



भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST &  
CLIMATE CHANGE  
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No.4-KRB1396/2025-BAN

Dated the 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2025

To

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)  
Forest Conservation Division,  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,  
New Delhi-110003.

**Sub:** Diversion of 0.4928 ha. of forest land in Sy. No.215A1A, Arav village, Savanthawada Hobli, Karwar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District for establishment of Building Stone Quarry and its approach road in favour of M/s. Sai Ram Enterprises, Gaongeri, Majali, Karwar. (Proposal No. FP/KA/QRY/46423/2020)

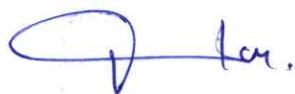
Sir,

As directed vide Ministry's letter No.4-KRB1396/2022-BAN dated 23.08.2025, the site was inspected by the undersigned and the Site inspection report alongwith the recommendation of DDGF(Central) is forwarded herewith for kind information and further necessary action please.

Encl: as above

## SITE INSPECTION REPORT

Title of the Project:		Diversion of 0.4928 ha. of forest land in Sy. No.215A1A, Arav village, Savanthawada Hobli, Karwar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District for establishment of Building Stone Quarry and its approach road in favour of M/s. Sai Ram Enterprises, Gaongeri, Majali, Karwar. (Proposal No. FP/KA/QRY/46423/2020).														
1.	Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:	Reserved Forest														
2.	Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion:	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">S. No.</th><th style="text-align: center;">Component</th><th style="text-align: center;">Forest area proposed for diversion (ha)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">Building Stone Quarry</td><td style="text-align: center;">0.3368</td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">Approach Road 400-meter length &amp; 4-meter width</td><td style="text-align: center;">0.156</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;"><b>Total</b></td><td style="text-align: center;"><b>0.4928</b></td></tr> </tbody> </table>			S. No.	Component	Forest area proposed for diversion (ha)	1	Building Stone Quarry	0.3368	2	Approach Road 400-meter length & 4-meter width	0.156	<b>Total</b>		<b>0.4928</b>
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1	Building Stone Quarry	0.3368														
2	Approach Road 400-meter length & 4-meter width	0.156														
<b>Total</b>		<b>0.4928</b>														
3.	Whether the proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof:	No.														
4.	Total cost of the project at present rates:	Rs.25 lakhs Only														
5.	Wildlife:	Wild animals reported in and around the project area are Leopard, Sloth bear, Mouse deer, Fishing Cat, Gaur, Pangolin, Sambar, Spotted deer, Jungle cat, King Cobra, etc.as per the DCF report.														
6.	Vegetation:	<p>The forest land proposed for diversion is in general landscape of Eco-class I (Tropical Moist Deciduous Forests) with a canopy density of above 0.5.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The forest land proposed for diversion Arav village of Karwar Taluk does form part of Wester Ghats Eco Sensitive Area (ESA)</b></p>														



		<p>As per DCF report, there are rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna reported in and around the forest land proposed for diversion namely, <i>Ochlandra rheedii</i>, <i>Garcinia indica</i>, <i>Hopea wightiana</i>, <i>Nothapodytes nimmoniana</i>, <i>Rauwolfia Serpentina</i>, <i>Oxytenanther monostigma</i>, <i>Coscinium fenestratum</i>, <i>Khema attenuata</i> and <i>Dilemia Pentagyna</i>.</p>
7.	Background note on the proposal:	<p>The instant proposal is for building stone quarry in Forest SY No 215/A/1A, over an extent of 0.4928 Ha located in Arav gram of Asnoti village in Karwar taluka, Uttara Kannada District of Karnataka state.</p> <p>The proposal was initially submitted by UA in the year 2020 to the state government. Up on receiving the proposal GoI has raised certain EDS dated 06-12-2022. Reply submitted by the State Government No.KFD/HOFF/A5-2(QRY)/5/2020-FC dated 26-04-2025 is as follows.</p> <p><b>Remarks of GoI</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As per the satellite imagery, part of the forest land proposed for diversion is broken up. It also reveals the existence of a road of nearly 3 meter wide. The proposal does not indicate the authorization/permission granted under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for these activities. In the absence of which the proposal has to be treated as a case of violation and needs to be processed as per the guidelines issued vide letter No: FC-11/113/2022-FC dated:08-09-2022.</li> </ol> <p><b>Reply:</b>  Earlier the proposed area is operated for stone quarry for buildings and road works as per temporary quarry permission issued by the then Conservator of Forests, Kanara Circle vide letter dated 20-12-1994 (copy enclosed as ANNEXURE-I). The old approach road is existed with 400- meter length and 4-meter width which has been constructed and utilized during the old quarry operation. The same has been included in proposed quarry proposal.</p>



