

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
(SOUTHERN ZONE), CHENNAI.
O.A.No. 252 of 2024**

IN THE MATTER OF

Tribunal on its own motion- Suo
Moto in respect of the news item
appearing in Deccan Herald dated
17.06.2024 titled "'99000 trees in
Sandur forest to face axe"

Principal Chief Conservator of Forest,
Karnataka Forest Department and 4 others

...Respondents

**COUNTER STATEMENT AND TYPEDSET OF DOCUMENTS FILED ON
BEHALF OF THE 5TH RESPONDENT**

S.No.	Date	Description	Page No.
	09.01.2025	Counter statement filed on behalf of the 5 th Respondent	1
TYPEDSET			
1.	23.01.2017	Notification issued by Government of Karnataka (Annexure R5- 1)	21
2.	13.02.2017	Letter from Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Karnataka to the 5 th respondent (Annexure R5-2)	28
3.	08.03.2018	Approval letter from Regional Controller of Mines, India Bureau of Mines to the 5 th respondent (Annexure R5- 3)	29
4.	11.10.2023	Approval of modified Mining Plan from Regional Controller of Mines, India Bureau of Mines to the 5 th respondent (Annexure R5- 4)	31
5.	25.06.2019	Minutes of proceeding of the environmental public hearing for Devedari	34

		iron ore mine of 5 th Respondent (Annexure R5- 5)	
6.	13.08.2021	Environment Clearance issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to the 5 th respondent (Annexure R5- 6)	57
7.	26.08.2021	Public notice published in the Kannada and English Newspaper (Annexure R5- 7)	83
8.	15.02.2021	Site inspection report of the Regional Officer of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (Annexure R5- 8)	85
9.	24.06.2021	Letter from Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to the Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) (Annexure R5-9)	105
10.	27.10.2021	Demand notice issued by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bellary to the 5 th respondent (Annexure R5- 10)	111
11.	21.02.2022	Approval of wildlife management plan by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Karnataka (Annexure R5- 11)	115
12.	28.02.2022	Approval of Catchment Area Treatment Plan by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Annexure R5- 12)	117
13.	19.09.2022	Demand notice issued by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bellary to the 5 th respondent (Annexure R5- 13)	121
14.	16.12.2022	Letter from Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to the Additional	125

		Chief Secretary (Forests) (Annexure R5-14)	
15.	21.03.2023	Letter from Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to the Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) (Annexure R5-15)	130
16.	27.07.2022	Consent order for establishing iron ore mining issued by the Karnataka State Pollution State Board (Annexure R5-16)	131
17.	02.01.2023	Mining Lease Deed enter between Government of Karnataka and the 5 th respondent (Annexure R5-17)	141
18.	06.12.2023	Corrigendum to the Mining Lease Deed dated 02.01.2023 (Annexure R5-18)	160
19.	02.05.2023	Proceedings of the Government of Karnataka regarding proposal of diversion of 401.5761 hectare of forest for Iron Order and Manganese Ore Mining in favour of 5 th respondent (Annexure R5-19)	165
20.	28.06.2024	Approval letter from the Secretary, Ministry of Steel to the 5 th Respondent (Annexure R5-20)	171
21.	20.07.2021	Memorandum of writ petition filed in W.P. No. 13311 of 2021 before the High Court of Karnataka (Annexure R5-21)	188
22.		Statement of objections filed by the 5 th respondent in W.P. No. 13311 of 2021 before the High Court of Karnataka (Annexure R5-22)	235

23.		Additional statement of objections filed by the 5 th respondent in W.P. No. 13311 of 2021 before the High Court of Karnataka (Annexure R5-23)	272
24.	29.07.2021	Daily order passed by the High Court of Karnataka (Annexure R5-24)	278
25.	08.01.2025	Authorisation letter (Annexure R5-25)	279

Certified that the above documents true copies of the original documents

Dated at Chennai on this 18th day of January 2025



ADVOCATES FOR 5TH RESPONDENT

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trees in Sandur forest to face axe"

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest,
Karnataka Forest Department,
Government of Karnataka, Aranya Bhawan,
18th Cross, Malleshwaram
Bangalore (Karnataka)-560003.
2. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Through its Regional Office
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Integrated Regional Office, Kendriya Sadan,
4th Floor, E & F Wings,
17th Main Road, Koramangala II Block,
Bangalore -560034
3. Karnataka State Pollution Control Board,
Parisara Bhavana, No. 49,
Church Street, Bengaluru - 560001
4. District Magistrate,
Ballari DC Office, Station Road,
Ballari, Karnataka - 583101.
5. KIOCL Limited,
Rep by its General Manager I/c (Mining),
2nd Block, Koramangala,
Bangalore-560 034.

...Respondents

COUNTER STATEMENT FILED ON BEHALF OF 5th RESPONDENT

The 5th respondent submits as follows:


एस.सी. बसवराजु / S.C. Basavaraju
महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
General Manager (Mining)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड/KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूरु - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

The address for service of all notices and processes on the 5th respondent is that of its advocates M/s. King & Partridge, Catholic Centre, II Floor, 108, Armenian Street, Chennai-600 001.

1. About KIOCL Limited


- 1.1 KIOCL Ltd (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) under the Ministry of Steel, Government of India, with Mini Ratna I status, formed on 02nd April, 1976 for mining and beneficiation of low-grade magnetite (Fe_3O_4) iron ore having 35 % Fe average grade from Kudremukh Mines, Karnataka. KIOCL operated the highly mechanized iron ore mine to produce 22.5 million tons of Run of Mine (ROM) per annum with state-of-the-art beneficiation technology to produce 7.5 million tons of iron ore concentrate. During the operation of mine, KIOCL used advanced Heavy Earth Moving Machineries (HEMM) like 14 cubic yard P&H Electric Rope Shovels, 120 tones Dumpers; 311 mm dia primary drills and other matching auxiliary equipment. KIOCL was first in India to introduce Site Mixed Slurry (SMS) Explosives and Opti- Blast Technology in the mine to reduce ground vibration & air pollution and pipeline transportation of iron ores to a distance of 67 KM.
- 1.2 KIOCL has expertise in large scale mining, beneficiation, palletization and production of foundry grade pig iron. As a value addition / diversification measure, KIOCL established at Mangalore,
- i. Pellet Plant Unit (PPU) in the year 1987 with production capacity of 3.5 million tons of Iron Oxide Pellets per annum on the land leased from New Mangalore Port Authority (NMPA). KIOCL has priority berthing at New Mangalore Port (of NMPA) with mechanical loading facility for pellets.
 - ii. Blast Furnace Unit (BFU) in the year 2001 with production capacity of 2.16 lakh tons per annum of foundry grade Pig Iron.


