

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
(ಅರಣ್ಯಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ
Office of
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)



ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, 18ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ
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Old File No. A5(2).GFL.CR-35/2013-14

E-Office File No. KFD/HOFF/A5-2(GFL)/42/2020-FC

E - 316958

Date 24-03-2025

To,

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

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 8.803 hectare of forest land in Arga Village F.Sy No. 52A, Bada Hobli, Karwar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District (Karwar Forest Division) for establishing Stone Quarry and its Approach Road, Dumping yard in favour of M/s Shivaprasad Industries, Kodibag, Karwar, Uttara Kannada District.

Proposal No. FP/KA/QRY/31539/2018 [FORM A]

- Ref:**
1. This office letter of even number dated 31-01-2022 [seeking Stage-I approval], 01-06-2022 [communication of EDS query to field officers and user agency] 08-08-2022 [seeking additional information]
 2. Government of Karnataka letter No. FEE 10 FFM 2022 (e) dated 18-04-2022 [seeking Stage-I approval] 13-05-2022[Communication of GOI EDS query]
 3. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi letter F.No. 4-KRB1352/2022-BAN/166 dated 03-05-2022[EDS query]
 4. Deputy Director, Dept of Mines & Geology, Kavar letter No. UKD/DMG/Building Stone Lease/2022-23/1037 dated 29-08-2022.
 5. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Karwar Division letter No. B4/GFL/FCA/CR-12/2019-20 dated 15-01-2025 [reply submitted to CF Kanara].
 6. Conservator of Forests, Kanara Circle letter No. B2/GFL/Quarry/CR-17/2021-22 dated 22-01-2025 [reply submitted to this office] and 10-02-2025 [online link sent to Nodal officer]

With reference to the above subject, this office vide ref (1) had submitted the proposal to Government of Karnataka seeking '*in-principle*' (Stage-I) approval under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The Government of Karnataka vide ref (2) dated 18-04-2022 had forwarded the proposal to Government of India.

In response, the Government of India vide ref (3) has sought certain information on seven specific points, Government of Karnataka vide ref (2) dated 13-05-2022 had communicated the same to this office which has been further communicated by this office vide ref (1) dated 01-06-2022 to the user agency and field officers.

The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Karwar vide ref (4) letter dated 15-05-2022 has submitted the information to Conservator of Forests, Kanara Circle who, after verification, vide ref (5) letter dated 21-05-2022 has submitted it to this office.

The same has been examined by this office and found incomplete. Hence this office vide Ref (1) letter dated 08-08-2022 has directed to Field officers and User Agency for submit complete information with letter of intent from competent authority under the MMRD Act and Rules.

In response, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Karwar vide ref (4) letter dated 15-01-2025 has submitted the information to Conservator of Forests, Kanara Circle who, after verification, vide ref (5) letter dated 10-02-2025 has submitted it to this office.

Based on the reports obtained from the Field officers, the present status of compliance *in respect of conditions of Stage-I approval* is as follows.