2. The proposed approach road now is in series with another road proposal submitted vide proposal No. FP/KA/ ROAD/16625/2015 and therefore, mutually entail implications another Chapter-5 of FC guideline regarding multiple users. Moreover, in the earlier proposal, it was reported that local public also use that road whereas it is not clear whether the current road also involves such use. The State Government should have linked both proposals in terms Chapter 5 and processed.

**Reply:**

The approach road proposed in this proposal is not connected with another proposal submitted by different user agency. The road that have proposed too lead from private land having Sy.No: 203/A1 of Arav Village, Karwar Taluk to proposed quarry site. Further, Government of India vide letter No. 4-KRB1392/2022-BAN/969 dated 18-11- 2022 had rejected the proposal No. FP/KA/ ROAD/16625/2015.

3. The State Government has not provided the details required to be submitted along with fresh mining proposals as per Para 7.8 (i) of FC guidelines

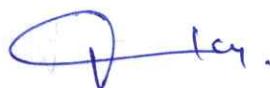
**Reply:**

In this regard user agency has submitted Geological report and quarrying plan from Recognized Qualified Person (RQP) as per Para 7.8 (i) of FC guidelines. The same has been enclosed as ANNEXURE-II.

As per the direction of the Ministry vide letter No.4-KRB1396/2022-BAN dated 23.09.2025, the site was inspected on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025 in the presence of DCF, ACF, RFO and staff concerned.

**Observations are:**

1. The area proposed for quarry is starting from the already extracted quarry edges. It was informed by the UA that quarry was running since 1984 and stopped during 2010.
2. Quarry area was not demarcated in the field.
3. Proposed quarry site is having canopy density of



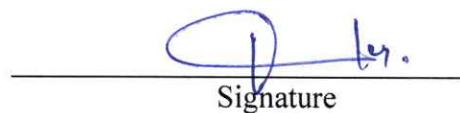
		<p>above 0.5. Where as in the proposal only 8 number of <i>Acacia auriculiformis</i> are listed in the enumeration list. Enumeration of trees has not been done correctly.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Period of violation and action taken by the state government needs to be submitted by the State Government.</li> <li>5. There is no approved mining plan/ Letter of Intent submitted by the User Agency.</li> <li>6. Proper justification for requirement of quarry in the particular site is not submitted by the UA and State Government.</li> <li>7. Schedule I animals and rare and endemic species present in the proposed Quarry site.</li> </ol>
8.	Compensatory afforestation:	DCF has reported that there are 8 trees proposed for felling on forest land proposed for diversion the User Agency is required to pay the Compensatory Planting charges in accordance with the existing rules. The User Agency has agreed to pay the Compensatory Planting charges and has submitted an Undertaking in this regard. During site inspection it is noted that area is rich in forest. Re enumeration of trees to be felled to be carried out freshly.
9.	Whether the proposal involves violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials:	Yes. During Site Inspection it is noted that the proposed area for quarry starts from the already quarry extracted parcel for which there were no forest clearances under the V(SES) Adhiniyam Act, 1980. In 1984 temporary permission by the state government (DCF) was given for only 45 days but extraction of stones and later in 1994 temporary permission was given by CF Karwar. As stated by UA during 2010 quarry was stopped. It is to note that no forest clearance given under V(SES) Adhiniyam Act, 1980.
10.	Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether	No displacement involved.



	rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not:	
11.	Reclamation Plan:	Not Submitted
	Details and financial allocation:	-
12.	Details on catchment and command area under the project:	Not applicable
13.	Cost benefit ratio:	-
14.	Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:	Recommended
15.	Recommendations of Inspecting Officer along with detailed reasons:	<p><b>Not Recommended.</b></p> <p>Reasons are as follows</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The proposed area for quarry Sy.No: 203/A1 of Arav Village, Karwar Taluk is falling in Western Ghats Eco Sensitive Area(ESA). The area is rich in floral and faunal diversity including Schedule I animals and endemic/endangered species.</li> <li>2. Being high rainfall zone soil erosion and landslides prone area. Quarry functioning will damage the entire ecology of the Western Ghats ecosystem.</li> <li>3. Proper justification is not provided by UA and State Government for opening up the mine as well as no approved mining plan/ Letter of Intent submitted by the User Agency which was running without forest clearance under VSESA 1980 and closed later.</li> </ol>
16.	Regional Deputy Director General of Forests shall give detailed comments on whether there are any alternatives	As attached



	routes/alignments for locating the project on the non-forest land:	
17.	Utility of the Project:	Mining/Quarry
18.	Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious value:	There are no Protected/ Archaeological/ Heritage Sites in the area.
19.	Situation w.r.t. any P.A.	Does not fall within any PA.
20.	Any other information relating to the Project:	-



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Name and Designation of Inspecting Officer: YASODHA K

Date of Inspection: 26/09/2025

## **Recommendation of DDGF (Central) Regional office, MoEF&CC, Bengaluru**

The proposal seeks diversion of 0.4928 ha. of forest land in Sy. No.215A1A, Arav village, Savanthawada Hobli, Karwar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District for establishment of Building Stone Quarry and its approach road in favour of M/s. Sai Ram Enterprises, Gaongeri, Majali, Karwar.

### **(Proposal No. FP/KA/QRY/46423/2020).**

The site was inspected by DIGF on 26-09-2025. The observations of the inspecting officer are agreed to. It is noted that:

1. The proposal pertains to forest land within the Western Ghats Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA) in Arav Village, Karwar Taluk. The forest is classified as Eco-class I (Tropical Moist Deciduous Forests) with a dense canopy cover of above 0.5 density.
2. Site inspection revealed that the new quarry area commences directly from a pre-existing, already depleted quarry site. This previous quarrying operation was conducted without requisite forest clearance under the Act, 1980. Although temporary permissions for stone extraction were granted by the state government authorities (DCF in 1984 for 45 days, and CF in 1994), these permissions did not constitute a valid Act clearance. The User Agency confirmed that the earlier operation was discontinued in 2010.
3. Regarding the Compensatory afforestation, the Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) has reported that eight (8) trees are proposed for felling within the forest land designated for diversion. The User Agency (UA) is required to remit the Compensatory Afforestation (CA) charges in full compliance with prevailing regulations. The UA has submitted a formal undertaking confirming its commitment to pay the requisite charges. However, the site inspection by the DIGF revealed that the area exhibits a richer-than-expected forest cover. Therefore, a complete re-enumeration of the trees proposed for felling is necessary to ensure an accurate assessment of the compensatory requirement.

### **Recommendation:**

1. The proposed quarry site, located in Sy.No: 203/A1 of Arav Village, Karwar Taluk, is situated within the Western Ghats Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA). This region exhibits significant floral and faunal diversity, including the presence of Schedule I animal species and various endemic/endangered species. Being a high rainfall zone, the area is

highly susceptible to soil erosion and landslides. The operation of the proposed quarry would therefore likely to result in damage to the site in the slopes of Western Ghats and the habitat of the wild fauna

