

Subject : Approach Road, Downhill Pipe Conveyor and Feed & Transfer Point Area for Rama Iron Ore Mine ML No. 2621.

1. The State Government of Karnataka vide their letter no. **FEE 33 FFM 2018** and date **01.09.2018** submitted the above mentioned proposal to obtain prior approval of central Government, in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest(Conservation)Act,1980.

2. Details indicated in the proposal submitted by the Government of Karnataka are as below

FACT SHEET

1.	Project Details		
(i)	Proposal No	FP/KA/Others/27780/2017	
(ii)	Name of the Proposal	Approach Road, Downhill Pipe Conveyor and Feed & Transfer Point Area for Rama Iron Ore Mine ML No. 2621.	
(iii)	Short Narrative of the proposal and Project/scheme for which the forest land is Required	Precambrian Iron Ore Mine ML No. 2621 has been auctioned and allocated to M/s. JSW Steel Ltd., Vijayanagar Works, Bellary after the C-Category Mine E-auction on 02.10.2016. The Mining lease is spreaded over 33.80 ha in the Ramandurg Range, Ramanamalai Block Forest, Sandur North Range, Ramgad Village	
(iv)	Category	Others	
(v)	Total Area of the Forest Land (in ha.):	15.981	
(vi)	Total period for which the forest land is proposed to be diverted(in years)	50	
2.	Location:		
(i)	State	Karnataka	
(ii)	District	Bellary	
3.	Detail of user agency		
(i)	Name of the user agency	JSW STEEL LIMITED	
(ii)	Shape of forest land proposed to be diverted	Hybrid	
(iii)	Legal status of User Agency	Private	
4. Legal status of forest land proposed for diversion			
S. No.	Division	Forest Land(ha.)	Legal Status
1	Bellary	15.981	Section 4
5. Land use plan			
Component wise breakup			
S.no	Component	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)
1	Approach Road	3.63	0
2	Feed point area (FP-1)	1.71	0
3	Segment-1 falling in Forest Land	1.62	0

4	Transfer Point-1	1.797	0
5	Transfer Point-2	4.044	0
6	Segment-4 falling in Non-forest land	0	1.8144
7	Approach road all along Seg-4` in Non-forest land	0	1.392
8	Segment-5 falling in Non-forest land	0	0.726
9	Segment-2 falling in Forest Land	2.82	0
10	Segment-6 falling in Non-forest land	0	0.402
11	Segment-3 falling in Forest Land	0.36	0

6. Vegetation

(i)	Species-wise and diameter class wise enumeration of trees							
S. No.	Scientific Name	Local Name	(0-30)cm.	(31-60)cm.	(61-90)cm.	(91-120)cm.	(121-150)cm.	(>150)cm.
1	Ficus Religiosa	Alagali	-1	13	1	0	0	0
2	Terminalia Arjuna	Bili Matti			1			
3	Dalbergia Latifolia	Bete	1	1				
4	Azadirachta Indica	Bevina mara	1					
5	Terminalia Tomentosa	Budray	106	98				
6	Lagerstroemia Parviflora	Chennigi	0	32	2			
7	Diasporus Melanoxylon	?Chata pata	0	8	1			
8	Ficus Religiosa	Alagali	1	13	1	0	0	0
9	Others			900	37			
(ii)	Density of Vegetation		0.04					
(iii)	Eco Class		Eco 3					
(iv)	Total numbers of trees to be filled		1216					
(v)	Total Tree to be retained .		Less than 60(in cm.) : 1173 Greater than 60(in cm.): 43					
7.	Vulnerability of area to soil erosion		The proposed area is having steep slope with vegetation, due to project every chances of vulnerability of the forest area to erosion. Hence, the user agency is required to take up					
8.	Approximate distance of proposed site for diversion from boundry of forest (in Km.)		0.00					
9.	Significance of the forest land proposed for diversion from wildlife point of view							
(i)	Details of wildlife present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion		Wild bore, Panthers, Peacocks and Others					
(ii)	Whether forms part of national park, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve, tiger reserve, elephant corridor, wildlife migration corridor etc.		No					