एस.सी. बसवराजु / S.C. Basavaraju
महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
General Manager (Mining)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूरु - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

- 1.3 KIOCL is certified for ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, and OHSAS 18001:2007 for Environmental Management and Occupational Health and Safety Management System respectively.
- 1.4 KIOCL did not have a captive iron ore mine to feed raw material to Pellet Plant and Blast Furnace Units at Mangalore, and has been operating in losses due to lack of raw material source and hence requested Government of Karnataka for allocation of iron ore Block to KIOCL to sustain the operation of Pellet Plant and Blast Furnace Unit.

2. Reservation and execution of Mining Lease (ML) Deed of Devadari Iron Ore Mine (DIOM), Sandur, Ballari Dist., Karnataka

- 2.1 Subsequent to the amendment of MMDR Act, 1957 in the year 2015, KIOCL has been searching for iron ore blocks to ensure raw material security to its Mangalore Units. On continuous pursuance with Government of Karnataka for allocation of an Iron Ore Block, a meeting was held on 07.07.2015 under the Chairmanship of the then Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka in the presence of the then Hon'ble Union Minister for Steel & Mines at Suvarna Soudha, Belgaum. In this meeting, a decision was taken to reserve one mineral block in favour of KIOCL Limited under Section 17 A (2A) of MMDR Act, 1957.
- 2.2 A proposal dated 25.07.2015 was made by KIOCL Ltd for reservation of mining area under Section 17 A (2) of the MMDR Act for its proposed mining project (Devadari Iron Ore Block) in Swami Malai Forest Block RF, Sandur. On the direction of Director of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka, joint survey was conducted at site by Department of Mines & Geology, Hospet and officials of Forest Department, Bellary District and submitted Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) Survey Map to Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Karnataka for further action. Subsequently, on the recommendation of Government of Karnataka, the Government of India accorded approval under section 17A(2) of MMDR Act 1957 to


एस.सी. बसवराजू / S.C. Basavaraju
महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
General Manager (Mining)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूरु - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

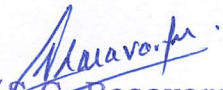
reserve an area of 470.40 ha in Devadari range, Sandur taluk, Bellary district ,Karnataka in favour of KIOCL Limited.

2.3 Government of Karnataka (GoK) issued Gazette Notification dated 23.01.2017 for reserving an extent of 470.40 ha. for mining of Iron ore and Manganese ore mining in Devadari Range, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District in favour of KIOCL Limited and the same is marked as **Ex.R5-1**. Subsequently, Director, Mines & Geology (DMG), GoK vide letter dated 13.02.2017 marked as **Ex.R5-2**, directed KIOCL to submit following statutory clearances for execution of Mining Lease Deed.

- i. Approved Mining Plan obtained from Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM).
- ii. Forest Clearance (FC) under Section 2 of FC Act, 1980 from MoEF & CC, GoI.
- iii. Environmental Clearance (EC) obtained under EIA notification 2006 from MoEF & CC, GoI.
- iv. Consent for Establishment (CFE) obtained from Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB).


2.4 **KIOCL obtained all statutory clearances as sought by Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka vide letter dated 13.02.2017. Details are furnished as under:**

- i. Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines, Government of India on 08.03.2018 (marked as **Ex.R5-3**) for production of 2.0 mtpa iron ore, 500 tpa for manganese ore and setting up of 2.0mtpa Crushing, Screening, Conveying System & Beneficiation Plant. During Forest Clearance process, area was reduced to 388 Hectares and subsequently modified mine plan prepared and submitted to IBM and the same was approved on 11.10.2023 (marked as **Ex.R5-4**)


एस.सी. बसवराजु / S.G. Basavaraju
महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
General Manager (Mining)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूरु - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

ii. Environment Clearance (EC)

- a. It is submitted that on-line application in Form-I submitted to MOEF&CC on 18.01.2018. Terms of Reference (ToR) was issued on 16.05.2018 for conducting base line study and preparation of EIA / EMP Reports. On preparation of draft EIA / EMP Report, Public Hearing was conducted at site on 25.06.2019, under Chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ballari District. In the Public Hearing meeting local people, farmers, contractors and NGO's participated in good numbers. Participants strongly supported the Project and emphasized for early commencement of Project to have employment generation and development of local area. Minutes of the public hearing is marked as **Ex.R5-5**.
- b. Form-II along with Final EIA / EMP Report was submitted to MoEF & CC, GoI on 12.09.2019 for grant of EC. Environment Clearance (EC) proposal was presented in the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) meeting held on 19.12.2019 & 19.08.2020. The same was deferred for want of in-principle Stage I Forest Clearance (FC).
- c. On obtaining Stage -I FC for 388ha ML area out of the reserved 470.40 ha area, additional details for EC proposal were presented in 33rd EAC meeting held on 13.07.2021 and EAC recommended the EC proposal for Devadari Iron Ore Mine (DIOM).
- d. MoEF & CC vide letter dated 13.08.2021, accorded Environmental Clearance of Devadari Iron Ore mine with a mine capacity of 2.0 MTPA Iron Ore (ROM) and 500 TPA Manganese Ore with 2.0 MTPA wet Beneficiation Plant located at notified and reserved mining lease area of 401.5761 ha (388.0 ha for Mining & 13.5761 ha for conveyor, approach road, etc.) falling under Swamimalai Block Forest, Kumaraswami Reserve Forest Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary district, Karnataka . The Environment Clearance dated 13.08.2021 is marked as **Ex-R5-6**.


