



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FOREST  
BALLARI DIVISION, BALLARI

No. M1/MNG/KSPCL(MML)/ML No.2629/2021-22

Dated:01.06.2022

To,

Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Ballari Circle, Ballari

Sir,

**Sub:** Diversion of 22.2887 hectares (Revised from 23.863 hectares) of forest land in Swamymalai Block, Sandur South Range, Sandur taluk, Ballari District for pipeline Conveyor belt at Subbarayanahalli Iron Ore Mine ML No.2629 in favour of M/s. Karnataka State Mineral Corporation Limited (Erstwhile Mysore Minerals Ltd) (Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/48923/2020 [FORM-A]) – Reg.,

- Ref:** 1) Online Application No. FP/KA/MIN/48923/2020 [FORM-A]  
2) Proposal received electronically on 06.11.2020 from of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation), Bangalore  
3) M/s. Karnataka State Mineral Corporation Limited letter Dt. 05.11.2020 & 23.05.2022  
4) This office even number Dt. 27.01.2022 & 16.04.2022  
5) Letter No. ACF/TA/M/s.MML2629/2021-22 Dt. 17.12.2021 of the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Ballari Sub-Division, Ballari.

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With reference to the above subject, the M/s. Karnataka State Mineral Corporation Limited (Erstwhile Mysore Minerals Ltd ML No.2629) has submitted online application for diversion of 22.2887 hectares (Revised from 23.863 hectares) of forest land in Swamymalai Block, Sandur South Range, Sandur taluk, Ballari District for pipeline Conveyor belt at Subbarayanahalli Iron Ore Mine ML No.2629 in favour of M/s. Karnataka State Mineral Corporation Limited (Erstwhile Mysore Minerals Ltd) (Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/48923/2020 [FORM-A]) under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru has scrutinized and forwarded the same to the undersigned in the online portal. The user agency has submitted hard copy of the proposal to this office vide letter under Ref (3). Further, office of the undersigned had directed the user agency to submit the complete proposal for diversion of 22.2887 hectares (Revised from 23.863 hectares) of forest land in Swamymalai Block, Sandur South Range, Sandur taluk, Ballari District for pipeline Conveyor belt at Subbarayanahalli Iron Ore Mine ML No.2629 in favour of M/s. Karnataka State Mineral Corporation Limited (Erstwhile Mysore Minerals Ltd). The same has been submitted by the User Agency through the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Ballari vide letters under Ref (5).

A perusal of the records submitted and upon personal visit to the proposed site on 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2022, it is observed that the user Agency has submitted the proposal for sanction of Forest Clearance for pipeline Conveyor belt at Subbarayanahalli Iron Ore Mine ML No.2629 over an extent of 22.2887 hectares. The said area falls in Swamymalai Block which is having Southern Dry Deciduous Type of Forest (Eco- class III). Further, elucidated here under are the details about the Lease and the proposal;

a) **Details of the Mining Lease:** M/s. Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited (formerly known as M/s. Mysore Minerals Limited, Bangalore) was granted lease vide CI.70 MMM.2006 dated: 27.11.2007 (M.L.No.2629) w.e.f. 13.04.1999 to 12.04.2019 for a period of 20 years to an extent of 80.93 hectares for mining of iron ore. Further, the Commerce and Industries Department, Government of Karnataka has extended the lease period as per the MMDR (Amendment) Act, 2015, imposing certain conditions vide No. CI-120 MMM-2016 dated: 07.02.2019. The New MMDR lease deed has been signed between lessee and the Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Bengaluru on 20.05.2019 over an extent of 80.06 hectares (as finalized by CEC) **valid up to 12.04.2049.**

b) **Details of the Forest Clearance for the said Lease:** The user agency was given approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 80.93 ha of forest land vide letter No.8-114/92-FC dated: 20.11.2000 of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, FC Division and the Government of Karnataka vide G.O. FEE 16 FFM 92, Bengaluru Dated: 28.11.2000 has also accorded FC approval co-terminus with the period of mining lease. Accordingly, the lease period of M.L.No.2629, **was expired on 12.04.2019.**

The Government of Karnataka vides G.O. No. FEE-45 FFM-2019 dated: 13.01.2020 has accorded approval for extension of FC period co-terminus with the period of mining lease in accordance with the MMDR Act, 2015 (**i.e. up to 12.04.2049**) in respect of M.L No.2629 in favour of M/s. Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited (formerly known as M/s. Mysore Minerals Limited, Bangalore).

