

I/641026/2024

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ

(ಅರಣ್ಯ ಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ

Office of
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)



ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, 18ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡ ರಸ್ತೆ

ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560003

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E-office File No. KFD/HOFF/A52K(GFL)/84/2019-FC

E-83253

Date -07-2024

To,

**The Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Forest, Ecology and Environment Department
M.S. Building, Bengaluru – 560 001**

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 1.62 hectare of forest land in F Sy No. 68 of Unakal village of Dharwad District (Dharwad Forest Division) for Housing purpose in favour of the President, Hubli Journalist's Cooperative Society, Hubli

Proposal No: FP/KA/Others/40823/2019 [FORM-A]

Ref: 1. This office letter of even number dated 18-01-2020 [*Stage-I proposal*]
2. Government of Karnataka letter No. FEE 174 FLL 2024 (e) dated 07-06-2024 [*GOK EDS Query*]

With reference to the above proposal seeking Stage-I approval submitted by this office vide Ref (1), the Government of Karnataka vide Ref (2) has raised an EDS Query seeking certain additional information.

It is submitted that an extent of 4 acres of forest land was initially leased for 30 years in favour of Hubli Journalist's Cooperative Society, Hubli (Hereinafter *User-Agency*) on 10-12-1973. The purpose for which this lease was granted was "Residential". The initial/original lease came up for renewal in year 2003. It is also submitted that the leased area is yet to be de-notified. Since the original lease was granted much before the enactment of the FC act 1980, the User Agency (members thereof) utilized the land in question for construction of residential buildings.

In anticipation of Forest-Clearance, the User Agency has also got transferred and mutated an equivalent CA land on 18-10-2016. Under these circumstances, this office, by letter dated 22-05-2024 prepared and recommended Stage-I proposal. By letter dated 07-06-2024, the Government has desired to know as under:

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Query by the Government of Karnataka	Reply
ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವನ್ (ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣ್ ಏವಂ ಸಂವರ್ಧನ್) ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ್, 1980ರ ಯಾವ ನಿಯಮದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಸತಿ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಅರಣ್ಯ ತಿರುವಳಿಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ಇರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ ತಮ್ಮ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆಯನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವಂತೆ ಕೋರಲಾಗಿದೆ.	Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980, only provides for prior approval of Central Government before a forest land is diverted for non-forestry usage. The Act also does not specify as to what kind of non-forestry is permissible.

It is submitted that the land in question was permitted for residential usage about half a century back and currently houses occupy the land. This land has also been engulfed by the growth of the city. The land has lost all characteristic of the forest. Further, it is also submitted that the Forest Department has also received CA land that has also been mutated in favour of Karnataka Forest Department.

Having already occupied by the residential houses; scant conservation value can be attributed to this land. Further there is no hope that this land can be restored in forceable future. Under these circumstances, it is further recommended that lease may be granted for 99 years.

Accordingly, Stage- I (in-principle) proposal was prepared and submitted to the Government for necessary approval of Government of India. This is for kind information and necessary action.

Yours Faithfully

**Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA)**