



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

No. FEE 48 FFM 2021.e.

Karnataka Government Secretariat
Multistoried Buildings,
Bengaluru, Date: 02.06.2021.

From:

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Forest, Ecology and Environment Department,
Bengaluru-560001.

To:

The Deputy Director General of Forest (Central),
Integrated Regional Office, Kendriya Sadan, 4th Floor, E&F Wings,
17th Main, Koramangala, Bengaluru.

Sir,

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| Sub: | Diversion of 32.16 hectare of forest land (29.49 hectare for existing mining lease and 2.67 hectare for existing approach road) in Donimalai (DM) Block Forest, Ubbalagandi Reserved Forest and Ubbalagandi Extension Reserved Forest, Near Ubbalagandi Village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Mining Lease (M.L) No. 2433 (C-category Mine of M/s Nidhi Mining Private Limited) in favour of M/s Minera Steel and Power Private Limited, Bengaluru (the Preferred Bidder in e-auction) |
| Ref: | 1. This office even number letter dated:08.09.2020 & 18.01.2021 (Stage-1). 2. Letter No. 4-KRC1260/2020-BAN 94 from MoEF&CC, Koramangala, Bengaluru, dated 22.04.2021. |

With reference to the above subject, Government of Karnataka has sent the above proposal seeking stage-1 approval vide letter referred at (1) above, with regard to this your office has sought certain clarifications vide letter referred at (2) above, the said clarifications are finished below :-

| Sl. No. | Observation. | Information. |
|---------|---|---|
| 1. | Whether any additional area, which was encroached and put to illegal use by the erstwhile lessee has been included in the lease which is auctioned? If yes, | No additional forest area which was encroached and put to illegal use by the erstwhile lessee has been included in the New lease. The User Agency has proposed only the area identified as actual lease area by the CEC during |

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|----|---|---|
| | has any permission from Hon'ble Supreme Court has been obtained for such modification of lease area? | Joint Survey (i.e 29.49 hectares) for diversion. However, the User Agency has proposed diversion of 2.67 hectare of Forest Area for approach Road. Thus making the total Forest Area to be diverted for 32.16 hectares. |
| 2. | A map showing the forest area leased to erstwhile lessee, forest area encroached by erstwhile lessee and the lease area proposed by the instant user agency (LOI holder). | A Map showing the forest area leased to erstwhile lessee, forest area encroached by erstwhile lessee and the lease area proposed by the M/s Minera Steel and Power Private Limited, Bengaluru (LoI holder) enclosed as Annexure-A. |
| 3. | Action taken by the State Authorities against the lessee and others for encroached/illegal mining. | Forest offence cases have been booked against M/s Nidhi Mining Private Limited , ML No. 2433 for the illegalities vide FOC No. 11/2014-15 dated:20.11.2014. (Charge-sheet filed in JMFC Court, Sandur vide CC No. 98/2021 and Dated: 17.02.2021. Case is pending in J.M.F.C, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District, Karnataka. |

Hence, it's hereby requested to accord in-principle (Stage-1) approval under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980, for diversion of 32.16 hectare of forest land (29.49 hectare for existing mining lease and 2.67 hectare for existing approach road) in Donimalai (DM) Block Forest, Ubbalagandi Reserved Forest and Ubbalagandi Extension Reserved Forest, Near Ubbalagandi Village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Mining Lease (M.L) No. 2433 (C-category Mine of M/s Nidhi Mining Private Limited) in favour of M/s Minera Steel and Power Private Limited, Bengaluru (the Preferred Bidder in e-auction)

Yours faithfully,


(S. SRINIVASA) 02/06/2021

Under Secretary to Government

Forest, Ecology and Environment Department (Forest-C).

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Aranya Bhavana Bengaluru.