

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj
New Delhi: 1100 03
Dated:04-12-2024

To

The Additional Chief Secretary (Forests),
Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment,
Government of Karnataka.
Bangalore.

Subject: Proposal for (*Ex-post facto approval*) seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s. Sesa Strelite Limited, Bheemasamundra, Chitradurga, for non-forestry use of 2.025 ha. of forest land for approach road in Nirthadi State Forest, Holalkere Range, Chitradurga Division, Bheemasumundra, Chitradurga District, Karnataka (Online Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/32978/2013).regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Karnataka's letter No. FEE 73 FFM 2014 dated 04.11.2024 on the above mentioned subject forwarding a report on the compliance of conditions stipulated in the '*in-principle*' approval dated 17.01.2019 and to say that after examination of the said compliance report, the following is observed:

- i. The 'in-principle' approval was granted by the Ministry on 17.01.2019. The period of five years' time has been expired. Therefore valid and cogent reasons for extraordinary delaying for submission of the compliance report shall be submitted by the State Govt.
- ii. The User Agency has not submitted the undertaking of the conditions No. (1) of the '*in-principle*' approval letter dated 17.01.2019. The same shall be submitted.
- iii. The user agency has deposited compensatory levies into the National Authority, CAMPA through challan and RTGS. In this regard the details of the compensatory levies which has been deposited by the RTGS (offline mode) in the prescribed format of CAMPA, signed by the Nodal Officer shall be submitted.
- iv. The State Govt. shall ensure that the UA deposit the differential amount of the NPV as the revised rate of NPV Guideline dated 06.01.2022 read with letter dated 22.03.2022.
- v. As per the condition no. (21) of the 'in-principle' approval the user agency has not raised strip plantation on either sides of the road and central verge.

Further, a copy of the design of providing at least 2-3 rows of long rotation indigenous trees, as per provision of IRC-SP-21- 2009 (Guidelines on landscaping & tree plantation) has not been provided. The same shall be submitted.

- vi. Regarding condition no (5) of the 'in-principle' approval regarding proceeding of the court is given in the regional language. The true translated copy of same is required to be submitted in Hindi or English along with a summary note/comment by the Nodal Officer with regard to any implication of the said court matter.

In view of the above, the State Government of Karnataka is requested to furnish the above mentioned information/documents to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal for grant of Stage-II approval.

Yours Sincerely,

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
2. The APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
3. The DDGF (Central) Regional Office, Bangalore of MoEF&CC.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC division of MoEF& CC, New Delhi.