

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 1100 03

Dated: 29th September, 2021

To,
The Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.,
Forest, Ecology and Environment Department,
Government of Karnataka,
Bengaluru.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha. for approach road=401.5761 ha.) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of IWS KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru. -regarding (Online Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018).

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to Govt. of Karnataka's letter no. FEE 19 FFM 2020 (e) dt 17.08.2021 seeking clarification with respect to conditions No. B (ii) & (iii) and permission for condition No. B (v) as per this Ministry's in-principle approval/Stage-I letter dt 24.06.2021. In this regard it is clarified that B(ii) of the letter dt 24.06.2021 may be read as :-

"B (ii) If there is any non-forest land within the project area, same needs to be acquired by the user agency, prior to the forest land under diversion (in the instant proposal) is handed over to the user agency."

Instead of:-

"B (ii) That Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over by the user agency"

2. With respect to condition no. B(v) of the letter dt 24.06.2021, it is informed that the Ministry has imposed the condition that a comprehensive study jointly by a couple of reputed institutes like IIT (ISM), Dhanbad, IIT Delhi, IISC, Bengaluru and ICFRE, Dehradun may be conducted. The State Government may decide which

institute may be entrusted for this Study among the institutes/Organizations mentioned above.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bengaluru.
3. The Nodal Office (FCA), Forest Department, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
4. User Agency.