F. No. 8-39/2003-FC

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi – 110003 **Dated: June, 2019**

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.

Sub: Transfer of forest clearance of Karadikolla Iron Ore Mines (ML No.2487) in respect of diversion of 86.12 ha of forest land in North-Eastern Block (NEB) Range, Karadikolla Village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District Range, present FC leaseholder M/s Lakshminarayan Mines Company to M/s MSPL Limited, Hosapete, the successful bidder in e-auction conducted by Mines and Geology Department-reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Karnataka's letter No. FEE 57 FFM 2018 dated 10.05.2019 forwarding a proposal for seeking approval of transfer of Forest Clearance from present FC leaseholder M/s Lakshminarayan Mines Company to M/s MSPL Limited, Hosapete, successful bidder in e-auction conducted by Mines and Geology Department of Govt. of Karnataka. After examination of the said proposal, the following observation are made:

- (i) The instant proposal for transfer of existing FC clearance from M/s Laxminarayana Mining Company to M/s MSPL Limited has been submitted in accordance with MoEF&CC's earlier Guideline No. 11-584/2014-FC (pt.) Dated 03.05.2017. However, the new lease/LOI holder who have got the lease/LOI in auction has to furnish an undertaking to this effect that the Forest Clearance be transferred with all the liabilities of the transferred lease area of the erstwhile lease holder of the cancelled category "C" mine, which is not given.
- (ii) It is reported that as per the CEC digitization sketch, the extent of 86.12 ha., was earmarked for which FC approval was accorded. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari has raised that the difference area of 19.10 ha., is to be surrendered to the Forest Department as clearly earmarked on the joint survey sketch as against 105.22 ha. Besides this, it is reported that 0.028 ha. is over lapping with the adjoining lease area of M/s Chowgle & Company M.L. No. 2546 and 0.03 ha., is also overlapping with the M.L. No. 2531 of M/s Aswathnarayanasingh Mining Company, whereas the intent letter issued by the Commissioner and Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Bangalore and CEC degitalized sketch the area of 86.12 needs to be considered for according FC clearance.

Ded

Therefore, State Govt. may be clarified the exact area to be considered by this Ministry for transfer of forest clearance.

- (iii)It may be clarified as to how much compensatory afforestation including afforestation in the degraded forest one and half time of the safety zone area, with documentary evidence and KML/Shape file, carried out by the earlier lessee.
- (iv) The conditions of earlier forest clearance, which are yet to be complied, may be intimated.
- (v) It is reported that as per the Central Empowered Committee's joint survey report, the encroachment of 47.21 ha., was identified. The present status in this regard may be furnished.

In view of above, the State Govt. is requested to clarify the above points and submit the proposal for FC transfer in accordance with Chapter 5 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019 and available on Ministry's website:www.parivesh.nic.in.

Yours faithfully,

(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
- 2. The Addl. Director General (Central), Regional Office, Bangalore.
- 3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, Forest Department, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
- 4. User Agency
- 5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
- 6. Guard File.