1	Justification for opening new quarry as per para 7.8 of the Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.	• In Arga forest Sy. No. 52A1A, 0.494 ha was diverted for stone quarry of M/s. Ramshree Construction Company, Kodibag, Karwar. as per Stage-II order of GOI No:4-KRB-754/ 2010-BAN/1531 dated 13-7-2012 and GOK No: FEE-160-FFM-2010 dated:13-8-2021. • There was a re-diversion of 0.051 ha for the expansion of NH-66(17) in Goa-Karnataka Border-Kundapur section as per GOI order No:F.No.4-KRA-973/2013-BAN/ 698 dtd: 07-10-2020 and GOK order No:APJ/37/FLL/2020 date:7-11-2020 Because of re-diversion of forest land to NH-66(17) there is issue of safe distance from National Highway which may lead to closure of quarry. Even though there is a lease period, Also the safe zone prevents the quarrying. • There is a huge demand of stone quarry material for various developmental
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		projects in the coastal areas especially in Karwar and Ankola taluk. The extent of private land holding is very less and the district has almost 80% of the geographical area under forest. There is no government land and or private land for quarrying purpose. There is a need for stones/boulders for various Government project as well as other developmental projects. • Therefore, proposal for opening new quarry is submitted.
2	The Compensatory Afforestation Scheme uploaded on the Parivesh Web Portal is not visible. Therefore, proper Compensatory Afforestation scheme may be furnished and the same may be uploaded in the PARIVESH web portal.	The proper CA scheme is furnished and uploaded in the WWW.Parivesh.nic.in web portal. The copy of the same is enclosed as [ANNEXURE I].
3	Clear map depicting various components of quarry for proposed diversion may be furnished.	Clear map depicting various components of quarry for proposed diversion is enclosed as [ANNEXURE II].
4	As per the components wise break up of land furnished in FORM A for the proposed quarry, crushing unit and road to an extent of 0.455 ha is mentioned as non-forest land. however, said components appears to the inside the forest land. therefore, legal status of land required for crushing unit may be furnished.	As per the components wise break up of land furnished in FORM A for the proposed quarry, crushing unit and road to an extent of 0.455 ha is mentioned as non-forest land. The record of Right of the said land i.e Sy No.52A2, 52A3, 52B is enclosed as [ANNEXURE III]. Further, the partly dumping yard falling in prior 1978 encroachment, which has been communicated to the Government for regularization that portion is also included in the instant proposal.
5	As per the KML file/Google image of CA land the area proposed CA appears to have thick vegetation it is, therefore, requested to clarify whether 1000 plants per ha. can be planted in the identified non forest land for raising.CA.	The area proposed for CA appears to have vegetation. This private land was abandoned due to crop raiding by wild animals. The area is just adjacent to forest land and forms contiguous patch of forest. It will help in consolidation of forest and also good habitat for wildlife. it is, therefore, proposed 400 plants per ha in the identified non forest land for raising CA.

6	Quarry plan approved from the competent authority.	Approved Quarry plan is enclosed as [ANNEXURE IV].
7	Status of Environment clearance.	The User Agency will take up with Environment department, after obtained Stage-I approval for the instant proposal.

As per the High-level working group (HLWG) report dated 31st July 2024 mentioned that the “Arga” village does not comes under the Eco sensitive area. (The Gazette of the Government of India along with map is attached as ANNEXURE-V). Hence, suitable for quarrying.

Further, the Deputy Director, Dept of Mines & Geology, Karwar vide ref (4) has submitted the report and recommended to establish stone quarry as the area has good resource of building stone, and it is suitable for building construction and other construction work. if the forest land is diverted to the applicant as per Forest (Conservation) Act for quarry purpose, then the District Task force committee will grant a quarry lease to M/s Shivaprasad Industries.

The user agency has stated that, as per the directions of Department of Mines and Geology which mentioned that under Karnataka Sub Mine Concessions Rule 1994 Amendment 2023, Rule 31ZC says that the name of the applicant for the Quarry and the Crusher (Form ‘C’) should be one and the same. As we already have been granted crusher license under Form ‘C’ No: 23/DMG/UKD/CL/2020-21/1374 dated:18-12-2020 in the name of M/s. Shivaprasad Industries. Hence as per the requirements of Department of Mines and Geology, we submitted the proposal through proper channel for the change in applicant name for this quarry from M/s. Ramshree Construction Company to M/s. Shivaprasad Industries as owners of M/s. Ramshree Construction Company and M/s. Shivaprasad Industries are one and the same and we have been intimated by the concerned authority that, the name of the applicant for diversion of 8.80388 ha. forest land in F.Sy. No. 52A1A of Arga Village, Baad Hobli, Karwar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District for establishing stone quarry, dumping yards has been changed from M/s. Ramshree Construction Company to M/s. Shivaprasad Industries and as per the guidelines of the Mines and Geology the sketch has been revised and total area remains same.

The above proposed area has been inspected by Deputy Conservator of Forests, Karwar on 30-07-2024 along with field officers, as per proposed quarry map and approved quarry plan map in little variations. But overall area is same. In this regard the User Agency has stated that, as per the guidelines of the Mines and Geology the sketch has been revised and total area remains same. It will be accreted while complying the Stage-I Approval Conditions.

In view of the above circumstances, **it is requested to move the matter with the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Bengaluru for seeking (Stage-I)**

approval under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023.

The relevant documents in 3 sets are submitted here with for kind perusal and further action.

Yours faithfully
Digitally signed by
Brijesh Kumar
Date: 24-03-2025
19:26:03
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA)

Copy to

1. Conservator of Forests, Kanara Circle, Sirsi for information.
2. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Karwar Division, Karwar for information.
3. M/s Shivaprasad Industries, Engineers & Contractors, Shree Ram Complex, G. Floor, NH-17 Kodibag, Karwar -581 303 for information.