(iii)	Whether the forest land proposed for diversion is located within eco-sensitive zone(ESZ) of the Protected Area notified under Wildlife(Protection) Act,1972 (Note: In case, ESZ of a Protected Area is not notified,then,10kms distance from boundary of the Protected Area should be treated as ESZ)::	No		
(iv)	Whether any national park, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve, tiger reserve, elephant corridor, wildlife migration corridor etc., is located within 1 Km. from boundary of the forest land proposed for diversion :	No		
(v)	Whether any rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna found in the area :			
10.	Whether any protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area. if so, the details thereof with NOC from competent authority, ifrequired.	No		
11.	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency is unavoidable and bare minimum for the project.if no,recommended area item-wise with detailes of alternatives examined.	yes		
12.	Whether any work in violation of the Act has been carried out(yes/No).if yes,details of the same including of the work done,action taken on erring officials. Whether work in violation is still under progress.	No		
13.	Details of compensatory afforestation scheme			
(i)	Patch wise details of non-forest or Revenue forest land to be provided by User Agency for CA			
	Patch Wise Details			
	S.no	District Name	Village	Area(in ha.)
	1	Raichur	Halbhavi	16
(ii)	Patch wise details for Degraded Area (To be earmarked by DFO)			
	No Data			
(iii)	Total Financial Outlay for C.A(lacs):	0		

(iv)	Whether the land identified by User Agency is suitable for CA and from management point of view:	No Data
14.	Documentary evidence in support of settlement of rights in accordance with the provisions of the scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of forest Rights) Act, 2006 on the forest land proposed to be diverted enclosed.	Not given
15.	Whether the project requires environment Clearance	
16.	Catchment Area Treatment Plan	-
17.	Rehabilitation of Outstee	
(i)	Number of SC Families	0
(ii)	Number of ST Families	0
(iii)	Number of Backward Families	0
(iv)	Copies of R&R Plan	-
18.	Cost Benefit Analysis	cost benefit analysis is 1:2766 pg. 93-97/c
19.	Total cost of the project(in crore):	21000
20.	Employment Potential	Permanent Employee : 35 Temporary Employee : 3600 Total Employee : 3635
21.	Details of Mining lease	No
22.	Undertaking to bear the cost of CA and NPV	yes

23. District Profile

S.no	District Name	Geographical area of the district (in ha.)	Forest area of the district (in ha.)	Total forest area diverted since 1980 (in ha.)	No. of Approved Cases	Forest Land including penal C.A. (in ha.)	Progress of compensatory afforestation as on (date)	Forest land (in ha.)	Non-forest land (in ha.)
1	Bellary	842000	1349.53	6476.58	91	2342.49	31/03/2017	2337.70	2728.00

24.	Total area proposed for afforested since 1980 -	Degraded forest land - 2342.49 Penal CA over Forest land - 2337.70 Non-Forest land - 2728.00 Total- 7408.19
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26.Site Inspection Report

Division	Circle	Site Inspection By	Date Of Visit	Brief Details of SIR at DFO
Bellary	Bellary	DFO	30/03/2018	Recommended for approval
	Bellary	CF	12/04/2018	The proposal is recommended as per the provisions of the FC Act, 1980.
		Nodal Officer	09/05/2018	Recommended for diversion of 15.981 ha. of forest land in RM Block & other villages in Ballari District for approach road, Downhill Pipe Conveyer and Feed & Transfer Point area for Rama Iron ORe Mine (ML No. 2621) in favour of M/s JSW Steel Ltd., Vijayanagar works Ballari.

27.Recommendation with Specific conditions,(if any)

DFO/CF/PCCF/Nodal Officer

Division	Circle	Recommendation By	Recommendation	Remarks/Conditions
Bellary	Bellary	DFO	Recommended	Recommended for approval
	Bellary	CF	Recommended	The proposal is recommended as per the provisions of the FC Act, 1980.
		Nodal Officer	Recommended	Recommended for diversion of 15.981 ha. of forest land in RM Block & other villages in Ballari District for approach road, Downhill Pipe Conveyer and Feed & Transfer Point area for Rama Iron ORe Mine (ML No. 2621) in favour of M/s JSW Steel Ltd., Vijayanagar works Ballari.