एस.सी. बसवराजु / S.E. Basavaraju
महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
General Manager (Mining)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूर - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

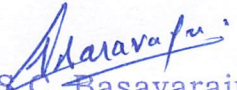
- e. It is worthwhile to mention here that EC was granted by MoEF&CC, GoI only after the Stage I FC for the Project. EAC while granting the EC, it was well informed that the DIOM Project is Green Field Project and also the extent of forest land to be diverted for the Project. EC for the Project was granted with a specific condition that the KIOCL will approach MoEF&CC, GoI in future seeking FC for the remaining 84.19 ha area, to undertake mining in the remaining area.
- f. With this, it is further evident that EAC, MoEF&CC while granting EC for the Project, has evaluated all the parameters. MoEF & CC vide letter dated 13.08.2021 accorded EC for DIOM Project. The information on grant of EC for DIOM Project was widely published in the Newspapers(In Kannada & English)on 26 .08.2021 (marked as **Ex.R5-7**. The Environmental Clearance for Devadari Iron Ore mine (DIOM) Project was not challenged in accordance with law, and has attained finality.

iii. Forest Clearance (FC)


- a. KIOCL submitted online FC application on 16.03.2018 in Form "A", through Parivesh Portal of MoEF & CC. On completion of joint survey of proposed area and enumeration of trees by Forest Department through Sample Plot Method and on receipt of Site Inspection Report from RFO Sandur, the DCF Ballari identified 969 ha degraded forest land in Ballari District towards Compensatory Afforestation (CA) land in lieu of providing alternate CA land.
- b. It is submitted that since alternate land for compensatory afforestation was not provided, degraded forest land identified for CA = 484.0733 ha X 02 = 969 ha, which is twice the land diverted for mining as per the guidelines made under Forest Conservation Act 1980.

एस.सी. बसवराजू / S.C. Basavaraju
महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
General Manager (Mining)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूरु - 560 034
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- c. DCF Ballari visited DIOM site on 25.09.2019 and submitted FC proposal in Form-A Part II Report to Chief Conservator of Forest, Ballari Circle for not considering the FC proposal for diversion of forest land for mining. Thereafter, CCF, Ballari Circle & Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Government of Karnataka submitted the report not to consider FC (Stage I) approval citing virgin forest land. However, on review of FC proposal, under discussion with Karnataka State Forest Dept, KIOCL reduced the mining area to 388 ha from 470.40 ha of notified area and area for ancillary activities to 13.5761 ha from 13.6733 ha. In all, 82 ha was reduced on the hill slopes having medium dense forest as to reduce the extent of forest land with denser tree cover coming under Project requirement. Adhering to commitment, KIOCL reworked and aligned all the mining activities within the 388 ha area and reduced possible damage. Further to manage operations within the reduced area, KIOCL minimized the waste dump area by proposing rehandling and backfilling of waste in the mined-out area. In turn, KIOCL shall incur additional cost for rehandling of waste and its stabilisation.
- d. As per the Tree Enumeration Report, (extrapolation) the number of trees / shrubs for the revised extent i.e., 401.5761 ha (Final FC approved area) is around 70,890 of height of 1.0 to 2.0 m, as against 99,000 trees/shrubs for the original extent of 484.0733 hectares. It is pertinent to mention that 80% of 70,890 trees/shrubs are in the girth class of less than 60.0 cm.
- e. Additional Chief Secretary (Forest, Environment & Ecology), Government of Karnataka on 09.10.2020 recommended the Forest Clearance proposal to MoEF&CC for approval of In-Principle (Stage I) Forest Clearance, over an extent of 401.5761 ha by excluding 82 ha out of 484.0733 ha of reserved area proposed for diversion.

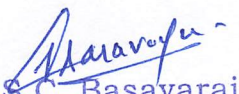

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- f. Deputy Inspector General (Forest) from Integrated Regional Office (IRO), MoEF &CC, Bangalore visited Devadari Iron Ore Mine Site on 26.11.2020 for submission of Site Inspection Report to MoEF & CC.
- g. Deputy Director General (DDG) of Forest, Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore along with Joint Director (Environment), Integrated Regional Office Bangalore visited the site 09.02.2021. DDG submitted Site Inspection Report on 15.02.2021 (marked as **Ex.R5-8.**)
- h. On scrutiny of Devadari Mine FC proposal, MoEF & CC prepared a fact sheet and placed the proposal before the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) meeting held on 17.02.2021 for deliberation & recommendations. The matter pertaining to virgin forest area, number of trees to be felled and other related issues of Devadari Iron Ore Mine was discussed in detail in Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) of MoEF&CC. FAC vide Office Memorandum dated 10.03.2021 constituted sub-committee comprising of Deputy Director General, IRO, Bangalore, Dr. Sudhir Kumar, DDG (Ext.), ICFRE, Dehradun and Dr Sanjay Deshmukh, to look into the above matters in detail, to visit the mine site and submit a report within a month time.
- i. Accordingly, sub-committee of Forest Advisory Committee visited the site on 19.03.2021 to look into the rationale of allowing iron ore mining in virgin forest area when a number of opened up areas of de-allocated mines are already available in the State. Sub Committee interacted with officials of Director of Mines & Geology, Govt of Karnataka and Forest Department of the District during the visit. Subsequently, the Committee submitted its Report on 15.04.2021 to MoEF&CC,GoI.
- j. On detailed deliberation and discussions in a meeting dated 31.05.2021, Forest Advisory Committee recommended the proposal.


एस.सी. बसवराजू / S. C. Basavaraju
महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
General Manager (Mining)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूरु - 560 034
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Accordingly, MoEF&CC accorded In-principal approval of Stage-I Forest Clearance for Devadari Mine on 24.06.2021 with standard / specific conditions (marked as **Ex.R5 - 9**).

