

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಅರಣ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ವಿಭಾಗ,
ಸಾವಕನಹಳ್ಳಿ ಗೇಟ್, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ-562110
ದೂರವಾಣಿ - 29907088



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
BENGALURU RURAL DIVISION,
SAVAKANALLI GATE, DEVANAHALLI-562110
Email: dcfrural@gmail.com

No: A4/DCF/KRIDE/CR-8/2022-23

Dated: 05.04.2025

To,

The Conservator of Forests (Territorial),
Bengaluru Circle,
Bengaluru-560015.

Sir,

Subject: Diversion of 18.6 Ha of forest land in Sy No.124 of Akkupete Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District for construction of Maintenance depot of Bangalore Suburban Rail Project (BSRP) in favour of Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited (KRIDE), Samparka Soudha, Dr.Rajkumar road, Rajajinagar 1st Block, Bengaluru-560010. **Proposal #FP/KA/RAIL/142190/2021**

- Ref:
1. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Regional office (Southern Zone), Bengaluru Letter No.4-KRC 1497/2024-BAN/483, Dated 03.12.2023
 2. Your Office letter no.A11/Bhoomi/CR-65/2023-24, Dated 03.03.2025
 3. The General Manager, Social and Environmental Management unit (SEMU) letter no. KRIDE/Projects/BSRP/Depot/Forest/57, Dated 27.03.2025 (Received in this office on 04.04.2025)

* * * * *

With reference to the above subject and ref (2) the undersigned was directed to procure information in 03 ink-signed sets from the User Agency regarding the observations made by GOI, MOEF & CC as per ref (1).

The User Agency has submitted their information in ref (3) to this office. The undersigned has also commented on the observations and has attached it to this letter for your kind perusal and necessary action.

Yours faithfully

(Sign/-)

Deputy Conservator of Forests
Bengaluru Rural Division
Devanahalli

Copy submitted to the Principal Conservator of Forests (FC) and Nodal Officer (VSESA) for information and necessary action.

DESPATCHED

7/4/25
S

Deputy Conservator of Forests
Bengaluru Rural Division
Devanahalli

ANNEXURE-01

Sl.No	Observations	Clarification by DCF, BRD
1	As per the sub rule 16 of rule 9 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023, the proposal which involves forest land of more than five hectares, shall be forwarded by the Nodal Officer, with the approval of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, to the State Government or Union territory Administration, along with the Project Screening Committee's recommendation and the same shall also be forwarded to the Regional Office. The recommendation of PSC is not submitted along with the proposal.	-
2	The DCF Bengaluru Rural Division has not recommended the proposal citing that the felling of 17,615 numbers of trees would affect the flora, fauna and the microclimate of the area. In this regard the State Government shall offer its comments regarding the adverse effect on the ecosystem of the area, due to felling of so many trees.	-
3	Further, the Hon'ble NGT has suo motto registered an Original Application No.792 of 2024(PB) (renumbered as Original Application No.236 of 2024(SZ), based on the news item published in 'Bengaluru - Hindustan Times' dated 11.06.2024 titled "Over 2000 citizens oppose felling of 33,000 trees for Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project. In this regard the State Govt. is requested to submit the updated status of the case and also clarify if the number of trees to be felled is 17,615 or 33,000.	The User Agency has submitted reply in letter No. KRIDE/ Projects/ BSRP/Depot/ Forest/ 57, Dated 27.03.2025
4	The CCF has recommended the proposal stating that all the trees proposed to be felled are Eucalyptus. However, tree enumeration details submitted show that there are another 14 different type of tree species listed. In this regard the State Government shall offer its comments.	-

5	The construction of rail depot in the forest land is not a site-specific activity. In this regard the State Government is requested to provide the justification for establishing the rail depot in forest land instead of non-forest land.	-
6	The C: B ratio is not submitted.	The User Agency has submitted reply in letter No. KRIDE/ Projects/ BSRP/Depot/ Forest/ 57, Dated 27.03.2025
7	The KML files of the alternatives examined is not uploaded in PARIVESH portal.	-
8	The KML file and non-encumbrance certificate of the non-forest land (18.61 ha of NFL in Sy. No. 65 of Sasalu village, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District) identified for CA is not submitted.	The KML File is submitted.
9	The site suitability certificate of 32.20 ha of DFL identified for plantation in Adagal State Forest, Sy. No. 70 of Diguvamarampalli Village and Sy. No. 73 of Thimmalapalli Village, Nelavanki Hobli, Srinivaspura taluk, Kolar State Forest is not submitted.	The CA Site suitability certificate signed by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Kolar has already been submitted through this office letter No.A4/DCF /KRIDE/CR-8/2022-23, Dated 15.07.2024
10	In the land-use/component wise break up it is mentioned that an area of 5 ha. Will be used for construction of Buildings. The State Government is requested to clarify what type/ nature of buildings have been proposed.	The User Agency has submitted reply in letter No. KRIDE/ Projects/ BSRP/Depot/ Forest/ 57, Dated 27.03.2025
11	The State Government may explore other non-forest land for execution of the project.	-


