

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

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

Dated: 1st January, 2025

To

The Principle Secretary (Forests)
Government of Karnataka
Bangaluru

Subject: Clarification on the commencement of the period for starting the mining operations in respect of Category C mines in the State of Karnataka - reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer the State Government of Karnataka's letter No.FEE 12 FFM 2021 dated 20.09.2024, FEE 12 FFM 2021 dated 21.09.2024 and letter no. FEE 10 FFM 2023 (e) dated 24.09.2024 on the above subject seeking clarification on the commencement of the period for starting the mining operations in respect of Category C mines. In this connection, it is to inform that the matter was considered by the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 14.10.2024. Detailed minutes of the said meeting may be accessed on the website of this Ministry at <https://parivesh.nic.in/>.

Based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee and approval of the same by the competent authority of the MoEF&CC, New Delhi, the Central Government hereby clarifies the following:

- i. As per the provisions of the guidelines given under para 7.4(vi)(b) of the Consolidated Guidelines issued under the Van (Sanrakshan) Eva Sa, vardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, the period of working permission cannot be extended beyond a period of one year by the Central Government. Therefore, the State Government needs to expedite the compliance of conditions stipulated in the approval granted to the erstwhile agency and after completion of the compliance of conditions, the land may be handed over to the user agency to commence mining operations.
- ii. Special provisions of working permission were introduced to enable the new user agency to complete the compliance of conditions stipulated in the approval. As the working permission was granted by the Central Government, the period of working permission should commence from the date of issue of order by the Central Government and not by the date of orders issued by the State authorities.

This issue with the approval of Competent Authority of the Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'E'

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & Head of Forest Force, State Forest Department, Government of Karnataka, Bangaluru
2. The Dy. Director General Forest (Central), Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at Bangaluru
3. Nodal Officer (Van Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan), O/o PCCF, State Forest Department, Government of Karnataka, Bangaluru
4. Monitoring Cell, Forest Conservation Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
5. Guard File