

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FOREST BALLARI DIVISION, BALLARI

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

The proposed site for diversion of 235.648 ha (Regularization of 96.868 ha in use of ancillary activities and 138.78 ha interlocked forest patches between these infrastructures) of forest land in Donimalai Forest Block, Sandur South Range, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District in favour of M/s. NMDC Limited, Donimalai was inspected personally by me on 01st June 2021.

The proposed unit of land measuring 235.648 ha (Regularization of 96.868 ha in use of ancillary activities and 138.78 ha interlocked forest patches between these infrastructures) falls in Donimalai Forest Block. The Forest is of Eco class-III with Southern Dry Deciduous type of Forests. Further, M/s. NMDC Limited has established the infrastructure and used 96.868 ha of forest land without Forest Clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. In this regard, penalty / interest on NPV charges (from 1977 or commencement of FC Act, 1980) may be imposed on the user agency for the violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as per the provision of the Act. In this regard, the User Agency has submitted that, most of the facilities or components for which the current diversion proposed in mooted were created before 1980. Hitherto, the User Agency has not taken necessary approvals under provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and is endeavoring to do the same now.

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 18.30 km away from the Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary and 17.00 kms away from Eco-sensitive zone of Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary. It is 16.10 km away from the Gudekote Sloth Bear Sanctuary and 11.60 kms away from Eco-sensitive zone of Gudekote Sloth Bear Sanctuary.

The proponent (M/s. NMDC Limited) has been asked to demarcate the portion of Forest that is utilized for various purposes separately from the intact Forest patches (interlocked) for which the diversion in proposed.

The proposal for diversion of 235.648 ha (Regularization of 96.868 ha in use of ancillary activities and 138.78 ha interlocked forest patches between these infrastructures) of forest land at Donimalai Complex, Donimalai Forest Block, Sandur South Range, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District in favour of M/s. NMDC Limited, Donimalai is submitted for further consideration.

Dated:01.06.2021

Place: Ballari

Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division, Ballari