

File No. 14-1/2019-ROHQ
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Division of ROHQ

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi- 110003

Dated: 21st January, 2020

To

The Deputy Director General of Forests (Central)
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Regional Office (SZ), Kendriya Sadan,
4th Floor, E&F Wings, 17th Main Road,
Koramangala II Block, Bangalore - 560034

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 28.99 ha (revised from 28.31 ha) for iron ore mining in favour of M/s MSPL Ltd., Hospet, Bellary District, Karnataka – reg.

Sir,

With reference to the above-mentioned proposal, I am directed to say that the matter has been examined in the Ministry and the following has been observed:

- (i) CCF, Bellary in his letter dated 14.03.2019 has reported several Schedule-I species viz. Pangolin, bear, leopard, peafowl, wolf, monitor lizard, etc. in and around the forest land proposed for non-forestry use. However, comments of Chief Wildlife Warden on the possible impact of the mining on the fauna and mitigating measures, if any required to be taken have not been submitted along with the proposal.
- (ii) As per the lease sketch, prepared on the basis of joint verification of Forest, Revenue and Mining Department of the State, the area of the lease is 26.699 while the Mining Plan has been approved for 26.71 ha. Therefore, discrepancy in the lease area (forest area) and area approved in the Mining Plan needs to be rectified by the State Government.
- (iii) All parameters, as stipulated in the guidelines dated 1.08.2017, incorporated at Annexure —III of the Handbook of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 have not been accounted for while estimating the benefits and loss of the project. Revised Cost-Benefit Analysis needs to be submitted by accounting for all the parameters stipulated in the guidelines.
- (iv) As the extant mine is a C category mine wherein violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 have been committed by carrying out mining without obtaining prior approval of the Central Government. Detail of penalties levied on the erstwhile User Agency and penal payments made, if any, on account of violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has not been mentioned in the proposal.

2. The concerned file (*File no. 4-KRC1203/2019-BAN*) has been retained in this office. It is also requested the information as addressed in para 1 above, should reach Ministry latest by 15.02.2020 for further consideration of the proposal for grant of approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

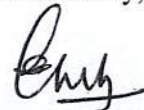
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3. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,



(Charan Jeet Singh)

Scientist 'C'

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Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Forests Department, Government of Karnataka, Aranya Bhawan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
2. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, Forests Department, Government of Karnataka, Aranya Bhawan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
3. The Vice President, mines & CC, M/s MSPL Ltd., Baldota Enclave, Abheraj, Baldota Road, Hosapete – 583 203.
4. Guard File.