

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 173/2024**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Gajanan Narayana Hegde

...APPLICANT

Versus

The Deputy Commissioner/ Chairman of
District Seven Member Committee (CRZ) and Ors

...RESPONDENTS

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Date: 31.07.2025

Place: New Delhi

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 173/2024

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...RESPONDENTS

**REPORT ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT NO. 3 (DEPARTMENT OF
MINES AND GEOLOGY)**

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

1. Pursuant to the order dated 18-05-2022 of Original Application No.252 of 2017(SZ) filed by the Hon'ble National Green Bench, Southern Zone, Chennai, sand removal in the river beds of CRZ areas under Uttara Kannada district has been suspended from 20-05-2022 to 02-02-2024.
2. In a Petition filed before the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka bearing WP No. 16115/2022 (GM MMS) regarding the action of the Mangalore District Commissioner regarding the compliance of the order dated 18-05-2022 of Original Application No.252 of 2017(SZ) and the Hon'ble High Court has issued an order dated 03-09-2022 rejecting the order of the Mangalore District Commissioner prohibiting sand clearance and quashing the order of stay order. Accordingly, on 24-02-2023, the Deputy Commissioner and the District 07 Member CRZ Committee, Dakshina Kannada District, Mangalore have issued temporary sand permits and ordered the licensee to issue mineral transportation permits after paying the capital fee and other applicable fees as per the rules. Accordingly, in Uttara Kannada district too, steps have been taken to clear the sand bars identified in the Coastal Control

Zone from 02-02-2024 to 15-06-2024 as per the rules after obtaining a no-objection letter from KSCZMA.

3. Order No. 14 of Original Application No.173 of 2024(SZ) dated 27-06-2024 states that "The Mines and Geology Department, which is aware of the procedure to be followed and also the tenor of the EIA Notification, ought not to have issued such permits without imposing a condition that if they are not used for the purposes mentioned in Appendix - IX and sold for a commercial value, prior Environmental Clearance is to be obtained. "will be notified.

Accordingly the report is below

- i. As per the action taken in the letter No.254/2014 dated 20-08-2014 of the Hon'ble Secretary to the Government, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Environmental Clearance has been obtained from SEIAA for the clearance of sand bars since the past.
 - ii. But in the minutes of the 17th meeting of the Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) dated 05-04-2017, item (xiv) 17.4.79 has been stated that "As there is no involvement of sand mining and the present proposal is for removal of sand bar there is no need to obtain Environment Clearance separately".
 - iii. Accordingly, from 2017 till now, only a no-objection letter has been obtained from KSCZMA to clear sand from the river beds of the coastal control zone within the district.
 - iv. The people of the district have been dependent on this river sand for decades and the District Sand Management Committee, through the Department of Mines and Geology, has taken steps to dispose of the sand through registered traditional community people as per law.
 - v. The orders and guidelines of the Central and State Governments and the courts have not been violated in any way.
4. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, in its order dated 27-06-2024, in order number 15 of Original Application No.173 of 2024(SZ), has stated that "Though the report of the 3rd Respondent is silent about how the sand is being disposed of, it only speaks about the dispatch permits and the method of mining either

manually or mechanically. Therefore, till such time the Mines and Geology Department files a detailed and satisfactory response, let not the sand permit be issued to any individual from today". Accordingly, the report is as follows.

- i. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai in its order dated 18.05.2022 in Original Application No.252 of 2017(SZ) held that "The Sand removed from sand bars, if permitted as per rules shall not be sold and it can be used only for leveling low lying areas of the river bed, sand nourishment in beaches and strengthening of the river bunds".
- ii. Compared to other coastal districts of Karnataka state (Udupi, Dakshina Kannada), Uttara Kannada district is one of the largest districts in the state. The major rivers flowing in the district are Kali River, Gangavalli/Bedi River, Aghanashini River, Sharavathi, all rivers flow westwards and join the coastal sea.
- iii. Due to the tidal effects of the sea in coastal river beds, if the sand removed from the sand bar is replenished in the low land or river bank, the sand is again eroded and flows towards the river, building a new sand bar.
- iv. There is no space available to dump the sand extracted from the sandbars on the banks of the rivers and even if it is dumped, the continuous flow of water erodes such sand back into the river, which again creates sand bars.
- v. Since most of the district (80%) is a protected forest area, few quarry leases and crusher units have been granted, hence the production of M-sand sand is low. Also, the rivers flowing in the NON-CRZ area also fall within the protected forest area. Due to their very fast flow, the accumulation of sand deposits is impossible.
- vi. The CRZ area extends from the sea border of the district to the foot hills of the Western Ghats, and the fast flowing streams/rivers fall entirely on the reserved forest and dense forest. Therefore, it is common for the said rivers to carry sand with them and deposit it in the rivers of the CRZ area of the district, forming sand bars.
- vii. The accumulation of sand in the river bed through out the year can lead to