Deputy Conservator of Forests
Bengaluru Rural Division
Devanahalli.



ರೈಲು ಮೂಲಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಂಪನಿ (ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ) ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ರೈಲ್ವೆ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯದ ಜಂಟಿ ಉದ್ಯಮ)

K RIDE/Projects/BSRP/Depot/Forest/57

Date: 27.03.2025

The Deputy Conservator of Forests
Bengaluru Rural Division
Karnataka Forest Department
Devanahalli

Dear Sir,

Sub.: Compliance to the clarifications sought in connection with the diversion of 18.60 Ha of Forest land in Sy. No. 124 of Akkupete village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District for the construction of the Rail Depot under Bengaluru Sub - Urban Rail Project (BSRP) in favour of Manager, Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited, Samparka Soudha, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru. **Proposal No. FP/KA/RAIL/142190/2021 [Form - A].**

- Ref.:** 1. Online application no. FP/KA/RAIL/142190/2021 submitted in PARIVESH portal of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change dated 09.05.2021
2. Online application no. FP/KA/RAIL/142190/2021 [Form - A Part -1] resubmitted in PARIVESH portal of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change dated 05.04.2022
3. PCCF (HoFF), GoK letter no. KFD/HoFF/A5-4(GFL)/14/2021-FC dated 30.09.2024
4. GoK letter no. FEE/252/FLL 2024(E) dated 04.11.2024 (Stage - 1 proposal)
5. MoEF&CC, GoI, Regional Office, Bengaluru letter no. 4-KRC 1497/2024-BAN/483 dated 03.12.2024.
6. PCCF (HoFF), GoK letter no. KFD/HoFF/A5-4(GFL)/14/2021-FC dated 18.12.2024.
7. This office letter K-RIDE/Projects/BSRP/Depot/Forest/55 dated 24.03.2023;
8. This office letter K-RIDE/Projects/BSRP/Depot/Forest/56 dated 24.03.2023;

Vide reference no. (5) above, the clarification have been sought by MoEF&CC, Regional office, Koramangala to Government of Karnataka was received on 07.12.2025 and the compliance to the clarifications have been submitted from this office to Government of Karnataka on 22.01.2025. However, the same queries were asked in PARIVESH portal on 01.03.2025 & advised this office to provide compliance, in which, the compliance of this office have been submitted in PARIVESH portal on 04.03.2025. The proposal in PARIVESH was sent back to this office stating for the submission through letter & hard copies. Accordingly, the compliance with necessary annexures was submitted vide



ರೈಲು ಮೂಲಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಂಪನಿ (ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ) ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ರೈಲ್ವೆ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯದ ಜಂಟಿ ಉದ್ಯಮ)

prference no. (8) above as hard copy & in PARIVESH. However, it is informed to address only the relevant observation pertaining to the user agency.

In this connection, the modified para wise replies are prepared and enclosed along with the respective annexures from our end, which may be referred for sending the response to MoEF&CC.

Hence, it is requested to review the compliance along with the necessary recommendations at your end. Upon your recommendation, the proposal in PARIVESH portal along with the file of proposal of Akkupete for further processes.

You are requested to facilitate the same at the earliest.

Encl.: 4 sets of copies

Yours sincerely

General Manager, SEMU

GENERAL MANAGER - SEMU
(Social & Environmental Management Unit)

CC: 1. PCCF (HoFF), GoK
2. CF, Bengaluru Division

Sub: Diversion of 18.6 Ha. of forest land in Sy.No.124 of Akkupete village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District for Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited (KRIDE).