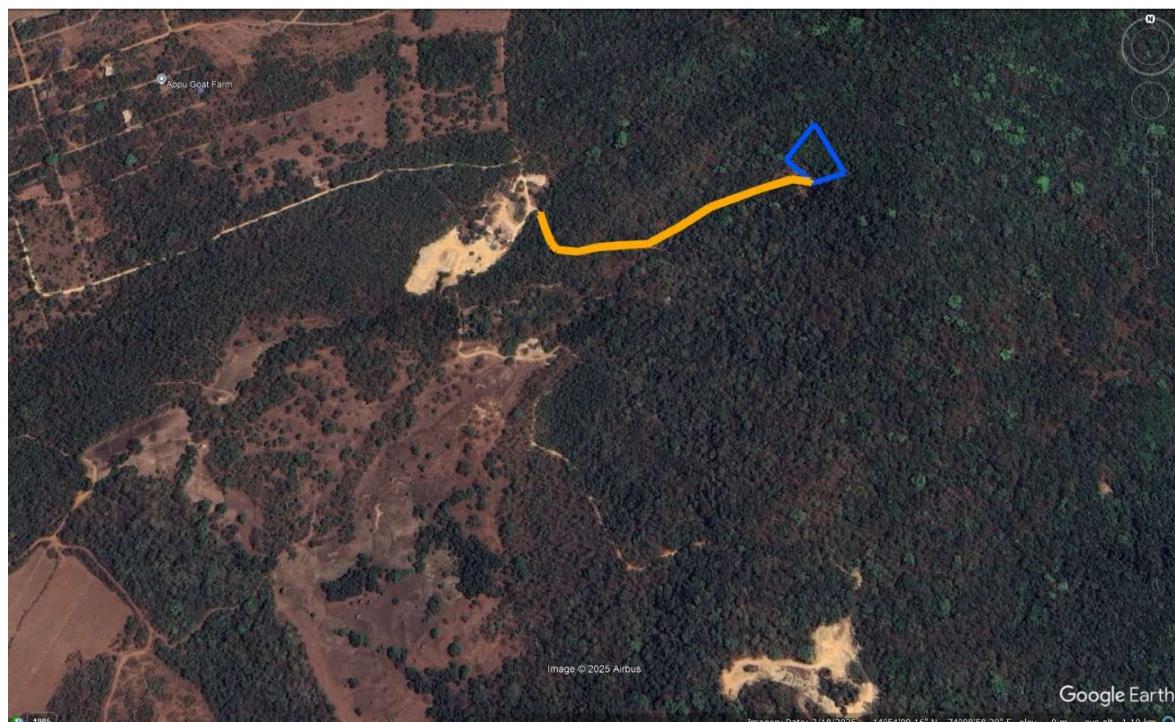
2. The User Agency (UA) and the State Government have not provided adequate justification for initiating mining activities. Furthermore, the User Agency, which previously operated without requisite forest clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (FC Act, 1980) and was subsequently closed, has failed to submit an approved mining plan or a Letter of Intent.

In view of above observation, the proposal is not recommended in the present form.



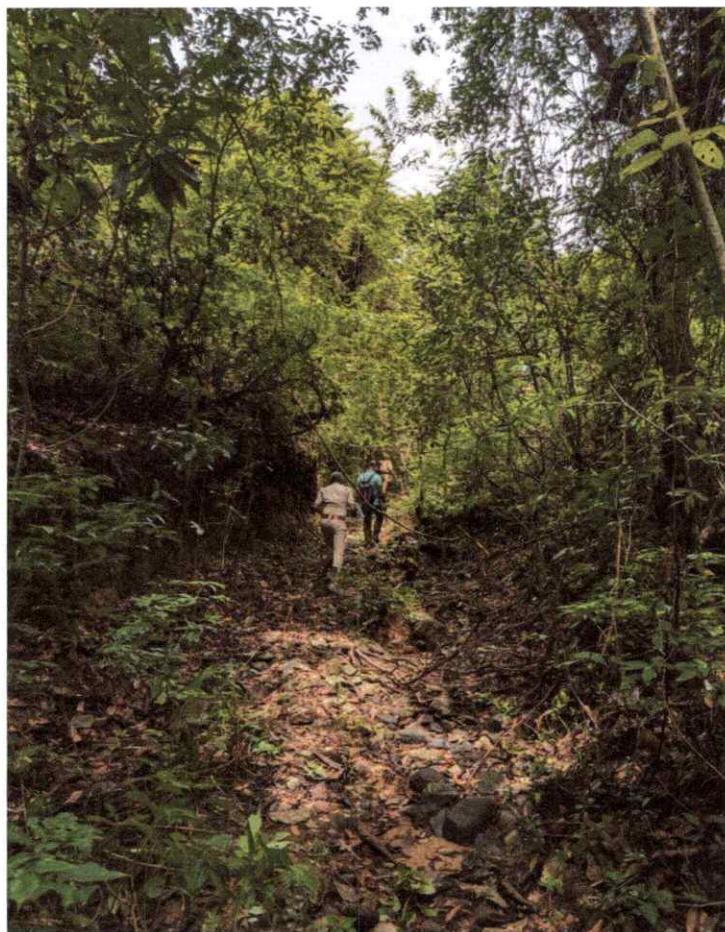
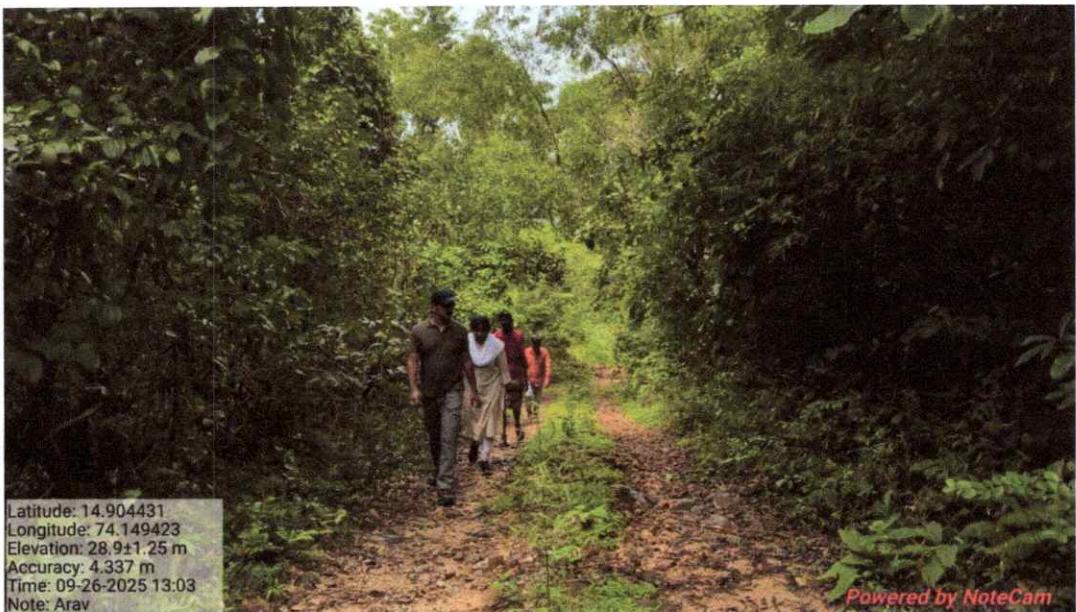
**(S. Senthil Kumar)**  
DDGF (Central)  
Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bengaluru