blockage of river channels and erosion of river banks and flooding. Therefore, the people of the district can benefit if the sand is cleared and used locally following best environmental practices to protect the environment.

- viii. Due to the lack of availability of sand and alternative sand (M-sand) else where in the district, the people of the district depend on the sand deposited in the sand bars in the CRZ area for all sand-dependent works.
- ix. Already, sand falls under the non-specified mineral category of "Ordinary Sand" as per Karnataka Minor Mineral Concession Rule-1994 (KMMCR-1994), for which the Karnataka Government has fixed Rs.80/- per metric ton.
- x. As per rule 31ZA of Karnataka Minor Mineral Concession Rule-1994 (KMMCR-1994. ***"31- ZA. Permission for removal of sand bars and transportation of ordinary sand in Coastal regulation Zone (CRZ) area.***
(1) Removal of sand bars within the area of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) in coastal districts, shall be disposed in accordance with the official memorandum issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India vide No.11- 83/2005-IA-III (Vol.III), dated 08-11-2011 and as amended from time to time.
(2) The permit holder, in addition to the royalty shall pay additional payment for the sand disposed after removal of sand bars from the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) and the same shall be remitted to the Consolidated Fund of the state".
- xi. Therefore, the District Sand Management Committee has decided to remove sand bars in the District's rivers as per law through the Department of Mines and Geology and dispose of the sand through the registered traditional community people. The sand is transported under the permits issued by the Department of Mines and Geology. These permits contain details of the quantity of sand being transported, place of transportation/destination.
- xii. A GPS fence has been installed to monitor the sand extraction in the sand bar sand GPS devices have been installed on all vehicles/boats permitted for sand extraction and transportation. In case of any violations regarding sand extraction outside the approved sand bars or sand extraction by a large

number of boats, action will be taken as per the decisions of the District Seven member Sand Committee and on the basis of the violation. The District Administration has made it mandatory to install GPS on the vehicles transporting sand.

5. The Hon'ble National Green Bench, Court Southern Zone, Chennai, in its order dated 27-06- 2024, Order No. 17 of Original Application No. 173 of 2024(SZ), has stated that "The EIA Notification, 2006 exempts only for the reasons mentioned in Appendix -IX. Since it is used for commercial purposes, the Environmental Clearance should have been obtained." Accordingly, the report is as follows.
 - i. Accordingly, it was discussed in the District 07 CRZ Committee meeting on 12-11-2024 (**Annexure-1**) that a no-objection letter has already been received from the Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) for clearing the 19 sand bars identified in the Kali, Gangavali, Aghanashini and Sharavati river basins of the Coastal Control Zone of Uttara Kannada district on 02-09-2023. In the said no-objection letter, an estimated quantity of 12,44,879 MT has been allowed, and an estimated quantity of 2,28,972 MT of sand has been cleared from the said quantity till 15-06-2024. An estimated 10,15,907 MT of the quantity remains uncleared. It has been decided to extend the period of the No Objection Letter from the Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) for the remaining quantity and to take action as per the rules to obtain an Environment Clearance from the Karnataka State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) as per the order of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Court South, Original Application No.173 of 2024(SZ) dated 27-06-2024 and to take action subject to the condition of complying with the order issued by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) Court in this regard.
 - ii. Accordingly, on date:02-12-2024, (**Annexure-2**) the District Coastal Management Committee decided and through the said committee, a report has been sent to Karnataka KSCZMA to extend the period of No Objection

Letter and to obtain Environment Clearance from Karnataka State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) (**Annexure-3**). After obtaining Environment Clearance, action will be taken to clear the sand bars as per the rules. However, this is without prejudice to the contention that EC is not required.

