

**JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN THE FOREST LAND
FOR APPROACH ROAD FOR BELLARY IRON ORE MINE ML No. 2366**

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 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 Tungabhadra Minerals Pvt. Ltd (ML: 2366 - one of the C Category Mines) was held on 4th 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 2366 and the process to transfer the forest clearance is under process, we are required to obtain Forest Clearance for the approach road leading to the mines. There is an existing road which was in use by the erstwhile lessee, prior to the closure of mines. 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/Tunga/M.L.2366/2016-17 dated 05.01.2017. We are putting up a revised proposal for obtaining forest clearance on the same alignment of the road for movement of Men & Machinery and Transportation of Iron Ore. The road stretch proposed has an average width of **12 m. and 3.95 Km.** in length covering an area of **4.74 Ha.**

This is the shortest route requiring the least forest area diversion after the Joint Inspection and there is no other alternate route.