### 1. Screenshot of the kml of quarry site



## Photos taken during Site Inspection

### Existing Road/Proposed Approach Road towards Quarry Site



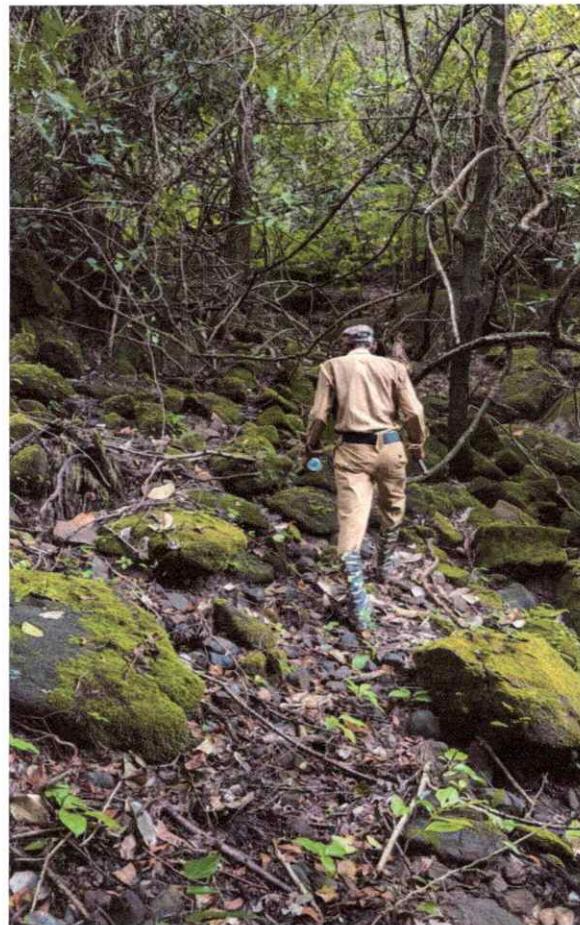
*J. ber.*

**Excavated area from where proposed quarry site begins**



*[Handwritten signature in blue ink]*

## Quarry Site



*[Handwritten signature]*