

### **JUSTIFICATION FOR FOREST CLEARANCE OF APPROACH ROAD TO ML No. 2313**

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 10 (B) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957 and in accordance with the Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules 2015 and The Mineral Auction Rules 2015 notified there under, and also Supreme Court judgement, Karnataka Government had identified C Category Iron ore mines for electronic auction for grant of mining lease.

Accordingly, the auction of M/s. Hothur Traders (ML: 2313 - one of the C Category Mines) was held on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016. In the auction, JSW Steel Ltd. has been declared the preferred bidder under clause 8.1 B (c) of Tender Document. Accordingly, a letter from the office of the Commissioner and Director, Department of Mines and Geology has been issued to JSW Steel Ltd. We propose to start the mining operations after completion of all the statutory clearances.

Now, it is observed that, although the FC is valid for the mining lease ML No 2313, we require to Forest Clearance for the approach road leading to the mines. There is an existing road which was in use, prior to the closure of mines. Though, the Joint Survey was done in the presence of Forest Dept., Dept. of Mines & Geology and Revenue Dept. as per the compliance of the letter no. *M1/MNG/Nandi/M.L.2313/2016-17* dated 05.01.2017. We are putting up a revised proposal for obtaining forest clearance for movement of Men & Machinery and Transportation of Iron Ore. The road stretch proposed is 12 m in width, 3540 Mt in length covering an area of 4.25 Ha. This is the best suited road after the joint inspection done by Forest Dept., Dept. of Mines & Geology & Revenue Dept.