- k. DCF, Ballari revised the compensatory afforestation land identified into three large patches to an extent of 803.1522 ha & submitted to Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (PCCF) (FC) / Nodal Officer on 18.03.2022 for onward submission to IRO, MoEF&CC for verification. DIG IRO MoEF&CC, Bengaluru inspected the proposed compensatory afforestation land area and recommended for acceptance on 08.04.2022.
- l. DCF Ballari issued Demand Notice on 27.10.2021, in terms of Stage-I FC conditions of Devadari Mine for payment of NPV for 401.5761 ha of forest land, Compensatory Afforestation Charges for double the degraded forest land, Safety Zone plantation charges, fencing of safety zone charges, afforestation charges over 1½ times of safety zone amounting to a total of ₹174,14,21,958/- to be paid to Karnataka CAMPA account on generation of challan from web portal (marked as **Ex.R5 - 10**). KIOCL paid the said amount of ₹174,14,21,958/- to Karnataka CAMPA account on 29.10.2021.
- m. Site specific Wild Life Conservation Plan & Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan were prepared and submitted on 21.12.2021 to PCCF (Wild Life) & PCCF, Head of Forest Force (HoFF) for approval and same were approved on 21.02.2022 and 28.02.2022 respectively (marked as **Ex.R5- 11 and 12**).
- n. Final Compliance Report was submitted to DCF, Ballari on 15.03.2022 for onward submission to PCCF(FC) and thereafter to State Government for recommendations on Compliance Report for approval of Stage-II FC by MOEF&CC, Government of India.


एस.सी. बसवराजू / S.C. Basavaraju
महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
General Manager (Mining)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूरु - 560 034
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- o. On receipt of Compliance Report from DCF & CCF Ballari, PCCF (FC) & Nodal Officer, Government of Karnataka on verification of same, submitted the Final Compliance Report to Additional Chief Secretary (FEE), GoK on 09.06.2022 for onward submission to MoEF&CC, GoI for issue of Stage-II / Final Forest Clearance.
- p. Addl. Chief Secretary (FEE), Government of Karnataka forwarded the Final Compliance Report of Stage-I FC conditions to MoEF&CC, vide letter dated 18.08.2022 with recommendations to accord Stage II approval under FC Act, 1980.
- q. DCF Ballari issued Demand Notice on 19.09.2022 for payment of differential compensatory afforestation & other charges, Wildlife Management charges, Catchment Area Treatment charges amounting to Rs 20,21,04,933/- to be paid to Karnataka CAMPA account. KIOCL paid the said amount of Rs 20,21,04,933/- on 23.09.2022 to Karnataka CAMPA account (marked as **Ex.R5- 13**). Thus KIOCL paid a total sum Rs. 194.35 Crs to Karnataka CAMPA Fund that includes CA charges, NPV, fencing charges and Wildlife Management Fund and Catchment Area Treatment Plan Fund.
- r. MoEF & CC, GoI vide letter dated 16.12.2022 (marked as **Ex.R5- 14**) accorded Stage-II Final Forest Clearance. Subsequently MoEF&CC,GoI,vide letter dated 21.03.2023 issued amendment to stage II Forest Clearance of Devadari iron ore mine (marked as **Ex.R5- 15**).

iv. Consent for Establishment:

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board accorded Consent for Establishment (CfE) vide Consent Order No. CTE-332501 dated 27.07.2022; under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. KIOCL paid a

एस.सी. बसवराज / S.C. Basavaraju
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statutory fee of Rs 14.00 lakhs to Government of Karnataka towards obtaining CfE.(CfE dated 27.07.2022 marked as **Ex R5-16**)

v. MINING LEASE EXECUTION

KIOCL executed Mining Lease Deed of DIOM with Director, Mines and Geology, Govt. of Karnataka on 02.01.2023 for 388 ha mining area for a period of 50 years for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining (ML No. 020 of 2023). KIOCL has registered the ML Deed on 18.01.2023 (marked as **Ex.R5-17**) at the Office of Sub-Registrar, Sandur Taluk, Ballari Dist. KIOCL incurred Rs. 329.18 Crores towards stamp duty, cess and registration charges for Mining Lease Deed Registration.

A Corrigendum to the Mining Lease deed was executed on 06.12.2023 and same was registered on 20.02.2024 (marked as **Ex.R5- 18**)

vi. GOVT ORDER FOR DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND

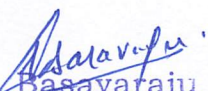
Government of Karnataka issued Government Order/Gazette Notification on 11.04.2023 for diversion of 401.5761 ha forest land for Devadari Iron Ore Mine (marked as **Ex.R5- 19**) . Forest Lease Agreement (FLA) is yet to be executed by Forest Department for handing over of diverted forest land to KIOCL for commencement of the mining activities.

3. Project Cost Approval by Government of India:

Vide letter dated 28.06.2024 (marked as **Ex.R5- 20**), Ministry of Steel, Govt of India communicated the approval for Devadari Iron Ore Mining Project with an estimated Phase – I Capital cost expenditure (CAPEX) of 882.46crs.

4. Proposed Mining Methodology of DIOM & Rehabilitation and Reclamation (R&R) Plan:

4.1 Indian Council of Forest Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun has prepared a Rehabilitation and Reclamation (R&R) Plan for Devadari Iron Ore Mine. As per R&R plan,KIOCL will incur about Rs.


 एस.सी. बसवराजु / S.C. Basavaraju
 महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
 General Manager (Mining)
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 II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

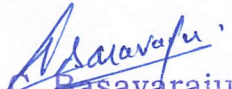
9.44 Crores for implementation of R&R Management Plan for DIOM Project.

4.2 The following is brought out from the R&R Plan. As per Forest Survey of India, the forest cover is broadly classified into 4 classes, namely very dense forest, moderately dense forest, open forest and scrub. The classification of the cover into dense and open forests is based on internationally adopted norms of classification. Out of 388 hectares, it is evident from the below table that 358.42 hectares falls under 'Open Forests' which includes all lands with tree cover of canopy density between 10% and 40%; 14.84 hectares under 'Moderately Dense Forest' which includes all lands with tree cover of canopy density between 40% and 70% and the remaining 14.74 hectares of non-forested area.

