

F. No. 8-28/2000-FC (Vol-1)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi – 110003
Dated: 20th May, 2019

To,

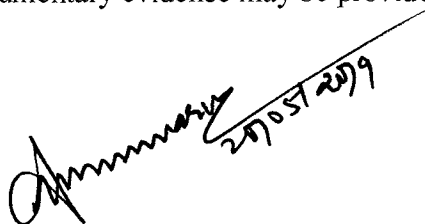
The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Karnataka,
Bangalore.

Sub: Diversion of 16.676 Ha. of forest land for establishing pipeline conveyor belt system in respect of Thimmappanagudi iron mine (ML No.2605) in favour of Karnataka State Mineral Corporation Ltd (erstwhile M/s. Mysore Minerals Ltd.) Bangalore.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. FEE 12 FFM 2019 dated 27.02.2019 in the above proposal to Regional Office, Bangalore for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After examination of the said proposal, the following observation are made:

- (i) Regional Office vide their letter dated 03.04.2019 requested the State Government to confirm the availability of CA land proposed by the user agency, the same is not received by them. In view of this, the shape file for identified CA land with suitability certificate and approved CA scheme by the competent authority may be furnished to this Ministry. It may also be confirmed that the identified CA land does not fall in Moderate Dense Forest(MDF) to comply the provisions of CA in accordance with latest guidelines issued for the purpose by this Ministry on 28.03.2019 and available on Ministry's website.
- (ii) Condition wise verification of compliance by the State Govt. stipulated in approval for diversion of 78.5 ha. of forest land and diversion of 98.224 ha. of additional forest land in Block E for renewal of mining lease No. 2002 in favour of M/s Mysore Mineral Limited may be submitted.
- (iii) It may be clarified as to why prior approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is not obtained for change of name from M/S Mysore Mineral Limited Karnataka to State Mineral Corporation Ltd. in respect of diversion of 78.5 ha. of forest land and diversion of 98.224 ha of additional forest land in Block E for renewal of mining lease No. 2002.
- (iv) Present lease status of mining lease No.2002 as specified in the lease document along with a copy of certified documentary evidence may be provided.

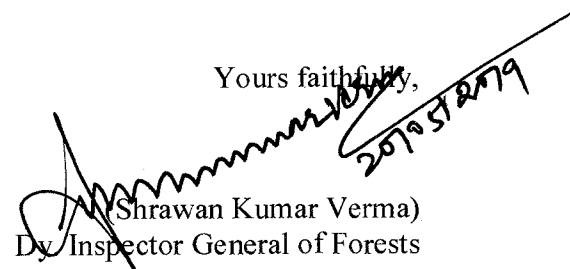

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(v) It may be clarified as to why the reply is not given by the Govt. of Karnataka on the following points as sought vide this Ministry's letter dated 27.10.2017 on the proposal submitted by the State Government of Karnataka vide their letter no. FEE 173 FFM 2010 dated 11.11.2016 in favour of M/s Mysore Minerals Limited, Bangalore for diversion of additional forest land over an area of 145 ha for instant mining lease No. 2002:

- a) The details of encroachment noticed in the investigation report of Hon'ble Lokayukta in respect of the instant proposal with the detail of case registered by Range Forest Officer, Sandur with present status are not given.
- b) It is reported in SIR done by Regional Office, Bangalore that there is a shortfall of 13 ha. in identified area for CA. Accordingly, the additional CA area of 13.00 ha. may be identified and submit it with suitability certificate.
- c) From the suitability certificate, it is not clear whether the identify land for CA is free from all encumbrance.
- d) A CD containing shape file / KML file for the forest land proposed for diversion and sites proposed for Compensatory Afforestation is also required for it examination through DSS Cell.
- e) The Status on compliance on Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 may also be given.

In view above, the State Govt. is requested to provide the information/ clarification/ documents on the above points to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,


(Shrawan Kumar Verma)
Dy. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
2. Addl. Director General (Central), Regional Office, Bangalore.
3. Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, Forest Department, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
4. Director Technical, NIC, MoEF & CC, New Delhi- with a request to change the status of the proposal from the Regional Office (Bangalore) to Head Office (FC Division of MoEF & CC).
5. User Agency
6. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
7. Guard File.