Therefore, this Honorable Court, after examining the report submitted along with the supporting documents, humbly submits that any appropriate orders/directions, if issued, in the interest of justice and based on the geographical structure of Uttara Kannada district and for the benefit of the public of the district, will be complied with and this Original Application No.173 of 2024 (SZ) is requested to the Court.

Date: 31.07.2025


Senior Geologist

**Department of Mines and Geology
Uttara Kannada District, Karwar
Karnataka**

Filed By


Darpan KM

**Darpan KM
Standing Counsel
State of Karnataka**

Proceedings of the District 07 Member (CRZ) Committee meeting held on 12-11-2024 at 4:00 pm under the chairmanship of the Honorable Deputy Commissioner.

Officers present in the meeting:

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. Honorable Deputy Commissioner/Chairman, District 07 Member (CRZ) Committee, Uttara Kannada District, Karwar | Chairman |
| 2. Joint Director, Fisheries Department, Uttara Kannada District. Karwar | Member |
| 3. Environmental Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Karwar (Pro-Vice) | Member |
| 4. Head, Civil Division, Government Polytechnic College, Karwar | Member |
| 5. Shri Jai Vitthal Chandrakanth Kubal, Alavedande. Kumta Taluk. Secretary, Karnataka State Coastal Fishermen Action Committee, Representative of the Fishing Community. (Fisher Folk) | Members |
| 6. Shri Manjeshwara Maneshwara Nayaka, Belekeri, Ankola (Local Social Representative) | Members |
| 7. Senior Geologist, Department of Mines and Geology, Karwar | Implementing Office |

Senior Geologist, Department of Mines and Geology and Implementing Officer, District 07 Member (CRZ) Committee, Karwar welcomed the Honorable District Collector and all the members of the committee present in the meeting and requested the Honorable Chairman to conduct the meeting. The Chairman instructed the Senior Geologist to inform about the agenda of the meeting.

1. Regarding obtaining an environmental clearance certificate for clearing sand dunes of Kali, Gangavalli, Aghanashini and Sharavathi river basins in the Coastal Control Zone of Uttara Kannada district.

- Central Government Official Memorandum No.:11-83/2005-IA-III Dated:24-02-2011, 09-06-2011 & 08-11-2011. Based on the advice and recommendations of experts, sand bars which pose dangerous to navigation of fishing boats and vessels in the rivers of the Coastal Control Zone have been identified and temporary sand permits have been issued for a period of 01 year from date: 02-09-2023 for clearing sand bars in the Kali, Gangavalli, Aghanashini and Sharavathi river basins of the Coastal Control Zone of Uttara Kannada district.

In relation to OA No.173/2024 recorded in the Hon'ble National Green Bench, Order No. 12 dated: 26-07-2024 "The sand mining is exempted only as per Clause 6 of Appendix - IX of the EIA Notification, 2006. If the same is used for any other purpose, particularly for commercial activities, the same can be done only after obtaining the Environmental Clearance. Taking advantage of the exemption clause and not obtaining an EC, but carrying on the illegal sale of the sand will only cause loss to the exchequer on the one hand and more seriously it can cause severe environmental damage in the absence of EI-A and EMPS. It says.

- In letter No.254/2014 dated: 20-08-2014 from the Secretary to the Hon'ble Govt., Department of Forest Life and Environment. "As per the o.M. dated 08.09.2011, the Deputy commissioner shall Chair a seven- member Committee consisting of concerned officials (from State Departments such as PWD & IT, Water Resources Department, Fisheries Department etc) as also at least one representative of each from a Scientific or Technical institute, the local communities like fisher folk and the local civil society. After identification of such impeding sand bars by the District committee, a detailed technical report may be prepared with the help of NIT, Surathkal and placed before the Committee as mentioned in the said O M' Based on the recommendation of the above Committee and technical scrutiny of such reports by NIT, Surathkal, the Deputy commissioner may submit the proposal for removal of sand bars in CRZ for KSCZMA for CRZ approval followed by Environment Clearance from

SEIAA-Karnataka. Thereafter the Deputy Commissioners may take action to remove the sand bar." Accordingly, an Environment Clearance has been obtained from SEIAA to clear the sand bar.

