



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
 पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST &
 CLIMATE CHANGE**
 क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, **REGIONAL OFFICE**

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BY SPEED POST
 F.No.4-KRC1521/2025-BAN
 Date **As per the signature**

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka,
 Forest, Ecology & Environment Department,
 M.S. Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi,
 Bangalore – 560 001.

Subject: Diversion of 19.3044 ha of forest land in North Eastern (NE) Block, Sandur North Range, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for pipeline Conveyor Belt at Thimmappanagudi Iron Ore Mine, ML No.2605 in favour of M/s Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited [erstwhile M/s Mysore Minerals Limited], Bengaluru. (Online Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/47146/2020) -reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. FEE 48 FFM 2022 (e) dated 17/09/2025 and 06/06/2026 seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section '2(1)' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for the above project.

The proposal was examined by the Regional Empowered Committee constituted under Rule 6 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 in its meeting held on 24/06/2026.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of the approval of the Regional Empowered Committee, **in-principle approval /Stage-I clearance** of the Central Government is hereby granted for diversion of **19.3044 ha.** of forest land in North Eastern (NE) Block, Sandur North Range, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for pipeline Conveyor Belt at Thimmappanagudi Iron Ore Mine, ML No.2605 in favour of M/s Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited [erstwhile M/s Mysore Minerals Limited], Bengaluru, subject to the following conditions:-

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars,

each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar.

3. The land identified for Compensatory Afforestation i.e. 19.3044 ha in Sy. No. 1251(p) of Kuduthini Village, Ballari Taluk and District shall be transferred and mutated in favour of Forest Department.
4. The non-forest land transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department shall be notified by the State Government as Protected forest under section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant section(s) of the local Forest Act, before handing over the forest land to the user agency.
5. The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the Compensatory Afforestation as per the site-specific Compensatory Afforestation (CA) scheme prepared by the State Forest Department.
6. The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal as per the guideline issued by Ministry vide letter No.5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I) dated 06/01/2022 and as per the provision of Chapter 3 of the consolidated Guidelines and Clarification issued vide MoEF&CC order dated 29.12.2023.
7. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
8. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited in CAMPA account only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.
9. The KML file of the forest area to be diverted and CA area shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details and same shall be submitted along with compliance report including GPS ids of E-green watch portal.
10. The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
11. **The State Forest Department shall enlist the species-wise enumeration details of all trees included under the "Others" category in the enumeration list.**
12. **The State Forest Department shall include a site-specific Crop Improvement Plan indicating the proposed improvement works. Wherever gaps are available, plantation shall be undertaken as part of the crop improvement measures.**
13. **The User Agency shall undertake all possible measures to minimize the felling of trees, wherever feasible, during the implementation of the project.**
14. **The User Agency shall include a site-specific Soil and Moisture Conservation Plan duly approved by the competent authority, incorporating appropriate measures for prevention of soil erosion and stabilization of the steep slopes.**
15. The User Agency shall ensure that because of this project, no damage is

caused to the wildlife available in the area.

16. The User Agency/State Government shall submit the site-specific Wildlife Mitigation Plan duly approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW), Government of Karnataka.
17. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
18. No additional or new paths will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
19. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
20. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
21. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 19.3044 ha. The user agency shall furnish the undertaking to this effect.
22. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
23. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
24. User Agency shall obtain the Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
25. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
26. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government and Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore by the end of March every year.
27. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
28. The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
29. The State Govt. shall ensure that the complete compliance of FRA 2006 as per the rule 11 (7) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023.
30. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife.
31. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.

After receipt of the compliance report on the fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under section '2(1)' of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be effected till final approval is granted by the Government in this regard.

Further, it may also be noted that this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of noncompliance of the above conditions within 5 years, the in-principle approval may be revoked by

the Central Government.

Yours faithfully,

(Yasodha K)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Chief Executive Officer, National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority, Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change, 3rd Floor (Front Portion), Supreme Court Metro Station Building (Line-3), New Delhi-110 001.
2. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Agni Wing, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003.
3. The Chief Executive Officer, State CAMPA, O/o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bengaluru – 560 003.
4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC) /Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
6. The Managing Director, M/s. Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Ltd, 5th Floor, 'A' Block, TTMC Building, BMTC, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru -560 027.
7. Guard file /Office Copy.