



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FOREST
BALLARI DIVISION, BALLARI

No.MI/MNG/MSPL/M.L.2563/2019-20

Dated: 25.07.2023

To,

Chief Conservator of Forests,
Ballari Circle, Ballari

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 32.49 Ha of forest land (30.09 Ha for mining lease and 2.40 Ha for Approach Road) In Ramanamalai Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District (Ramdev Iron Ore Mine ML No 2563: erstwhile C-category mine e-auctioned), in favour of M/s. MSPL Limited, the Preferred Bidder. (Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/50114/2020 [FORM-A]) – Reg.

- Ref:** 1) This office even number letter Dt. 27.04.2021, 14.12.2022 & 06.02.2023.
2) Letter No. 4-KRC1387/2022-AN/920 Dt.07.11.2022 & 02/06.12.2022 of the Government of India
3) Letter No. KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/32/2020-FC Dt.21/22.11.2022 & 23/26.12.2022 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC), Bangalore.
4) Letter No. MI/MNG/MSPL(LMC)/Renew/CR-22/2022-23/302 Dt.08.12.2022 & 03.01.2023 of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle, Ballari.
5) This office even number letter Dt.14.12.2023 & 06.02.2023.
6) Letter No. ACF/TA/BS/M/s.MSPL/2563/2023-24 Dt.13.06.2023 of the Assistant Conservator Forests, Ballari Sub-Division, Ballari.
7) M/s. MSPL Limited, Hospet letter Dt. 13.03.2023

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With reference to the above subject, the Government of India has sought the following information / documents vide letter under Ref(2). Accordingly, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC), Bangalore and the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle, Ballari have directed the undersigned to submit the information / clarification vide letter under Ref(3) & (4).

In this regard, the undersigned has directed the User Agency as well as filed officers to submit the information as sought by Government of India vide letter Dt. 14.12.2022 & 06.02.2023 under Ref(1). The same has been received vide letter under Ref(6) & (7).

Therefore, I am herewith submitting the following information along with documents as sought by Government of India.

Sl. No.	Information sought	Information submitted
i	The permission obtained by State Government from Hon'ble Supreme Court for e-auction of ML No.2563 as sought by this office vide letter No.FCA/16.1/105/KAR/MIN/672 dated:30-09-2020 may be provided.	In this regard, the User Agency has submitted the Copy of the orders Dt.30.07.2015 & 13.09.2017 by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. (Annexure-1).

ii	PCCF while forwarding the proposal has reported that as per the joint survey conducted by CEC and as per digitization of sketch, the extent of mining lease is 30.09 ha. Further, it is also reported that certain extent of area is overlapping with adjacent mining leases and therefore, it was proposed to consider the forest clearance over and mining leases and therefore, it was proposed to consider the forest clearance over an extent of 32.4826 ha (i.e., 30.826 ha. for mining and 2.40 ha. for approach road). However, in Part-III, IV & V the entire area of 32.49 ha. i.e., 30.09 for mining and 2.40 ha. for approach road is recommended. This may be clarified.	M/s. MSPL Limited, Hospet has submitted proposal for diversion of lease for 30.09 ha. Out of this, 0.0074 hectares overlapped with M/s. Lakshmi Minerals, ML No.2545 (which is already FC obtained, area to be exclude in instance proposal) and 0.0003 hectares overlapped with M/s. A.M.Minerals ML No.2278 which is lease expired(Area may be included in this instance proposal). After reducing the overlapped area concluded as 30.0826 ha (30.09 ha – 0.0074 ha). Therefore, the Forest Clearance may be proposed over an extent 30.0826 hectares for mining and 2.40 hectares for Approach Road totaling 32.4826 hectares only. The same has been recommended by the undersigned vide letter Dt.27.04.2021 and also recommended in Part-II also.
iii	As per the satellite imagery the non-forest land of 15.3 ha identified in Amagaon Village towards is already having vegetation. Therefore it may be clarified whether the identified non-forest land can support planting of 1000 trees per ha As per FC guidelines. If not, the details alternate degraded forest land identified for planting of remaining plants may be furnished. The site suitability of non-forest land selected for CA may also be furnished.	Deputy Conservator of Forests, Balagavi Dvision, Belagavi has submitted revised CA suitability in Form-B and also mentioned degraded forest land details vide letter Dt. 17.01.2023. the same has been enclosed herewith as Annexure-2.
iv	Cost Benefit Analysis Ratio may be furnished as per FC guidelines.	The User Agency has submitted Cost Benefit Analysis Ratio which is enclosed as Annexure-3.
v	The entire copy of the Mining plan may be uploaded in the Parivesh portal with the annexures, appendix etc.	The entire copy of the Mining plan is uploaded by the User Agency in the Parivesh portal.
vi	KML file of the safety zone and map of proposed land use plan may be provided.	KML file of the safety zone and map of proposed land use plan is enclosed as Annexure-4.

vii	The location details of degraded forest land identified for planting in lieu of safety zone may be provided	The location of degraded forest land selected in Sy.No.120 of Gollalingammanahalli Village, Gollalingammanahalli Reserved Forest, Sandur South Range, Sandur for plantation in lieu of safety zone area over an extent of 2.85 ha (1.90 ha X 1½ times). In this regard, Geo-referenced map, Google map, Village map, Toposheet map & KML file of the identified area are submitted as Annexure-6
	The Government of India has raised another EDS query for this instant proposal vide letter Dt.02/06.12.2022	
	“The proposed area was inspected by Deputy Inspector General of Forest (Central) on 16.11.2022. During the inspection, it was noted that approach road to the mine is having an overlapping road with the mine of M/s. Lakshmi Minerals for which FC proposal is made by Lakshmi Minerals for 0.22 ha forest land. The instant User Agency also requires 1.30 ha of FC approved area of M/s. Lakshmi Minerals for approach road. Therefore, the proposal for approach road shall include diversion / re-diversion of these area in the proposal. It was also learnt during the site inspection that the earlier lessee was using a different road to the mine. Therefore, approach road alternatives should be examined properly and should be the last option and when it use is inescapable. The legal status of non forest land of 0.73 ha required for approach road also needs to reconfirmed as to whether preferred and forest land or otherwise”	i) The User Agency has requested the M/s. Lakshmi Minerals for NOC over an extent of 0.22 ha which Stage-I approved in the name of the M/s. Lakshmi Minerals. ii) The User Agency has requested for re-diversion of 1.30 ha which is FC approved area of M/s. Lakshmi Minerals for approach road. iii) The User agency has submitted approach road alternatives, but it is observed that, route No.1 i.e. passing through lease of M/s. Laksmi Minerals over extent of 3.39 kms. Details of alternative map is enclosed as Anneuxre-7. Hence, for this stretch of forest land, the User Agency should apply for re-diversion. In this regard, user agency has been directed by the undersigned to submit re-diversion proposal separately.

		(iv) About of 0.73 ha – this area is part of Ramanamalai forest Block which is declared as Section-04 vide Dt.25.02.1985, during the process of settlement joint survey (with Revenue department) was carried out. After joint survey, it is found, the actual area is 0.95 ha (revised from 0.73 ha) and it falls in Ramanamalai Forest block. In this regard, user agency has been directed by the undersigned to include this stretch also in the proposal.
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The proposal is submitted for kind information and further needful action.

Yours Faithfully,

Sd/-

Deputy Conservator of Forests
Ballari Division, Ballari

- 1) Copy submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru for kind information.
- 2) Copy to M/s. MSPL Limited, Hospet for information.

Deputy Conservator of Forests
Ballari Division, Ballari