Sl.No	Observations	Response
1	As per the subrule 16 of rule 9 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023, the proposal which involves forest land of more than five hectares, shall be forwarded by the Nodal Officer, with the approval of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, to the State Government or Union territory Administration, along with the Project Screening Committee's recommendation and the same shall also be forwarded to the Regional Office. The recommendation of PSC is not submitted along with the proposal.	The response may be provided by the State Government of Karnataka
2	The DCF Bengaluru Rural Division has not recommended the proposal citing that the felling of 17,615 number of trees would affect the flora, fauna and the microclimate of the area. In this regard the State Government shall offer its comments regarding the adverse effect on the ecosystem of the area, due to felling of so many trees.	The response may be provided by the State Government of Karnataka
3	Further, the Hon'ble NGT has suo moto registered an Original Application No.792 of 2024(PB) (renumbered as Original Application No.236 of 2024(SZ), based on the news item published in 'Bengaluru - Hindustan Times' dated 11.06.2024 titled "Over 2000 citizens oppose felling of 33,000 trees for Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project. In this regard the State Govt. is requested to submit the updated status of the case and also clarify if the number of trees to be felled is 17,615 or 33,000.	The Suo - moto case is disposed of on 21.03.2025 by the Hon'ble NGT, Southern Bench, Chennai. The orders of the same is enclosed as annexure - 1.
4	The CCF has recommended the proposal stating that all the trees proposed to be felled are Eucalyptus. However, tree enumeration details submitted show that there are another 14 different type of tree species listed. In this regard the State Government shall offer its comments.	The response may be provided by the State Government of Karnataka
5	The construction of rail depot in the forest land is not a site-specific activity. In this regard the State Government is requested to provide the justification for establishing the rail depot in forest land instead of non-forest land.	The response may be provided by the State Government of Karnataka
6	The C:B ratio is not submitted.	The C:B ratio submitted by us in the PARIVESH portal is enclosed as annexure -2.
7	The KML files of the alternatives examined is not uploaded in PARIVESH portal.	The response may be provided by the concerned

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8	The KML file and non-encumbrance certificate of the non-forest land (18.61 ha of NFL in Sy. No. 65 of Sasalu village, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District) identified for CA is not submitted.	The response may be provided by the DCF/ BLR Rural
9	The site suitability certificate of 32.20 ha of DFL identified for plantation in Adagal State Forest, Sy. No. 70 of Diguvmarampalli Village and Sy. No. 73 of Thimmalapalli Village, Nelavanki Hobli, Srinivaspura taluk, Kolar State Forest is not submitted.	The response may be provided by the DCF/ BLR Rural
10	In the land-use/component wise break up it is mentioned that an area of 5 ha. will be used for construction of Buildings. The State Government is requested to clarify what type/ nature of buildings have been proposed.	The building of depot documents is enclosed approximate 50,550 sq.m or 5.05 Ha . A list of the proposed main buildings in maintenance Depot are as follows: a) Stabling lines buildings b) Inspection lines building c) Repair lines building d) Work shop lines building e) Auto work plant building f) Ancillary building g) Associated warehouse facility A detailed list of structures is enclosed at Annexure -3.
11	The State Government may explore other non-forest land for execution of the project.	The response may be provided by the State Government of Karnataka

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Item No.12:-

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

Friday, the 21st day of March 2025.

[Through Physical Hearing (Hybrid Option)]

Original Application No.236 of 2024(SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Suo Moto matter in respect of news item appearing in ***The Bengaluru - Hindustan Times*** dated 11.06.2024 titled "**Over 2000 citizens oppose felling of 33,000 trees for Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project: Report**".

And

- 1) Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike,**
Through its Chief Commissioner,
Hudson Circle, N.R. Square,
Bengaluru, Karnataka-560002, India
- 2) Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited
"KRIDE",**
Through its Managing Director
"Samparka Dr. Soudha", 1st Floor, (Opp. Orion Mall),
Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajajinagar 1st Block,
Bangalore 560 010.
- 3) Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Karnataka**
Karnataka Forest Department, Government of Karnataka
Aranya Bhawan 18th Cross, Malleshwaram
Bangalore(Karnataka)-560003.
- 4) District Magistrate, Bengaluru Urban**
Kemp Gowda Road, Behind Kandaya Bhavana,
Bengaluru Urban District, Bengaluru- 560009,
Karnataka, India.

...Respondent(s)

For Applicant(s): Suo Motu.

