



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE
CHANGE

समन्वित क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय
REGIONAL OFFICE Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E & F
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By Speed Post/E-mail

F. No. 4-KRB1386/2022-BAN

Dated the 15th October, /2024

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To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka,
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department,
M.S.Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bangalore – 560 001

Sub: Diversion of 0.8148 ha (revised from 1.4406 ha) of forest land in Ubbalagundi Extension Reserved Forest, Ubbalagundi village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for approach Road to ubbalagundi Iron ore mine MI No.008 (located partly in adjoining Donimalai Block Forest and partly Ubbalagundi Extension RF) in favour of M/s JSW Steel limited, Toranagallu-reg.

Sir

I am directed to refer to State Government letter No.FEE70FFM 2020 (e) dated 13/10/2022 and 26/06/2024 seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section'2'(1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 for the above project. The said proposal was rejected by this office vide letter No 4-KRB1386/2022-BAN/244 dated 21st August, 2024 considering the availability of road in non forest land.

Subsequently, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & HoFF, Karnataka Forest Department vide letter No.KFD/HoFF/A5-1 (MNG)/48/2019-FC dated 30/09/2024 has requested for re-consideration of the proposal stating that the proposed road is the only road connecting to the Ubbalagundi Iron Ore Mine (ML No.0.008) for transportation of men, machinery and mineral and the proposed road is an existing road and does not require any tree felling.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Forest Department and in suppression of this office letter No. KRB1386/2022-BAN/244 dated 21st August, 2024, in-principle approval/Stage-I clearance of the Central Government is hereby granted for diversion of diversion of 0.8148 ha (revised from 1.4406 ha) of forest land in Ubbalagundi Extension Reserved Forest, Ubbalagundi village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for approach Road to Ubbalagundi Iron ore mine MI No.008 (located partly in adjoining Donimalai Block Forest and partly Ubbalagundi Extension RF) in favour of M/s JSW Steel limited, Toranagallu, subject to the

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following conditions:-

1. The legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal as per the guideline issued by Ministry vide letter No.5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I) dated 06/01/2022 and as per the provision of Chapter 3 of the consolidated Guidelines and Clarification issued vide MoEF&CC order dated 29.12.2023;
3. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
4. Cost of raising planting of 100 trees shall be realized from the user agency towards Compensatory Afforestation.
5. Location of the area (Map with DGPS coordinates) identified for raising the CA plantation shall be furnished along with compliance report.
6. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
7. The KML file of the forest area to be diverted and CA area shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details and same shall be submitted along with GPS id.
8. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
9. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency for the mining lease or the project life, whichever is less.
10. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land by the State Government.
11. No additional or new paths will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
12. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.8148 ha and the forest area to be diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
13. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department, or person without prior approval of the Central Government.
14. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
15. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
16. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forest in the surrounding area.
17. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government and Regional Office, Bangalore by the end of March every year.
18. The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of all Acts, Rules,

Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

19. The State Govt. shall ensure that the complete compliance of FRA 2006 as per the rule 11 (7) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023
20. Any other condition that the Regional Office, Bengaluru may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife.
21. Violation of any of these conditions will amounts to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.

After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 (1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be effected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Further, it may also be noted that this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 2 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions within 2 years, the in-principle approval shall be deemed to be null and void.

Yours faithfully,

(M.K.Shambhu)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:

1. The Chief Executive Officer, National Authority (CAMPAA), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Agni Wing, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003
2. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Agni Wing, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18 th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (VSESA), Office of the
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18 th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
5. M/s JSW Steel Limited, P.O. Vidyanagar-583275, Dist: Ballari
6. Guard file

(M.K.Shambhu)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (Central)

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