Sl. No.	Class Name	Area in Ha.
1	Non-Forest (White color) canopy density less than 10%.	14.74
2	Open Forest (Yellow color) canopy density between 10% and 40%)	358.42
3	Moderately Dense Forest (Green color) canopy density between 40% and 70%	14.84
	Total	388.00

Total mining lease area when classified into different forest classes as per Champion and Seth (1968) is given as under

Sl. No.	Class Name	Area in Ha.
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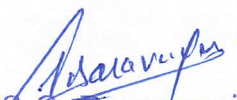
1	Non-Forest	14.69
2	5/DS1 Dry deciduous scrub	2.11
3	5A/C3 Southern dry mixed deciduous forest	371.20
Total		388.00

4.3 KIOCL has proposed to restrict mining activity in around only 128ha in first five years of operations. However, after the mineral is exhausted, the mined-out area will be used for dumping of waste / over burden and finally for revegetation, in phases. In all 277.629 ha within lease area till end of lease period and shall be excavated in phased manner over a period of 50 years. The entire forest land proposed for diversion will not be utilized in one go for mining.

4.4 Conceptual Land Use Plan as per Mine Plan is below;

i. Land Use for 388 Ha mining lease area at the Expiry of Lease Period

Total Area Degraded, (Ha)				Non-Degraded area (Ha)
Mine Out area in the lease	Area under Dumps	Area under the Tailing Dam	Area under utility services	Area undisturbed/ virgin
277.629	34.28	22.71	11.58	41.80


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ii. Reclamations and Rehabilitations (R&R) details at the Expiry of Lease Period

Total mined out area reclaimed and rehabilitated, (Ha)			Other area reclaimed and rehabilitated, (Ha)			
mined out area reclaimed and but not rehabilitated	mined out Area fully Rehabilitated from Reclaimed area	Area under Water Reservoir considered Rehabilitated	Stabilized Waste dump Rehabilitated	Virgin area under Green Belt	Rehabilitated Area under utility services	Rehabilitated Area under Tailing dam
155.48	120.34	NIL	34.28	31.84	4.10	22.71

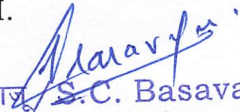
4.5 Within ML area, about 31.84. ha of area is earmarked for Greenbelt (undisturbed) area and 9.9576 ha of area for Safety Zone along the periphery of ML area. All put together, around 41.80 ha out of 388 ha of Mining Lease area will not be used for any other purpose. Further to enhance the vegetation/greenery Gap plantation will be carried out in this area with tune of 2500 saplings / ha.

4.6 KIOCL proposes to utilize initially 127.63 ha area with gradual increase of production ranging from 0.65 million tons to 2.00 million tons per year with minimum usage of forest land in the initial 05 years of Mine Plan. The details of iron ore production v/s land use during plan period are as under:


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 General Manager (Mining)
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Year	Iron Ore Production in (Million Tons)	Land use in ha	No. of Trees with Girth size less than 60 cm	No. of Trees with Girth size more than 60 cm	Total No. of Trees	Remarks
1 st yr.	Nil	1.41	0	0	0	More than Equivalent Plantation will be done in green belt, safety zone area, avenue plantation , CA land area , etc
2 nd yr.	0.106056	68.95	10268	2103	12,371	
3 rd yr.	0.651546	6.36	947	194	1,141	
4 th Year	1.181478	20.63	3073	629	3,702	
5 th Year	1.996899	30.28	4509	924	5,433	
Total	3.965637	127.63	18797	3850	22,647	

4.7 As envisaged in FC condition B(iv), a comprehensive study jointly by a couple of reputed institutes like IIT (ISM), Dhanbad, IIT, Delhi, IISc, Bengaluru, ICFRE, Dehradun is proposed to be undertaken by the State Government at the cost of the KIOCL, so as to draw a perspective co-management plan for mining and forest and wildlife conservation and development, including for green mining infrastructure development. In this regard Forest Department engaged the Environmental Management & Policy Research Institute (EMPRI) and KIOCL has already paid an amount of Rs 38.73 lakhs to EMPRI.


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4.8 Wildlife Conservation & Management Plan and Catchment Area Treatment Plan for DIOM was prepared and got approved by PCCF, Government of Karnataka. Accordingly, an amount of Rs.9,55,73,000/- paid to Forest Department towards Wild Life Conservation & Management Plan and Catchment Area Treatment Plan.

4.9 It is submitted that, all the Authorities either State or Central Govt, while recommending or according to the statutory clearances for the Devadari Iron Mining Project of M/s KIOCL Limited, have taken the considered view on all the aspect including environment, ecology and forest.

4.10 As per Stage-I FC compliance condition, Karnataka State Forest Dept has identified 803.1522 ha degraded forest land in Ballari Division towards compensatory afforestation land. KIOCL has already deposited Rs. 194.35 Crores to Karnataka CAMPA fund towards NPV, Compensatory Afforestation Charges and other forest dues for Devadari Iron Ore Mine. The details of Compensatory Afforestation land are as under;

Sl. No.	Site Name	Area in ha	Survey Nos/location detail
1	Metriki RF, Sandur, Ballari District.	300	Thimmalapura Village- Survey numbers are 13, 14 and 15 Metriki Village- Survey Numbers are 76, 115 and 132
2	Marutla Extension RF, Sandur, Ballari District	300	Marutla Village- Survey numbers are 108, 111 to 123 and 125

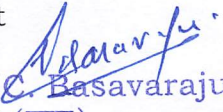
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			Havinamadugu Village- Survey numbers are 248, 249 and 274 Malapura Village- Survey Numbers is 63
3	Jummobanahalli RF, Kudligi, Vijayanagara District.	203.1522	Jummobanahalli Village - Survey Numbers are 181, 183, 184, 192 to 201, 207 to 214, 220 to 256, 258, 259, 260, 439, 440, 441, 442, 447 and 448
	Total	803.1522	

4.11 Forest Department has already started Compensatory Afforestation (plantation) work in the identified 03 patches from the funds paid by KIOCL. Forest department has a proposal to plant around 6.42 lakhs saplings in 803.1522 ha of Compensatory Afforestation land. As per the information from DCF office, Ballari, 2,40,000 saplings of Kamara, Nerala, Basari, Arali, Alaa , Shivane, Hunuse, Seethapala, Karijali, Hippe, Challe, Honge and other local species will be planted during the Financial Year 2024-25.

4.12 As prescribed under the Progressive Mine Closure Plan, the mined-out areas will be backfilled with waste material and overburden dumps generated out of the subsequent mining activities. On completion of mining activities, the entire mining area will be restored with backfilling.

4.13 Afforestation in the abandoned mining area as well as in the dump areas will also be carried out in consultation with the Forest


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 के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
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Department. Avenue Plantation along the roads, gap plantation in the Safety Zone area will have positive growth on ecology and environment.

5. **Writ Petition filed by Giridhar Kulkarni before Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka.**

It is submitted that the Stage 1 Forest Clearance was accorded on 24.06.2021. Against this one Giridhar Kulkarni has filed the W.P.13311 of 2021, a public interest litigation before High Court of Karnataka challenging the recommendation of Stage 1 Forest Clearance, notification etc. The prayer in the WP is as follows.

- i. To quash the recommendation/decision of the Forest Advisory Committee pertaining to the project in its meeting held on 31.05.2021 recorded as Agenda-4, F. No. 8-24/2020-FC.
- ii. To quash the phase 1 clearance dated 24.06.2021 in file No.8-24/2020-FC, accorded to the project by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- iii. To quash the Notification dated 23.01.2017 bearing No. CI 294 MMM 2015 issued by Government of Karnataka.
- iv. To direct Forest Advisory Committee to reject the application of KIOCL Ltd as in proposal no. FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018
- v. For a direction not to consider fresh forest areas for mining purpose till a detailed survey is undertaken in the state of Karnataka for mapping and recording the mineral resources within and outside forest area and a decision is taken to prioritize exploitation of minerals available outside forest area.
- vi. To constitute a committee to examine the capacity of all the existing mines and to report the extraction that is taking place in excess of the cap imposed by the Honourable Supreme Court. Copy of WP 13311/21 is marked as **Ex.R5- 21**.

एस.सी. बसवराजू / S.C. Basavaraju
महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
General Manager (Mining)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूरु - 560 034
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KIOCL filed Statement of Objections and additional statement of objections in WP 13311/2021 (marked as **Ex.R5- 22 &23**) . On 29.07.2021 the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka passed an Interim Order as "*we make it clear that further steps taken on the basis of Annexure A and A1 shall be subject to further Order passed in this petition.*" (marked as **Ex.R5- 24**) . In the WP 13311 of 2021, the issue and allegations made in the newspaper (referred by the Hon'ble Principal Bench of NGT in the instant O A) are also raised. The writ petition is still pending before Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka. As the issue is pending before the High Court, the above original application may be closed.

It is submitted that there is no violation of the provisions of Environment Protection Act, 1986, Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and other applicable mining laws while according statutory clearance to this mining project. Further the subject mining lease involves about Rs. 600 crores of public money already spent on the project has a cascading effect of 750 employees who are idle with the shutdown of this Respondent's pellet plant at Mangalore and loss of production and loss of revenue to both the State & Central Govt. Any further delay in commencement of mining activities will lead to huge financial loss to public exchequer and other penal consequences under the MMDR Act, 1957.

For all the reasons stated above, it is therefore prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to drop the suo-moto proceedings and pass such further or other orders and thus render justice.

Dated at Chennai on this the 9th day of January, 2025



ADVOCATES FOR 5TH RESPONDENT



5TH RESPONDENT

एस.सी. बसवराजु / S.C. Basavaraju
महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
General Manager (Mining)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूरु - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

VERIFICATION

I, S.C. Basavaraju, General Manager I/c (Mining) of KIOCL Limited, the 5th Respondent herein, declares that the contents of the above paragraphs are true and correct to best of my knowledge, information, belief and advice.

Verified at Chennai on this the 9th day of January, 2025



5TH RESPONDENT

एस.सी. बसवराजू / S.C. Basavaraju
महा प्रबंधक (खनन)
General Manager (Mining)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूरु - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

No: CI 294 MMM 2015

Karnataka Government Secretariat,
Vikasa Soudha,
Bangalore, Dated:23.01.2017

NOTIFICATION

Ministry of Mines, Government of India, New Delhi vide their letter No.4/3/2016-M. VI dated:05.12.2016 has conveyed the approval of the Central Government under Section 17A(2) of the Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act (MMDR), 1957 by reserving an area of 470.40 hectares (four hundred and seventy point.forty hectares only) in Devadari Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District, Karnataka in favour of M/s. K.I.O.C.L Limited.,

In pursuance of the approval of the Central Government, Government of Karnataka hereby issue notification by reserving an area of 470.40 hectares in favour of M/s. K.I.O.C.L Limited., for Iron and Manganese Ore in Devadari Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District, Karnataka. The said reservation shall be subject to provisions of Sub-Sections (2A), (2B) and (2C) of Section 17A of the MMDR Act, 1957 as amended through the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015.

The sketch showing the area reserved for iron and manganese ore in favour of M/s. KIOCL Limited., in Devadari Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District, Karnataka State over an extent of 470.40 Hectares is appended to this Notification as **Annexure-I**.

