

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
(ಅರಣ್ಯ ಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ

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



ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, 18 ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡ ರಸ್ತೆ
ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 003

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E-office File No. KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/16/2018-FC

E-62958

Date 04-02-2020

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 of the Successful Bidder, i.e., M/s MSPL Ltd, Hosapete, Ballari District (erstwhile 'C' Category mine, ML No. 2559 of M/s Karthikeyas Manganese & Iron Ore Pvt Ltd) in Subbarayanahalli village, Sandur Range, Ballari District

Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/31348/2018

- Ref:**
1. This office letter of even number dated 20-04-2019 [Stage-I proposal]
 2. Government of Karnataka letter No. FEE 25 FFM 2019 dated 23-07-2019 [Stage-I proposal]
 3. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Regional Office, Bengaluru letter F.No. 4-KRC1203/2019-BAN dated 08-08-2019 (Regional Office) and 21-01-2020 (Head Office) [seeking additional information]
 4. This office letter of even number dated 07-09-2019 [seeking additional information in response to GOI letter dated 08-08-2019]

In response to the proposal seeking Stage-I approval submitted by this office vide Ref (1) and by the Government of Karnataka vide Ref (2), the Government of India (Regional Office) had sought the following information.

- I. Site suitability certificate of Compensatory Afforestation and a detailed Compensatory Afforestation scheme as prescribed in the FC guidelines.
- II. Action taken report against RFO, Sandur, who has issued NOC that the land is not a forest land on 26/09/2007.

Even though, the information related to the Point-I has already been received by this office from Chief Conservator of Forests, Belagavi Circle on 02-12-2019, the information pertaining to Point-II is still awaited from you. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari vide letter dated 09-12-2019 (marking a copy to this office) has

already submitted the detailed report on this issue to you. As a result, it has not yet been possible for this office to submit the required information to government.

Meanwhile, the Government of India (Head Office) vide Ref (3) letter dated 21-01-2020 (**copy enclosed**) has sought information on following four (4) additional points.

- (i) *CCF, Ballari 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 extent 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.*

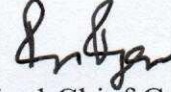
Accordingly, you are instructed to:

- (i) **Submit the reply along with relevant documents in respect of Point (II) of GOI Query dated 08-08-2019 (Regional Office) to this office.**
- (ii) **Obtain from the User Agency a Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Measures / Plan (prepared in consultation with the DCF, Ballari Division) in respect of Point (i) of the GOI Query dated 21-01-2020 (Head Office) and submit to the PCCF (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden for approval.**
- (iii) **Obtain the reply along with revised the documents (wherever applicable) from the User Agency through the DCF, Ballari Division in**

respect of Points (ii & iii) of the GOI Query dated 21-01-2020 (Head Office), verify and submit to this office.

- (iv) Submit a reply in respect of Point (iv) of the GOI Query dated 21-01-2020 (Head Office) to this office.

All information / documents mentioned above should be submitted in three (3) ink-signed sets immediately.



Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Conservation) & Nodal Officer (FCA)

Copy to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division, Ballari for information and **necessary action as above.**

Copy to M/s MSPL Limited, Baldota Enclave, Abheraj Baldota Road, Hosapete, Ballari – 583 203 for information and **with a request to submit the necessary documents in respect of Points (ii & iii) of the GOI Query dated 21-01-2020 (Head Office) as above.**

Copy submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden for information and with a request to offer comments on the possible impact of mining on the fauna as reported by the Field officers in their proposals (PART-II & III) as sought by Government of India. Copy of the proposal (along with PART-II & III) submitted by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle is enclosed herewith.

ರವಾಸಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ
ದಿನಾಂಕ 10/02/2020