

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bagh Road Aliganj
New Delhi-110003
Dated:24-02-2026

To

Additional Chief Secretary (Forests),
Government of Karnataka
Bengaluru.

Sub: Diversion of 86.12 ha of forest land in favour of M/s MSPL Limited, Hosapete, for iron ore mining in North-Eastern Block (NEB) Range, Karadikolla Village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District Range, Karnatka - regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Govt. of Karnataka's letter No. FEE 10 FFM 2023 (e) dated 07.01.2026 and PCCF (HoFF), Government of Karnataka vide letter No. KFD/HoFF/A5-1(MNG)/7/2020-FC dated 14.12.2025 on the above mentioned subject.

2. In this regard, it is informed that the approval of the Central Government under Section 2(1)(ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 was initially granted to the erstwhile lessee on 08.07.2003, and subsequently transferred to the new lessee vide approval dated 25.10.2019. Thereafter, the Central Government, vide approval dated 25.09.2023, extended the validity of the Forest Clearance (FC) to make it co-terminus with the lease granted under the MMDR Act, 1957, along with working permission for one year to enable the new lessee to comply with the conditions imposed on the erstwhile lessee, particularly with respect to compensatory afforestation.

3. The State Government, vide its letter No. FEE 10 FFM 2023 (e) dated 07.01.2026, submitted the compliance report in respect of the approval granted by the Ministry on 25.09.2023 and requested further approval of the Central Government.

4. Based on the compliance report submitted by the State Government, and in continuation of the earlier approvals dated 08.07.2003, 25.10.2019, and 25.09.2023, the Central Government hereby conveys its approval for extension of the validity of approval granted under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980, to make it co-terminus with the validity of the lease granted under the MMDR Act, 1957, subject to the following condition:

i. The State Government shall notify the non-forest land identified for raising

compensatory afforestation, which has already been transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department, within a period of six months from the date of issue of approval by the Ministry. The Nodal Officer of the State shall ensure strict adherence to this timeline, and a copy of the notification shall be submitted to the Ministry within the stipulated period.

- ii. The State Government and the user agency shall ensure compliance of all conditions stipulated in the approvals dated granted on 8.07.2003, 25.10.2019 and 25.09.2023 by the Ministry.
- iii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.16 of Chapter 1 of the Consolidated Guideliens and Clarifications issued under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 notified by the Ministry on 29.12.2023.

Yours faithfully,

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'E'

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
2. APCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
3. DDGF (C), MoEF&CC's RO Bengaluru
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.