

480731/2021/FC

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE

समन्वित क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय

INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE

Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E& F Wings, 17th Main Road,

IInd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560 034.

Tel.No.080-25635901, E.Mail: ros.z.bng-mef@nic.in



मत्स्यमेव जयते

BY SPEED POST

No.4-KRC246/2006-BAN/161

Dated the 30th June, 2021

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 diversion of 64.86 ha. of forest land (60.66 ha. for mining + 4.2 ha. for approach road) in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, near Dharmapura village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Narsimha Iron Ore Mine ML No. 2148 [an auctioned C –Category mine, erstwhile Lessee Sri. H.G. Rangangouda] in favour of M/s. MSPL Limited, Hosapete, Ballari District (Lol Holder) –reg.

Sir,

With reference to Ministry's letter No.8-21/2020-FC dated 23/12/2020 and 02/06/2021 on the above subject, it is informed that the site inspection of the forest land proposed for diversion as well as for Compensatory Afforestation was carried out by Shri. M.K. Shambhu, Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central) on 30/06/2021 and he has forwarded a site inspection report from Camp Jamboti, Belgaum by e-mail. Accordingly, the same is attached herewith for kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

(K.P.Singh)
Regional Officer

Encl: As above.

T. S. S. S.
14/7/21
Ms. Sujeev

14/7/21
AG(SS)

473808/AJGF(SS)
19-07-2021

473808/2021/FC
6/7/2021

480731/2021/FC

Email

K P Singh

From : mkshambhu@gmail.com

Wed, Jun 30, 2021 04:01 PM

Subject : <No Subject>

1 attachment

To : K P Singh <rosz.bng-mef@nic.in>,
kgmoef@gmail.com

Sir,SIR sent from camp Jambori, Belgaum for furthe needful please. Additional details if any shall be submitted after returning to HQ.

Regards

S.I - 64.86 ha Narasimha Iron Ore.docx

14 KB

FC
By M.S.
Kg
30/6/2021
To HQ

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

	Title of the Project:	Diversion of 64.86 ha of forest land (60.66 ha for mining + 4.2 ha for approach road) in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, near Dharmapura village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Narasimha Iron Ore Mine ML No.2148 [an auctioned C-category mine; erstwhile Lessee Sri H.G. Rangangouda] in favour of M/s. MSPL Limited, Hosapete, Ballari District [LOI holder]												
1.	Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:	Notified under Section-4 Karnataka Forest Act, 1963												
2.	Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion:	<table border="1" data-bbox="829 806 1348 1019"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No</th> <th>Purpose</th> <th>Extent in ha.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Mining lease</td> <td>60.66</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Approach Road (4200m x 10m)</td> <td>4.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right" colspan="2">Total</td> <td>64.86</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S. No	Purpose	Extent in ha.	1	Mining lease	60.66	2	Approach Road (4200m x 10m)	4.2	Total		64.86
S. No	Purpose	Extent in ha.												
1	Mining lease	60.66												
2	Approach Road (4200m x 10m)	4.2												
Total		64.86												
3.	Whether 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.10450 lakhs as per the proposal												
5.	Wildlife:	<p>No presence and sign of animals was seen during the visit. However, DCF has reported that Leopard, Sloth bear, Jackal, Hare, Peafowl, Wild Pig, Grey partridge, Indian Porcupine, Monitor lizard, 4 horned antelope and Pangolin are present in the forest area.</p> <p>The area does not form part of or located within one kilometer distance of any National park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere reserve, Tiger reserve, Elephant corridor, Wildlife Migration Corridor etc.</p> <p>The forest land proposed for diversion is not located within Eco-sensitive Zone (ESZ) of any Protected Area notified</p>												

		under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is reported that the area is 21.39 km away from Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary and 18.47 km away from Gudekote Sloth Bear Sanctuary and 14.36 km away from its ESZ.
6.	Vegetation:	<p>Canopy Density is upto 0.1 (Open Forest).</p> <p>Eco-class III. 423 trees in different girth classes are present in the proposed area.</p> <p>The main species include <i>Albizzia amara</i>, <i>Anogeissus latifolia</i>, <i>Cassia fistula</i>, <i>Carissa carandus</i>, <i>Dodonia viscosa</i>, <i>Grewia tiliaefolia</i>, <i>Terminalia tomentosa</i>, <i>Acacia catechu</i>, <i>Boswellia serrata</i>, <i>Crotalaria sandurensis</i>, <i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i>, among others.</p> <p>The proposed area is subject to soil erosion, hence the User Agency needs to take SMC works in the proposed area.</p>
7.	Background note on the proposal:	<p>The previous mining lease for ML No.2148 renewed under the MMRD Act, 1957 by Govt. of Karnataka had validity for a period of 20 years from 21.07.1992 to 20.07.2012. As per the direction and orders by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP No.562/2009, the CEC carried out joint survey and digitization of the lease area and arrived at the actual mining lease extent as 60.66 hectare only. Based on the survey, the mining lease was categorized by the CEC as "C' Category mine and was subsequently cancelled as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 18.04.2013. The mining lease extent of 60.66 ha. has since been e-auctioned by the Deptt. Of Mines & Geology in favour of instant User Agency (M/s. MSPL Limited, Hosapet). Accordingly the Director, Deptt. Of Mines & Geology, Bengaluru has issued a LOI vide No.DMG-</p>