#### **Details of this instant proposal;**

M/s. Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited [erstwhile M/s. Mysore Minerals Limited (ML No. 2629) has initiated the proposal in response to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India (order Dt.21.03.2017 in its WP No. 562/2009) stated that (In page No.19 & 21) ;

(x) *The closed pipe downhill conveyer systems will be installed at their cost by :*

(a) *Each one of the Category-A / Category-B leases with MPAP of 1 MMT and above and balance lease period of 8 years and above (six leases in District Ballari and one in District Chitradurga identified) ;*

Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has passed the order Dt.13.09.2017 (In page No.5) & 07.12.2017 (In page No.7) in its WP No. 562/2009 and says that, in the first instance, the following six mines / leases conveyor belt system should be set up by the lessees themselves;

SI No	User Agency	ML No.	MPAP	Division
1	M/s SMIORE,	2580	1.60 MMT	Ballari
2	M/s VESCO	2296	1.10 MMT	Ballari
3	M/s B.Kumaragowda	2516	1.26 MMT	Ballari
4	KSMCL(MML)	2605	0.65 MMT	Ballari
5	KSMCL (MML)	2629	3.00 MMT	Ballari
6	M/s Vedanta Ltd	2677	2.29 MMT	Chitradurga

Therefore, M/s. Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited; ML No. 2629 (erstwhile M/s. Mysore Minerals Limited) has submitted online application for diversion of 22.2887 hectares (Revised from 23.863 hectares) of forest land in Swamymalai Block, Sandur South Range, Sandur taluk, Ballari District for pipeline Conveyor belt at Subbarayanahalli



- Iron Ore Mine ML No.2629 in favour of M/s. Karnataka State Mineral Corporation Limited (Erstwhile Mysore Minerals Ltd) under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- (i) **Extent of Pipe Conveyor Belt proposal:** Total area of proposal is 29.5848 hectares. Out of this 7.2961 hectares comes under revenue land and 22.2887 hectares comes under forest land. The user agency has submitted the Downhill proposal for diversion **22.287 hectares** of Forest land at Swamymalai Block, Sandur South Range, Sandur for Pipe Conveyor Belt at Subbarayanahalli Iron Ore Mine ML No.2629. Details of the area south are as following;

Sl. No.	Area applied for Forest Clearance	Length (meters)	Width (meters)	Area	
				(in Sqm)	(In ha)
1	Downhill Pipe Conveyor	4970.388	20	99407.786	9.9407
2	Service Road	5213.979	15	78209.688	7.8209
3	Transfer point	-	-	-	0.9974
4	Discharge Area	-	-	-	3.5297
<b>Total</b>					<b>22.2887</b>

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. Further to this, the User Agency has prepared and submitted the Catchment Area Treatment Plan(CATP) with the proposal. The same has been submitted for approval.

It is felt that the proposed width of the planned Conveyor belt (20m) and Service Roads (15m) were on higher side and thus clarification was sought from the proponent about the same (Vide letter Dt.16.04.2022). Giving the details of dimensions/width required for various components of the said project, the proponents/User Agency has justified the planned width Conveyor Belt (20m) and Service Roads (15m) (vide letter Dt.23.05.2022).

The User agency proposes to build loading point within existing lease Area for which they have to obtain approval for change in Mining Plan from concerned Authorities.

- (ii) **Net Present Value (NPV):** M/s. Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited [erstwhile M/s. Mysore Minerals Limited (ML No. 2629) has submitted an undertaking for remittance of Net Present Value (NPV) over an extent of 22.2887 hectares.
- (iii) **Compensatory Afforestation (CA):** the user agency has identified C & D land at Sy.No.1251(p) of Kuduthini Village, Ballari Taluk, Ballari District over an extent of 22.2887 hectares for raising of Compensatory Afforestation. The said land has been transferred and mutated in favour of Forest Department.
- (iv) Certificate in Form-I under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, from the Deputy Commissioner is not been issued yet. In this regard, M/s. Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited [erstwhile M/s. Mysore Minerals Limited (ML No. 2629), Sandur has submitted request letter to Deputy Commissioner, Ballari vide letter Dt:05.11.2020.
- (v) 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 19.82 km away from the Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary and 18.81 kms away from Eco-sensitive zone of Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary. It is 12.05 km away from the Gudekote Sloth Bear Sanctuary and 10.73 kms away from Eco-sensitive zone of Gudekote Sloth Bear Sanctuary.

The proposal for diversion of 22.2887 hectare of forest land for pipeline Conveyor belt at Subbarayanahalli Iron Ore Mine ML No.2629 in Swamymalai(SM) Block, Sandur South Range,

Sandur taluk, Ballari District, Karnataka M/s. Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited [erstwhile M/s. Mysore Minerals Limited] is recommended for further approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

This is submitted for your kind information and needful action.

Yours Faithfully,

Sd/-

Deputy Conservator of Forests  
Ballari Division, Ballari

- 1) Copy submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru for kind information.
- 2) Copy to the M/s. Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited [erstwhile M/s. Mysore Minerals Limited, Subbarayanahalli Iron Ore Mine ML No.2629, Sandur for information.

o/c

Deputy Conservator of Forests  
Ballari Division, Ballari

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