- Dated: 05-04-2017 Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) 17th meeting minutes 17.4.79 (Proposal of removal of Sand from Sand Bar of Sharavathi river (SBSH- 20) in Honnavar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District for issue of CRZ Clearance [File No. FEE 100 CRZ 2017) (xiv) As there is no involvement of sand mining and the present proposal is for removal of sand bar there is no need to obtain Environment Clearance separately. Accordingly, permission has been given to clear the sand dunes by obtaining CRZ Clearance from KSCZMA.
- The National Green Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, Southern Zone, Chennai, in its order dated 18-05-2022 in Original Application No.252 of 2017 (SZ), filed here, has stated the following points in order number 23 (f) of the judgment regarding the method followed for clearing sand dunes within the Karnataka Coastal Control Zone.

"The Principal Bench of the Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 5th August 2013 in O.A. No. 171/2013 and connected matters restrained carrying out any mining activity or removal of sand from river beds anywhere in the country without obtaining Environmental Clearance from MoEF/SEIAA and license from competent authorities. Accordingly, such applications, when submitted following due procedure of law, were considered by the SEIAA, Karnataka and decided based on merit to grant E.C. with conditions.

When the O.A. No. 171/2013 was finally disposed of vide order dated 13.01.2015 by the Hon'ble NGT, no specific direction regarding consideration of applications for grant EC for removal of the sand bar was not forthcoming. Further management/removal of sand bar does not fall under the preview of mining of minerals as specified either under MMDR Act or under EIA Notification,

2006. Therefore, no applications were referred to SEIAA for Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006.

Now, therefore applications seeking clearance under CRZ Notification, 2011/2019 for the management of removal of sandbar are considered by the KSCZMA and clearance accorded based on merit as per the procedure 13 laid down in the O.M.s dated 24th February 2011, 9th June 2011 and 8th November 2017 issued by MoEF & CC.

Deviation and non-compliance of conditions if any will be dealt in accordance with law. Presently the term of KSCZMA is over and it is under reconstitution. Therefore, this information is furnished from the available records of the Secretariat of the erstwhile KSCZMA."

- In the no-objection letter issued by KSCZMA on 02-09-2023, permission has been given to remove approximately 12,44,879 MT of sand from a total of 19 sand dunes in the Kali, Gangavali, Afanashini and Sharavathi river basins of Uttara Kannada district. Of the said amount, approximately 2,28,972 MT has been removed, the taluk-wise details are as follows.

Sl. No	Taluk	Sand bar number	Quantity permitted by KSCZMA (Mt)	Quantity cleared (Mt) as on: 15-06-2024	Quantity remaining (Mt)
1	Kawar	SB-KL-01	37210	8833	28377
2		SB-KL-02	93043	25273	67770
3		SB-KL-03	94850	19945	74905
4		SB-KL-04	70204	10330	59874
5		SB-KL-05	7106	1400	5706
6		SB-KL-07	17544	1940	15604
Total			319957	67721	252236
7	Ankola	SB-GA-01	93567	1330	92237

8		SB-GA-02	66912	4685	62227
Total			160479	6015	154464
9	Kumta	SB-AG-01	58715	12135	46580
10		SB-AG-02	114016	930	113086
11		SB-AG-03	86136	8110	78026
12		SB-AG-04	87078	3345	83733
Total			345945	24520	321425
13	Honnavar	SB-SH-01	73478	25040	48438
14		SB-SH-02	99552	35550	64002
15		SB-SH-03	20740	6465	14275
16		SB-SH-04	63651	24030	39621
17		SB-SH-05	34503	12110	22393
18		SB-SH-06	45297	13585	31712
19		SB-SH-07	81277	13936	67341
Total			418498	130716	287782
Grand Total			1244879	228972	1015907

- As per the above table, a total of 2,28,972 MT out of the 12,44,879 MT permitted by KSCZMA has been cleared. Approximately 10,15,907 MT remains uncleared. Therefore, the meeting was informed to extend the period of No Objection Letter from Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) for the remaining quantity and submit a proposal to SEIAA for obtaining Environment Clearance.

Speaking on this, the President said that the Central Government's official memorandum No. 111-83/2005-IA-III dated 24-02-2011, 09-06-2011 & 08-11-2011 for clearing sand dunes in the Kali, Gangavali, Aghanashini and Sharavathi river basins of

the coastal control zone of Uttara Kannada district has been issued. The sand dunes have been identified by NITK Surathkal experts and a no-objection letter has already been received from the Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) on 02-09-2023. In the said no-objection letter, permission has been given for a quantity of approximately 12,44,879 MT, and an estimated 2,28,972 MT of sand has been cleared from the said quantity till 15-06-2024. An estimated 16,15,997 MT of the quantity remains uncleared. Therefore, it was directed to extend the period of No Objection Letter from Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) for the remaining quantity and to take further action as per the rules regarding obtaining Environment Clearance from Karnataka State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) and to take action subject to the condition of complying with the order issued by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in this regard. The meeting unanimously approved this.