		<p>17012/8/2018/2019-20 dated 23.12.2019 for an extent of 60.66 ha in favour of the User Agency. Thus, the UA has submitted the instant proposal under the FC Act, 1980.</p> <p>Status of FC:-</p> <p>The clearance under F(C.) Act, 1980 for the mining lease/ approach road/ ancillary activities concerned was accorded in following 3 stages:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> GOI (MoEF, New Delhi) vide letter F.No.8-5/2003-FC dated 07/08-07-2003 (Stage-II approval) for an extent of 41.16 ha of already broken up forest land for the ML No.2148 in favour of M/s. H.G. Rangangouda, Hosapete for a period of 20 years co-terminus with mining lease under MMDR Act. GOI (MoEF, RO, Bangalore) vide letter No.4-KRC 246/2006-BAN dated 07.12.2006 (Stage-II approval) for an extent of 23.75 ha (19.55 ha for mining and dumping + 4.20 ha for approach road) in favour of M/s. H.G. Rangangouda, Hosapete for a period of 20 years co-terminus with mining lease under MMDR Act. GOI (MoEF, New Delhi) vide letter F.No.8-5/2003-FC dated 05.02.2007 (Stage-II approval) for an extent of additional 3.30 ha of forest land for dumping of waste material in favour of M/s. H.G. Rangangouda, Hosapete in respect of already approved proposal for a period of 20 years co-terminus with the approval granted on 08.07.2003 for diversion of 41.16 ha. <p>Thus the FC clearance being co-terminus with the mining lease under MMDR Act has expired on 20.07.2012. As the FC for the previous mining lease</p>
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		is no longer in currency, the UA has applied in FORM-A under the FC Act, 1980 for the mining lease extent (60.66 ha) as well as the approach road (4.2 ha) thereby totaling 64.86 ha.								
8.	Compensatory afforestation:	<p>The User agency has submitted an undertaking to pay the CA charges, regarding the CA land, the User Agency has proposed only the following extent of 4.16 ha of identified non-forest land towards CA in Amagon village, Jamboti Hobli, Khanapur Taluk, Belagavi District for the Approach Road component (4.2 ha) of the present proposal, on the ground that CA land of the previous FC cycle may be deducted from the CA land requirement for the present proposal</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="932 976 1267 1149"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sy.No.</th> <th>Extent in ha.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>6/5</td> <td>2.46</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6/6</td> <td>1.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>4.16</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The CA area may have to be proposed for the entire lease area too and not just the approach road if the lease is considered as a fresh lease allotted on auction. In the absence of clear guidelines, Ministry may take a call on the issue.</p> <p>The site identified for CA in lieu of approach road is of density more than 0.4 and hence State Forest Department may have to identify degraded forest land for planting to compensate tree loss.</p>	Sy.No.	Extent in ha.	6/5	2.46	6/6	1.70	TOTAL	4.16
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TOTAL	4.16									
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:	<p>The present lease holder is yet to start the work and no violation is done under F(C.) Act, 1980 by the present applicant.</p> <p>Earlier violations have been dealt by CEC and hence categorized the lease as</p>								

		C Category. Forest Offence Case has been booked against M/s. H.G. Rangana Gowda for the violations vide FOC No.09/2014-15 dated 19/11/2014. Further charge sheet has been filed JMFC Court, Sandur vide CC.No. 96/2021 dated 17/02/2021.
10.	Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not:	There will not be any displacement of the people due to the project.
11.	Reclamation Plan:	
	Details and financial allocation:	-
12.	Details on catchment and command area under the project:	Not applicable.
13.	Cost benefit ratio:	1:384 as reported.
14.	Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:	PCCF has recommended the project subject to an additional condition that <i>"No crushing/breaking of stone or labour camp shall be allowed on forest land and all waste/debris generated shall be scientifically disposed off outside the forest area"</i> State Government has recommended the proposal.
15.	Recommendations of Regional Chief Conservator of Forests along with detailed reasons:	The proposal is recommended for approval as it is on auction as per the directions of Supreme Court subject to the condition that the R&R Plan is implemented in the encroached area of earlier lessee as directed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court among others. Further the issue of CA land and NPV to be paid in such cases as this where the lease is handed over to new lessee based on auction, or earlier transfer/ payment of land and amount should be

		carried forward and considered, needs clarification and decision.
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:	No alternatives proposed as it is a site specific activity.
17.	Utility of the Project:	It is reported that 100 Permanent and 100 temporary man days employment likely to be generated.
18.	Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious value:	There are no protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defence establishment or any other important monument located near the proposed lease area.
19.	Situation w.r.t. any P.A.	Does not form part of any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc.
20.	Any other information relating to the Project:	1. Central Empowered Committee vide letter dated 21.08.2019 had approved R&R Plan in respect of this mine. 2. DFO vide letter dated 09.11.2020 has permitted the User Agency to implement the R&R Plan and the same is under progress.

Signature

Name and Designation
of Inspecting Officer:Mahesh Kr. Shambhu
DIGF (C.), RO, Bengaluru

Date of Inspection:

30.06.2021