

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: 8th August, 2023

To,

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

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 160.4 ha. of forest land in Sy. No.138 and 146 of Karlakatti Village, Sy. No.128,129 and 130 of Chakrageri Village and Sy. No.3 and 4 of Kagihal Village, Savadatti (Saundatti) Taluk, Belagavi District (Ghataprabha Division Gokak) for construction of Standalone Pumped Storage Component of Saundatti Integrated Renewable Energy Project (IREP) in favour of the M/s. Greenko Solar Energy Private Limited, Bangaluru, Karnataka State (Proposal for accepting the change of CA land).

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Karnataka' letter No. FEE 57 FLL 2021 (e) dated 17th November, 2021 on the above-mentioned subject seeking approval of Central Government for accepting the change of CA land. In this regard, it is informed that the matter was discussed in the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 17.07.2023. The detailed minutes of the said AC meeting are uploaded at parivesh.nic.in. The Committee had detailed discussion and deliberation with Nodal officer (FCA), Govt. of Karnataka and DDG (C) Bangalore. After going through the facts of the proposal, Court order and submissions made by the Nodal Officer, the Committee deferred the proposal seeking the following details: -

- i. The State Government shall examine the legal status of Compensatory Afforestation areas keeping in view the order dated 3rd December 2021 passed by the Court of the Senior Civil Judge, Virajpet in O.S. No 34/2013 and submit a detailed report in this regard.
- ii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the land identified for Compensatory Afforestation is non-forest land and submit a certificate clearly specifying that the land identified for the Compensatory Afforestation is Non-Forest land.
- iii. The State shall ensure that the land identified for CA is free from all encumbrances and submit a certificate in this regard.

In view of the above, the Government of Karnataka is requested to kindly furnish the above information/clarification for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

1. PCCF & HoFF, Govt. of Karnataka, Bangalore.
2. APCCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
3. DDGF (C) Regional Office, Bangalore of MoEF&CC.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell, Forest Conservation Division. of MoEF&CC, New Delhi.