



**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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**034.**

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F.No.4-KRA 1519/2025-BAN  
Dated **As per the signature**

To

The Inspector General of Forests (FC),  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,  
New Delhi – 110 003.

Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section of 2 (1) (v) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 48.20 hectare of forest land (37.45 ha for mining and allied activities in the mining lease area and 10.75 ha for approach road outside the mining lease area of erstwhile lessee of Sri. Sarangapani Mudaliar) in Section-4 of Janeeru Block and Thirthampura Reserved Forest in Sy No. 11 (Part) and 12 (Part) Gollarahalli Village for Mining and allied activities and in Sy. No. 11, 12, 10 and 08 Gollarahalli Village, Sy No. 64 Hosahalli Village, Sy. No. 49 and 48 Kodihalli Village, Sy No. 34 and 33 Tonalapura Village and Sy No. 55 Lakmenahalli Village for Approach Road to the mining lease area in favour of M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited, Bengaluru. (Online Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/154749/2022)-Reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to Ministry's letter 8-05/2025-FC dated 04/09/2025 on the above subject. In this regard, please find attached herewith the site inspection report along with recommendation of the Deputy Director General of Forests (Central) for kind information and necessary action. Further, it is also informed that a compliant was received in this office from Shri. Giridhar Kulkarni regarding the above mentioned proposal and the same has been forwarded to State Government for necessary action. A copy of the same is also enclosed for information and necessary action please..

Yours faithfully,

Digitally signed by

Praneetha Paul

(Praneetha Paul)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Date: 10-10-2025

15:34:48

Encl: As above.

PROFORMA FOR SITE INSPECTION

|                                          | Title of the Project:                                                                                            | Diversion of 48.20 hectare of forest land (37.45 ha for mining and allied activities in the mining lease area and 10.75 ha for approach road outside the mining lease area of erstwhile lessee of Sri. Sarangapani Mudaliar) in section-4 of Janeeru Block and Thirtharampura Reserved Forest in Sy. No.11(Part) and 12 (Part) Gollarahalli village for mining and allied activities and in Sy.No.11,12,10 and 08 Gollarahalli village, Sy.No.64 Hosahalli village, Sy. No. 49 and 48 Kodihalli village, Sy. No. 34 and 33 Tonalapura village and Sy. No.55 Lakmenahalli village for approach road to the mining lease area in favour of M/s Mineral Enterprises private Limited, Bengaluru.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|-----------------|--------|--------------|-------------|
| 1.                                       | Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:                                                          | As per PCCF and HoFF letter No. KFD/HoFF/A5-1 (MNG)/7/2022-FC dated 14/5/25, the legal status of the proposed forest land belongs to Section 4 Notified Forest, Reserve Forest and Deemed Forests. <b>(Copy of the letter attached as Annexure 1)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| 2.                                       | Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion:                                            | <p>As per information provided in Part-1 of the proposal by the user agency, the component wise break up is as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Components</th> <th>Area in ha.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Area for top soil</td> <td>0.505</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area for over burden/ rejection dump</td> <td>7.675</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area for mineral stack/ SGMD</td> <td>2.495</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area for infrastructure</td> <td>0.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area for crushing and screening</td> <td>2.001</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area for safety zone/ Green Belt</td> <td>2.047</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area for approach road- carriage way</td> <td>6.458</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area for approach road- Bridges/culverts</td> <td>3.316</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area for approach road- Drainage</td> <td>0.972</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area for mining</td> <td>22.231</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>48.2</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Components | Area in ha. | Area for top soil | 0.505 | Area for over burden/ rejection dump | 7.675 | Area for mineral stack/ SGMD | 2.495 | Area for infrastructure | 0.5 | Area for crushing and screening | 2.001 | Area for safety zone/ Green Belt | 2.047 | Area for approach road- carriage way | 6.458 | Area for approach road- Bridges/culverts | 3.316 | Area for approach road- Drainage | 0.972 | Area for mining | 22.231 | <b>Total</b> | <b>48.2</b> |
| Components                               | Area in ha.                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| Area for top soil                        | 0.505                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| Area for over burden/ rejection dump     | 7.675                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| Area for mineral stack/ SGMD             | 2.495                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| Area for infrastructure                  | 0.5                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| Area for crushing and screening          | 2.001                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| Area for safety zone/ Green Belt         | 2.047                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| Area for approach road- carriage way     | 6.458                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| Area for approach road- Bridges/culverts | 3.316                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| Area for approach road- Drainage         | 0.972                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| Area for mining                          | 22.231                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>48.2</b>                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |
| 3.                                       | Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof: | Yes, as per the component wise break up, a total of 0.5 ha of forest land is for development of infrastructure, however no details on the proposed construction activities have been provided.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |            |             |                   |       |                                      |       |                              |       |                         |     |                                 |       |                                  |       |                                      |       |                                          |       |                                  |       |                 |        |              |             |

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| 4. | Total cost of the project at present rates: | 40 crores                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 5. | Wildlife:                                   | Sloth bear, leopard, Wild Boar, Blackbuck, Hyena, Indian wolf, Jackal, Jungle cat and other small mammals and birds.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6. | Vegetation:                                 | Dry deciduous and scrub forests. Some of the species found are <i>Erythroxylum monogynum</i> , <i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> , <i>Rhinacanthus nasutus</i> , <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Croton bonplandianus</i> , <i>Diosporus montana</i> , <i>Echinops echinatus</i> , <i>Emblica officinalis</i> , wild edible plants like <i>Solanum nigrum</i> , <i>Terminalia chebula</i> , <i>Anacardium occidentale</i> , <i>Tamarindus indica</i> , <i>Canthium coromondelicum</i> , timber yielding plants like <i>Acacia chundra</i> , <i>Acacia nilotica</i> , <i>Albizia lebback</i> , <i>Ailanthus excels</i> , <i>Acacia ferruginea</i> , <i>Albizia procera</i> , <i>Chloroxylon swietenia</i> , <i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> , <i>Hardwickia binnata</i> , <i>Santalum album</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Terminalia alata</i> and ornamental plants like <i>Shroea roxburghii</i> , <i>Jasminum auriculatum</i> etc, Endangered sps like <i>Aegle marmelos</i> , <i>Feronia elephantum</i> , <i>Sterculia urens</i> to name a few |
| 7. | Background note on the proposal:            | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The proposed forest area for diversion, forms a part of the erstwhile mining lease (ML No.1234) granted to Sri. Sarangapani Mudaliyar in 1950's over an area of 982.19 hectares. This area was then treated as a revenue land.</li> <li>2. In the year 1999, on account of prior termination/ surrender of the said mining lease, the Government of Karnataka regranted a portion of the lease area (515.98 ha) to various parties. Aggrieved with this, a few parties approached the Hon'ble High Court. Based on the High Court order, the above lease area (515.98 ha) was regranted by the Government of Karnataka on 23/1/2003 to five parties, one of which was the project proponent (M/s Mineral Enterprises Private limited). The others are Sri. Praveen Chandra, M/s Milan Mineral Enterprises (P) Ltd, Sr. R.N.Ashok, M/s Banashankari Mining Corporation and Sr. M.Babanna. This regranted area was also</li> </ol>                                                              |

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|  |  | <p>treated as revenue land.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. The remaining lease area (466.21 ha) was regranted by the Government of Karnataka Vide Notification No. DMG/MLS/ADV/04-05 dated 20/7/2004 to four parties namely M/s Goa Minerals, Smt. Prema Chanappa, M/s Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. and M/s Dhruvadesh Metasteels (P) Ltd. This was done on the basis that the said lease area is a notified Forest Land (Thirthrampura Reserve Forest, Mysore Government Notification No. G.552-3-3004-5 dated 25/02/1902).</li> <li>4. The project proponent (M/s Mineral enterprises) was granted mining lease over an area of 72.16 hac, by the Government of Karnataka vide letter No. 5/184/2007-M.IV dated 17/3/2008.</li> <li>5. The Karnataka Forest Department, on 4/8/1994 issued a notification bearing AHFF 205 FAF 88 under Section-4 of Karnataka Forest Act, 1963, notifying an area of 323.88 ha in Sy.No.41,42 &amp; 43 of Janecru Village, Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk, Tumkur District. However, based on the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (C) No. 562/2009, the State Government issued a corrigendum to the above said notification and increased the extent of forest area to 1545.04 ha vide Karnataka Gazette No. FEE 188 FAF 2014 dated 14/9/2014. <b>(Copy of the corrigendum is attached as Annexure 2).</b></li> <li>6. Aggrieved by the said corrigendum, several writ petitions were filed before the Hon'ble High Court. Based on the directions of the High Court, the ACS (Forests) set aside the Section 4 notification and the subsequent corrigendum on 21/12/2015, which was published in the Gazette of Karnataka No. 1768 Part IV-A dated 30/12/2015.</li> <li>7. M/s Mineral Enterprises Private limited filed a Writ petition No. 43690/2016 before the Hon'ble High Court seeking execution of lease for 50 years. The High Court vide order dated 21/11/2016 directed for execution of lease before 31/12/2016.</li> <li>8. However, in the year 2018, the then ACS (Forests) reconsidered/ reviewed the ACS order</li> </ol> |
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|    |              | <p>dated 21/12/2015 and set aside the said order on 29/6/2018.</p> <p>9. Sine the State had not executed the mining lease as per the High Court order, a contempt petition was filed by M/s Mineral Enterprises Private limited, before the Hon'ble High Court CCC (Civil) 1829-2017 on 20/8/2018, for non-execution of mining lease.</p> <p>10. The State Government in the year 2019, filed an SLP Diary No.1663/2019 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court, challenging the Hon'ble High Court order dated 21/11/2016 to execute the lease in favour of M/s Mineral Enterprises private Limited.</p> <p>11. The Hon'ble Supreme Court on 16/11/2021 finally held that the area notified under Section-4 in the year 1994 and the subsequent Corrigendum in the year 2014 (Janeeru Block) is "Forest" land.</p> <p>12. Subsequently, the project proponent, M/s Mineral Enterprises Limited has applied for diversion of 53.52 ha (37.45 hac for mining and 16.07 hac for road) of forest land, which has been reduced to 48.20 ha by the Karnataka Forest Department.</p> <p>13. MoEF &amp; CC vide letter No.8-03/2017-FC dated 13/01/2017 and No.8-04/2017-FC dated 13/01/2017 directed the Regional Office, Bengaluru to submit site inspection report of mining leases pertaining to Sri. M.Babanna and M/s Goa Minerals Pvt. Ltd. Both the mining lease areas are adjacent to the area proposed by the present project proponent. <b>(Copy of the map attached as Annexure 3).</b> The site inspection report submitted to MoEF &amp; CC vide letter F.No.F(C) A/11.6/360/Misc/Kar/ML/2217 dated 13/3/2017 and F.No.F(C) A/11.6/359/Misc/Kar/ML/2216 dated 13/3/2017 has not recommended the proposal and suggested that the area may be left as such keeping the ecological restoration in mind. <b>(Copy of the inspection reports is attached as Annexure 4).</b></p> |
| 8. | Compensatory | Non-Forest land to an extent of 48.25 hac has been                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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|  | afforestation: | identified in the following areas: | District                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Village                                                                                                                                                                       | Sy.No  | CA area proposed in Ha. |  |  |
|  |                |                                    | Chamrajanagara<br><br>(MM Hills Sanctuary, Kollegal Division)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Ponnachi                                                                                                                                                                      | 96/A3  | 32.50                   |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 96/AP2 | 2.39                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 436/2  | 2.01                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 437/2B | 2.02                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 439    | 1.80                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 440    | 1.96                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 441/3  | 0.42                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    | Chamarajanagara<br><br>(BRT Tiger Reserve, Chamrajanagara Division)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Gowdahalli                                                                                                                                                                    | 53     | 1.87                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 59/1   | 0.28                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 59/2   | 0.14                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 59/5   | 0.15                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 59/5   | 0.05                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 59/6A  | 0.71                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Agara                                                                                                                                                                         | 957    | 0.44                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 960    | 0.94                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               | 961    | 0.57                    |  |  |
|  |                |                                    | Total                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                               |        | 48.25                   |  |  |
|  |                |                                    | As per the site suitability certificate of DCF, BRT Tiger Reserve, the non-forest land identified is not suitable for planting as the survival of seedlings cannot be ensured due to high density of herbivores in the area. Hence, DCF, Tumkur has identified an additional 11.00 ha of degraded forest land in Kenglapura Village, Handanakere Hobli, Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk, Tumkur District for raising the CA plantation. |                                                                                                                                                                               |        |                         |  |  |
|  |                |                                    | 9.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials: | No     |                         |  |  |
|  |                |                                    | 10.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons.                                                                                                                | No     |                         |  |  |

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| 11. | Reclamation Plan:                                          | Not submitted                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 12. | Details on catchment and command area under the project:   | Not submitted.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 13. | Cost benefit ratio:                                        | 1:22.58 (as per part 1 of the proposal submitted by the user agency)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 14. | Recommendations of the PCCF/State Government:              | Recommended by PCCF & HoFF vide No. KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/7/2022-FC dated 14/5/25 and State Government vide Letter No. FEE 31 FFM 2025 (e) dated 06.08.2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 15. | Recommendations of the officer conducting site inspection: | <p>The site inspection was carried out on 23/9/25 and 25/9/25.</p> <p><b><u>General observations:</u></b></p> <p>1. There is a lack of clarity on the legal status of the forest area proposed for diversion. The Karnataka Forest Department in its letter to the ACS (Forests) KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/7/2022-FC dated 14/5/25, has mentioned Sy. No.8, Gollarahalli Village as Section 4 notified Forest. However, the Corrigendum No. FEE 188 FAF 2014 dated 14/9/2014 does not mention Sy.No.8 in Gollarahalli Village. <b>(Copy of the letter to ACS and Corrigendum is attached as Annexure 1 and 2).</b></p> <p>2. The Environment Clearance (EC) submitted by the project proponent dated 18/3/2010 mentions the proposed lease area as "Revenue Land". Hence, this EC is not valid. <b>(Copy of the EC dated 18/3/2010 is attached as Annexure 5).</b></p> <p>3. Consent for establishment issued by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board dated 16/6/2010 is not valid as it was issued only for five years. <b>(Copy of the consent letter submitted by the project proponent is attached as Annexure 6).</b></p> <p>4. The proposed area has an undulating terrain with hills and valleys and hence is prone to erosion. Soil and moisture conservation plan in consultation with the</p> |

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|  |  | <p>Forest Department has not been submitted.</p> <p>5. The proposed area passes through the default Eco sensitive zone of the Bukkapatna Wild Life Sanctuary. Mining is a prohibited activity as per the Guidelines for declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones around National Parks and Willife Sanctuaries, 2011. Hence, mining as such cannot be undertaken in these areas. <b>(Copy of the guidelines attached as Annexure 7).</b></p> <p>6. The proposed area passes through the default Eco sensitive zone of the Bukkapatna Wild Life Sanctuary. However, the recommendations of the Chief wild life warden and approval of the NBWL clearance have not been submitted.</p> <p>7. As per Part IV of the proposal, the PCCF and HoFF, Karnataka has recorded the absence of a valid lease for the project. As per MoEF and CC letter F.No.5-01/2017-FC dated 8/2/2017, application without a valid mining lease will not be considered for forest clearance <b>(Copy of the letter attached as Annexure 8).</b></p> <p>8. As per Part IV of the proposal, the PCCF and HoFF, Karnataka, has stated that the above-mentioned project is sub-judice as final orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP Diary No. 1663/2019 is still pending in the Supreme Court. Hence until final orders of the supreme court, the proposal cannot be processed further.</p> <p><b><u>Observation on alternatives:</u></b></p> <p>9. Discussion with the forest department revealed the presence of alternatives for the proposed road, without utilizing the forest area. The User Agency in consultation with the forest Department needs to explore the possibility of using the existing road inside the forest area, rather than diverting fresh forest areas. This would reduce the number of trees to be felled.</p> <p><b><u>Observations on the Compensatory Afforestation proposed.</u></b></p> <p>10. Site inspection of the non-forest land proposed for Compensatory Afforestation revealed the following:</p> |
|--|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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| <b>A.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |            |        |                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------|-------------------------|
| District                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Village    | Sy.No  | CA area proposed in Ha. |
| Chamarajanagara<br><br>(BRT Tiger Reserve, Chamrajanagara Division)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Gowdahalli | 53     | 1.87                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 59/1   | 0.28                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 59/2   | 0.14                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 59/5   | 0.15                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 59/5   | 0.05                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 59/6A  | 0.71                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Agara      | 957    | 0.44                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 960    | 0.94                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 961    | 0.57                    |
| <p>As per the field forest officers, Sy.No. 957, 960 and 961 shares border with deemed forest. Sy.No.53 shares boundary with BRT extension block and section-4 area, while Sy.No 59/1, 59/2, 59/5 and 59/6A are enclosures inside the BRT Extension block.</p> <p>Inspection revealed that all the non-forest lands proposed have thick forest vegetation with high canopy density and not suitable for taking up planting under CA. <b>(Photographs and KML file attached as Annexure 9).</b></p> |            |        |                         |
| <b>B.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |            |        |                         |
| District                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Village    | Sy.No  | CA area proposed in Ha. |
| Chamarajanagara<br><br>(MM Hills Sanctuary, Kollegal Division)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Ponnachi   | 96/A3  | 32.50                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 96/AP2 | 2.39                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 436/2  | 2.01                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 437/2B | 2.02                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 439    | 1.80                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 440    | 1.96                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | 441/3  | 0.42                    |
| <p>Inspection of the above non forest lands revealed that all the areas are enclosures within the MM Hills Sanctuary. They are thickly forested with very high canopy density and hence not suitable for taking up planting activity. <b>(photographs and KML file attached as Annexure 10).</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                               |            |        |                         |
| <p><b>C.</b> The additional 11.00 ha of degraded forest land identified in Kenglapura Village, Handanakere Hobli, Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk, Tumkur District for raising the CA plantation was inspected and found</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |            |        |                         |

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H-11/1

|  |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  | <p>suitable for taking up planting activity (<b>Photographs attached as Annexure 11</b>). However, the KML file and CA scheme has not been submitted.</p> <p><b>D.</b> Rule 13 of VSESA, 2023 for creation of CA states that a programme for improvement of forest crop may be implemented by the forest Department if the NFL land proposed for CA already bear a vegetation of canopy density of 0.4 and above. As all the areas proposed have good canopy density, the Forest Department may consider the possibility of CA under Rule 13.</p> <p><b><u>Ecological implications of the proposed project.</u></b></p> <p><b>11.</b> The forest area under consideration falls inside the Thirthampura Reserve Forests and the Section-4 areas of the Janneru Block in Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk of Tumkur District. This area was mined for Iron and Manganese until the year 1999. Since then, the area has been protected and this has resulted in complete restoration of the entire landscape comprising of dry deciduous forests of canopy density of up to 0.7 in certain areas. A study by <i>Yatheesharadhya et al*</i> in the year 2021 on the "<i>Floristic Investigation and Soil Analysis of Thirthampura Reserve Forest, Chikkanayakanahalli</i>" revealed that these forests are a rich repository to native and endemic species of 126 plant species belonging to 99 genera and 41 families in terms of trees (60%) followed by shrubs, (21%), herbs (10%), and climbers (9%). Medicinal plants like <i>Erythroxylum monogynum</i>, <i>Hemidesmus indicus</i>, <i>Rhinacanthus nasutus</i>, <i>Azadirachta indica</i>, <i>Croton bonplandianus</i>, <i>Diosporus montana</i>, <i>Echinops echinatus</i>, and <i>Emblica officinalis</i>, wild edible plants like <i>Solanum nigrum</i>, <i>Terminalia chebula</i>, <i>Anacardium occidentale</i>, <i>Tamarindus indica</i>, <i>Canthium coromondelicum</i>, timber yielding plants like <i>Acacia chundra</i>, <i>Acacia nilotica</i>, <i>Albizia lebback</i>, <i>Ailanthus excels</i>, <i>Dalbergia latifolia</i>, <i>Hardwickia binnata</i>, <i>Santalum album</i>, <i>Tectona grandis</i>, <i>Terminalia alata</i> and ornamental plants like <i>Shroea roxburghii</i>, <i>Jasminium auriculatum</i>, are distributed throughout the forests, thus pointing to the fact that the area has completely eco restored itself (<b>Photographs and the KML file of the area are attached as Annexure 12</b>).</p> |
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*[Handwritten signature]*

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|--|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  | <p><b>12.</b> As per the working plan of Tumkur, the major wildlife present in these areas include Sloth bear, Leopard, Hyaena, Indian wolf, Jackal, Wild Boar, Four horned antelope, Jungle cat etc. During site inspection the indirect evidence of the presence of Sloth bear, Leopard, India porcupine, Hare etc were found <b>(Photographs attached as Annexure 13)</b>. Moreover, the Human-wildlife conflict compensation details of Chikkanayakanahalli Range for the past ten years (2015-16 to 2025-26) revealed more than 380 cases including elephants with the compensation amount totaling to Rs.43,01,720/-, thus pointing to the presence of sizeable wildlife population in these areas. Hence, initiation of mining activity in these forests would further aggravate the Human Wildlife conflicts. <b>(Details of wildlife compensation in Chikkanayakanahalli Range is attached as Annexure 14).</b></p> <p><b>13.</b> Chikkanayakanahalli is one of the drought prone Taluks of Tumkur District. The Thirtharampura Reserve Forests and the Janeeru Forest Block form the major water shed for this taluk. Destroying these forests can further aggravate the water scarcity of the area.</p> <p><b>14.</b> MoEF &amp; CC vide letter No.8-03/2017-FC dated 13/01/2017 and No.8-04/2017-FC dated 13/01/2017 directed the Regional Office, Bengaluru to submit site inspection report of mining leases pertaining to Sri. M.Babanna and M/s Goa Minerals Pvt. Ltd. Both of which are adjacent to the area proposed by the present project proponent. <b>(Copy of the map attached as Annexure 3)</b>. The site inspection report submitted to MoEF &amp; CC vide letter F.No.F(C) A/11.6/360/Misc/Kar/ML/2217 dated 13/3/2017 and F.No.F(C) A/11.6/359/Misc/Kar/ML/2216 dated 13/3/2017 has not recommended the proposal and suggested that the area may be left as such keeping the ecological restoration in mind. <b>(Copy of the inspection reports is attached as Annexure 4).</b></p> <p><b>15.</b> In addition to the present proposal, a total of 18 additional mining leases of various project proponents</p> |
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|     |                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|     |                                                                                                                                                                                                           | have been demarcated within the Thirtharampura Reserve Forests and the Janeeru Forest Block (erstwhile ML. 1234 of 989.19 ha) and is awaiting FC clearance, thus adversely affecting landscape of the area. <b>(Copy of the map showing the 19 mining leases pending for FC is attached as Annexure 15).</b> Approval of the mining project will have disastrous effect on the ecology of the area and the socio-economy of the villages situated in these areas. |
| 16. | Recommendations of DDGF (C) along with detailed reasons<br>DDGF (C) shall give detailed comments on whether there are any alternatives routes/alignments for locating the project on the non-forest land: | Enclosed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 17. | Utility of the Project:                                                                                                                                                                                   | Mining for Iron and Manganese                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 18. | Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious value:                                                                                                                                       | No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 19. | Situation w.r.t. any P.A.                                                                                                                                                                                 | The proposed area passes through the default Eco sensitive zone of the Bukkapatna Wild Life Sanctuary.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 20. | Any other information relating to the Project:                                                                                                                                                            | -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

\*Yatheesharadhya B | Meena H. R | Sushma G. C | Poornima M. C | Shashank A. S "Floristic Investigation and Soil Analysis of Thirtharampura Reserve Forest, Chikkanayakanahalli, Karnataka, India" Published in International Journal of Trend in Scientific Research and Development (ijtsrd), ISSN: 2456-6470, Volume-5 | Issue-4, June 2021, pp.263-269.

Name and Designation  
of Inspecting Officer:

  
Signature  
Praneetha Paul  
DIGF

Date of Inspection:

23/9/2025 and 25/9/25.

(11)

## Recommendation of the DDGF

**Title of the proposal:** Diversion of 48.20 hectare of forest land (37.45 ha for mining and allied activities in the mining lease area and 10.75 ha for approach road outside the mining lease area of erstwhile lessee of Sri. Sarangapani Mudaliar) in section-4 of Janeeru Block and Thirtharampura Reserved Forest in Sy. No.11(Part) and 12 (Part) Gollarahalli village for mining and allied activities and in Sy.No.11,12,10 and 08 Gollarahalli village, Sy.No.64 Hosahalli village, Sy. No. 49 and 48 Kodihalli village, Sy. No. 34 and 33 Tonalapura village and Sy. No.55 Lakmenahalli village for approach road to the mining lease area in favour of M/s Mineral Enterprises private Limited, Bengaluru.

The **site inspection was carried out on 23/9/25 and 25/9/25** by DIGF and the inspecting officer has brought out the following points in the Site inspection report.

### General observations on the proposed site for diversion

1. There is ambiguity regarding the legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion. The Karnataka Forest Department, in its letter to the Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) [No. KFD/HOFF/AS-1(MNG)/7/2022-FC dated 14.05.2025], has referred to Sy. No. 8 of Gollarahalli Village as a *Section 4 Notified Forest*. However, the Corrigendum issued by the Government of Karnataka under Section 4 of the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 (vide No. FEE 188 FAF 2014 dated 14.09.2014), does **not** include Sy. No. 8 of Gollarahalli Village within the Janneru Block Forest. (Copies of the letter to the ACS and the Corrigendum are attached as **Annexures 1 and 2**)
2. The Environmental Clearance (EC) submitted by the project proponent, dated 18.03.2010, identifies the proposed lease area as "Revenue Land." Therefore, this EC is **not valid**. (Copy of the EC dated 18.03.2010 is attached as **Annexure 5**.)

3. The Consent for Establishment issued by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) on 16.06.2010 is **no longer valid**, as it was issued for a period of only five years. (Copy of the consent letter submitted by the project proponent is attached as **Annexure 6**.)
4. The proposed site consists of undulating terrain with hills and valleys, making it susceptible to erosion. A soil and moisture conservation plan, prepared in consultation with the Forest Department, has **not been submitted**.
5. The proposed area falls within the default Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of the Bukkapatna Wildlife Sanctuary. As per the *Guidelines for Declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, 2011*, commercial mining is a **prohibited activity** within the ESZ. Hence, mining operations cannot be permitted in this area. (Copy of the guidelines is attached as **Annexure 7**.) and, the recommendations of the Chief wild life warden and approval of the NBWL clearance have not been submitted
6. As stated in Part IV of the proposal, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) and Head of Forest Force (HoFF), Karnataka, have noted that there is **no valid mining lease for the project**. According to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) letter No. F.5-01/2017-FC dated 08.02.2017, any application submitted without a valid mining lease cannot be considered for forest clearance. (Copy of the letter attached as Annexure 8).
7. Further, as recorded in Part IV of the proposal, the PCCF and HoFF have mentioned that the project is **sub judice**, as the final orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP Diary No. 1663/2019 are still pending. Therefore, the proposal cannot be processed further until the Supreme Court delivers its final judgment.
8. During the inspection, the inspecting officer was informed by officials of the Forest Department that **alternative routes exist** for the proposed road which do not require diversion of additional forest area. The User



Agency, in consultation with the Forest Department, should explore the possibility of utilizing the existing road within the forest area to minimize diversion and reduce the number of trees to be felled.

**During the site inspection of the non-forest lands proposed for Compensatory Afforestation (CA), the following details were recorded:**

#### **9. A**

**District:** Chamarajanagara (BRT Tiger Reserve, Chamrajanagara Division)

**Village: *Gowdahalli*** - Sy. Nos. 53 (1.87 ha), 59/1 (0.28 ha), 59/2 (0.14 ha), 59/5 (0.15 ha and 0.05 ha), 59/6A (0.71 ha);

**Village: *Agara*** - Sy. Nos. 957 (0.44 ha), 960 (0.94 ha), 961 (0.57 ha).

According to the field forest officers, Sy. Nos. 957, 960, and 961 share boundaries with a deemed forest. Sy. No. 53 adjoins the BRT Extension Block and a Section-4 notified area, while Sy. Nos. 59/1, 59/2, 59/5, and 59/6A are enclosures located within the BRT Extension Block itself. Inspection revealed that all the non-forest lands proposed under CA are already covered with dense forest vegetation and high canopy density, making them unsuitable for plantation activities. (Photographs and KML file attached as Annexure 9.)

#### **10.B**

In another location, non-forest lands identified for CA in Chamarajanagara District (MM Hills Sanctuary, Kollegal Division) include Sy. Nos. 96/A3 (32.5 ha), 96/AP2 (2.39 ha), 436/2 (2.01 ha), 437/2B (2.02 ha), 439 (1.8 ha), 440 (1.96 ha), and 441/3 (0.42 ha) in Ponnachi Village. These areas were found to be enclosures within the MM Hills Sanctuary and are densely forested with very high canopy cover, rendering them unsuitable for further planting activities. (Photographs and KML file attached as Annexure 10.)

11. An additional 11.00 ha of degraded forest land identified in Kenglapura Village, Handanakere Hobli, Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk, Tumkur District, was inspected and found suitable for CA plantation activities. (Photographs attached as Annexure 11.) However, the KML file and CA scheme for this site have not yet been submitted.
12. Rule 13 of the Van (Protection of Ecologically Sensitive Areas) (VSESA), 2023, allows the Forest Department to undertake a programme for improving existing forest crop in cases where the non-forest land proposed for CA already has a canopy density of 0.4 or above. Since all the proposed CA lands possess good canopy density, the Forest Department may consider implementing CA under this provision.

### Ecological Implication

13. The forest area under consideration lies within the Thirthampura Reserve Forest and Section-4 areas of the Janneru Block in Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk, Tumkur District. Mining was carried out in this region for iron and manganese until 1999. Since then, **the landscape has undergone natural ecological restoration**, now supporting dry deciduous forests with canopy densities reaching up to 0.7 in certain patches. (Photographs and KML file attached as Annexure 12.)
14. According to the Tumkur Forest Division working plan, **major wildlife species recorded** in this area include sloth bear, leopard, hyena, Indian wolf, jackal, wild boar, four-horned antelope, and jungle cat. During site inspection, indirect evidence of sloth bear, leopard, Indian porcupine, and hare was observed by the inspecting officer. (Photographs attached as Annexure 13.)
15. Data from human-wildlife conflict compensation records in the Chikkanayakanahalli Range (2015-16 to 2025-26) show over 380 cases, including elephant-related incidents, with total compensation amounting to ₹43,01,720, confirming the presence of a healthy wildlife population. Any mining activity in these forests is **likely to intensify human-wildlife conflicts**. (Details attached as Annexure 14.)
16. Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk is categorized as drought-prone within Tumkur District. The Thirthampura Reserve Forest and Janneru Forest Block

serve as vital watersheds for the region. Destruction or degradation of these forests would **worsen the area's existing water scarcity**.

17.The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), through letters No. 8-03/2017-FC and 8-04/2017-FC dated 13.01.2017, had directed the Regional Office, Bengaluru, to inspect mining leases of Sri M. Babanna and M/s Goa Minerals Pvt. Ltd., both adjacent to the present project site. The site inspection reports (letters F.No.F(C)MOEF CC&A/11.6/360/Misc/Kar/ML/2217 and F.No. F(C)A/11.6/359/Misc/Kar/ML/2216, both dated 13.03.2017) did not recommend these proposals, suggesting that the **area be preserved considering its ecological recovery**. (Copies attached as Annexure 4.)

18.In addition to the current proposal, 18 other mining leases within the Thirthampura Reserve Forest and Janneru Forest Block (formerly ML No. 1234, 989.19 ha) are pending forest clearance. The cumulative impact of these proposals poses a severe threat to the ecological integrity of the region and the socio-economic well-being of nearby villages. (Map showing the 19 pending mining leases attached as Annexure 15.)

**Recommendation:** The proposal is not recommended in the present form in view of the above observations.

**SENTHIL** Digitally signed  
by Senthil  
**KUMAR** KUMAR S  
S Date: 2025.10.06  
12:48:08 +05'30'

S.Senthilkumar  
DDGF Central  
Regional Office, Bengaluru

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ

(ಅರಣ್ಯ ಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ

Office of the  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force)

ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, 18ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ

ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 003

Aranya Bhavan, 18<sup>th</sup> Cross  
Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560 003

Telephone: 080 2334 6472

Email: apccffc@gmail.com

E-office File No. KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/7/2022-FC

E-766518

Encl.: 3 sets of proposal

Date 14-05-2025

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government  
Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment  
M. S. Building, Bengaluru

Sir,

**Sub:** Diversion of 48.20 hectare of forest land (37.45 ha for mining and allied activities in the mining lease area and 10.75 ha for approach road outside the mining lease area of erstwhile lessee of Sri. Sarangapani Mudaliar) in Section-4 of Janeeru Block and Thirtharampura Reserved Forest in Sy No. 11 (Part) and 12 (Part) Gollarahalli Village for Mining and allied activities and in Sy No. 11, 12, 10 and 08 Gollarahalli Village, Sy No. 64 Hosahalli Village, Sy No. 49 and 48 Kodihalli Village, Sy No. 34 and 33 Tonalapura Village and Sy No. 55 Lakmenahalli Village for Approach Road to the mining lease area in favour of M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited, Bengaluru

Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/154749/2022 [FORM-A]

- Ref:** 1. Online proposal [FORM-A PART-I] dated 03-06-2022 (resubmitted) of M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited, Bengaluru r/w uploading of Acknowledgement on 29-06-2022 for having delivered hard copies of proposal to jurisdictional Deputy Conservator of Forests and Deputy Commissioner r/w EDS reply 29-01-2025
2. This office's online communication dated 30-06-2022 to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division for processing of proposal r/w EDS query raised on 20-01-2025
3. Online submission of PART-II on 12-12-2024 by Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division [letter No.