(Measure: Senior Geologist, Mines and Geology Department, Karwar)

The meeting concluded with the vote of thanks.

Sd/-

**Senior Geologist Implementing Officers
District 07 Members (CRZ) Committee
Uttara Kannada District, Karwar.**

Sd/-

**Deputy Commissioners/Chairperson
District 07 Member (CRZ) Committee
Uttara Kannada District, Karwar**

Proceedings of the 35th Coastal Zone Management Committee
Meeting held on 02-12-2024 under the chairmanship of the
Honorable Deputy Commissioner.

Regional Director (Environment)

Karwar

Proceedings of the meeting held at the office of the Deputy Commissioner on 02-12-2024 under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner, Uttara Kannada District, Karwar regarding consideration of the proposals seeking to grant no-objection status to the Coastal Control Zone.

Present:-

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Honorable Deputy Commissioner, Uttara Kannada District, Karwar. | Chairman |
| 2. Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Karwar (for) | Members |
| 3. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Karwar Division, Karwar. | Members |
| 4. Project Director, District Urban Development Cell Karwar | Members |
| 5. Senior Geologist, Department of Mines and Geology, Karwar | Members |
| 6. Joint Director, Department of Fisheries, Karwar | Members |
| 7. Environmental Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Karwar | Members |
| 8. Commissioner, Karwar Urban Development Authority | Members |
| 9. Regional Director (Environment) Karwar | Member-Secretary |

Absent:-

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Project Director, District Urban Development Cell | Members |
| 2. Municipal Commissioner, Karwar Municipal Council, Karwar | Members |
| 3. Shri. Sanjay Manohar Naik Sa: Ankola | Non-Executive Member |
| 4. Shri Suresh Budwant Kharvi, Honnavar | Non-Executive Member |
| 5. Shri Vinod Madhav Prabhu Sa: Hegde, Kumta | Non-Executive Member |

Regional Director (Environment) Karwar, District Collector Uttara Kannada District, Karwar and all the other officers present in the meeting welcomed the meeting and requested the Honorable District Collector to conduct the meeting. The meeting was informed about the invitation of the said meeting. Then the following matter was discussed.

Topic No. 35-1: Regarding confirmation of the compliance report on the actions taken in the District Coastal Zone Management Committee meeting held on 15-03-2024

On the said item, the compliance report on the decisions taken in the District Coastal Zone Management Committee meeting held on 15-03-2024 was presented in the meeting and the action taken in this regard was confirmed.

35-2 Regarding the proposal seeking a no-objection letter to clear the sand from the sand bars that are causing obstruction to boat traffic in the Kali, Gangavalli, Aghanashini and Sharavathi rivers flowing in the coastal control zone area of Uttara Kannada district.

Uttara Kannada - Senior Geologist, Department of Mines and Earth Sciences, Karwar has sought a no-objection letter to clear the sand from the sandbars that are causing obstruction to boat traffic in the Kali, Gangavalli, Aghanashini and Sharavathi rivers that fall within the coastal control zone area of the district.

Regarding the said proposal, as per the directions of the esteemed NGT order, an estimated 2,28,972 MT has been cleared and the remaining 10,15,907 MT has been cleared. As per the letter dated 20-11-2024, the Senior Geologist, Mines and Geoscience Department, Karwar, has requested permission to clear the sand for the remaining 10,15,907 MT. The Member Secretary informed the meeting that as per the NGT OA 252/2017 & 16115/2022 orders, a total of 12,44,8786 MT of sand has been cleared from 19 sand dunes in the Uttara Kannada Kali Gangavali, Aghanashini and Sharavathi river basins. Some directions have been given regarding the clearing of sand dunes in the river bank. The cleared sand cannot be sold and it can be used for sand nourishment in beaches & levelling low lying areas of river bed, strengthening of river bundhs have been directed to be used.