28. Specific recommendation of the State Government

State	Recommendation By	Recommendation	Remarks/Conditions
Karnataka	State Secretary	Recommended	FORWARDED THE PROPOSAL to CCOED IN PRINCIPLE STAGE 1 APPROVAL

29.	Forwording Letter for Nodal Officer	
30.	Forwording Letter for State Government	<p>The PCCF (HoFF), Bengaluru vide his letter No. A5(1). MNG.CR.5/2017-18, dated : 09.05.2018 indicated the following details :</p> <p>2. DCF, Ballari Division Report: the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division, after receiving additional information from User Agency on 26-02-2018 has submitted the proposal to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle vide his letter dated 21-03-2018 duly recommending the proposal for diversion of 15.981 hectare. Further, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle, vide his letter dated 06-04-2018 has submitted the proposal to this office. The details of the proposal as reported by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Balla, Division are as follows_</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The proposed forest area falls under Eco-Class-III (Southern Tropical Dry deciduous forest). ii. The Flora and fauna observed in propOsed area are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Flora: Acacia catechu, Albizzia amara, Anogeissus latifolia, Cassia fistula Carissa Carandus and Dodonia viscosa b. Fauna: Hare, Peafowl, Sloth bear, Wild boar, Leopard, Indian Porcupine, Grey partridge. iii. There are 1108, trees 431 cm & above GBH) in the proposed forest land as Per part-II

- iv. The proposed area is having steep slope with vegetation, however due to project activities there are chances of vulnerability of the forest area to erosion. Hence, the User Agency is required to take-up soil and moisture conservation works all along the approach road, Downhill Pipe Conveyor and Feed & Transfer Point area.
- v. There are no protected / archaeological / heritage sites or defence establishments or important monuments located inside the proposed project area.
- vi. The proposed forest land is not part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, elephant corridor. The proposed project area is 26.36 km away from Eco-sensitive zone of Gudekote Bear Sanctuary and 11.58 km away from Eco-sensitive zone of Daroji Bear Sanctuary.
- vii. There is no violation reported under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.
- viii. The proposed area required for this project is 15.981 hectare, which is unavoidable and bare minimum.

The details of forest land proposed for diversion are as below.

S. No.	Purpose of diversion of forest land	Length in meter	Width in meter	Total area		Status of land
				In Sqm	In ha.	
i.	RD-1 proposed approach road	3025	12	36300	3.630	Section Notified land
ii.	SG-1 proposed Downhill pipe conveyor	1350	12	16200	1.620	
iii.	SG-2 proposed Downhill pipe conveyor	2350	12	25200	2.820	
iv.	SG-3 proposed Downhill pipe conveyor	300	12	3600	0.360	
v.	FP-1 proposed feeding point of	199.45	85.78	17109	1.710	

	Downhill pipe conveyor				
vi.	TP-1 proposed Transfer point of Downhill pipe conveyor	191.01	94.09	17972	1.792
vii.	TP-2 proposed Transfer point of Downhill pipe conveyor	381.55	105.99	40400	4.044
				Total	15.981

ix. The User Agency has identified non-forest land in Sv.No..137, 138 & 140P of Halabhavi village, Lingasuguru Taluk, Raichur District over an extent of 15.981 hectare and the same is yet to be transferred and mutated in favour of Forest Department.. Further, they have also agreed to pay the CA charges towards raising of Compensatory Afforestation.

x. Certificate in Form-I under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 from the Deputy Commissioner , Ballari District is not yet submitted to this office.

xi. M/s 15W Steel Ltd. Toranagallu has submitted an undertaking for payment of Net Present Value (NPV) applicable.

3. **CCF, Ballari Circle Report:** Agreeing with the recommendation of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle has recommended for diversion of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. However, it has been suggested that since the proposed forest area for

approach road, Downhill Pipe Conveyor and Feed and Transfer Point area is running along steep slope of hillock, it is vulnerable to soil erosion and loss of vegetation. Hence, the User Agency may be instructed to take up Soil and Moisture Conservation works and afforestation in consultation with the forest Department.

4. **Compensatory Afforestation:** The User Agency has identified non-forest land in Sy No. 137, 138 & 140p of Halabhavi village, Lingastiglarif Taluk; .Raichur District over an extent of 15.981 ha for raising Compensatory Afforestation. The non-forest land is yet to be mutated and transferred in favour of Forest Department. However, agreement has been made between JSW and Sri Hanumappa Thimmanna, Sharana Basappa S/o Late Amarappa & Sangappa S/o Thimmanna (land owners). Deputy Conservator of Forests, Raichur has reported suitability of this land parcel for raising Compensatory Afforestation. The User Agency has given undertaking to pay Compensatory Afforestation charges. The details of proposed CA land are given below.

Blocks	Sy. No.	Extent (in ha.)
Block –I	137	2.18
	138	11.10
Block-II	140	2.72
Total		16.00

5. **RoFR Compliance:** With reference to the certificate in Form-I under the Scheduled Tribes Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, it is reported by Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari that the User Agency has already requested the Deputy Commissioner in his letter dated 16-09-2017 to issue the same. The same is under consideration with the Deputy Commissioner, Ballari.
6. **Net Present Value (NPV):** M/s JSW Steel Ltd. Toranagallu has submitted an Undertaking for payment of Net Present Value (NPV) over an extent of 15.981 hectare.
7. It is reported that the proposed pipe conveyor belt, which is to be erected will be on columnar structures. However, it is suggested to fix the limitation of the time to operate the conveyor belt, in order to facilitate free movement and use of habitat of wild animals in the landscape particularly from sound and other disturbance during the night time.
8. Further, it is to submit that the Honble Supreme Court in judgment dated 21-03-2017 passed in IA No. 247 & other IAs in Writ Petition Civil No. 562/2009 have approved construction of conveyor belt system, railway sidings and railway sub-lines as the most significant step towards controlling the environmental pollution that has persisted on account of open movement of iron ore by road.
9. **In light of the facts stated above, the PCCF (HoFF) requested to consider the proposal for according in-principle (Stage—I) approval for diversion of 15.981 hectare of forest land in RM Block & other villages of Ballari District for approach road, Downhill Pipe Conveyer and Feed & Transfer Point area for Rama iron ore mine (ML No. 2621) in favour of M/s JSW Steel Ltd. Vijayanagar works, Ballari subject to the conditions specified as below:**
 1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged and it shall continue to be forest land.
 2. The lessee shall pay lease rent as... fixed by the Government from time to time.
 3. The lease tenure will be co-terminus with the lease under MMDR Act.
 4. The User Agency has to pay the Net Present Value (NPV) of forest land diverted under this proposal as per Orders dated 28-3-2008 and 9-5-2008 of the Honble Supreme Court of India.
 5. The User Agency shall get 15.981 hectare compensatory afforestation land mutated as Forest and transferred to the Forest

		<p>approval and treated as forest and transferred to the Forest Department and shall pay CA charges.</p> <p>6. The leased- area should be used for the purpose for which it is granted. In case the land is not aised for the stipulated purpose within one year or when it is no longer needed for the stipulated purpose, the area shall be resumed back. The Chief Conservator of Forests / Deputy Conservator of Forests Concerned-is - authorized to take necessary action in this regard.</p> <p>7. In case of any violations, the Forest lease shall .be liable for forfeiture under.Section 82 of Karnataka Forest Act 1963.</p> <p>8. No residential buildings shall be permitted in the leased forest area.</p> <p>9. The Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 and Rules, 1969 and other relevant Acts & Rules and guidelines will be applicable for any violation.</p> <p>10. In order to safeguard the wildlife interests and free movement of wild animals during night, transportation of ore through Conveyer Belt will be limited between sunrise and sunset.</p> <p>11. The User Agency shall ensure that there should be no damage to the available fauna and other flora.</p> <p>12. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.</p> <p>13. Any damage to forest area due to such works shall be compensated by the user agency. The extent of damage shall be assessed by the concerned DCF.</p> <p>14. The lessee shall not sub-lease, mortgage or hypothecate the forest area.</p> <p>15. The User Agency shall also abide by the conditions imposed by Government of India, the Government of Karnataka and Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Head of Forest Force).</p>
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Comments of Additional Information By :

i. TO Remarks

The State Govt. vide their letter no. FEE 33 FFM 2018 dated 01.09.2018 requested to communicate in-principle approval under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to the conditions stipulated by PCCF (HoFF) . **pg. 8/c**. The recommendation of PCCF (HoFF), Bengaluru may kindly be seen in his letter No. A5(1). MNG.CR.10/2017-18, dated : 09.05.2018 **pg. 11-15/c**

The Ministry vide its letter dated 01.11.2018 requested the State Govt. to provide the similar copy of the recommendation as uploaded because the recommendation of the State Govt. signed by the Under Secretary was not same . In addition, the shape file was also sought. Now the Govt. of Karnataka vide their letter no. FEE 33 FFM 2018 dated 13.11.2018 **Pg. 104-106/c** provided desired information.

In view of above, the facts related to the proposal may be placed before FAC in its forthcoming meeting scheduled to be held on 15.11.2018 for their examination and appropriate recommendation.

ii. AIG Remarks

iii. IG Remarks

iv. ADG Remarks

v. DG Remarks

vi. Secretary Remarks

vii. MOS Remarks

viii. MEF Remarks