carry out DHPC works only after getting clearance from the Revenue Department in Non-Forest area (in Sy.No.110B of Somalapura Village, Sandur Taluk) even though we get FC of the proposed 19.17 Ha area."*

The proposed forest land is not part of any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger reserve, Elephant Corridor, etc. Further, the proposed area is 21.76 km away from the Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary and 20.39 kms away from Eco-sensitive zone of Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary. It is 14.62 km away from the Gudekote Sloth Bear Sanctuary and 13.20 kms away from Eco-sensitive zone of Gudekote Sloth Bear Sanctuary.



The proposal for diversion of 19.17 hectares [Revised from 13.98 Ha] Forest land in Swamymalai Block, Sandur South Range, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Downhill Conveyor System which includes Service Road, Approach Road & DHC infrastructure area from Narasimha Iron ore Mine ML No.2148 to BP Plant area in favour of M/s. MSPL Limited, Hospet is recommended for further approval under underVan (Sanrakshana Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam,1980 subject to the condition that, the User Agency has to obtain necessary clarification or NOCs from Revenue authorities with respect to proposed non forest land i.e. Sy.No.110B of Somalapura Village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District.

Dated:03.01.2024  
Place: Ballari

  
Deputy Conservator of Forests,  
Ballari Division, Ballari