

To,  
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
(Head of Forest Force),  
Aranya Bhavan, Bengaluru.

Sir,

Sub:-Diversion of 9.547 Ha. Of forest land in Hirekandavadi Village Sy.No. 107 and Thanigehalli Village Sy.No. 35, B-Durga Hobli, Holalkere Taluka and Dindadahalli Village Sy.No. 18, Hireguntanuru Hobli, Chitradurga Taluka, Chitradurga District for establishment of Conveyor Project for Iron Ore Mine ML No. 2677 in favour of M/s. Vedanta Limited Chitradurga

**Proposal No.FP/KA/MIN/51389/2020 [FORM-A]-reg.**

Ref:-1) Your office online communication to Chitradurga Division office on 7-9-2021.

2) Letter No. A6/FC/Vedanta/CB/CR-03/2021-22 dtd. 27-5-2022 of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chitradurga Division, Chitradurga

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In light of the directions issued by your goodself through online communication and after scrutinizing the online proposal received from the above user agency, the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chitradurga Division, Chitradurga in his letter (2) cited above has submitted the proposal seeking diversion of forest land over an extent of 9.547 ha for the construction of Conveyor Belt from ML No.2677 to the railway siding in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited, Chitradurga.

On going through the self contained detailed report submitted by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chitradurga and Form-A Part-II duly filled therein by him, the following salient features are forthcoming and the following facts are brought to your kind notice for taking further needful action in the matter. The said project site in question has been personally inspected by the undersigned on 20-11-2022 and verified the field conditions.

- i. It is learnt from letter dated 19-7-2021 of the above user agency that, they have withdrawn their earlier FC proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/45833/2018 submitted for diversion of forest land over an extent of 7.978 ha. proposed for conveyor belt based on the recommendations made by the Director, Dept. of Mines and Geology, Bangalore vide his letter dated 20-1-2020. Hence, the above user agency has freshly applied for diversion of 9.547 Ha. of forest land for the establishment of conveyor belt vide FC proposal bearing No. FP/KA/MIN/ 51389/2020.
- ii. The proposed forest land over an extent of 9.5474 ha where conveyor belt is to be constructed, has been inspected by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chitradurga Division on 26-5-2022 and reported that the entire forest land is falling in the Nirthadi Reserve Forest of Holalkere Taluk / Range of Chitradurga District / Division. The said proposed forest land is falling under Eco-Class-III southern tropical scrub jungle.

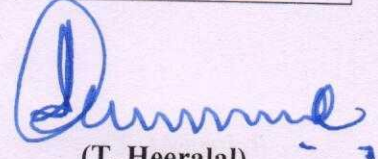


**PART-III**

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

1	Whether site, where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by concerned Conservator of Forests (Yes/No). If yes, the date of inspection and observations made in the form of inspection note to be enclosed.	Yes.  The proposed forest area has been inspected on dated: 20-11-2022 and verified the field conditions.
2	Whether the concerned 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 Part-II and the recommendations of Deputy Conservators of Forests, Chitradurga.
3	Specific recommendation of concerned Conservator of Forests for acceptance of otherwise of the proposal with detailed reasons.	The diversion of forest land to the tune of 9.547 ha. for construction of Conveyor belt from ML.No.2677 to their railway siding in respect of M/s Vedanta Limited, Chitradurga, may be considered as per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Place: Bellary  
Date: 15-12-2022

Signature:   
Seal : Chief Conservator of Forests  
Bellary Circle, Bellary



- iii. The user agency has submitted an undertaking for payment of Net Present Value (NPV) over an extent of 9.547 ha after receipt of the Stage-I approval from the Government of India.
- iv. In lieu of diversion of forest land 9.547 ha, it is reported that the equivalent Patta lands in Sy.No. 960, 961, 962, 963, 967, 968, 969 and 970 of Madduru village of Yalanduru Taluka, Chamrajnagar District has been identified for raising compensatory afforestation. Further, they have also agreed to pay the CA charges towards raising of compensatory afforestation over an extent of 9.547 ha.
- v. The above user agency has obtained the CA land suitability certificate from the Deputy Conservator of Forests, BRT Tiger Reserve, Chamarajanagar in whose control the identified Patta lands is falling.
- vi. With regard to necessary certificate in Form-I under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, no certificate is obtained from the Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurga under this act.
- vii. It is reported that the trees required to be felled which includes various species of Flora with canopy density less than 20 percent and height of less than 4 mtrs.
- viii. It is reported that, proposed project area does not form part of any declared National park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere reserve, Tiger reserve or Elephant Corridor. Besides this, there are no Archaeological protected Monuments in the proposed vicinity of the forest land.
- ix. It is reported that the proposed area is the bare minimum and unavoidable. There is no violations reported to have been taken place under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

As per directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its W.P.No.562/2009 and guidelines issued by the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) the transportation of minerals needs to be made through conveyor belt and railway sidings.

In view of the facts as categorically detailed above and while agreeing with the self contained detailed report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chitradurga, I am of the opinion that the diversion of forest land over an extent of 9.547ha. for construction of Conveyor belt from ML.No.2677 to their railway siding in respect of M/s Vedanta Limited, Chitradurga, may be considered as per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The 4 sets of proposal are enclosed herewith for your kind perusal and further needful action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

**Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Ballari Circle, Ballari.**

*Rolc*

- 1) Copy to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chitradurga Division, Chitradurga for information.
- 2) Copy to M/s Vedanta Ltd., Sesa Goa Iron Ore, Karnataka, Megalahalli office complex, Bheemasamudra, Chitradurga-577520 for information.

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ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು 16/12/22

**Chief Conservator of Forests  
Bellary Circle, Bellary**

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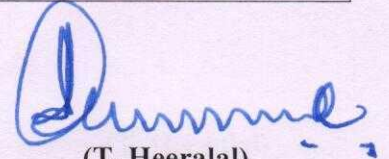
**PART-III**

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

1	Whether site, where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by concerned Conservator of Forests (Yes/No). If yes, the date of inspection and observations made in the form of inspection note to be enclosed.	Yes.  The proposed forest area has been inspected on dated: 20-11-2022 and verified the field conditions.
2	Whether the concerned 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 Part-II and the recommendations of Deputy Conservators of Forests, Chitradurga.
3	Specific recommendation of concerned Conservator of Forests for acceptance of otherwise of the proposal with detailed reasons.	The diversion of forest land to the tune of 9.547 ha. for construction of Conveyor belt from ML.No.2677 to their railway siding in respect of M/s Vedanta Limited, Chitradurga, may be considered as per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Place: Bellary  
Date: 15-12-2022

Signature:



(T. Heeralal)

Seal : Chief Conservator of Forests  
Bellary Circle, Bellary