12



*A5/Land/Survey/CR-205/2023-24 dated 13-12-2024] r/w EDS  
reply 05-02-2025*

4. Online submission of PART-III on 30-12-2024 by Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle [letter No. A8/Land/FC/KSHIP/CR- /2023-24 dated 30-12-2024] r/w EDS reply 06-02-2025

5. The Project Screening Committee Meeting Scheduled on 18-01-2025 [EDS query] and 14-02-2025 [recommendations to send the proposal to GoK]

1. M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited, Bengaluru [USER AGENCY] vide Ref (1) has now (re)submitted an online proposal [FORM-A PART-I] seeking approval under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 48.20 hectare of forest land (37.45 ha for mining and allied activities in the mining lease area and 10.75 ha for approach road outside the mining lease area of erstwhile lessee of Sri. Sarangapani Mudaliar) in Section-4 of Janeeru Block and Thirthampura Reserved Forest in Sy No. 11 (Part) and 12 (Part) Gollarahalli Village for Mining and allied activities and in Sy No. 11, 12, 10 and 08 Gollarahalli Village, Sy No. 64 Hosahalli Village, Sy No. 49 and 48 Kodihalli Village, Sy No. 34 and 33 Tonalapura Village and Sy No. 55 Lakmenahalli Village for Approach Road to the mining lease area. The same was accepted by Nodal Officer (FCA) on 15-06-2022 for further processing. After receiving the Acknowledgement from the User Agency on 29-06-2022 through FC web portal for having delivered the hard copies to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division and Deputy Commissioner, Tumkur District, the web portal link was forwarded to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur on 30-06-2022 for field verification and further processing under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Further, the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division and the Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle vide Ref (3) and (4) submitted the online proposal to this office.
2. **Project Screening Committee:** After receiving the Part-II & III from the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests and Chief Conservator of Forests, the said proposal has been placed in the PSC on 14-02-2025 by the Member Secretary and has been decided to send to the Government of Karnataka with submission of Part-IV. The details of the said proposal are as under.
3. **Important events/facts connected with the instant FC proposal and its Mining Lease:**
  - a) The present application seeking permission is being sought because the land in question was originally granted to Sri. Sarangapani Mudaliyar in 1950's for Iron Ore mining lease (ML No.1234) over an extent of 2427 acres (i.e., 982.19 hectares),

(13)

Page 2 of 13

which was a Revenue land initially and was not treated as a Forest Land and the same was under operation for a substantial period of time.

- b) Thereafter, in 1999 on account of prior termination / surrender of the said mining Lease, the Government of Karnataka on 15-06-1999 offered for re-grant a portion of the original leased area (i.e., measuring 1275 acres (515.98 Ha)) to various parties through a public advertisement on 15-09-1999. This was also done on the basis that the said land was Revenue Land and not Forest Land. For which, M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited, Bengaluru was also one of the applicants for grant of lease.
- c) Few aggrieved parties approached the Hon'ble High Court and based on the decision of the Hon'ble High Court the above area was re-granted by the Government of Karnataka on 23-01-2003 to the following;

| Sl No. | Mining Lease                            |
|--------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1      | Sri Praveen Chandra                     |
| 2      | M/s. Mineral Enterprises Pvt Ltd        |
| 3      | M/s. Milan Minerals Enterprises (P) Ltd |
| 4      | Sri R.N.Ashok                           |
| 5      | M/s. Banashankari Mining Corporation    |
| 6      | Sri M Babanna                           |

- d) The Government of Karnataka issued notification bearing No. DMG/MLS/ADV/04-05 dated 20-07-2004 for an area of 466.21 Hectares (1152 Acres) for re-grant of remaining portion of surrendered area of mining lease No.1234 comprising land in Hombalghatta, Hosahalli, Katarikahalli Villages and Yerakatte Village of Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk, Tumkur District on 20-07-2004. This was done on the basis that the said land / Portion of the said land was notified Forest Land i.e., Thirthrampura Reserve Forest.
- e) Pursuant to above notification, the Government of Karnataka recommended the grant of mining lease over an area of 466.21 Hectares (1152 Acres) as below;

| SLNo. | Applicants                           |
|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 1     | M/s. Goa Minerals                    |
| 2     | Smt. Prema Chanappa                  |
| 3     | M/s. Kudremukh Iron Ore Co.          |
| 4     | M/s. Dhruvadesh Metasteels (P) Ltd., |

- f) The Central Government accorded its approval for grant of mining lease vide its letter No. 5/184/2007-M.IV dated 17-03-2008 in favor of M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited for an extent of 178.30 Acres (72.16 hectares).
- g) The Government of Karnataka issued notification bearing No. CL37:MMM.2001 granting the mining lease in favor of M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore over an area of 178.30 Acres in Sy No. 11 and 12 and

14



other survey No's of Gollarhalli Village of Chikkanayakanhalli Taluk, Tumkur District on 19-03-2009.

- h) M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited, Bengaluru filed representation requesting early execution of lease deed with respect to area granted as it has obtained all statutory clearances i.e., IBM Mining Plan, Environment Clearance and Consent for establishment issued by Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) on 23-06-2011.
- i) **Janeru Block Reserve Forest:** - On 04-08-1994, the Forest Department issued a notification bearing AHFF 205 FAF 88 under Section-4 of the Karnataka Forest Act 1963, Notifying an extent of 323.88 Ha in Sy Nos. 41, 42 & 43 of Janeru Village of Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk, Tumkur District. Since, there was a typographical error in the said notification, the State Government represented before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (C)No.562/2009 that the State Government would take proper steps to rectify the said error. Accordingly, a corrigendum to the said Notification was issued over an extent of 1545.04 Ha vide Karnataka Gazette NO. FEE 188 FAF 2014 dated 14-09-2014.①
- Being aggrieved by the said corrigendum, some Farmers / Villagers filed several Writ Petitions before the Hon'ble High Court. As directed by the Hon'ble High Court in the said cases, the then Additional Chief Secretary (Forest, Environment and Ecology), after hearing all parties concerned, set aside the aforementioned Section 4 Notification (1994) and also its corrigendum (2014) on 21-12-2015.② The said order was published in the Gazette of Karnataka No.1768 Part IV-A on 30-12-2015. (This matter is continued in Para k & o)
- j) In view of the amendments to the Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act in 2015, M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited, Bengaluru filed Writ Petition No.43690/2016 before the Hon'ble High Court seeking execution of lease for a period of 50 Years. In response, the Hon'ble High Court vide order dated 21-11-2016 has directed for execution of the lease on or before 31/12/2016.③
- k) As per the requests of the PCCF (HOFF) and the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and climate change, the Additional Chief Secretary, (Forest, Environment & Ecology), Karnataka has reconsidered / reviewed the above-mentioned ACS's order dated 21-12-2015 and set aside the said order on 29-06-2018.④
- l) Since, the State has not executed mining lease as per the aforesaid order of the Hon'ble High Court in Writ Petition No. 43690/2016, M/s MEPL filed contempt petition CCC (Civil) 1829-2017 before the Hon'ble High Court on 20-08-2018. The Government took contention for the first time in the said contempt that this area is forest as per 1994 notification and 2014 corrigendum. Therefore, M/s MEPL filed an undertaking before the Hon'ble High Court on 20-08-2018 wherein it

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- 1. 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undertook that even if a lease deed were to be executed in its favor, it would not operate the mine in any manner, whatsoever, till such time the issue whether the land is a forest land or not, is decided by the Courts. M/s MEPL further undertook that in case the Courts were to opine that the land in question is, indeed, a forest land, it shall seek the necessary prior approval under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and shall comply with such conditions as are currently applicable before operating the mine.

- m) **The State Government, filed the SLP Diary No. 1663/2019 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court challenging the Hon'ble High Court order dated 21-11-2016** in WP No. 43690/2016 during 2019 for execution of lease in favour of M/s MEL.
- n) M/s MEPL Placed the undertaking furnished before the Hon'ble High Court to the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the above mentioned SLP Diary No.1663/2019. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has stated that "the said undertaking be kept on record for consideration at a subsequent time".
- o) The above the then ACS's order dated 29-06-2018 was again challenged by the villagers/farmers before the Hon'ble High Court and thereafter before the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Further, **the Hon'ble Supreme Court**, in a proceeding initiated by the third parties, finally held that the area notified under Section-4 in 1994 and corrigendum of 2014 (Janeeru Block) is 'forest' land *(the sanctioned re-grant leased area of MEPL is also part of the said Sec-4 Janeeru notification and Corrigendum)* on **16-11-2021**.
- p) Since the land in question is held as forest land and as per the undertaking of M/s MEPL before the courts (High Court & Supreme Court), M/s MEPL filed an application for Forest clearance under Section 2 (ii) of the FC Act 1980 on 22-04-2022 for diversion of forest land, over an extent 37.45 Hectares (as per Joint Survey and demarcation during 2017) for mining and 16.07 Hectares for road, total 53.52 hectares on 22-04-2022.
- q) M/s MEPL filed an affidavit before the Hon'ble Supreme Court bringing the fact on record that M/s MEPL has applied for FC with a prayer for execution of the lease on 05-05-2022.

**4. Location and component-wise details of the project:** The location and the component details of the forest land proposed for FC renewal are given below.

| District,<br>Taluk, Hobli           | Village      | Sy No.<br>(Part) | Project<br>component | Forest extent<br>proposed for<br>FC renewal<br>(ha) | Legal status of<br>land  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Tumkur<br>District,<br>Chikkanayaka | Gollarahalli | 11               | Mining and           | 09.63                                               | *Section - 4<br>Notified |
|                                     |              | 12               | Allied               | 27.82                                               |                          |
|                                     |              | 12               | Activities           | 0.362                                               |                          |



|                                |              |    |                  |       |                                     |
|--------------------------------|--------------|----|------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| nahalli Taluk,<br>Kasaba Hobli |              | 11 | Approach<br>Road | 1.30  |                                     |
|                                |              | 10 |                  | 0.211 |                                     |
|                                |              | 8  |                  | 0.128 |                                     |
|                                | Hosahalli    | 64 |                  | 2.483 | **Thirtharamapura<br>Reserve Forest |
|                                | Kodihalli    | 49 |                  | 1.632 |                                     |
|                                |              | 48 |                  | 1.606 |                                     |
|                                | Thonalapura  | 34 |                  | 0.670 |                                     |
|                                |              | 33 |                  | 02.00 |                                     |
|                                | Lakmenahalli | 55 |                  | 0.354 |                                     |
| Total (ha)                     |              |    |                  | 48.20 |                                     |

\*Government of Karnataka Corrigendum Notification No. FEE-188-FAF-2014 dated 04-09-2014 under Section 4 of Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 (Janeeru Block) and Corrigendum dated 14-09-2014

\*\*Mysore Government Notification No. G. 552-3-3004-5 dated 25-02-1902 (Thirtharamapura Reserve Forest).

5. **DCF, Tumkur Division Report:** The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division has inspected the site on 03-11-2023 personally and vide Ref (3) has submitted the Site Inspection Report dated 10-12-2024 along with other details and recommendation in PART-II to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle. Main features of the proposal as reported by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division r/w the report of Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle and also that of the ICT Centre of Forest Department are as follows.

- The forest land proposed for diversion is prone to accelerated soil erosion and formation of gullies. The User Agency is required to take up Soil and Moisture Conservation works.
- The forest land proposed for diversion is in general landscape under Eco-class-III (Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests) with Open Forest (Canopy density <0.4).
- As per Item 4(ii) of PART-II, there are 17206 trees in various girth classes in the forest land proposed for FC renewal. Main species include *Wrightia tinctoria*, *Terminalia chebula*, *Calophyllum inophyllum*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, *Tacoma stans*, *Acacia nilotica*, *Acacia auriculiformis*, *Butea monosperma*, *Pongamia pinnata*, *Syzygium cumini*, *Tectona grandis*, *Gmelina arborea*, *Semecarpus anacardium*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Albizia labbeck*, *Tamarindus indica*, *Terminalia bellarica*, *Cassia siamea*, *Holoptelea integrifolia*, *Ficus religiosa*, *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Ficus racemosa* among others.
- Major wild animals found in and around the area include the Leopard, Sloth bear, Wild pig and Peafowl etc.
- There are no other rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna reported in the area. [Note: The entry made in Item 8(v) of PART-II of the proposal may be read accordingly.]

17

Page 6 of 13

- f. The forest land proposed for diversion does not form part of any National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Corridor/ Wildlife Migration Corridor, etc.
  - g. There is no National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Corridor/ Wildlife Migration Corridor within one kilometer from the boundary of the forest land proposed for FC renewal. The proposed mining area is 7.53 km and approach road is 7.70 km away from the Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary.
  - h. The forest land proposed for diversion is located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary *(by default 10 km as per Honourable Supreme court Order)*. Which is notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
  - i. There are no Protected/ Archaeological/ Heritage Sites/ Defence/ establishments located in the area.
  - j. The forest area proposed for FC renewal is the bare minimum and unavoidable for the project.
  - k. There is no violation reported under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
6. **CCF, Hassan Circle Report:** The Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle has inspected the site on 18-12-2024 [*Note: The SIR date mentioned in Item 15 may be read accordingly*] and agreeing with the recommendation made by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle has also recommended the proposal. Specific comments of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle are mentioned in Item 15 & 16 of PART-II/III of the proposal cited at Ref (4) above.
7. **Justification for seeking forest land which is rich in wildlife for mining:** The user agency has submitted clarification vide letter dated 18-10-2024 (*uploaded in the additional information column of Parivesh web-portal*), stating that *"the area sought for diversion under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 is not a virgin forest area held under mining lease No.1234 by Mr. Sarangapani Mudaliyar (Since 1950's) and has been worked earlier. Further, the signs of old mine working can still be evidenced, the drone photo exhibits depicting the old approach road to the mine workings and other open pits"*.
8. **Justification for seeking forest land even there is alternate revenue road which was being used before:** The user agency has submitted clarification vide letter dated 18-10-2024 (*uploaded in the additional information column of Parivesh web-portal*), stating that *"the alternate revenue road available has been examined for transportation of mined material and the local Gram Panchayat was interacted."*

18



- a. *The Local Honnebagi Gram Panchayat has issued a declaration letter stating the revenue road connecting Gollarahalli village via Jogihalli to NH 150A is a village interconnecting small road not suitable or meant for heavy vehicles and dense traffic.*
  - b. *The road from Jogihalli to NH 150A has to pass through narrow and densely populated road of Chikkanayakanahalli Town.*
  - c. *As per, the Director General of Mines Safety (DGMS), Circulars (page-247) it is a statutory requirement that "all roads in and from the opencast workings shall be arranged to provide one-way traffic. Where this is not practicable, no road shall be of a width less than three times the width of the largest vehicle plying on that road unless definite turnouts and waiting points are designated". The revenue road is having a width of 3.5 mts which is not suitable nor confirming to the above circular for movement of vehicles (Width 3 mts).*
  - d. *As the above-mentioned revenue road is not suitable for evacuation of mined mineral, the present road is proposed for forest diversion considering already existing roads within the forest area. The drone photo exhibits depicting the already existing roads from mining lease area to NH 150A."*
9. **Net Present Value (NPV):** The User Agency is required to pay the Net Present Value (NPV) of forest land proposed for diversion as per Para 3.1 to 3.4 of the latest Consolidated Guidelines and Clarifications issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi vide order dated 29-12-2023. **The User Agency will be required to pay the applicable charges as per the order issued vide the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division), New Delhi letter F.No. 5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 06-01-2022 (guidelines regarding revised rates of NPV), dated 19-01-2022 (regarding proposals applicable for revised rate of NPV) and dated 22-03-2022 (regarding proposals applicable for revised rate of NPV). The User Agency has submitted an undertaking agreeing to pay the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land proposed for diversion.**
10. **Safety Zone area and charges:** The user agency has uploaded the map depicting 7.5-meter Safety Zone Area inside the mining lease area with an extent of 2.05 hectares. As per, Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, the new User Agency is liable to take up fencing and also the regeneration of safety zone area at its own cost. **The User Agency has submitted an undertaking dated 01-06-2022 agreeing to pay the cost of fencing of the safety zone area and the charges for regeneration of safety zone area.**

19



**11. Compensatory Afforestation (CA):** The User Agency is required to provide an equivalent extent of suitable non-forest land for raising Compensatory Afforestation in accordance with FC guidelines. Further, such land should be a private land in accordance with the Government of Karnataka Order No. FEE 88 FLL 2016 dated 31-08-2016 which mandates the User Agencies in Private Party FC proposals to propose CA land either as a Forest Enclosure or adjoining to a forest area in man-animal conflict zone.

