

I/264601/2022

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, 18 ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ
ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 003
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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 01-06-2022

To,

The Chief Conservator of Forests
Kanara Circle, Sirsi.

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 Ramshree Construction Company, Kodibag, Karwar, Uttara Kannada District.

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

- Ref:**
1. This office letter of even number dated 31-01-2022 [seeking Stage-I approval]
 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]

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) letter 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. They are as follows (copy enclosed)

1. Justification for opening new quarry as per para 7.8 of the Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
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.
3. Clear map depicting various components of Quarry for proposed diversion may be furnished.

1/264601/2022

4. As per the component wise break up of land furnished in FORM A for the proposed Quarry, crushing unit & Road to an extent of 0.455 ha is mentioned as non forest land. However, as per the KML file/ google image, the said components appears to be inside the forest land. Therefore, legal status of land required for crushing unit may be furnished.
5. As per the KML file/ google image of Compensatory Afforestation land, the area proposed Compensatory Afforestation 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 Compensatory Afforestation.
6. Quarry Plan approved from the competent authority.
7. Status of Environment Clearance.

Accordingly, Government of Karnataka vide ref (2) letter dated 13-05-2022 had communicated the same to this office. Therefore, **you are directed to submit clarification/information sought by Government of India after obtaining the same from the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Karwar Division and User agency. The online link is transferred to you for further transfer of the same to the user agency through Deputy Conservator of Forests Karwar Division.**



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

Copy to the:

1. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Karwar Division, Karwar for information and necessary action as stated above.
2. M/s Ramshree Construction Company, Engineers & Contractors, Shree Ram Complex, G. Floor, NH-17 Kodibag, Karwar -581 303 for information.



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &
CLIMATE CHANGE.
INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE



Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E& F Wings, 17th
Main Road, IInd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore
- 560 034, Tel.No.080-25635905, E-Mail:
rosz.bng-mef@nic.in

By Speed Post
F.No. 4-KRC1352/2022-BAN
Dated the 3rd May, 2022

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Karnataka,
Forest Ecology and Environment Department,
M.S. Building, Bangalore

Subject. Diversion of 8.803 ha. of forest land in F.Sy.No.52A, Arga village, 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. Ramshree Construction Company, Kodibag, Karwar, Uttara Kannada District.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Government letter No.FEE10FFM2022(c) dated 16.04.2022 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of Central Government under section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. In this regard, the proposal has been examined in this office and it is requested to furnish the following clarification/ information for further consideration of the proposal:

1. Justification for opening new quarry as per para 7.8 of the Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
3. The CA scheme uploaded on the Parivesh Web portal is not visible. Therefore, proper CA scheme may be furnished and the same may be uploaded in the PARIVESH web portal.
4. Clear map depicting various components of Quarry for proposed diversion may be furnished.
5. As per the component wise break up of land furnished in FORM A for the proposed Quarry, crushing unit & Road to an extent of 0.455 ha is mentioned as non forest land. However, as per the KML file/ google image, the said components appears to be inside the forest land. Therefore, legal status of land required for crushing unit may be furnished.
6. 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.

7. Quarry Plan approved from the competent authority.

8. Status of Environment Clearance.

Further, it may be noted that village "Arga" where the stone quarry is proposed is identified as Eco Sensitive Area by the High-Level Working Group in its report, based on which Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi vide its letter No. 1-4 20212-RE dated 13.11.2013 (Copy enclosed) as amended vide letter dated 3rd December, 2018 had issued certain direction under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. As per said directions, certain activities in Eco Sensitive Areas (ESA) of Western Ghat, (as identified by High Level Working Group (HLWG)) are "Prohibited" which includes mining, quarrying, sand mining, etc. Therefore, specific comments of State Government regarding opening of new quarry in Western Ghat region may be furnished.

Yours faithfully,

(M. K. Shambhu)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Karnataka Forest Department, Aranya Bhawan, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bangalore - 560 003.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FC), Karnataka Forest Department, Aranya Bhawan, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bangalore - 560 003.
3. M/s Ramshree Construction Company, Engineers & Contractors, Shree Ram Complex, G Floor, NH-17 Kodibag, Karwar-581303.