DGPS Readings showing Latitude and Longitude Coordinates area reserved is given as under:

DGPS Readings		DATUM: WGS84		Projection: UTM_ZONE_43N	
SL.No	Latitude	Longitude	Northing	Easting	Descriptions
1	15°03'28.17336"	76°35'17.65552"	1665336.649	670720.477	Base-Station-1
2	15°02'38.48423"	76°34'31.81319"	1663799.695	669362.300	Base-Station-2

3	15°03'40.28617"	76°34'51.84298"	1665703.381	669946.913	K-1
4	15°03'43.60179"	76°35'01.17191"	1665807.283	670224.785	K-2
5	15°03'36.10806"	76°34'58.20739"	1665576.336	670137.905	K-3
6	15°03'21.37078"	76°34'58.65607"	1665123.499	670154.557	K-4
7	15°02'47.71624"	76°35'28.94230"	1664095.674	671066.529	K-5
8	15°02'12.76851"	76°35'41.47882"	1663024.295	671448.716	K-6
9	15°02'11.40840"	76°35'38.33516"	1662981.816	671355.122	K-7
10	15°02'01.55724"	76°35'16.86221"	1662674.431	670715.942	K-8
11	15°01'43.87313"	76°35'25.66061"	1662132.821	670982.651	K-9
12	15°01'45.61693"	76°35'29.81225"	1662187.308	671106.271	K-10
13	15°01'52.66011"	76°35'44.33083"	1662406.901	671538.365	K-11
14	15°01'53.17863"	76°35'45.55638"	1662423.102	671574.856	K-12
15	15°02'04.35311"	76°35'41.33034"	1662765.625	671446.149	K-13
16	15°02'06.16494"	76°35'49.15563"	1662822.999	671679.476	K-14
17	15°02'06.77428"	76°35'54.73619"	1662842.933	671846.023	K-15
18	15°02'02.02297"	76°35'59.86533"	1662698.016	672000.280	K-16
19	15°01'27.29247"	76°36' 12.77452"	1661633.404	672393.609	K-17
20	15°01'24.16575"	76°35' 56.15146"	1661533.710	671897.774	K-18
21	15°01'18.18627"	76°35' 46.68113"	1661347.892	671616.222	K-19
22	15°01'24.78307"	76°35' 18.07498"	1661544.480	670760.292	K-20
23	15°01'38.92441"	76°35' 03.93295"	1661976.064	670334.755	K-21
24	15°01'53.01734"	76°35' 00.72610"	1662408.506	670235.864	K-22
25	15°01'57.09202"	76°35'08.60315"	1662535.424	670470.242	K-23
26	15°02'24.07555"	76°34'55.43883"	1663361.910	670071.100	K-24
27	15°02'26.93733"	76°35'01.70332"	1663451.222	670259.963	K-25
28	15°02'45.81296"	76°34'53.62723"	1664029.595	670012.204	K-26
29	15°02'43.29713"	76°34'46.41503"	1663950.731	669797.353	K-27
30	15°03'05.03724"	76°34'35.01740"	1664616.451	669452.169	K-28
31	15°03'10.12273"	76°34'39.09602"	1664773.618	669572.863	K-29
32	15°03'15.23864"	76°34'36.78984"	1664930.357	669502.863	K-30

Mining Lease shall be executed only upon submission of all the required statutory clearances under MM (D&R) Act, 1957; Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; Prevention of (Air and Water Pollution) Act, 1986 and other applicable Act and Rules.

By Order and in the name of the
Governor of Karnataka

Anvar Basha 23/1/17
(ANVAR BASHA)

Under Secretary to Government
Commerce & Industries Department

(Mines)
23/1

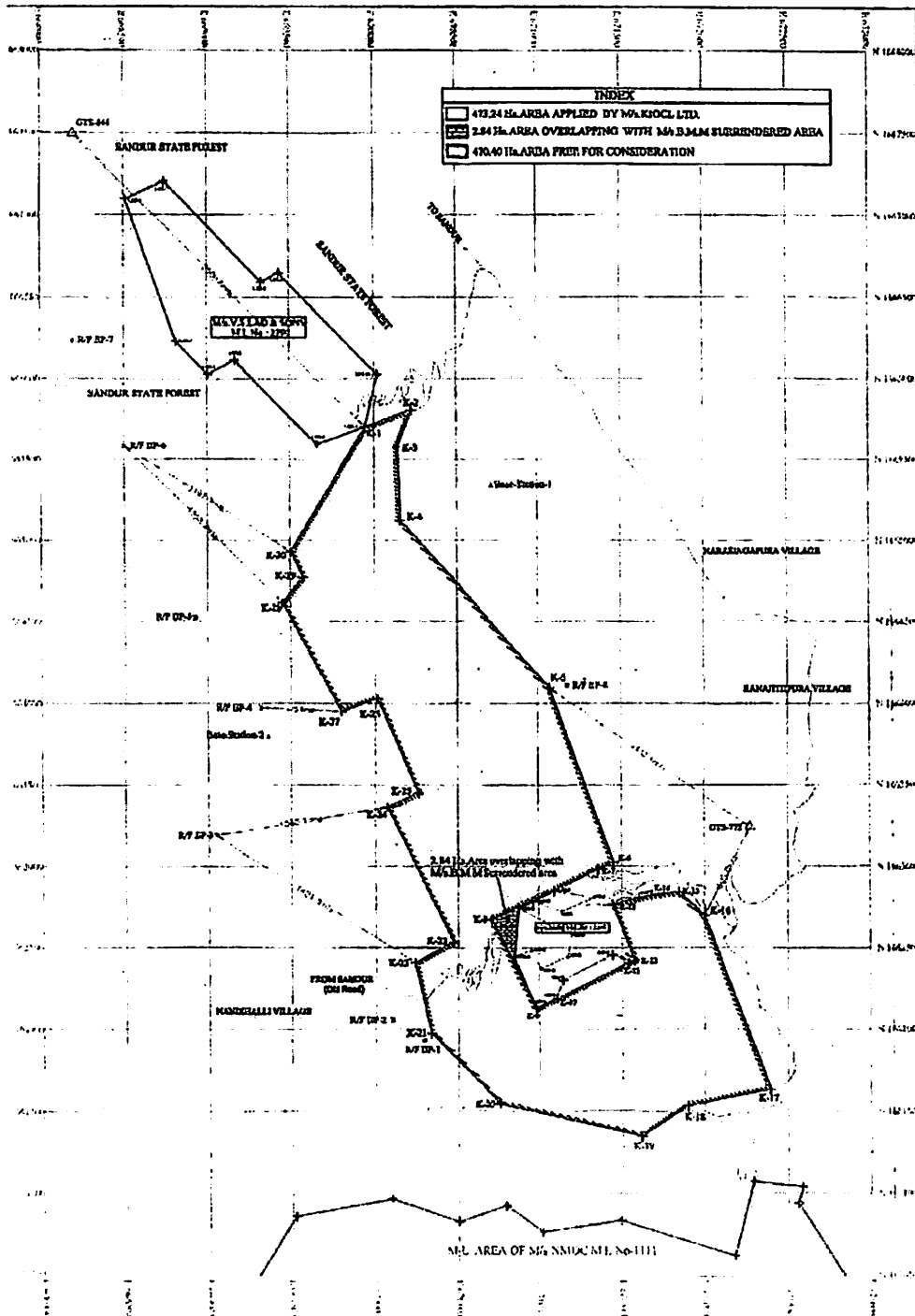
To:

The Compiler, Karnataka Gazette – request to publish the Notification in the Special Gazette and supply 200 copies to this office.