Accordingly, the instant User Agency has identified the following non-forest lands of extent 43.10 hectares in Ponnachi Village of Ramapura Hobli, Hanur Taluk, 3.20 hectares in Gowdahalli Village and 1.95 hectares in Maddhur Village of Agara Hobli, Yalandur Taluk, Chamrajanagara District (Total 48.25 hectares) for raising Compensatory Afforestation details are as follows: -

| District /<br>Hobli /<br>Taluk<br>[Forest Division]                                          | Village    | Sl No. | Sy No. | Extent proposed for CA |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------|--------|------------------------|---------|
|                                                                                              |            |        |        | Acre                   | Hectare |
| Chamrajanagara /<br>Ramapura /<br>Hanur<br><br>[MM Hills Wildlife,<br>Kollegal, Division]    | Ponnachi   | 1      | 96/A3  | 80.30                  | 32.50   |
|                                                                                              |            | 2      | 96/AP2 | 5.90                   | 2.39    |
|                                                                                              |            | 3      | 436/2  | 4.97                   | 2.01    |
|                                                                                              |            | 4      | 437/2B | 5.00                   | 2.02    |
|                                                                                              |            | 5      | 439    | 4.46                   | 1.80    |
|                                                                                              |            | 6      | 440    | 4.84                   | 1.96    |
|                                                                                              |            | 7      | 441/3  | 1.03                   | 0.42    |
| Chamrajanagara /<br>Agra /<br>Yalandur<br><br>[BRT Wildlife,<br>Chamrajanagara,<br>Division] | Gowdahalli | 8      | 53     | 4.62                   | 1.87    |
|                                                                                              |            | 9      | 59/1   | 0.69                   | 0.28    |
|                                                                                              |            | 10     | 59/2   | 0.35                   | 0.14    |
|                                                                                              |            | 11     | 59/5   | 0.37                   | 0.15    |
|                                                                                              |            | 12     | 59/5   | 0.12                   | 0.05    |
|                                                                                              |            | 13     | 59/6A  | 1.75                   | 0.71    |
|                                                                                              | Agara      | 14     | 957    | 1.09                   | 0.44    |
|                                                                                              |            | 15     | 960    | 2.32                   | 0.94    |
|                                                                                              |            | 16     | 961    | 1.41                   | 0.57    |
| Total                                                                                        |            |        |        | 119.23                 | 48.25   |

The User Agency has uploaded the CA land details in the form of Topo Map, Geo-referenced Map along with the GPS readings of all corners and KML file in PART-I. Further, the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Malai Mahadeswara Wildlife, Kollegal Division has issued the Suitability Certificate dated 13-11-2024, stating that the proposed 43.10 ha of non-forest land for CA purpose is suitable for raising Compensatory afforestation and the Deputy Conservator of Forests, BRT Tiger Reserve, Chamrajanagar Division has issued the Suitability Certificate dated 06-12-2024, stating that the proposed 5.15 ha of non-forest land for CA purpose is sharing boundary with the BRT Extn Block-1 (section-4 notified area) and not

suitable for planting seedlings, as it is having wild animals movement and survival of planted seedlings are doubtful. In this regard, the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division has identified 11.00 hectare (*i.e., twice the size of non-plantable area as per Rule 13(1) of VSES Rule 2023*) of degraded forest land in Kenglapura Village, Handanakere Hobli, Chikkanayakanhalli Taluk, Tumakuru District for raising Compensatory Afforestation. The CA suitability certificates are uploaded in the additional information detail's columns of Form-A, Part-I.

In addition to providing the CA land, the User Agency is also required to pay the CA charges. Accordingly, **the User Agency has submitted the Undertaking in this regard.**

**12. Status of RoFR compliance:** With regard to compliance of the provisions of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act 2006 and Rules 2008, the User Agency is required to obtain and furnish the attested/authentic copy of the RoFR Certificate in FORM-II (for Non-linear/Hybrid projects) issued by the jurisdictional Deputy Commissioner as per Annexure IV, Condition No. XXV of the latest Consolidated Guidelines and Clarifications issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi vide order dated 29-12-2023. Accordingly, **the User Agency is being informed again to obtain the said certificate in prescribed format and submit a copy.**

**13. Wildlife Clearance:** As the forest land proposed for diversion is located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary (by default 10 km as per Honourable Supreme court Order). Which is a Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the User Agency will have to obtain the wildlife clearance for the proposal from the National Board for Wildlife. **The User Agency is being informed once again to obtain such wildlife clearance for the project. However, the User Agency has submitted the undertaking dated 23-01-2025 for obtaining necessary clearance from Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (NFWL) if required.**

However, the draft proposal of declaration of Eco Sensitive Zone of Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary has got in-principal approval from Cabinet Sub Committee, Government of Karnataka. The proposed width of eco sensitive zone from the Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary varies from 1 km to 3.80 km in the draft eco sensitive zone notification and thus the proposed forest land for diversion is outside from the draft ESZ Boundary of Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary.

In light of the facts stated above and agreeing with the recommendations of the field officers, **it is requested to move the proposal with Government of India for according 'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval for diversion of 48.20 hectare of forest**

(21)

Page 10 of 13



**land (37.45 ha for mining and allied activities in the mining lease area and 10.75 ha for approach road outside the mining lease area of erstwhile lessee of Sri. Sarangapani Mudaliar) in Section-4 of Janeeru Block and Thirtharampura Reserved Forest in Sy No. 11 (Part) and 12 (Part) Gollarahalli Village for Mining and allied activities and in Sy No. 11, 12, 10 and 08 Gollarahalli Village, Sy No. 64 Hosahalli Village, Sy No. 49 and 48 Kodihalli Village, Sy No. 34 and 33 Tonalapura Village and Sy No. 55 Lakmenahalli Village for Approach Road to the mining lease area in favour of M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited, Bengaluru subject to their getting a valid lease from the Director of mines and Geology and subject to the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP Diary No. 1663/2019 and production of the RoFR Certificate in FORM-II (for Non-linear/ Hybrid projects) and further subject to the conditions specified in Annexure 'A'.**

The hard copy of the proposal along with the relevant documents in 3 sets is submitted herewith for further needful. The present status (Timeline) of the proposal obtained from the web-portal is also appended for necessary action.

Yours Faithfully,  
Digitally signed by  
MEENAKSHI NEGI  
Date: 14-05-2025  
10:15:39

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force)

**Copy to the:**

1. Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle, Hassan for information.
2. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division, Tumkur for information.
3. M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited, #2 Berlie Street, Langford Town, Bengaluru-560 025 information and with request to obtain and furnish the attested/authentic copy of the RoFR Certificate in FORM-II (for Non-linear/ Hybrid projects) issued by the jurisdictional Deputy Commissioner as per Annexure II of the FC Guidelines communicated by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi vide dated 29-12-2023 and to obtain such wildlife clearance for the project.

(22)



ANNEXURE - 'A'

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged and it shall continue to be forest land.
2. The User Agency shall pay the applicable Net Present Value (NPV), Compensatory Afforestation, Plantation cost of extraction of trees, Land lease rent and any other levies as per the conditions of approval.
3. The User Agency shall demarcate the lease area in the manner specified at the time of approval at its own cost.
4. The mining operation and transportation of mined ore shall be under taken between sunrise and sunset only.
5. The lessee shall not sub-lease, mortgage and hypothecate the forest area.
6. The leased out area should be used for the purpose for which it is granted. In case the land is not used for the stipulated purpose within two years or when it is no longer needed for the stipulated purpose, the area would stand resumed to the Forest Department.
7. No change in Land Use Plan on forest land shall be done except with prior approval of Government of India under FC Act 1980.
8. The application for renewal of the lease in the prescribed form and manner shall be submitted at least six months prior to the expiry of forest lease. In case no renewal is sought, the Lessee shall hand over the lease.
9. No residential or commercial buildings shall be permitted in the forest area proposed for diversion.
10. No labour camp shall be allowed on forest land and all waste / debris generated shall be scientifically disposed off outside the forest area.
11. Any damage to forest area because of implementation of the proposal shall be compensated by the Lessee. The extent of damage shall be assessed by the jurisdictional Deputy Conservator of Forests/ Conservator of Forests/ Chief Conservator of Forests.
12. The Lessee shall ensure that no avoidable harm is caused to the fauna and flora in and around the proposed area.
13. In case, any violation of the provisions of the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 & Rules, 1969 or other relevant Acts/Rules is reported during the lease period, the lease will be liable for forfeiture under Section 82 of Karnataka Forest Act, 1963. The Chief Conservator of Forests / Deputy Conservator of Forests concerned are authorized to take necessary action in this regard.
14. The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to any other clearances necessary under the prevailing statutes.
15. The User Agency shall also abide by other conditions those may be imposed by the Government of India, Government of Karnataka and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) before or after the approval.

  
 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
 (Head of Forest Force)

23

Page 12 of 13

**PART – IV**

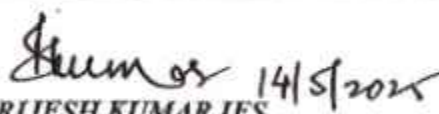
(To be filled in by the Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests or Head of Forest Department)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Detailed opinion &amp; specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks</p> <p>(While giving opinion, the adverse comments made by concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon.)</p> | <p>Recommended for moving the proposal with Government of India for according 'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval for diversion of 48.20 hectare of forest land (37.45 ha for mining and allied activities in the mining lease area and 10.75 ha for approach road outside the mining lease area of erstwhile lessee of Sri. Sarangapani Mudaliar) in Section-4 of Janeeru Block and Thirtharapura Reserved Forest in Sy No. 11 (Part) and 12 (Part) Gollarahalli Village for Mining and allied activities and in Sy No. 11, 12, 10 and 08 Gollarahalli Village, Sy No. 64 Hosahalli Village, Sy No. 49 and 48 Kodihalli Village, Sy No. 34 and 33 Tonalapura Village and Sy No. 55 Lakmenahalli Village for Approach Road to the mining lease area in favour of M/s Mineral Enterprises Private Limited, Bengaluru subject to their getting a valid lease from the Director of mines and Geology and subject to the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP Diary No. 1663/2019 and production of the RoFR Certificate in FORM-II (for Non-linear/ Hybrid projects) and further subject to the conditions specified in Annexure 'A'.</p> <p>Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/154749/2022 [FORM-A]</p> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Signature:

Name:

Designation:


**BRIJESH KUMAR IFS**

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Forest Conservation) AND Nodal Officer (FCA)

Countersigned by:

Name:

Designation:


**MEENAKSHI NEGI, IFS**

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force)

N.D.O. No: 102/2025-26

(Official Seal)

Date: 14-05-2025

24

## ANNEXURE - 2

## GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

No : FEE 188 FAF 2014

Karnataka Government Secretariat  
M.S. Building,  
Bangalore dated 04-09-2014.

## CORRIGENDUM

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 4 of the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 the Government of Karnataka had notified "Janeeru Block" in Chickanayakanahalli Taluk, Tumkur District vide Notification No: AHFF 205 FAF 88 dated 4<sup>th</sup> August 1994 which was published in Karnataka State Gazette on 31st October 1996. On verification, it has been found that the SCHEDULE mentioned in the said Notification is not in conformity with the boundary description. Hence, a continuation of the above said Notification, for the Schedule mentioned at Notification No. AHFF 205 FAF 88 dated 04-08-1994 published in Gazette dated

31.10.1996 the following shall be substituted:

## SCHEDULE

5 SEP 2014  
Name of the District : Tumkur  
Name of the Taluk : Chickanayakanahalli  
Name of the Hobli, Village & Sy. Nos :  
Kasaba

| Village      | Sy. Nos                                                                                                             |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hosahalli    | 53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,79,80,81,82,86,87,89,90,91, 96, 98 & 119 |
| Gollurahalli | 10,11,12 & 13                                                                                                       |
| Homebogi     | 127,128,129,130,131,132,133 & 134                                                                                   |

Hobli : Shettikere

| Village      | Sy. Nos                                                         |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bullenahalli | 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,22,44,45 & 46               |
| Manchikatte  | 16,36,37,43,44,45,46 & 50                                       |
| Bugganahalli | 62,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,92,93,94,95,112, 113,127 & 128 |
| Sandenahalli | 18,19,20,21,22,67,122,123 & 124                                 |

Area : 3817-32 (A-G) OR 1545.04 (Ha.)  
Name of the Block : Janeeru

..2

25

Scanned with CamScanner



-2-

1) "Jameera Village" mentioned in para-1, is replaced herewith by: "Hosahalli, Gollurahalli, Honnebagi, Bullenahalli, Manchikatte, Bagganahalli & Sondenahalli Villages".

2) The bearings mentioned in the notification are with respect to the Geographical West.

BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE  
GOVERNOR OF KARNATAKA



(S.P. PATIL)

UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT  
FOREST, ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY DEPARTMENT

To,

The Compiler, Karnataka Gazette, Bangalore with a request to publish the Notification in the Extraordinary Gazette and to send 100 Copies to the undersigned, 50 copies to Deputy Conservator of Forest, Tumkur Division, Tumkur and 50 Copies to Conservator of Forests, Working Plan and Survey and Demarcation, Chikmagalur

Copy to :

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) Aranya Bhavan, Malleshwaram, 18<sup>th</sup> Cross, Bangalore -560 003.
2. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Working Plan, Aranya Bhavan, Bangalore.
3. Regional Commissioner, Bangalore Division, Bangalore.
4. Deputy Commissioner, Tumkur District, Tumkur.
5. Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle, Hassan.
6. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division, Tumkur.
7. Forest Settlement Officer & Assistant Commissioner, Tiptur Sub Division, Tiptur.
8. Thasildhar, Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk, Chikkanayakanahalli.
9. The Range Forest Officer, Chikkanayakanahalli Range, Chikkanayakanahalli.
10. Section Guard File.

26

*Amravar - K.*

Janaru

Part IV-2(II) of the Forest Act, 1963, Section 31, 1963-16-57

Forest, Environment & Ecology Secretariat

### NOTIFICATION

NO. AHFF 205-FAT 88, Bangalore, Dated 4th August 1994

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 4 of the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 (Karnataka Act 5 of 1964) the Government of Karnataka hereby:-

1. Declares that it has been decided to constitute the land in the Janeru village Chickannayaknahalli Taluk Tumkur District the situation and limits of which are specified in the schedule below as "Reserve Forest"
2. Appoints the Forest Settlement Officer, Asst. Commissioner, Tumkur to be the Forest settlement officer for the purpose of clause (c) of Sub-section (10) of the said section and,
3. Appoints the Divisional Forest Officer, Tumkur Division, Tumkur to represent the State Government in the inquiry by the said Forest Settlement Officer

### SCHEDULE

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Name of the Dist.   | Tumkur              |
| Name of the Taluk   | Chickannayaknahalli |
| Name of the Hobli   |                     |
| Name of the Village | Janeru              |
| Field Sy. Nos.      | 41, 47, 48          |
| Area in Hect.       | 323.88              |
| Name of the Block   | Janeru              |



1030. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಭೂಗುರುದಾರ, ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್ 31, 1996 ಭಾಗ -IV- 22(ii)

### BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS

NORTH:- The line start from station No. 1 of beside village moves towards east direction at bearing of 150 degree of enclosure to distance of 165 chains and reaches No.24. The line runs North-East as follows:

| Station                | Station | Bearing | Distance |
|------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1                      | 2       | 150°    | 7 Chains |
| 2                      | 3       | 150°    | 7 "      |
| 3                      | 4       | 150°    | 7 "      |
| 4                      | 5       | 150°    | 7 "      |
| 5                      | 6       | 150°    | 7 "      |
| 6                      | 7       | 150°    | 7 "      |
| 7                      | 8       | 150°    | 7 "      |
| 8                      | 9       | 150°    | 7 "      |
| 9                      | 10      | 150°    | 7 "      |
| 10                     | 11      | 100°    | 8 "      |
| 11                     | 12      | 75°     | 7 "      |
| 12                     | 13      | 75°     | 7 "      |
| 13                     | 14      | 75°     | 7 "      |
| 14                     | 15      | 75°     | 7 "      |
| 15                     | 16      | 75°     | 7 "      |
| 16                     | 17      | 75°     | 7 "      |
| 17                     | 18      | 150°    | 8 "      |
| 18                     | 19      | 200°    | 8 "      |
| 19                     | 20      | 190°    | 7 "      |
| 20                     | 21      | 170°    | 8 "      |
| 21                     | 22      | 70°     | 7 "      |
| 22                     | 23      | 70°     | 9 "      |
| 23                     | 24      | 70°     | 7 "      |
| (Adjoining Station) 24 |         |         |          |



W-24(II) ... 31 15 18 163

EAST - The line runs from station No. 24 of village boundary of Ugragada moves almost to South with bearing of 270 degree and to a distance of 325 chains. It reaches station No. 70. The line moves as follows:

| Station | Station | Bearing | Distance |
|---------|---------|---------|----------|
|         | 25      | 270°    | 7 Chains |
| 24      | 26      | 240°    | 7        |
| 25      | 27      | 240°    | 7        |
| 26      | 28      | 255°    | 8        |
| 27      | 29      | 255°    | 7        |
| 28      | 30      | 255°    | 7        |
| 29      | 31      | 260°    | 8        |
| 30      | 32      | 270°    | 7        |
| 31      | 33      | 270°    | 7        |
| 32      | 34      | 250°    | 7        |
| 33      | 35      | 252°    | 7        |
| 34      | 36      | 252°    | 7        |
| 35      | 37      | 252°    | 9        |
| 36      | 38      | 252°    | 7        |
| 37      | 39      | 245°    | 7        |
| 38      | 40      | 245°    | 7        |
| 39      | 41      | 245°    | 7        |
| 40      | 42      | 260°    | 8        |
| 41      | 43      | 278°    | 7        |
| 42      | 44      | 278°    | 7        |
| 43      | 45      | 275°    | 7        |
| 44      | 46      | 270°    | 7        |
| 45      | 47      | 265°    | 7        |
| 46      | 48      | 263°    | 7        |
| 47      |         |         |          |

(29)





Part IV-2A(ii) Survey No. 31, 196, 7633

|    |    |     |          |
|----|----|-----|----------|
| 72 | 73 | 355 | 7 Chains |
| 73 | 74 | 355 | 7        |
| 74 | 75 | 355 | 7        |
| 75 | 76 | 355 | 8        |
| 76 | 77 | 355 | 9        |
| 77 | 78 | 355 | 7        |
| 78 | 79 | 35  | 7        |

WEST. The line runs from station No. 79 towards north beside  
 Page of Kodihally and its distance is 325 chains and reaches the  
 station No. 80. The line runs west-north as follows:

| Station | Station | Bearing | Distance |
|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| 79      | 80      | 85      | 7 Chains |
| 80      | 81      | 85      | 7        |
| 81      | 82      | 85      | 7        |
| 82      | 83      | 85      | 7        |
| 83      | 84      | 85      | 7        |
| 84      | 85      | 85      | 7        |
| 85      | 86      | 85      | 7        |
| 86      | 87      | 70      | 7        |
| 87      | 88      | 70      | 7        |
| 88      | 89      | 70      | 7        |
| 89      | 90      | 70      | 7        |
| 90      | 91      | 70      | 7        |
| 91      | 92      | 70      | 7        |
| 92      | 93      | 86      | 8        |
| 93      | 94      | 86      | 7        |
| 94      | 95      | 86      | 7        |
| 95      | 96      | 86      | 7        |
| 96      | 97      | 86      | 7        |

31



163A. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಪತ್ರ, ಗುರುತಾರಂ, ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್ 31, 1996 ಭಾಗ -IV- 25(ii)

|     |     |      |         |
|-----|-----|------|---------|
| 97  | 98  | 86°  | 7 Chans |
| 98  | 99  | 86°  | 7       |
| 99  | 100 | 110° | 7       |
| 100 | 101 | 110° | 7       |
| 101 | 102 | 110° | 7       |
| 102 | 103 | 110° | 7       |
| 103 | 104 | 96°  | 7       |
| 104 | 105 | 96°  | 7       |
| 105 | 106 | 96°  | 7       |
| 106 | 107 | 96°  | 7       |
| 107 | 108 | 96°  | 7       |
| 108 | 109 | 96°  | 7       |
| 109 | 110 | 178° | 7       |
| 110 | 111 | 178° | 7       |
| 111 | 112 | 85°  | 7       |
| 112 | 113 | 85°  | 7       |
| 113 | 114 | 8°   | 7       |
| 114 | 115 | 8°   | 7       |
| 115 | 116 | 8°   | 7       |
| 116 | 117 | 8°   | 7       |
| 117 | 118 | 85°  | 8       |
| 118 | 119 | 85°  | 8       |
| 119 | 120 | 85°  | 7       |
| 120 | 121 | 85°  | 7       |
| 121 | 122 | 85°  | 7       |
| 122 | 123 | 50°  | 5       |
| 123 | 124 | 50°  | 7       |
| 124 | 125 | 50°  | 7       |

32

IV-217) 150 7  
End Point

By Order and in the name of the  
Governor of Karnataka

**R. GURURAJA,**  
Under Secretary to Government,  
Forest, Environment & Ecology  
Department.

NO. 1293

**Forest, Environment & Ecology Secretariat**

**NOTIFICATION**

NO. AHFF 219/FAP 38, Bangalore, Dated: 27th Sept. 1994

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 4 of the  
Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 (Karnataka Act 5 of 1964) the  
Government of Karnataka hereby:

1. Declares that it has been decided to constitute the land in the  
Kantaramanahalli Taluk, Gubbi Taluk Tumkur District, the  
situation and limits of which are specified in the schedule  
below as Reserve Forest.

2. Appoints the Forest Settlement Officer, Asst. Commissioner,  
Munim, to be the Forest Settlement Officer for the purpose  
of clause (c) of Sub-section (10) of the said section and

Banthappa's request is

represented

} already

existing

road not

work



1500014/2025/O/O DDG(SZ)

**COMBINED ORIENTATION SKETCH (TYPE-2) SHOWING THE MINING PLOTS  
( 5(1) APPROVED SKETCHES ) PLOTTED ON THE RECTIFIED VILLAGE MAP  
OF DC TUMKUR**

ANNEXURE - SB





भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE  
Regional Office (Southern Zone),  
Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E & F Wings, 17<sup>th</sup> Main Road,  
IIInd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560 034,  
Tel.No.080-25635905, E.Mail: [rosz.bng-mef@nic.in](mailto:rosz.bng-mef@nic.in)



*Speed Post*

F.No FCA/11 6/360/MISC/KAR/ML/ 2.217  
Dated the 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

To

Shri Sandeep Sharma,  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC),  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,  
New Delhi - 110 003

Subject: Proposal for approval under Section 2 (iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for 155.20 ha. for signing of lease agreement for an extent of 155.20 ha. of forest land in Aravatige & Hosahalli Villages in Tumkur District in favour of Sri. M. Babanna, Bengaluru.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to Ministry's letter No.8-03/2017-FC dated 13/01/2017 on the above subject and to inform that the site inspection of the proposed area was carried out by the Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central) on 06/02/2017. A copy of the site inspection report is enclosed herewith for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

*Padma*

(R. Padmawathe)  
Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central)

Encl: as above.

*g/c*  
*13/3/2017*

35

1500034/2025/O/o DDG(SZ)

**PROFORMA FOR SITE INSPECTION**

Title of the Project: Proposal for approval under section 2 (iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for 155.20 ha for signing of lease agreement for an extent of 155.20 ha of forest land in Aravatige & Hosahalli villages in Tumkur District in favour of Sri M.Babanna, Bengaluru.

- |                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:                                                          | Status not clear and it is in dispute as to whether it is a Reserve Forest or not.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 2. Itemwise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion:                                             | Details not given as the survey of the area could not be taken up due to a stay order in Honorable High Court, Karnataka and a Special Leave Petition (CC 774/2017) is pending with the Honourable Supreme Court of India.                                    |
| 3. Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof: | Details not provided as the survey of the area is not permitted as per the directions of the Supreme Court as mentioned above.                                                                                                                                |
| 4. Total cost of the project at present rates:                                                                      | Not given.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 5. Wildlife:                                                                                                        | Leopard, Sloth Bear, Black-naped Hare, Chital, Barking Deer, Wild boar, Porcupine, Peafowl, Jackal, and Ruddy Mongoose, Common Mongoose, Common Palm Civet, Small Indian Civet etc are the wildlife present in and around the forest land proposed for lease. |
| 6. Vegetation:                                                                                                      | Density-0.25, Eco-class-3.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |



7. Background note on the proposal:

Shri M.Babanna, had applied for Mining lease vide No.135AMI.1999 dated 07/08/1999 over an area of 155.2 ha at Sy.No.49 (part) of Aravatige & Sy.No.64(part) of Hosahalli villages of Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk, Tumkur district. This mining lease was granted to Shri Babanna vide State Govt letter dated 19.3.2009 after obtaining prior approval dated 17.12.2008 under Section 5(1) of MMDR 1957 from the Central Govt. This is in violation of Forest Conservation Act.

The present proposal is for approval Govt of India under Section 2(iii) of F(C.) Act, 1980 for signing of lease agreement to an extent of 155.20 ha in favour of Sri M.Babanna subject to the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in the judgement order with respect to WP No.45745/2015 dated 14.12.2016.

8. Compensatory afforestation:

Since this is an application under Section 2 iii, they have not submitted any plan for CA.

9. Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on

No

8 (31)

1500034/2025/D/o. DDG(SZ)

violation including action taken  
against the concerned officials:

- |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10. Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not: | No                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 11. Reclamation Plan:                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Details and financial allocation:                                                                                                                        | Not given                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 12. Details on catchment and command area under the project:                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                          | Not given. But the area is the only catchment for streams and lakes in Chikkanayakanahalli, a drought prone area in Tumkur district.                                         |
| 13. Cost benefit ratio:                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                          | A detailed analysis of this is essential as the area is an already mined out area and the ore availability and quality needs to be determined before granting any clearance. |
| 14. Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                          | PCCF and State Government have recommended the proposal                                                                                                                      |
| 15. Recommendations of Regional Chief Conservator of Forests along with detailed reasons:                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                              |

ore from this area.

Category A-1

Category B -11

Category C-11.

A schematic sketch of all the mines are enclosed herewith for kind perusal.

The area was mined initially by Mr. Sarangapani Mudaliyar from 1952 till 1998. The original lease was split to many mining companies by the Department of Mines and Geology in violation of Forest Conservation Act during 1999. This area falls in the Thirtharampura Reserve Forests of Tumkur forest division.

Currently, the forests showing good regeneration of Anogeissus, Manilkara and Buchanania etc. During the visit, direct sightings of chital and black naped hare were observed while scats of sloth bear and leopard were seen. This area also shelters a migratory population of elephant from Bannerghatta National Park to Bhadra during September to December.

According to the data received from Range Forest Officer, Chikkanayakanahalli, during 2015-16, an amount of Rs. 1,01,430 is given as compensation to villages surrounding the hillock to be mined indicating presence of wild mammals in the area. Therefore mining in this area will definitely increase the conflict which already exists.

Further, it is the only watershed for the villages surrounding Chikkanayakanahalli, a drought hit area in Tumkur district. It is suggested that this area need not be diverted for mining keeping the

10 (39)



1500034/2025/O/o DDG(SZ)

watershed point of view, apart from the above mentioned reasons. Since it is already mined out area and only mined out rejects are found, this area may be left as such keeping ecological restoration in mind.



Signature

Name and Designation  
of Inspecting Officer : R.PADMAWATHE  
DCF (Central)  
Date of Inspection : 6.2.2017



41

ITEM NO.601

COURT NO.5

SECTION IVA

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C)..... CC 774/2017

(Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 14/12/2016 in WP No. 45745/2015 passed by the High Court of Karnataka at Bangalore)

DHRUVDESH METASTEEL PVT LTD

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

KIOCL LTD AND ORS

Respondent(s)

(With appln. (s) for permission to file SLP and interim relief)

Date : 11/01/2017 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MADAN B. LOKUR  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAFULLA C. PANT

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Dushyant Dave, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Sharan Thakur, Adv.  
Mr. Vijay Kumar, Adv.  
Mr. Ramesh Babu M. R., AOR

For Respondent(s) Mr. S. Udaya Kumar Sagar, Adv.  
Ms. Bina Madhavan, Adv.  
Ms. Swati Bhardwaj, Adv.  
for M/s. Lawyer's Knit & Co.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following  
O R D E R

Permission to file SLP granted.

Issue notice returnable in four weeks.

In the meanwhile, there shall be a stay of the operation of the impugned judgment and order dated 14.12.2016 passed by the High Court of Karnataka at Bengaluru.

Signature valid  
Digitally signed by  
Sanjay Kumar-I  
DN: cn=Sanjay Kumar-I,  
o=, ou=, email=, c=IN

Dasti, in addition, is permitted.

(SANJAY KUMAR-I)  
AR-CUM-PS

(JASWINDER KAUR)  
COURT MASTER

12  
41

1500034/2025/O/o DDG(SZ)



भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE  
Regional Office (Southern Zone),  
Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E & F Wings, 17<sup>th</sup> Main Road,  
IIInd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore – 560 034,  
Tel.No.080-25635905, E.Mail: [rosz.bng-mef@nic.in](mailto:rosz.bng-mef@nic.in)

**SPEED POST**

F.No.FCA/11.6/359/MISC/KAR/ML/ 2216  
Dated the 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

To

Shri Sandeep Sharma,  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC),  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,  
New Delhi – 110 003

Subject: Proposal for approval under Section 2 (iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for signing of lease agreement for an extent of 116.55 ha. of forest land in Yarekatte & Hombalaghatta Villages of C.N. Halli Taluk in Tumkur District in favour of M/s Goa Minerals Pvt. Ltd., Vasco-da-Gama, Goa.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to Ministry's letter No.8-04/2017-FC dated 13/01/2017 on the above subject and to inform that the site inspection of the proposed area was carried out by the Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central) on 07/02/2017. A copy of the site inspection report is enclosed herewith for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

*Padma*  
13/3/17  
(R. Padmawathe)  
Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central)

Encl: as above.

% *df*  
13/3/2017



PROFORMA FOR SITE INSPECTION

|                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Title of the Project:                                                                                               | Proposal for approval under Section 2 (iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for signing of lease agreement for an extent of 116.55 ha of forest land in Yarekatte & Hombalaghatta village of C.N.Halli Taluk in Tumkur District in favour of M/s Goa Minerals Pvt. Ltd., Vasco-da-Gama, Goa. |
| 1. Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:                                                          | Reserve Forest                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 2. Item wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion:                                            | Details not given                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 3. Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof: | Details not given                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 4. Total cost of the project at present rates:                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 5. Wildlife:                                                                                                        | Leopard, Sloth Bear, Black-naped Hare, Chital, Barking Deer, Wild boar, Porcupine, Peafowl, Jackal, and Ruddy Mongoose, Common Mongoose, Common Palm Civet, Small Indian Civet etc are the wildlife present in and around the forest land proposed for lease.                                   |
| 6. Vegetation:                                                                                                      | Density - 0.25, Eco-class-3.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 7. Background note on the proposal:                                                                                 | As per Govt of Karnataka, Department of Mines & Geology intimation letter dated 11.11.2016,                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

20

43

1500034/2025/O/o DDG(SZ)

pending cases saved under Section 10A (2)(c.) would lapse automatically by 12.1.2017 due to non-pursuance, if not converted into mining lease. Hence the UA has submitted the present proposal seeking forest clearance of MoEF&CC, Govt of India under Section 2(iii) along with a copy of mining plan.

8. Compensatory afforestation: Since this is an application under Section 2 iii, they have not submitted any plan for CA.
9. Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials: No
10. Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not: No
11. Reclamation Plan:  
Details and financial allocation:
12. Details on catchment and command area under the project: NA

13. Cost benefit ratio:

14. Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:

PCCF and State Government have recommended the proposal.

15. Recommendations of Regional Chief Conservator of Forests along with detailed reasons:

16. Regional Chief Conservator of Forests shall give detailed comments on whether there are any alternatives routes/alignments for locating the project on the non-forest land:

17. Utility of the Project:

The iron ore which is available in this area is of low grade Haematite.

18. Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious value:

There is no protected/ archaeological/ heritage sites or defence establishments or important monuments in the area.

19. Situation w.r.t. any P.A.

The area does not form part of any

22

45



1500034/2025/O/o DDG(SZ)

National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary,  
Bio-sphere reserve, tiger reserve.

20. Any other information relating to  
the Project:

The land in question is a part of larger hillock where mining was already carried out since 1952. A total of 25 mines of following categories have extracted iron and manganese ore from this area.

Category A-1

Category B -11

Category C-11.

A schematic sketch of all the mines are enclosed herewith for kind perusal.

The area was mined initially by Mr. Sarangapani Mudaliyar from 1952 till 1998. The original lease was split to many mining companies by the Department of Mines and Geology in violation of Forest Conservation Act during 1999. This area falls in the Thirtharampura Reserve Forests of Tumkur forest division.

Currently, the forests showing good regeneration of Anogeissus, Manilkara and Buchanania etc. During the visit, direct sightings of chital and black naped hare were observed while scats of sloth bear and leopard were seen. This area also shelters a migratory population of elephant from Bannerghatta National Park to Bhadra during September to December.

According to the data received from Range Forest Officer, Chikkanayakanahalli, during 2015-16, an amount of Rs. 1,01,430 is given as compensation to villages surrounding the hillock to be mined indicating presence of wild mammals

in the area. Therefore mining in this area will definitely increase the conflict which already exists.

Further, it is the only watershed for the villages surrounding Chikkanayakanahalli, a drought hit area in Tumkur district. It is suggested that this area need not be diverted for mining keeping the watershed point of view, apart from the above mentioned reasons. Since it is already mined out area and only mined out rejects are found, this area may be left as such keeping ecological restoration in mind.

  
Signature

Name and Designation  
of Inspecting Officer: R.PADMAWATHE  
DCF(Central)  
Date of Inspection: 7.2.17

24

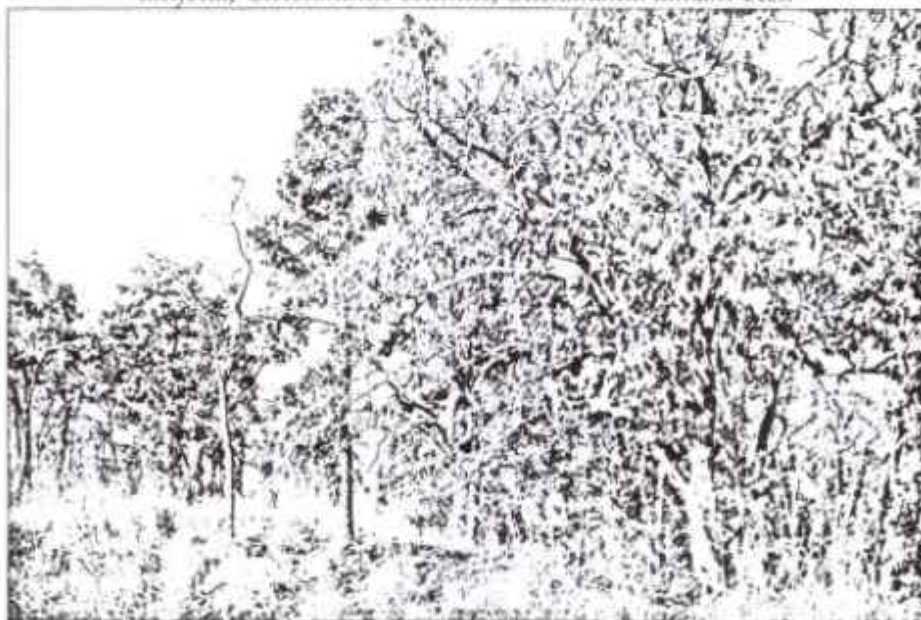
41

### Plate 1

A view of the forest land proposed for mining activity in Chikkanayakanahalli, Tumkur district.



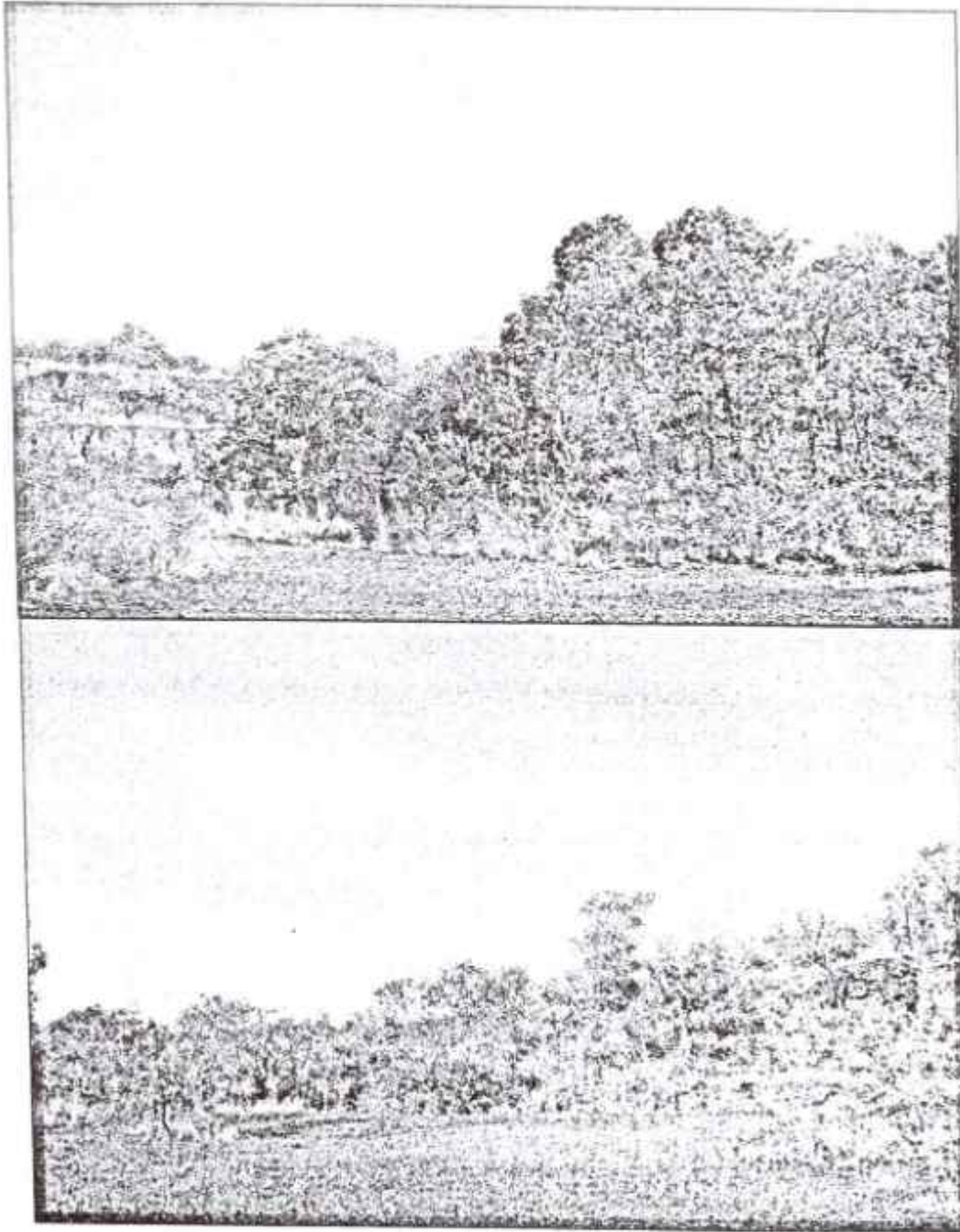
The forests are dry deciduous to scrub jungle showing abundance of *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Cleistanthus collinus*, *Buchanania lanzan* etc..





**Plate 2**

Forest regenerating in old mining lease area in the Survey No. 28 and 29 of Yarekatte village of Chikkanayakanahalli taluk, currently proposed for mining again by Goa Minerals.



28/49

## ANNEXURE - 5

**J-11015/73/2009-IA-II (M)**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment & Forests**

Tel no. 24363973  
 E mail: [plahujarai@yahoo.com](mailto:plahujarai@yahoo.com)  
 Paryavaran Bhavan, C.G.O. Complex,  
 Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003  
 Dated: March 18, 2010

To

M/s Mineral Enterprises Limited  
 300, 1B, 16<sup>th</sup> Cross,  
 Sadashivnagar,  
 Bangalore 560080, India

**Sub: Sarangpani Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Deposit of M/s Mineral Enterprises Limited. Located at Village Gollarahalli, Taluk Chikkanayakanahalli, District Tumkur, Karnataka. (ML area- 72.15 ha, 1.4 Million Tonnes/annum of Iron Ore and 9621 TPA of Manganese Ore) Reg-Environmental Clearance.**

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to your communication no. nil dated nil received in the Ministry along with copies of EIA/EMP and public hearing reports on 22.01.2010, regarding the subject mentioned above seeking environmental clearance under the provision of EIA Notification, 2006.

2. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has examined your application. It has been noted that Iron and manganese ore mine with production capacity of 1.44 MTPA of Iron Ore and 9621 TPA of Manganese Ore respectively is located at Village Gollarahalli, Taluk Chikkanayakanahalli, District Tumkur, Karnataka. The coordinates of the mine project are Latitude 13 deg 24' 54.51" N to 13 deg 25' 29. 10" N and Longitude 76 deg 39' 36.90" E to 76 deg 40' 34.80"E. The mine will be also captive to proposed integrated Steel Plant to be set up about 150 kms away. The lease area is 72.15 ha, which is a Govt. revenue land. Out of total lease area of 72.15 ha, area for excavation will be 30.0 ha. An area of 7.5 ha will be kept for waste dump; 2.20 ha for crushing, screening and washing plants, 2.0 ha for sub-grade mineral storage; 2.0 ha for storage of top soil; 0.20 ha for infrastructure; 3.0 ha for road; 3.4 ha for green belt; and 21.85 ha for future use. Method of mining will be open cast mechanised. The height and width of benches 6m and 18m respectively. The mineable reserve is 13.78 MT. Life of mine at proposed rate of production will be 20 years. The elevation of the lease ranges from 850 msl to 1027 m above MSL. There are no rivers nearby the lease area. However seasonal nallah flows nearby the lease. There are no wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, biosphere reserves, heritage sites etc within 10 km from the lease. Ultimate depth of mining will be at 904 m above MSL. Ground water table is at 770 m above MSL. Mining will not intersect ground water table. Water requirement will be 55 KLD, which will be met from ground

(50)



-2-

and mine pit water. No relocation and rehabilitation of population will be involved. About 300000m<sup>3</sup>/m of solid waste will be generated which will be stacked on non-mineralised area and stabilised by afforestation. IBM has approved the mining plan on 16.2.2009. Cost of the project will be Rs 10.0 Crores.

3. The proposal has been considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee-2 (Mining) in its meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2010. The Committee recommended the proposal for environmental clearance.

4. Based on the information submitted by the project proponent and recommendation of the Expert Appraisal Committee, the Ministry of Environment & Forests hereby accords environmental clearance to the said project under the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 subject to the implementation of the following terms and conditions:-

#### A. Specific Conditions:

- i. Top soil shall be stacked properly with adequate protection measures at earmarked sites and used for reclamation and rehabilitation of the mined out areas.
- ii. Fugitive dust generation shall be controlled. Fugitive dust emission shall be regularly monitored at locations of nearest human habitation (including schools and other public amenities located nearest to sources of dust generation as applicable) and records submitted to the Ministry.
- iii. The company shall install defogging system at crusher to suppress the fugitive dust generation at the source.
- iv. The company shall maintain a sufficient distance between the road and edge of the waste dump as the area earmarked for waste dump is near the road.
- v. To fix the charge for blasting, it is suggested to carry out a scientific study for optimum charge per delay and charge shall be fixed based on the results of the study.
- vi. Since there will be manganese mining, the proponent shall avoid plantation of plant species which selectively uptake manganese to prevent impact of manganese on the health of animals.
- vii. The company shall study detailed mineralogical composition of dust and particle size analysis to assess how much manganese fraction is in the dust. Personnel exposure monitoring for dust shall be carried out for the workers.
- viii. Chemical composition of the dust samples, besides particle size analysis, shall be carried out. Free silica concentration in the dust shall be monitored.
- ix. The company shall ensure that no silt originating due to mining activity is transported in the surface water course (if any) flowing in the area. Proper drainage of the waste dumps shall be provided to prevent siltation of downstream water bodies. The dumps *per se* shall be drained and surface of the dump should be properly vegetated.

51



-3-

- x. Measures for prevention and control of soil erosion and management of silt shall be undertaken. Protection of dumps against erosion shall be carried out with geo textile matting or other suitable material, and thick plantations of native trees and shrubs shall be carried out at the dump slopes. Dumps shall be protected by retaining walls.
- xi. Rain water harvesting shall be undertaken to recharge the ground water source. Status of implementation shall be submitted to the Ministry within six months.
- xii. Land-use pattern of the nearby villages shall be studied, including common property resources available for conversion into productive land. Action plan for abatement and compensation for damage to agricultural land / common property land (if any) in the nearby villages, due to mining activity shall be submitted to the Ministry **within six months**.
- xiii. Need based assessment for the nearby villages shall be conducted to study economic measures with action plan which can help in upliftment of poor section of society. Income generating projects consistent with the traditional skills of the people besides development of fodder farm, fruit bearing orchards, vocational training etc. can form a part of such programme. Company shall provide separate budget for community development activities and income generating programmes. This will be in addition to vocational training for individuals imparted to take up self employment and jobs.
- xiv. The company shall identify the fallow land which could be converted into grass land for provision of fodder to the animals.
- xv. Monitoring of ground and surface water quality shall be regularly conducted and records maintained and data submitted to the Ministry regularly. Further, monitoring points shall be located between the mine and drainage in the direction of flow of ground water and records maintained.
- xvi. Trenches / garland drains shall be constructed at foot of dumps and coco filters installed at regular intervals to arrest silt from being carried to water bodies. Adequate number of Check Dams and Gully Plugs shall be constructed across seasonal/perennial nallahs (if any) flowing through the ML area and silts arrested. De-silting at regular intervals shall be carried out.
- xvii. Provision shall be made for the housing the labourers within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.
- xviii. Occupational Health Cell shall be created at the company level under the charge of an officer of adequate seniority who is a qualified person in occupational health.

(52)

-4-

- xix. Occupational health and safety measures for the workers including identification of work related health hazards, training on malaria eradication, HIV, and health effects on exposure to mineral dust etc. shall be carried out. The company shall engage a full time qualified doctor who is trained in occupational health. Periodic monitoring for exposure to respirable mineral dust on the workers shall be conducted and records maintained including health records of the workers. Awareness programme for workers on impact of mining on their health and precautionary measures like use of personal equipments etc. shall be carried out periodically. Review of impact of various health measures undertaken (at interval of five years or less) shall be conducted followed by follow up action wherever required.
- xx. Green belt development and selection of plant species shall be as per CPCB guidelines. Herbs and shrubs shall also form a part of afforestation programme besides tree plantation. Details of year wise afforestation programme including rehabilitation of mined out area shall be submitted to the Ministry within six months.
- xxi. Data on ambient air quality (PM<sub>10</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>) should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional office located at Bangalore and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months. The critical parameters such as PM<sub>10</sub>/PM<sub>2.5</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> in the ambient air within the impact zone, peak particle velocity at 300m distance or within the nearest habitation, whichever is closer shall be monitored periodically. Further, quality of discharged water shall also be monitored [(TDS, DO, pH) and total Suspended solids (TSS)]. The monitored data shall be uploaded on the website of the company as well as displayed on a display board at the project site at a suitable location near the main gate of the company in public domain. The circular no.J-20012/1/2006-IA.II (M) dated 2.5.2009 issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, which is available on the website of the Ministry [www.envfor.nic.in](http://www.envfor.nic.in) shall also be referred in this regard for its compliance.
- xxii. Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. Vehicles used for transportation of ores and others shall have valid permissions under Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 and its amendment. The number of shifts for mine operations could be as prescribed in the approved Mine Plan. However, the number of shifts or hours permissible for external vehicular traffic shall not exceed the limits in vogue for the area under consideration or in the event of passage through forest roads or public places, as may be applicable in this case. The limits prescribed by the local authorities shall not be exceeded. If no such guidelines for time restrictions are applicable, then external transport shall be preferably confined to two shifts.