(M.K. Shambhu)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C)

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Annexure - A₁

F. No. 1-4/2012 - RE (Pt.)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests

Paryavaran Bhavan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110003

Dated: 13.11.2013

Sub: Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

WHEREAS, Western Ghats is an important geological landform on the fringe of the west coast of India. It is the origin of Godavari, Krishna, Cauvery and a number of other rivers. It extends over a distance of approximately 1500 km and traverses through Six States viz. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu;

2. And whereas, Western Ghats is a global biodiversity hotspot and a treasure trove of biological diversity. Western Ghats harbour many endemic species of flowering plants, endemic fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals and invertebrates. It is also important center of evolution of economically important domesticated plant species such as pepper, cardamom, cinnamon, mango and jackfruit. Western Ghats has many unique habitats which are home to a variety of endemic species of flora and fauna such as Myristica swamps, the flat-topped laterite plateaus, the Sholas and wetland and riverine ecosystems. UNESCO has included certain identified parts of Western Ghats in the UNESCO World Natural Heritage List because Western Ghats is a Centre of origin of many species as also home for rich endemic biodiversity and hence a cradle for biological evolution;

3. And whereas, the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) had constituted a High Level Working Group (HLWG) under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Member (Science), Planning Commission vide office order dated 17.8.2012 to study the preservation of the ecology, environmental integrity and holistic development of the Western Ghats in view of their rich and unique biodiversity;

4. And whereas, the HLWG submitted its report to the MoEF on 15th April 2013 and it was thereafter put in public domain by hosting on the website of the Ministry, and also disseminated to all stakeholders including the six State Governments of Western Ghat region for their feedback and comments. All stakeholders were also invited to offer their views on the HLWG report. Thereafter, on completion of a transparent process, the Ministry has accepted the HLWG report "in principle" with certain stipulations;

5. And whereas, HLWG noted that approximately 60 per cent of the Western Ghats region is under cultural landscape i.e. it has human dominated land use of settlements, agriculture and plantations (other than forest plantations) and around 40 per cent of the land area is under natural landscape. Of the natural landscape, the biologically rich areas, with some measure of contiguity are roughly 37 per cent of the Western Ghats which is 59,940 km². HLWG identified this 37% of natural landscape having high biological richness, low forest fragmentation, low population density and containing Protected Areas (PAs), World Heritage Sites (WHISs) and Tiger and Elephant corridors as an Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA);

6. And whereas the list of State-wise, District-wise and Taluk-wise villages in ESA identified by the HLWG is at Annexure - A;

7. And whereas, because of unprecedented threats to natural landscape of Western Ghats region by development projects and urban growth, the Working Group has recommended a non-tolerance policy with respect to highly interventionist and environmentally damaging activities like mining or polluting industries. HLWG has highlighted the need for urgent action for protection of biologically rich, diverse and natural landscape of Western Ghats;

8. And whereas, keeping in view the above, immediate action is required to be taken by the Central Government in public interest in light of Rule 4(5) and Rule 5(4) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 as amended from time to time to preserve the environmental integrity of the Western Ghats;

9. Now therefore, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the following directions are hereby issued:

The following category of new and/or expansion projects/activities shall be prohibited in ESA from date of issue of these directions except those cases which have been received by EACs/MoEF or SEACs/SEIAAs before the date of putting HLWG report on the website of the Ministry, i.e., 17.4.2013 and which are pending with EACs/MoEF or SEACs/SEIAAs. Such projects will be dealt under the guidelines and rules applicable at the time of application before the respective EACs/MoEF or SEACs/SEIAAs. Apart from such cases, no pending case or any fresh case shall be considered by the EACs/MoEF or SEACs/SEIAAs from the date of issue of these directions.

- (a) Mining, quarrying and sand mining
- (b) Thermal Power Plants
- (c) Building and construction projects of 20,000 sq. m. area and above
- (d) Township and area development projects with an area of 50 ha and above and /or with built up area of 1,50,000 sq.m. and above
- (e) Red category of industries*

(15) (201)

(* The CPCB list of red category industries would be the minimum list. Industries not included in the CPCB list but mentioned in the Red Category list of the SPCB of the concerned Western Ghat State shall also be categorized as Red category for that State.)

10. These directions will come into force with immediate effect and remain in force till further orders. In case of any violation, appropriate legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be taken.

11. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


Dr. Amit Love
Deputy Director

To

1. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Gujarat,
2. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Maharashtra,
3. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Goa,
4. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Karnataka,
5. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Kerala
6. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Tamil Nadu
7. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Gujarat,
8. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Maharashtra
9. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Goa
10. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Karnataka
11. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Kerala
12. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Tamil Nadu
13. All Sectoral Expert Appraisal Committees, Ministry of Environment and Forest
14. Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board
15. Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board of Gujarat/Maharashtra/Goa/Karnataka/Kerala/Tamil Nadu

Copy to:-

1. PS to MoS (I/C) E&F
2. PPS to Secretary (E&F)
3. PPS to AS (IIP)
4. PS to JS (AT)/Adv (GVS)
5. Concerned Regional Offices of the Ministry dealing with the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu

Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	DEVAKAR
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	ARAV
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	SAWANTWADA
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	MALLAPUR
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	VIRJE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	KERWADI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	KUCHEGAR
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	KADIYE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	KAIGA
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	DEVALMAKKI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	SHIRVE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	NIVLI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	HARTUGA
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	SIDDAR
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	Kadwad
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	BARGAL
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	NIVLI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	BELUR
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	NAGEKOVE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	SHIRWAD
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	TODUR
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	CHENDIYE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	ARGA
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	AMADALLI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KARWAR	HEGLE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	YANA
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	KADKOD
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	KOLIMANJAGUNI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	SANDOLLI-MUTTOLI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	Bellangi
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	KURIGADDE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	MUGVEKANVADE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	VELAVALLI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	Kodambale
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	ANEGUNDI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	YEDATARE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	YATTINABAIL
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	HEBBAIL
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	ALKOD
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	NILKOD
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	ANEGUNDI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	ANTRAVALLI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	SANTUR
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	Bhandival
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	KANAKALE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	MALWALLI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	KAVALODI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	KALVE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	SHIRGUNJI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	MORSE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	Kallabbe
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	BANGANE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	Kandavalli
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	MUDGI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	HOSAD
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	SOPPINAHOSALLI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	DIVALI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	MUDNALI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	BASOLI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	MEDINI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	SANTAGAL
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	HOLANAGADDE
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	ABBOLI
Karnataka	KARWAR	KUMTA	HINDBAIL

**F. No. 1/9/2018-ESZ
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(ESZ-Division)**

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jorbagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi- 110 003

Dated: 3rd December, 2018

Subject:- Amendment to the Direction issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 w.r.t Western Ghats on 13.11.2013.

In continuation to the Direction under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 w.r.t. Western Ghats on 13.11.2013, the paragraph 5 of the directions replaced as follows:

"And whereas HLWG noted that approximately 60 per cent of the Western Ghats region is under cultural landscape i.e. it has human dominated land use of settlements, agriculture and plantations (other than forest plantations) and around 40 per cent of the land area is under natural landscape. Of the natural landscape, the biologically rich areas, with some measure of contiguity are roughly 37 per cent of the Western Ghats which is 59,940 km². HLWG identified this 37% of natural landscape having high biological richness, low forest fragmentation, low population density and containing Protected Areas (PAs), World Heritage Sites (WHSSs) and Tiger and Elephant corridors as an Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA);

Whereas, the State Government of Kerala had undertaken the exercise to fine tune ESA in the State by physical verification and as per this exercise, ESA recommended by the State Government of Kerala is spread over an area of 9993.7 square kilometre, which includes 9107 square kilometre of forest area and 886.7 square kilometre of non-forest area.

Accordingly, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) and sub-rule (3) of rule 5 of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change issued the draft Notification dated 10.03.2014 with subsequent notifications on 04.09.2015, 27.02.2017 and 03.10.2018, thereby demarcating an area of 56,825 square kilometre spread across six States namely, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamilnadu, as the Western Ghats Ecologically Sensitive Area".

2. Now for the purpose of Directions of date 13.11.2013 issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 it is clarified that the Ecologically Sensitive

Areas of Western Ghats would be 56825 sq. km. as mentioned in the draft Notification.

4. List of Villages would also be as per the draft Notification dated 03.10.2018.
5. The other paras of the Directions dated 13.11. 2013 remains the same.
6. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

S. Bose
(Dr. Subrata Bose)
Scientist-F/Director
Telefax:24695422
e-mail: subrata.bose@nic.in

To,

1. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Gujarat,
2. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Maharashtra,
3. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Goa,
4. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Karnataka,
5. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Kerala
6. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Tamil Nadu
7. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Gujarat,
8. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Maharashtra
9. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Goa
10. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Karnataka
11. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Kerala
12. State Expert Appraisal Committee, Tamil Nadu
13. All Sectoral Expert Appraisal Committees, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
14. Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board
15. Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board of Gujarat/Maharashtra/Goa/Karnataka/Kerala/Tamil Nadu

Copy To:-

1. PS to MEFCC
2. PS to MoS, E.F& CC
3. PPS to Secretary (E,F& CC)
4. PPS to AS (AKM)
5. PS to ADV(SCG)/JS(IA)
6. Concerned Regional Offices of the Ministry dealing with the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu