

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ
Office of the
Deputy Conservator of Forests
Ballari Division, Ballari



ರೇಡಿಯೋ ಪಾರ್ಕ್, ಐಟಿ ಕಾಲೇಜ್ ಎದುರುಗಡೆ, ಕಿರು
ಪ್ರಾಣಿಪಾಲಯ ಆವರಣ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ-583102
Radio Park, Opp. ITI College,
Mini Zoo Compound, Ballari
Telephone: 08392-240797
Email: dcfbellary@gmail.com

No.M1/MNG/MSPL/ Karthikeya/ML No.2559/2021-22

Dated: 02.01.2024

To,
Chief Conservator of Forests,
Ballari Circle, Ballari

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 28.299 ha of forest land (26.699 ha for mining and 1.60 ha for approach road) for mining purpose in favour the successful bidder i.e. M/s. MSPL Ltd, Hosapete, Ballari District (erstwhile 'C' Category, M.L.No.2559 of M/s. Karthikeyas Manganese & Iron Ore Pvt Ltd) in Subbarayanahalli Village, Sandur South Range, Ballari District – Reg.

- Ref: 1) Letter No.4-KRC1203/2019-KAR/400 Dt.01.06.2023 of the Government of India
2) letter No. KFD/HoFF/A5-1/(MNG)/16/2018-FC Dt.20.06.2023 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru
3) Letter No.M1/MNG /TRF/ MLNo.2559 /CR-11/2018-19 (Karthikeyas) Dt.30.06.2023 of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle, Ballari.
4) This office even number letter Dt.13.07.2023 & 13.09.2023.
5) M/s. MSPL Limited, Hospet letter Dt.16.08.2023 & 05.12.2023
6) Letter No. ACF/TA/MSPL/Karhi/ML No.2559/2023-24 Dt.08.09.2023 of the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Ballari Sub-Division, Ballari
7) Letter No. DMG-17012/1/2017/2023-24/7470 Dt. 29.11.2023 of the Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Bangalore

* * * *

With Reference to the above subject, the Government of India has sought following information regarding diversion of 28.299 ha of forest land (26.699 ha for mining and 1.60 ha for approach road) for mining purpose in favour the successful bidder i.e. M/s. MSPL Ltd, Hosapete, Ballari District (erstwhile 'C' Category, M.L.No.2559 of M/s. Karthikeyas Manganese & Iron Ore Pvt Ltd) in Subbarayanahalli Village, Sandur South Range, Ballari District vide letter under Ref(1).

Further, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation), Bangalore and the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle, Ballari have directed the undersigned to submit information / documents as sought by Government of India vide letter under Ref(2) & (3).

In this regard, the undersigned has directed the User Agency and as well as field officers to submit the information as sought by the Government of India vide letter Dt.13.09.2023 under Ref(4). The same has been received vide letters under Ref(5) to (6). Further to this, the undersigned has asked clarification from the Department of Mines & Geology vide this office letter Dt. 13.09.2023. Accordingly, the Director, Mines & Geology Department has given clarification to this office vide letter under Ref(7).

Therefore, I am submitting herewith following information as sought by Government of India.

Sl. No.	Information sought	Information submitted
a)	The documents in support of the directions from the Archaeological Survey of India with respect to the temple being an Archaeological site and the prescribed distance from the site within which the mining activity is not permissible is required.	<p>The User Agency has submitted the documents of Archaeological Survey of India [vide letter No. F.No.T-19042/1/2020-M 28.12.2020]. The same has been enclosed as Annexure-A.</p> <p>As mentioned in the same document, states that,</p> <p><i>"I am directed to convey the approval of Hon'ble Minister on the report of Expert Committee on mining activities beyond 600 meter at all four sides of Parvathi and Karthikeya Temple subject to following conditions".</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka and Hon'ble Supreme Court shall be strictly adhered to. 2. All the clearances from all relevant agencies may be obtained. 3. Vibration and dust settlement on the centrally protected monuments may be continuously monitored by appropriate agency at no cost of ASI. However, no device shall be permanently fixed on the walls of the monument. The data may be shared with ASI on monthly basis. 4. Regional Director (South) shall personally monitor vibration level. 5. If any archaeological Remains noticed during mining activities shall be reported to the State Government and Archaeological Survey of India. 6. Superintending Archaeologist, Hampi shall ensure that Archaeological Remains. If any found during the mining activities are documented properly. <p>As per the above document, mining activities restricted within 600 m radius from the temple.</p>
b)	The process for initiating the action to exclude the overlapping of mining area with the area within the 600 m radius from the temple or as confirmed with the guidelines / notification from Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) for exclusion of the mining activity, needs to be taken.	<p>In this regard, the undersigned has taken clarification from the Director, Mines & Geology Department, Bangalore vide letter No DMG-17012/1/2017/2023-24/7470 Dt. 29.11.2023, states that, the same has been enclosed as Annexure-B.</p> <p><i>"The said issue was discussed in the Single Window Committee meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest Department on 27.10.2023 and it was decided to restrict the mining within 600 m radius from the temple and mining leased area is as approved (26.71 Hectares) by Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP No.562/2009 order dated:18.04.2023."</i></p> <p>As mentioned in the above letter, said Single Window Committee meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Ecology & Environment, Bangalore on 27.10.2023, undersigned has also attended meeting. In this meeting it was decided that, (Copy enclosed as Annexure-C.</p> <p><i>"After detailed discussion and deliberations it was informed that the Department of Mines and Geology shall send its comment to DFO. Further it was decided that the mining/FC shall be restricted within the area finalized by CEC and approved by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP No.562/2009 dated : 18.04.2013".</i></p> <p>As per CEC digitisation sketch area of this mining lease is 26.71 hectare. Out of this, 0.011 hectares is overlapped with M/s. Mysore Minerals Limited. After reducing the overlapped area, the actual area for mining lease is 26.699 hectares. In this regard, FC proposal may be processed for the extent of 26.699 ha with 7.71 ha area (which falls within 600 meters from the Karthikeya & Parvathi Temple) may be declared as 'no mining zone area'.</p>

		Details of the mining lease area is mentioned as below;			
		Mining lease Area as per auctioned by DMG. (In hectare)	Overlapped with M/s. Mysore Mineral Limited (In hectare)	no mining zone area (which is falling within 600m from the Temple)in Ha	Effective mining lease area for which FC may be processed. (1-2)
		1	2	3	4
		26.71	0.011	7.71	26.699
c)	As the revised area for mining is proposed to be of 18.989 ha, the State recommendation on the same is also required. Further the revised CA, CA Scheme, NPV, Mining plan, KML files of the proposed area, safety zone area etc., also is needed.	<p>As mentioned in point No.(b), FC proposal for mining lease may be processed for the extent of 26.699 ha with 7.71 ha area (which falls within 600 meters from the Karthikeya & Parvathi Temple) may be declared as 'no mining zone area'.</p> <p>Moreover, this 26.699 ha area has been proposed for mining lease. Apart from this, approach road of 1.60 ha has also been included in the FC proposal. Thus, this instant proposal is diversion of 28.299 ha of forest land (26.699 ha for mining and 1.60 ha for approach road).</p>			

This is submitted for your kind information and needful action.

Yours Faithfully,
Sd/-

Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Ballari Division, Ballari

Copy submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation),
Bangalore for kind information.

ರವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.
ದಿನಾಂಕ 02/01/24
ನಹ

Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Ballari Division, Ballari
01C