As per the proceedings of the meeting held on 29-05-2023, a no-objection letter has already been issued by the Coastal Regulation Zone Authority for the removal of the recommended quantity of sand as per the MoEF guidelines and the recommendations

of NITK experts and with additional conditions as per NGT Order OA No.252/2017 & as per the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court, in Civil Appeal No. 7316/2022. The Member Secretary informed the meeting.

In this regard, in the Central Government's Official Memorandum No. 11-83/72005-IA-III dated 24-02-2011, 09-06-2011 & 08-11-2011, a temporary sand permit has been issued for a period of 01 year from 02-09-2023 for the clearance of sand dunes in the Kali, Gangavalli, Aghanashini and Sharavathi river basins in the Coastal Control Zone of Uttara Kannada district, following the advice and recommendations of experts, which have identified sand bars which pose dangerous to navigation of fishing boats, pearls and local household boats in the rivers of the Coastal Control Zone. In the order No.12 dated 26-07-2024, in the OA No.173/2024 filed in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, it has been stated that "The sand mining is exempted only-as per Clause 6 of Appendix — IX of the ETA Notification. 2006. If the same is used for any other purpose, particularly for commercial activities, the same can be done only after obtaining the Environmental Clearance. Taking advantage of the exemption clause and not obtaining an EC, but carrying on the illegal sale of the sand will only cause loss to the exchequer on the one hand and more seriously it can cause severe environmental damage in the absence of EIA and EMPs".

Further, the members (Department of Mines and Geology) said they have cleared a total of 2,28,972 MT out of the 12,44,879 MT permitted by KSCZMA. An estimated 10,15,907 MT remains uncleared. The taluk-wise details are as follows.

Sl. No	Taluk	Sand bar number	Quantity permitted by KSCZMA (Mt)	Quantity cleared (Mt) as on: 15-06-2024	Quantity remaining (Mt)
1	Kawar	SB-KL-01	37210	8833	28377
2		SB-KL-02	93043	25273	67770
3		SB-KL-03	94850	19945	74905
4		SB-KL-04	70204	10330	59874

5		SB-KL-05	7106	1400	5706
6		SB-KL-07	17544	1940	15604
Total			319957	67721	252236
7	Ankola	SB-GA-01	93567	1330	92237
8		SB-GA-02	66912	4685	62227
Total			160479	6015	154464
9	Kumta	SB-AG-01	58715	12135	46580
10		SB-AG-02	114016	930	113086
11		SB-AG-03	86136	8110	78026
12		SB-AG-04	87078	3345	83733
Total			345945	24520	321425
13	Honnavar	SB-SH-01	73478	25040	48438
14		SB-SH-02	99552	35550	64002
15		SB-SH-03	20740	6465	14275
16		SB-SH-04	63651	24030	39621
17		SB-SH-05	34503	12110	22393
18		SB-SH-06	45297	13585	31712
19		SB-SH-07	81277	13936	67341
Total			418498	130716	287782
Grand Total			1244879	228972	1015907

Therefore, he informed the meeting about the extension of the period of the non-exemption certificate from the Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) for the remaining amount and submitting a proposal to SEIAA regarding obtaining an Environment Clearance.

Speaking on this, the President said that the Central Government has issued an official notification letter No. 11-83/2005-14-111 dated 24-02-2011 to clear the sand dunes in the Kali, Gangavali, Aghanashini and Sharavathi river basins in the coastal control zone of Uttara Kannada district. The sand dunes were identified by the NITK Surathkal experts on 09-06-2011 & 08-11-2011 and already received a clearance letter from the Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) on 02-09-2023. In the said clearance letter, an estimated quantity of 12,44,879 MT has been disallowed. Out of the said quantity, an estimated quantity of 2,28,972 MT has been cleared till 15-06-2024. An estimated quantity of 10,15,907 MT remains unclear. Therefore, it was directed to extend the period of No Objection Letter from Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) for the remaining amount and to take further action as per the rules regarding obtaining Environment Clearance from Karnataka State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) and to take action subject to the condition of complying with the order passed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in this regard. The meeting unanimously approved this.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks.

