

**Vijayanagar Works :**

P.O. Vidyanagar - 583 275,
Dist. Ballari, Karnataka, India.

CIN. : L27102MH1994PLC152925

Phone : +91 8395 250 120-30

Fax : +91 8395 250 132/142

Website : www.jsw.in

Justification for locating the project in the forestland

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 10(B), Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, in accordance with the Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules, 2015 and The Mineral Auction Rules, 2015 notified there under and Supreme Court Judgement, Government of Karnataka had identified C Category Iron ore mines for electronic auction for grant of mining lease. Accordingly, the auction of "M/s. Mysore Minerals Ltd. ML No. 995" (One of the C Category Mines) was held on 05.09.2018. In the auction, JSW Steel Ltd. has been declared the preferred bidder under clause 8.1B(c) of Tender Document. The office of Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Karnataka has issued Letter of Intent (LoI) vide LoI no. **DMG/MLS/AUC/"C"-995/2018-19** dated 06.10.2018. Upon submission of mining plan and necessary upfront payment, JSW has been declared successful bidder vide letter no. DMG-17012/7/2018/2019-20 dated 07.08.2019.

We had requested the concerned authority for transfer of Forest Clearance and FC was transferred vide letter no. 4-KRC032/2004-BAN/334 of Regional Office, Bengaluru dated 27.05.2019 and vide G.O. FEE 01 FFM 2019, Bengaluru dated 13.11.2019. In the FC Transfer letter, we were instructed to seek renewal of FC under the provisions of FCA, 1980, as the transferred FC was valid up to 28.09.2020. In compliance, we have submitted an online application on FC Portal.

The Approach Road proposed has an average width of **12 m** and **1.597 km** in length covering an area of **1.9175 Ha.** including both forest and non-forest land. The proposed approach road in forest area is covering **0.8148 Ha.** (679.003 m long, 12m wide). The remaining road stretch falls in non-forest land and covers **1.1027 Ha.** (918.917 m long; 12m wide) of the total area. The forest land falls in Ubbalagundi Reserved Forest of Ballari Range near Ubbalagundi village.

The approach road is a critical element that serves the access to the mining lease for transporting Men, Machinery & Material. The material will be transported by using Dumper or Dumper-rail mechanism, until the pipe conveyor comes in operation but approach road will be required till the life of mine life for the transportation of men and machinery. The proposed road is already in existence and the same stretch was used by the erstwhile lessee for transportation of material, men and machineries. Therefore, it can be justified that the said project was planned to minimize the diversion of forestland.

Date: 24.01.2023

Place: Ballari

For M/s JSW Steel Ltd.

Authorized Signatory