For Respondent(s): Mr. T.V. Sekar for R1.
Mr. Sriranga Subbanna, Senior Advocate for
M/s. Ravi Law Chambers, S. Indumathi Ravi,
R. Sanjeev, R. Shravan, Sumana Naganand &
Ashwini N Ravindra for R2.
Mr. Rajat Jonathan Shaw represented
Mr. K.M. Darpan for R3 & R4.

CORAM:

HON'BLE Smt. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER

HON'BLE Dr. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER

JUDGMENT

1. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has filed its report dated 23.01.2025, which is taken on file.

2. The said report has given the details of the project proposals submitted to the Tree Officer/DCF, BBMP and their status. It includes various corridors, the number of trees to be retained, the number of trees to be translocated and the number of trees to be felled.

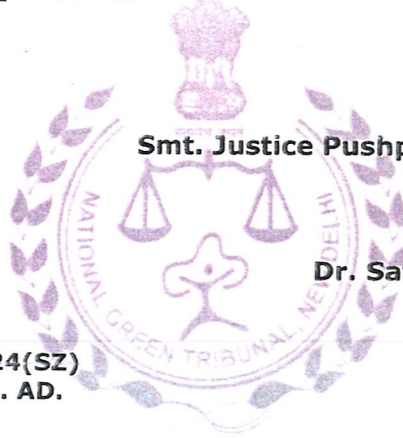
3. At this stage, it is pertinent to note that the Writ Petition [W.P. No.17841 of 2018], which is pending before the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka is being dealt with by the First Bench and orders are being passed periodically.

4. Regarding the cutting of trees, the Hon'ble High Court has issued orders on 10.02.2025, 13.02.2025, and 19.02.2025. Further, the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka has gone into addressing the above issue in detail as to how the

trees have to be translocated scientifically at the location and how the same should be supervised. Similarly, the compensatory plantation to be done by the Project Proponent also is mentioned.

5. As the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka is already seized of the matter, any order that may be passed here would be redundant.

6. Hence, the Original Application [O.A. No.236 of 2024(SZ)] is closed.



Sd/-
Smt. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM

Sd/-
Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM

O.A. No.236/2024(SZ)
21st March, 2025. AD.

NGT



ANNEXURE - 2

Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited

(A Joint Venture of Govt. of Karnataka & Ministry of Railways)

ರೈಲು ಸಬುರಬನ್ ರೇಲ್ವೆ ಪ್ರಾಜೆಕ್ಟ್ ಕಂಪನಿ (ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ) ಲಿಮಿಟೆಡ್


(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ರೈಲ್ವೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಸಂಸೃಷ್ಟಿ)

No. K-RIDE/Projects/BSRP/Depot/Forest/05

Date: 25.11.2021

COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS

Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project Depot proposed in survey no. 124 of Akkupete village in Kasaba hobli, Devanahalli taluk, Bengaluru Rural District will benefit the entire community along the corridor by way of availability of reliable transport infrastructure facility. It will develop the prospects of new industry / trading activities and reduce the traffic congestion in the airport route and other Suburban corridors. The project will provide safe and fast route for the movement of passengers and freight and will decongest the road traffic and avoid pollution.


(K. Rajanna)
Manager / Civil

For RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY
(KARNATAKA) LIMITED

K. RAJANNA
Manager / Civil



Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited

A Joint Venture of Govt. of Karnataka & Ministry of Railways

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ರೈಲ್ವೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಸಹಾಯಕತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ರೈಲ್ವೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಸಹಾಯಕತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ)

No. KRIDE/Projects/8SR/Depot/Forest/06

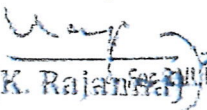
Date: 25.11.2021

COST OF THE PROJECT WITH JUSTIFICATION

Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project has been prepared covering Civil, Electrical, Signaling and Telecommunication works, Rolling stock etc. Detailed Project Report has been approved by the Union Cabinet. The project consists of four corridors with a total project cost of Rs 15767 cr.

Corridor: 1	KSR Bengaluru city - Devanahalli	41.4 km.
Corridor: 2	Baiyappanahalli - Chikkabanavar	24.85 km.
Corridor: 3	Kengeri - Bengaluru Cant - Whitefield	18.47 km + 17.05 km (QDR)
Corridor: 4	Heelalige - Rajanukunte	45.24 km.

Bengaluru being IT capital of India, needs connectivity for easy commuting and flow of traffic within the city. This will boost the economy of the state with easy commuting experience.


