



**Government of Karnataka**

**R.P.A.D**

No. FEE 19 FFM 2020 (e)

Karnataka Government Secretariat  
Multistoried Buildings  
Bengaluru, Date: 09-10-2020

**From:**

**The Additional Chief Secretary to Government,**  
Forest, Ecology and Environment Department,  
Bengaluru-560001.

**To:**

**The Secretary to Government of India,**  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,  
Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003.

**Sir,**

**Sub:** Diversion of 484.0733 hectare (including 470.40 hectare for Mining Lease and the remaining for ancillary purposes like Conveyor Corridor, Transmission Line, Service Roads outside Mining Lease, etcl,) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru.

**Ref:** Letter A5(1).MNG.CR.21/20417-18, dated: 13-02-2020 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Bengaluru..

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With reference to the above subject, I am directed to state that the State Government has overruled the opinion of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Bengaluru vide letter referred at above and has recommended for the Forest Clearance of the proposal as mentioned above.

The reasons for the State Government overruling the PCCF (HoFF)'s opinion and recommending the proposal for FC in Part V of the proposal are mentioned below:

1. The KIOCL has agreed as a goodwill gesture to develop a forest corridor for easy movement of animals, particularly elephants, in the State of Karnataka. Accordingly, the Company has committed to spend Rs. 50 crores over a period of 10 years to develop the corridor. This would be done by spending an amount of Rs. 10 crores during the first year after execution of the Mining Lease, Followed by Rs. 4-5 crores per anum in the next 9 years totalling Rs. 50 crores.
2. The User Agency has also agreed to implement planting of saplings under the guidance of the Forest Department at the project site as well as the abandoned mining area.



3. The Company will pay towards Compensatory Afforestation (CA) charges, Net Present Value (NPV), etc applicable to Central PSUs.
4. The Company is a flagship CPSU steel producer in the State. It is for the first time that it has obtained a captive mine in the State. Further, it has plans to invest around Rs 3500 crores in the State and provide employment to 1500 persons. Such investment and employment would enhance the State GSDP and also provide revenues to the State.
5. The User Agency has also stated that the proposed ML is already reserved for the Company by the Department of Commerce and Industries (Mines) of Government of Karnataka vide Notification No. CI 294 MMM 2015, dated 23-01-2017 and has obtained mining plan approval plan from Indian Bureau of Mines on 08-03-2018 for production of 2 mtpa Iron Ore. The Company is ready to exclude 82 hectares out of 484.0733 hectares forest land. Hence the User Agency requires 388 hectares for mining and 13.5761 hectares for ancillary purposes (construction of downhill conveyor, approach road etc.). Thus, as per the requirement of User Agency, **the proposed land extent will be revised to 401.5761 hectares.**

In the light of the facts explained above, the State Government has overruled the recommendation of the field officers of Forest Department and requests that **'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval** may be conveyed under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 401.5761 hectare of forest land (388.0000 ha for mining + 13.5761 hectares for approach road, downhill conveyor etc.) in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru by stipulating suitable conditions.

Yours faithfully

(S. Srinivasa)

Under Secretary to Government

[O/C] Forest, Ecology and Environment Department (Forest-C)

09/10/2020

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Aranya Bhavan, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003.
2. Spare Copies / SGF.

Issue: 13/10/2020  
Dated: 13/10/2020



### Part-V

(To be filled in by the Secretary in charge of Forest Department or by any other authorised officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

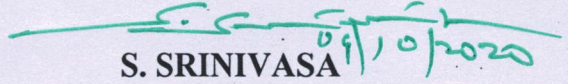
Recommendation of the State Government	Recommended for according 'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 401.5761 hectare of forest land ( <i>revised from 484.0733 hectare</i> ) (388.0000 ha for mining + 13.5761 hectares for approach road, downhill conveyor etc.,) in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru.
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(Adverse comments made by any officer or authority in Part-II or Part-III or Part-IV above should be specifically commented upon)

Signature :

Name: :

Office Seal: :

  
S. SRINIVASA

Under Secretary to Government

Forest, Ecology and Environment Department (Forest-C)

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09/10/2020

File No: FEE 19 FFM 2020 (e)

Place: Bengaluru

Date: 09-10-2020