53



-5-

- xxiii. Dumpers used inside the mine need not be covered with any tarpaulin, but shall strictly follow dust and sound mitigation measures prescribed inside the mine and no processing plants and loading points. However, transport vehicles used for external transport over public places, habitations, forest areas etc. as may be applicable in this case shall be covered with tarpaulin and proper maintenance and up keep of these tippers or other types of trucks shall be done. No overloading of ores for transportation shall be carried.

**B. General conditions:**

- (i) No change in mining technology and scope of working shall be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral and waste shall be made.
- (iii) Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources shall be controlled regularly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points shall be provided and properly maintained.
- (iv) Four ambient air quality-monitoring stations shall be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for PM<sub>10</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> monitoring. Location of the stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets and frequency of monitoring should be undertaken in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- (v) Measures shall be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in operations of HEMM, etc. shall be provided with ear plugs / muffs.
- (vi) Industrial waste water (workshop and waste water from the mine) should be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (E) dated 19<sup>th</sup> May, 1993 and 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1993 or as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap shall be installed before discharge of workshop effluents.
- (vii) Personnel working in dusty areas shall be provided with protective respiratory devices and they shall also be imparted adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.
- (viii) A separate Environmental Management Cell with suitable qualified personnel shall be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.
- (ix) The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office of the Ministry located at Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.

(54)



-6-

- (x) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and shall not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure shall be reported to the Ministry and its Regional Office located at Bangalore.
- (xi) The project authorities shall inform the Regional Office located at Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- (xii) The Regional Office of the Ministry located at Bangalore shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities shall extend full cooperation to the officer(s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.
- (xiii) The project proponent shall submit six monthly reports on the status of the implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, its Regional Office, Bangalore, Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board. The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the environment of the environmental clearance conditions on their website and update the same periodically and simultaneously send the same by e-mail to the Regional Office, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Bangalore.
- (xiv) The project proponent shall advertise in at least two local newspapers widely circulated in the region around the project, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality, / office of Municipal Corporation/Gram Panchayat concerned and on the company's web site within seven days from the date of this clearance letter, informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and copies of clearance letter are available with the State Pollution Control Board/Committee and may also be seen at Website of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in>.
- (xv) A copy of clearance letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat / local NGO, if any, from whom suggestion / representation has been received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the website of the company.
- (xvi) State Pollution Control Board shall display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industries Centre and Collector's office / Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.

55

-7-

(xvii) The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March in Form-V as is mandated shall be submitted to the State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently and shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental clearance conditions. The same shall also be sent to the Regional Office of Ministry by e-mail.

5. The Ministry of Environment and Forests reserves the right to revoke the clearance if conditions stipulated are not implemented to the satisfaction of the Ministry. MOEF may impose additional environmental conditions or modify the existing ones, if necessary.

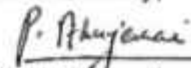
6. In case of any deviation or alteration in the project proposed from those submitted to this Ministry for clearance, a fresh reference should be made to the Ministry to assess the adequacy of the condition(s) imposed and to add additional environmental protection measures required, if any.

7. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

8. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Environment Appellate Authority, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 11 of the National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997.

9. The above conditions will be enforced inter-alia, under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules made thereunder and also any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India / High Court of Karnataka and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Dr. P. L. Ahujara)  
Director

56

-8-

## Copy to:-

1. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
3. Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
4. Secretary, Department of Forests, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
5. ADG(FC), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi.
5. Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional Office (SZ), Kendriya Sadan, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor E&F, Wings 17<sup>th</sup> Main Road, 1 Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560 034.
6. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-Cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi-110 032.
7. Chairman, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Parisara Bhawan, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 49, Church Street, Bangalore - 560 001.
8. Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, A2, W - 3 Curzon Road Barracks, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001.
9. Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur- 440 001.
10. District Collector, Tumkur, Government of Karnataka.
11. El Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.
12. Monitoring File/Guard File/Record File.

|  
(Dr. P.L.Ahujarai)  
Director

(57)



ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ / Fax: 080-25586321  
 ಈ-ಮೇಲ್ / E-mail: kspcb@kar.nic.in  
 ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ / Website: http://kspcb.kar.nic.in



25581383, 25589112  
 25588151, 25588270  
 25588142, 25586520

## ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಾಲಿನ್ಯ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಮಂಡಳಿ Karnataka State Pollution Control Board

"ಪರಿಸರಭವನ", 1 ರಿಂದ 5ನೇ ಮಹಡಿಗಳು, ನಂ. 49, ಚರ್ಚ್ ಸ್ಟ್ರೀಟ್, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು - 560 001, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, ಭಾರತ

"Parisara Bhavana", 1st to 5th Floor, # 49, Church Street, Bengaluru - 560 001, Karnataka, INDIA

NO.KSPCB/SEO/MINE/CFE/2010-11/ 90

DATED:

11 JUN 2010

/ BY REGD. POST WITH ACK. DUE /

To:  
 The Managing Director  
 M/s. Mineral Enterprises Limited  
 No.300, 1B, 16<sup>th</sup> Cross  
 Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru - 560 008.

Sir,

Sub : Issue of Consent for Establishment (CFE) for Iron & Manganese Ore mine of capacity 1.4 Million TPA & 9,621 TPA respectively as mentioned in approved IBM Mining Plan No.MP/TMK/FeMn-231-SZ dated 16.2.2009, and Environmental Clearance issued by Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, vide No.J-11015/73/2009-IA-II(M) dated 18.3.2010; in an area of 72.15 Hectares at Sy. No.11, 12(P), 69, 70, 71 & 74, Gollarahalli Village, C.N. Halli Taluk, Tumkur District, by Sarangapani Iron Ore & Manganese Ore Mine of M/s. Mineral Enterprises Limited.

Ref: 1. Your CFE application submitted at Regional Office, KSPCB, Tumkur, on 1.7.2009.  
 2. Proceedings of 176<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting held on 1.12.2009.  
 3. Guarantee money of Rs.14,09,700/- paid by the mining authorities on 3.6.2010.

**ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ**

With reference to the above, it is to be informed that this Board hereby accords consent for establishment under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1981, for Iron & Manganese Ore mine of capacity 1.4 Million TPA & 9,621 TPA respectively as mentioned in approved IBM Mining Plan No.MP/TMK/FeMn-231-SZ dated 16.2.2009, and Environmental Clearance issued by Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, vide No.J-11015/73/2009-IA-II(M) dated 18.3.2010, in an area of 72.15 Hectares at Sy. No.11, 12(P), 69, 70, 71 & 74, Gollarahalli Village, C.N. Halli Taluk, Tumkur District, by Sarangapani Iron Ore & Manganese Ore Mine of M/s. Mineral Enterprises Limited, subject to the following conditions.

1. This consent for establishment is valid for a period of Five years from the date of issue.
2. The applicant shall not undertake expansion/diversification without the prior consent of the Board.
3. The applicant shall obtain necessary license/clearance from other relevant statutory agencies before taking up construction.
4. There shall not be any complaints against the mine from the surrounding public.

  
 SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER-6.

"ಪ್ಲಾಸ್ಟಿಕ್ ಬಳಕೆ ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಿ, ಪರಿಸರ ಫ್ರೆಂಡ್ಲಿ ಕಮಿಡಿ"

AVOID USE OF PLASTICS - BE 'ECO' FRIENDLY

58



Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
(Wildlife Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodi Road,  
New Delhi-110003.

F. No. 1-9/2007 WL-I(pt)

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2011

To,  
The Chief Wildlife Warden  
All States/Union Territories

**Sub: Guidelines for Declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.**

Sir

In pursuance to the decision taken by the National Board for Wildlife, all the States/Union Territory, Governments were requested for forwarding site specific proposals for declaration of Eco Sensitive Zones around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries. Several reminders in this connection were also sent. Hon'ble Supreme Court had also take note of this decision had directed States/ Union Territory, Governments to forward proposals this Ministry. However, only very few States have forwarded proposals in this regard.

This Ministry after careful consideration, has therefore, decided to frame guidelines to facilitate the States/Union Territory, Governments for declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries. Kindly find enclosed a copy of the said Guidelines. It is requested to kindly take necessary action in this regard at the earliest

Yours faithfully,

(Prakriti Srivastava)

Deputy Inspector General (WL)

Telefax: 01-24360704

E-mail: [digwl-mcf@nic.in](mailto:digwl-mcf@nic.in)

Encl: As above

Copy to:

1. Principal Secretary (Forests), all States/Union Territories.
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all States/ Union Territories.
3. NIC Cell- with a request to upload the enclosed guidelines on the official website of MoEF.

59



### 3. Purpose for declaring Eco-Sensitive Zones:

The purpose of declaring Eco-sensitive Zones around National Parks and Sanctuaries is to create some kind of "Shock Absorber" for the Protected Areas. They would also act as a transition zone from areas of high protection to areas involving lesser protection. As has been decided by the National Board for Wildlife, the activities in the Eco-sensitive zones would be of a regulatory nature rather than prohibitive nature, unless and otherwise so required.

### 4. Extent of Eco-Sensitive Zones:

**4.1** Many of the existing Protected Areas have already undergone tremendous development in close vicinity to their boundaries. Some of the Protected Areas actually lying in the urban setup (Eg. Guindy National Park, Tamil Nadu, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Maharashtra, etc). Therefore, defining the extent of eco-sensitive zones around Protected Areas will have to be kept flexible and Protected Area specific. The width of the Eco-sensitive Zone and type of regulations will differ from Protected Area to Protected Area. However, as a general principle the width of the Eco-sensitive Zone could go upto 10 Kms around a Protected Area as provided in the Wildlife Conservation Strategy-2002.

**4.2** In case where sensitive corridors, connectivity and ecologically important patches, crucial for landscape linkage, are even beyond 10 kms width, these should be included in the Eco-sensitive Zone.

**4.3** Further, even in context of a particular Protected Area, the distribution of an area of Eco-sensitive Zone and the extent of regulation may not be uniform all around and it could be of variable width and extent.

### 5. Need for guidelines:

**5.1** As has been indicated vide para 1.4 above, Hon'ble Supreme Court has vide their order dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2006 directed all the State/Union Territory Governments to forward proposals for declaration of eco-sensitive zones around its Protected Areas. However, only States like Haryana, Gujarat, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Assam, Goa have forwarded proposals. However, several other States/Union Territories have not come forward, perhaps for want of guidelines in this regard.

**5.2** In this context, it is pertinent to note here that Hon'ble Supreme Court vide their judgment dated 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010 in the case relating to the construction of park at NOIDA near Okhla Bird Sanctuary filed by Shri Anand Arya & Anr vs. Union of India (L.A. Nos 2609-2610 of 2009) in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995, had noted that the State Government of Uttar Pradesh had not



declared Eco-sensitive zones around its Protected Areas as the Government of India had not issued any guidelines in this regard.

5.3 The Ministry of Environment & Forests had set up a committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Pronab Sen for identifying parameters for designating Ecologically Sensitive Areas in India. The said Committee had identified parameters for declaration of specific units of land/water etc as Ecologically Sensitive Zones based on parameters like richness of flora& fauna; slope; rarity & endemism of species in the area; origins of rivers etc. However, these parameters do not basically apply to the Eco-sensitive zones in the instant context, i.e around Protected Areas. In the instant case, the Eco-sensitive zones are meant to act as a "Shock absorbers"/ "transition zone" to the Protected Areas by regulating and managing the activities around such Protected Areas.

## 6. The procedure to be adopted :

6.1 As has been indicated in the forgoing paras, the basic aim is to regulate certain activities around National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary so as to minimize the negative impacts of such activities on the fragile ecosystem encompassing the Protected Area. As a first step towards achieving this goal, it is a pre-requisite that an inventory of the different land use patterns and the different types of activities, types and number of industries operating around each of the Protected Area (National Parks, Sanctuaries) as well as important Corridors be made. The inventory could be done by the concerned Range Officers, who can take a stock of activities within 10 km of his range.

6.2 For the above purpose, a small committee comprising the concerned Wildlife Warden, an Ecologist, an official from the Local Self Government and an official of the Revenue Department of the concerned area, could be formed. The said committee could suggest the:

- (i) *Extent of eco-sensitive zones for the Protected Area being considered.*
- (ii) *The requirement of such a zone to act as a shock absorber*
- (iii) *To suggest the best methods for management of the eco-sensitive zones, so suggested.*
- (iv) *To suggest broad based thematic activities to be included in the Master Plan for the region.*

6.3 Based on the above, the Chief Wildlife Warden could group the activities under the following categories (an indicative list of such activities is attached as ANNEXURE-1):-

- (i) **Prohibited**
- (ii) *Restricted with safeguards.*
- (iii) *Permissible*

-6-

61

## ANNEXURE-1

## Identification of Activities

While some of the activities could be allowed in all the eco-sensitive areas, others will need to be regulated / prohibited. However, which activity can be regulated or prohibited and to what extent, would have to be PA specific. A broad list of activities (this may need supplementation) which could be allowed, promoted, regulated or prohibited is given in the table below:

| Sl. No. | Activity                                                                | Prohibited | Regulated | Permitted | Remarks                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.      | Commercial Mining                                                       | Y          |           |           | Regulation will not prohibit the digging of earth for construction or repair of houses and for manufacture of country tiles or bricks for housing for personal consumption |
| 2.      | Felling of trees                                                        |            | Y         |           | With permission from appropriate authority                                                                                                                                 |
| 3.      | Setting of saw mills                                                    | Y          |           |           |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 4.      | Setting of industries causing pollution (Water, Air, Soil, Noise, etc.) | Y          |           |           |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 5.      | Establishment of hotels and resorts                                     |            | Y         |           | As per approved master plan, which takes care of habitats allowing no restriction on movement of wild animals                                                              |
| 6.      | Commercial use of firewood                                              | Y          |           |           | For hotels and other business related establishment                                                                                                                        |

-8-

62

**F. No. 5-01/2017-FC**  
 Government of India  
 Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
 (Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
 Aliganj, Jorbagh Road  
 New Delhi - 110003

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2017

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
 All State/UT Governments.

**Sub: Mining leases (ML) applications which have been saved under Section 10A (c) of the Mines & Mineral (Development & Regulations) (MMDR) Act 2015 deemed to have lapsed if not executed before 11.01.2017 - the list of mining leases executed on or before 11.1.2017 involving forest land by the State Government under Section 10A (c) of MMDR Act 2015-reg.**

Sir,

I am directed to inform that the Forest Conservation Division of this Ministry received applications under Section 2(ii) as well as Section 2(iii) of Forest Conservation Act 1980 from the State Government for diversion of forest land for mining purpose and are under consideration. Out of these received applications only those applications are to be considered for forest clearance under Section 2(ii) and Section 2(iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 **which have valid mining lease executed by the State Government or Letter of Intent (LoI) issued by the Competent Authority.**

It is also important to note that mining leases (ML) applications which have been saved under Section 10A (c) of the Mines & Mineral (Development & Regulations) (MMDR) Act 2015 are deemed to have lapsed if not executed before 11.01.2017 and the Ministry is not aware of the validity of mining leases executed till 11.1.2017 or LoI issued by the State Government from the proposals which are forwarded by the State/UTs and pending before the Ministry for consideration for prior approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

I am directed to say that the State Government may provide list of existing mining leases executed on or before 11.1.2017 involving forest land along with the proposals under FC Act duly recommended by the State Government which needs to be considered. The pending proposals of forest clearance would be considered only after receipt of information related to validity of mining leases from State/UT Governments.

Yours faithfully,

(Nisheet Saxena)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Govt. of India, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi - 110 001.
2. The PCCF, Government of All States/UTs.
3. The Nodal Officer, Office of the PCCF, Government of All States/UTs.
4. The Add. PCCF (Central), All Regional Offices of MoEF&CC.
5. Monitoring Cell for updating on website Forest Clearance.
6. Guard file.