(K. Rajanna)
Manager / Civil

RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY
(KARNATAKA) LIMITED

K. RAJANNA
Manager / Civil

ANNEXURE - 3

Details of buildings proposed in maintenance Depot of BSRP

Sr no	REQUIREMENTS	No of rooms	Length	Width	Total (SQM)
1	Location, layout Inspection Bay line requirements	5	7.5	150	8750
2	Location, layout Work shop line with embedded track and pits requirements	6	10	150	9000
3	Location, layout Dedicated VAC maintenance in workshop line requirements	1	10	150	1500
4	Location, layout Auto wash plant control and equipment room requirements	1	8	20	160
5	Intensive washing line without OFRE	1	8	150	900
6	Location, layout Wheel bath line requirements	1	8	30	180
7	Location, layout Wheel/axles parking area requirements	1	10	50	500
8	Dedicated cleaning area for washing and Drying HVAC filters requirements	1	10	50	500
9	Test bench and overhauling rooms compressor, brake calliper requirements	1	10	150	1500
10	Test bench and overhauling rooms pantograph Door	1	10	150	1500
11	Test bench and overhauling rooms VCB	1	10	150	1500
12	Test bench and overhauling rooms Battery	1	10	150	1500
13	Test bench and overhauling rooms CLAPS and control units	1	10	150	1500
14	Test bench and overhauling rooms Traction motors	1	10	150	1500
15	Location, layout Tool room requirements	1	10	10	100
16	Central compressor house requirements	1	10	10	100
17	Location, layout Bogie and wheel overhauling area requirements	1	10	50	500
18	Bogie storage area	1	10	50	500
19	Bogie washing and sand blasting area	1	10	10	100
20	Location, layout Test track requirements				0
21	Depot in charge office with support staff	1	10	50	100
22	Office staff and maintenance support staff	1	10	10	100
23	Conference room large	1	10	40	400
24	Conference room in 11 seats	1	10	10	100
25	Rolling stock Training Hall	1	10	10	100
26	Supervisor office with staff	1	10	10	100
27	Rolling stock room, room and Rolling stock stores	1	10	10	100
28	Dress change and wash room for men and women	1	10	20	200

Sr. No	REQUIREMENTS	No of rooms	Length	Width	Total (SQ.M)
29	Change room with lockers and wash room	1	10	30	300
30	Lunch room/canteen area	1	40	30	1200
31	Visitor room	1	10	10	100
32	Paint room/paint booth	1	20	30	600
33	Drawing office/plans/information	1	10	10	100
34	Lab area	1	10	30	300
35	Brake and compressor overhauling area	1	20	30	600
36	Security/monitoring room	1	10	10	100
37	Depot equipment maintenance cum store room	1	10	50	500
38	Welding and brazing training room cum sheet metal cutting room	1	10	20	200
39	First aid room	1	10	10	100
40	Eye wash area	1	10	10	100
41	Store and store officer	1	10	50	500
42	Storage area bifurcation for all the departments	1	10	50	500
43	Scrapyard				
44	Hazardous waste				
45	Metal scrap				
46	Flammable liquids				
47	Flammable material				
48	Chemical storage room				
49	Strapped glass storage				
50	Doors and windows storage				
51	Lorry parking area				
52	Guest House for KMD officials	1	20	30	600
53	Classrooms/training rooms for new batches	3	10	10	300
54	Examination hall(computerised)	1	10	30	300
55	Hostel rooms for trainees and training faculty	1	10	50	500
56	Library and reading rooms	1	10	10	100
57	Space for keeping models	1	10	20	200
General Requirements of Depot					
58	Sewage treatment plant (STP)	1	10	10	100
59	Effluent treatment plant (ETP)	1	10	10	100
60	Work permit/Contract staff handling room	1	10	10	100
61	S&T, APC equipment storage cum maintenance room	1	10	30	300
62	PSS and backup OCC	1	10	30	300
63	Electrical control room	1	10	20	200
64	Telecom control room	1	10	20	200
65	Record room	1	10	10	100
66	Work area for Greenery maintenance equipment's and other requirements	1	10	30	300
67	Recreation facility for Trainees and employees	1	10	50	500
68	Service Road	1	10	10	100
69	Space for all other and other works	1	10	30	300
70	Associated administrative facilities	1.50			1500
Grand total:					54650