Sd/-
Member Secretary
District Coastal Zone Management
Committee
Uttara Kannada District

Sd/-
President
District Coastal Zone Management
Committee
Uttara Kannada District



Annexure - 319

ಹಿರಿಯ ಭೂವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿಯವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಗಣಿ ಮತ್ತು ಭೂವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಕಾರವಾರ -581 306
OFFICE OF THE SENIOR GEOLOGIST, DEPT. OF MINES & GEOLOGY, UTTARA KANNADA DISTRICT, KARWAR-581 306

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No.DMG/UKD/SandCRZ/2025-26/1008

Date:09-07-2025

To,

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of
Forests, and Commissioner (Technical Cell)
Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment,
Bangalore-560001.

Respected Sir,

Subject: Environment Clearance for clearing sand bars of Kali, Gangavali,
Aghanashini and Sharavathi river basins in the Coastal Regulation Zone of
Uttara Kannada district.

Reference: 1. This office letter No.:Gabhoe/Ukaji/Maralu/2024-25 Date:20-11-2024.

2. This office letter No.:Gabhoe/Ukaji/Maralu/2025-26 Date:03-07-2025.

3. Department of Regional Director (Env), Forest, Ecology and Environment,
Kodibhag, Karwar's letter No.:Pranip/Kaniva/Ni.Patra/2025- 26/421
Date: 07-07-2025.

In connection with the above matter, as per the NOC issued by the Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority, Forest and Environment Department, for clearing sand bars identified in the Kali, Gangavalli, Aghanashini and Sharavathi river basins of the Coastal Control Zone of Uttara Kannada district, as per the decision of the District 07 Member (CRZ) Committee meeting dated 02-02-2024, temporary permits have been issued for clearing sand bars in the Kali, Gangavalli, Aghanashini and Sharavathi river basins. In the order dated 26-07-2024, in the OA No.173/2024 filed with the Hon'ble National Green Bench, South Zone, Chennai, it has been stated in order no.12 that "The sand mining is exempted only as per Clause 6 of Appendix - IX of the EIA Notification, 2006. If the same is used for any other purpose, particularly for commercial activities, the same can be done only after obtaining the Environmental Clearance. Taking advantage of the exemption clause and not obtaining an EC, but carrying on the illegal sale of the sand will only cause loss to the exchequer on the one hand and more seriously it can cause severe environmental damage in the absence of EIA and EMPs".

In the no-objection letter issued by KSCZMA dated 02-09-2023, permission has been given to clear an estimated 12,44,879 MT of sand from a total of 19 sand bars in the Kali, Gangavalli, Aghanashini and Sharavathi river basins of Uttara Kannada district. Out of the said amount, approximately 2,28,972 MT has been cleared and it has been decided in the

meeting of the District 07 Member (CRZ) Committee held on 12-11-2024 to take further action as per the rules regarding obtaining Environment Clearance from the Karnataka State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) for the remaining amount of approximately 10,15,907 MT.

Therefore, the Regional Director, Forest, Environment and Zoology Department (CRZ), Karwar has been requested in the letter in reference (1) to extend the period of No Objection Letter from Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) for the remaining amount and to take further necessary action regarding obtaining Environment Clearance from Karnataka State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA). However, no information is available on the said matter till date.

Further, it is directed to submit a report in the hearing held before the Hon'ble National Green Bench, Chennai on 23-06-2025. Therefore, the Regional Director, Forest, Environment and Zoology Department (CRZ), Karwar is requested to inform about the steps taken to extend the period of No Objection Letter from the Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) and to obtain Environment Clearance from the Karnataka State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) as per reference (2).

In this regard, an application has been submitted regarding the clearance of outstanding sand dunes identified in the Kali, Gangavalli, Aghanashini and Sharavathi river basins of the Coastal Control Zone of Uttara Kannada district, and the said proposal has been presented in the District Coastal Zone Management Committee meeting on 02-12-2024 and submitted to the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Commissioner (Technical Cell) Forest, Environment and Biology Department, Bangalore on 08-01-2025, requesting necessary action to be taken on the said matter. Therefore, it has been stated in reference (3) that the information sought can be obtained from the Central Office.

Therefore, in view of all the above points, it is directed to submit a report in the hearing held before the Hon'ble National Green Bench, Chennai on 23-06-2025. Therefore, it is here by requested to provide information/guidance regarding the steps taken to extend the period of No Objection Letter from the Karnataka State Coastal Zone Management Authority (KSCZMA) and to obtain Environment Clearance from the Karnataka State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA).

Attachment: Copies of references (1), (2) and (3).

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
Senior Geologist,
Department of Mines and Geology
Uttara Kannada District, Karwar