(Nisheet Saxena)

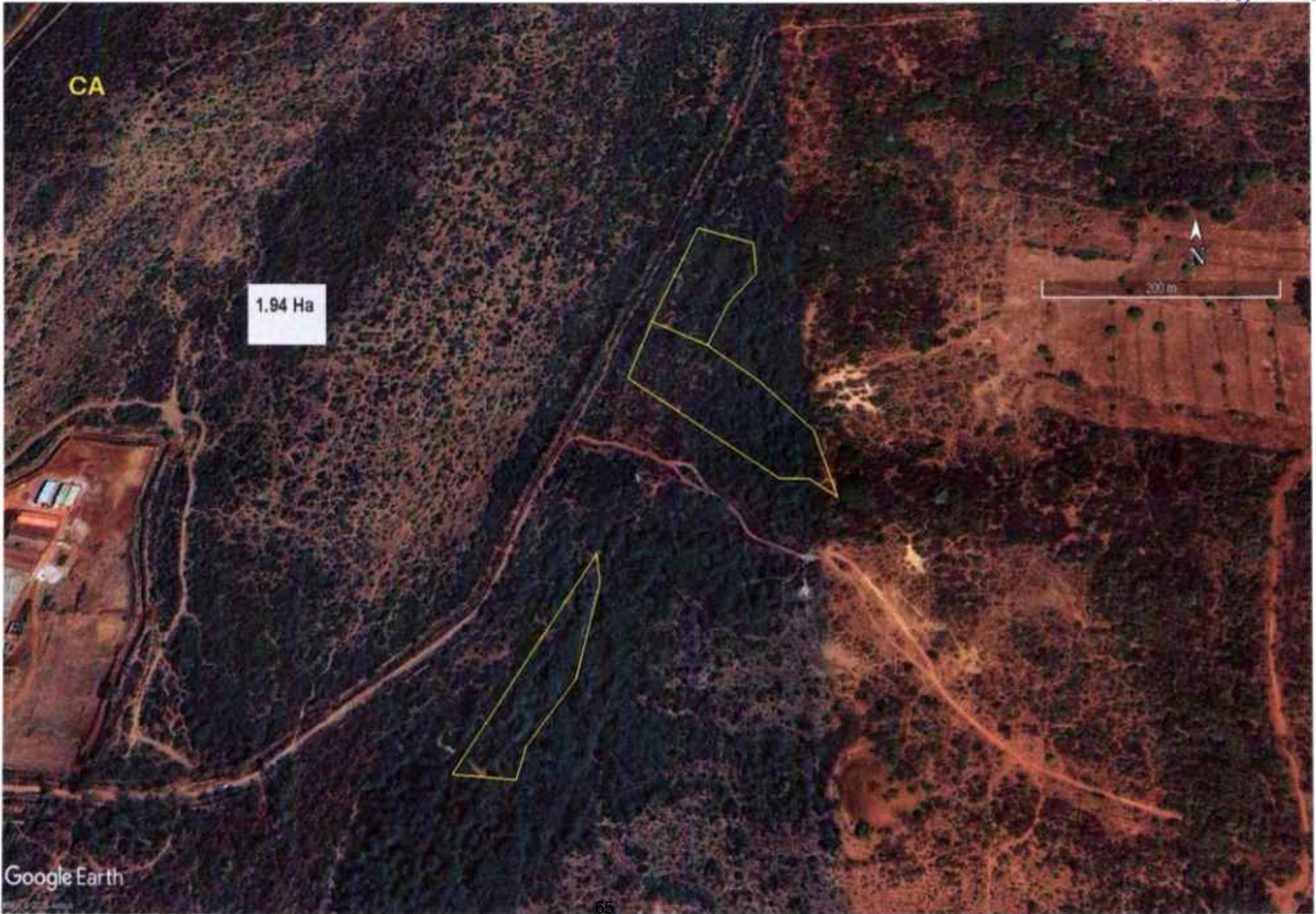
Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

63



ANNEXURE-9: CA LAND Proposed in BRT Tiger Reserve (Enclosure and nearby areas)

49





ANNEXURE 9: CA LAND Proposed in BRT Tiger Reserve Enclosure and nearby area.

5





ANNEXURE - 9

Photographs of CA Land Proposed in BRT Tiger Reserve.



66

Am 12/1



ANNEXURE 10 : CA LAND Proposed In MTH Hills Sanctuary. (Enclosure)

67





Photographs of CA Land Proposed in MM Hills Sanctuary.



68

12/1

ANNEXURE - II

Photographs of the Double Degraded Forest Land Proposed for CA in Tumkur Division.



69

Am 12/11



ANNEXURE 12 : KML FILE of the area proposed for diversion.

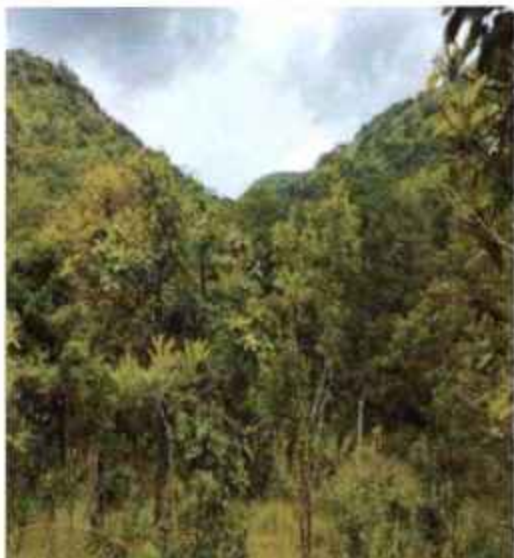


70



## ANNEXURE - 12

### Photographs of the Forest Area Proposed for Diversion



71

12/11



Photographs of Indirect Evidence of Wildlife Presence in the Forest Area  
Proposed for Diversion



Sloth Bear scat



Leopard scat



Porcupine Quill



Black Naped Hare Pellets

(2)

12/11



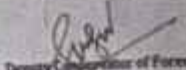
(32) WhatsApp

ANNEXURE -14

You

30/9/2025 at 3:32 pm

| Details of Compensation paid from 2015-16 to 2025-26 in Chikkansyskanshalli Range |              |        |              |         |              |        |              |        |              |           |                              |         |               |        |               |           |              |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------|--------------|---------|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------------|-----------|------------------------------|---------|---------------|--------|---------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| Sl No.                                                                            | Crop Damage  |        |              |         | Human Death  |        |              |        | Injury       |           | Partial/Permanent Disability |         | Property Loss |        | Cattle Killed |           | TOTAL CASES  |           |
|                                                                                   | Elephant     |        | Others       |         | Elephant     |        | Others       |        | No. of cases | Amount    | No. of cases                 | Amount  | No. of cases  | Amount | No. of cases  | Amount    | No. of cases | Amount    |
|                                                                                   | No. of cases | Amount | No. of cases | Amount  | No. of cases | Amount | No. of cases | Amount |              |           |                              |         |               |        |               |           |              |           |
| 1                                                                                 | 2            | 3      | 4            | 5       | 6            | 7      | 8            | 9      | 10           | 11        | 12                           | 13      | 14            | 15     | 16            | 17        | 18           | 19        |
| 2015-16                                                                           | 8            | 41,950 | 13           | 88,750  | -            | -      | -            | -      | 3            | 40,500    | -                            | -       | -             | -      | 4             | 14,500    | 26           | 143,500   |
| 2016-17                                                                           | 1            | 5,000  | 9            | 21,000  | -            | -      | -            | -      | 1            | 500,000   | 2                            | 27,120  | -             | -      | 8             | 40,000    | 21           | 613,120   |
| 2017-18                                                                           | -            | -      | 23           | 91,550  | -            | -      | -            | -      | -            | -         | 3                            | 112,466 | -             | -      | 29            | 201,800   | 55           | 405,836   |
| 2018-19                                                                           | -            | -      | 18           | 29,098  | -            | -      | -            | -      | -            | -         | 2                            | 90,862  | -             | -      | 48            | 341,533   | 60           | 461,503   |
| 2019-20                                                                           | -            | -      | 3            | 23,200  | -            | -      | -            | -      | 1            | 39,193    | -                            | -       | -             | -      | 14            | 127,000   | 20           | 189,393   |
| 2020-21                                                                           | -            | -      | 18           | 51,800  | -            | -      | -            | -      | 1            | 12,160    | -                            | -       | -             | -      | 43            | 276,000   | 54           | 439,960   |
| 2021-22                                                                           | -            | -      | 1            | 18,750  | -            | -      | -            | -      | 3            | 214,311   | -                            | -       | -             | -      | 37            | 300,000   | 41           | 625,061   |
| 2022-23                                                                           | -            | -      | 1            | 8,710   | -            | -      | -            | -      | 1            | 229,980   | -                            | -       | -             | -      | 11            | 90,000    | 13           | 328,690   |
| 2023-24                                                                           | -            | -      | 5            | 54,400  | -            | -      | -            | -      | 4            | 231,835   | -                            | -       | -             | -      | 58            | 515,200   | 67           | 982,335   |
| 2024-25                                                                           | -            | -      | 2            | 20,620  | -            | -      | -            | -      | 1            | 60,000    | -                            | -       | -             | -      | 16            | 110,800   | 19           | 191,420   |
| 2025-26<br>(up to 2025)                                                           | -            | -      | -            | -       | -            | -      | -            | -      | -            | -         | -                            | -       | -             | -      | 4             | 101,000   | 4            | 101,000   |
| TOTAL                                                                             | 7            | 46,950 | 79           | 357,870 | 0            | -      | 0            | -      | 15           | 1,420,979 | 7                            | 230,488 | 8             | -      | 271           | 2,337,433 | 380          | 4,301,728 |

  
Deputy Conservator of Forests,  
Tumkur Division, Tumkur



73



4. **ATTENTION: ANSWER 1, 2, AND 3**

- No. F.No.4-KRA1519/2025-BAN (Compu



भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE  
CHANGE



क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय REGIONAL OFFICE

Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E& F Wings, 17<sup>th</sup>  
Main Road, IInd Block, Koramangala,  
Bangalore – 560 034. Tel.No.080-25635908,  
E.Mail: rosz.bng-mef@nic.in



By Email  
F. No. F(C)/11.6/GEN/KAR-PART-II  
Dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2025

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

Subject: **Submission of Objections – Sarangapani Iron & Manganese Ore  
Mine Proposal (Tumkur District) from Shri Giridhar Kulkarni – reg.**

Sir,

I am directed to forward a copy of complaint received from Shri Giridhar Kulkarni, Wildlife Conservationist, C/o Sandeep Kulkarni, #1540, Suchishree, Hindwadi, Belagavi-590011 with an Appeal to reject the proposal for diversion of 48.2 ha of forest land for establishing Sarangapani Iron and Manganese Ore Mine Project in Tumkur District. In this regard, it is requested to kindly examine the issues raised in the complaint and take appropriate action in the matter and provide a copy of the action taken report to this office also.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,  
Digitally signed by  
Praneetha Paul

Date: 06.10.2025  
(Praneetha Paul)

13:34:08  
Dy. Inspector General of Forest (Central)

Copy to:

1. The Inspector General of Forests (FC), Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Agni Wing, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
3. 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.



## Submission of Objections – Sarangapani Iron & Manganese Ore Mine Proposal (Tumkur District)

**Giridhar Kulkarni** < girirk19@gmail.com >

Sat, 13 Sep 2025 11:31:23 PM +0530

To "rosz.bng-mef"<rosz.bng-mef@nic.in>

Cc "Forest, Ecology and Environment Principal Secretary" <prsfee@gmail.com>,"prs-fee"<prs-fee@karnataka.gov.in>,"PCCF Karnataka" <pccfkar@gmail.com>,"Forest Conservation FC"<apccffc@gmail.com>,"am207" <am207@ifs.nic.in>,"ccfhassan aksingh"<ccfhassan@gmail.com>,"DCF Tumkur DCF Tumkur"<dcftumkur@gmail.com>

**Respected Sir,**

Please find attached my detailed objection letter regarding the proposal for diversion of 48.20 hectares of forest land for the Sarangapani Iron and Manganese Ore Mine Project in Tumkur District, Karnataka.

Since the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division) has directed the Regional Office, Bengaluru, to carry out a site inspection of the proposed diversion area and identified CA land, I am submitting my objections directly to your office so that they may be duly considered during the inspection process.

I kindly request that my objections be placed on record and taken into account while preparing the inspection report and recommendations.

**Attachment:**

Objection Letter – Sarangapani Iron & Manganese Ore Mine Proposal (13.09.2025) – PDF

Thanking you,

Sincerely,  
**Giridhar Kulkarni**  
Wildlife Conservationist  
Belagavi, Karnataka

**1 Attachment(s)**

Letter\_MoEFROSZ\_Sarangap...  
160.6 KB

Giridhar Kulkarni  
Wildlife Conservationist  
c/o Sandeep Kulkarni  
#1540, Suchishree  
Hindwadi, Belagavi – 590011  
13<sup>th</sup> September 2025

To  
The Deputy Director General of Forests (Central)  
Regional Office, MoEF&CC  
Kendriya Sadan, IV Floor, E&F Wing  
Koramangala, Bengaluru – 560034

Sir,

**Subject:** Request to reject proposal for diversion of 48.2 ha of forest land for Sarangapani Iron and Manganese Ore Mine Project, Tumkur District, Karnataka (FP/KA/MIN/154749/2022)

**Reference:**

1. My representations dated 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025 to Additional Chief Secretary (FEE), Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, Government of Karnataka (Copy to your office and Regional Office, Bangalore).
2. Recommendations of Additional Chief Secretary (FEE), Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, Government of Karnataka dated 6<sup>th</sup> August 2025.
3. My representation dated 9<sup>th</sup> August 2025 to Secretary, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
4. MoEF&CC (Forest Conservation Division) letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025 directing Regional Office, Bengaluru to inspect the forest land proposed for diversion/identified CA land (NFL and DFL).

**Background:**

Through my earlier representations (Ref. 1), I urged the Government of Karnataka to reject the proposal for diversion of 48.2 hectares of forest land in Gollarahalli, Lakmenahalli, Hosahalli, Kodihalli and Thonalapura villages, Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk, Tumkur District, for the establishment of the Sarangapani Iron and Manganese Ore Mine Project. My objections were based on the ecological sensitivity of the area and the potential social, environmental and livelihood impacts.

Despite this, the proposal was recommended by the Government of Karnataka (Ref. 2) and forwarded to the Ministry for Stage-I clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

After the State Government's recommendation was forwarded to MoEF&CC, I submitted one more objection in the form of a supplementary representation dated 9<sup>th</sup> August 2025 (Ref. 3) to the Secretary, MoEF&CC, New Delhi, reiterating the risks and urging the Ministry to reject the proposal.

Since the Ministry has now directed the Regional Office, Bengaluru, to carry out a site inspection of the proposed diversion area and identified CA land (Ref. 4), I am formally submitting my objections to the Regional Office so that they may be duly considered during the inspection process.

**Past Similar Proposals Recommended for Rejection by MoEF&CC**

It is important to note that two earlier mining proposals (FP/KA/MIN/22839/2016 and FP/KA/MIN/22447/2016)—located adjacent to the present proposed site—were recommended by the Karnataka Forest Department and Government of Karnataka but subsequently examined and recommended for rejection by the Ministry's Regional Office, Bengaluru, after site inspections by the then Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central), Smt. R. Padmawathe.

The site inspection reports clearly highlighted:

- Presence of significant wildlife, including leopard, sloth bear, chital, black-naped hare, barking deer, peafowl, porcupine, jackal, civets, and migratory elephant populations.
- The area being part of Thirtharampura Reserve Forest, with regenerating native vegetation (Anogeissus, Manilkara, Buchanania, etc.).

- The region functioning as the sole watershed for a drought-prone belt in Tumkur district, with mining likely to worsen human–wildlife conflict and water scarcity.
- Past violations of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the form of lease splits and mining without proper approvals.
- Recommendation for no diversion and emphasis on ecological restoration rather than further extraction.

#### Concerns with the Current Proposal

Given that the present mining proposal falls in the **same ecological landscape** and shares similar environmental attributes with the earlier rejected proposals, the decision of the Karnataka Forest Department and Government of Karnataka to recommend this project is:

- **Ecologically unsound** – likely to destroy wildlife habitats and disrupt a critical elephant migratory route.
- **Hydrologically risky** – likely to damage the only watershed for several drought-hit villages, affecting both wildlife and local livelihoods.
- **Socially detrimental** – likely to increase the frequency and severity of human–wildlife conflict in an already sensitive zone.

#### Appeal

In light of:

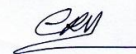
1. The clear ecological, hydrological, and social concerns;
2. The previous **MoEF&CC Regional Office recommendations** against similar proposals in adjacent areas; and
3. The principles of sustainable development and forest conservation under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

I earnestly request the Regional Office to **recommend rejection** of the proposal for diversion of 48.20 hectares of forest land for the Sarangapani Iron and Manganese Ore Mine Project in Tumkur District, in the larger public, ecological, wildlife, and forest conservation interest, in line with the objectives of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

I also request that my objections be placed on official record and that I be provided with a copy of the action taken in this matter.

Thanking you,

Sincerely,



Giridhar Kulkarni

#### Copy to:

1. The Additional Chief Secretary (Forests), Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru
2. PCCF (HoFF), Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
3. PCCF cum Nodal Officer (VSESA), 1980, Forest Department, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru
4. Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Forest Conservation Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
5. Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle: Hassan
6. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division: Tumkur