Copies to:

01. The Secretary to Government, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Shastri Bhavan, NEW DELHI-110 001.
02. Additional Chief Secretary, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, 4th floor, M.S. Building, Bangalore.
03. Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Commerce and Industries Department, Vikasa Soudha, Bangalore.
04. The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440 001.
05. The Deputy Commissioner, Bellary District, Bellary.
06. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore.
07. The Director, Mines and Geology Department, Khanija Bhavan, Devaraj Urs Road, Bangalore.
08. The Regional Controller, Indian Bureau of Mines, Southern Zobne/Industrial Suburb, Opp: Old Tumkur Road, Yeshwanthapur, Bangalore.
09. Chairman-cum-Managing Director, K.I.O.C.L. Limited, II Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560 034.
10. Section Guard File/Spare Copies.

THE SKETCH SHOWING AREA PROPOSED FOR IRON ORE & MANGANESE ORE TO M/s KIOCL LIMITED IN DEVADARI RANGE, KUMARASWAMY RESERVED FOREST, SANDUR TALUK, BELLARY DISTRICT, KARNATAKA STATE OVER AN EXTENT OF 470.40 Ha. (1162.35 Acres)



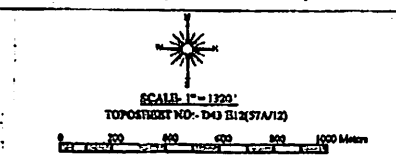
INDEX

- 1 SURVEY OF INDIA GTS POINTS
- 2 ADVENTURE / FOREST REFERENCES
- 3 MINING LEASES AS PER CEC
- 4 BOUNDARY POINTS OF ADJOINING LEASES
- 5 EXISTING APPROACH ROAD
- 6 DCPs BOUNDARY POINTS
- 7 AREA FREE FOR CONSIDERATION

(Handwritten signatures and notes)

RANGE FOREST OFFICER
Sanda Sand Range
Bellary

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Range of Mines & Geology
Bellary



GPS READINGS DATUM: WGS 84 PROJECTION: UTM_ZONE: 43N

SL. NO.	Method	Latitude	Longitude	Northing	Easting	Descriptions
1	1P0722.1230P	7P2317.6152P	166334.649	670720.677	Base Station-1	
2	1P0723.6222P	7P2313.3171P	166370.899	67043.300	Base Station-2	
3	1P0724.2617P	7P2321.2820P	166370.331	67046.913	K-1	
4	1P0725.6077P	7P2324.1791P	166367.230	67022.783	K-2	
5	1P0726.1000P	7P2323.5079P	166359.336	67037.985	K-3	
6	1P0727.3707P	7P2324.6187P	166352.639	67034.337	K-4	
7	1P0728.7104P	7P2322.9424P	166405.676	67046.529	K-5	
8	1P0729.2651P	7P2324.4782P	166382.293	67043.716	K-6	
9	1P0730.6049P	7P2324.3311P	166391.816	67033.123	K-7	
10	1P0731.1371P	7P2316.1621P	166274.431	67011.543	K-8	
11	1P0732.5719P	7P2321.6264P	166312.621	67052.451	K-9	
12	1P0733.9197P	7P2320.4123P	166317.288	67036.271	K-10	
13	1P0734.3601P	7P2324.3200P	166306.991	67033.363	K-11	
14	1P0735.7083P	7P2324.5863P	166301.182	67034.856	K-12	
15	1P0736.0511P	7P2324.1207P	166296.623	67046.119	K-13	
16	1P0737.3999P	7P2324.1360P	166323.979	67029.476	K-14	
17	1P0738.7487P	7P2324.7919P	166342.973	67016.623	K-15	
18	1P0739.0927P	7P2322.6037P	166348.016	67020.250	K-16	
19	1P0740.4367P	7P2323.7782P	166163.404	67070.609	K-17	
20	1P0741.7807P	7P2324.1516P	166150.710	67097.774	K-18	
21	1P0742.1247P	7P2324.6811P	166147.892	67016.222	K-19	
22	1P0743.4687P	7P2318.8790P	166154.440	67060.297	K-20	
23	1P0744.8127P	7P2323.0227P	166176.084	67034.753	K-21	
24	1P0745.1567P	7P2320.7281P	166208.506	67023.866	K-22	
25	1P0746.5007P	7P2320.0317P	166233.426	67070.270	K-23	
26	1P0747.8447P	7P2323.4233P	166340.910	67071.100	K-24	
27	1P0748.1887P	7P2321.7322P	166343.122	67039.902	K-25	
28	1P0749.5327P	7P2321.0272P	166325.293	67012.204	K-26	
29	1P0750.8767P	7P2324.6190P	166396.791	67077.353	K-27	
30	1P0751.2207P	7P2323.0170P	166446.431	67043.120	K-28	
31	1P0752.5647P	7P2322.0982P	166477.618	67022.443	K-29	
32	1P0753.9087P	7P2324.7284P	166493.117	67042.643	K-30	

GPS READINGS OF VILLAGE / FOREST BOUNDARY POINTS DATUM: WGS 84

SL. NO.	Latitude	Longitude	Point ID
1	1P0722.1230P	7P2317.6152P	LSB-A
2	1P0723.6222P	7P2313.3171P	LSB-B
3	1P0724.2617P	7P2321.2820P	LSB-C
4	1P0725.6077P	7P2324.1791P	LSB-D
5	1P0726.1000P	7P2323.5079P	LSB-E
6	1P0727.3707P	7P2324.6187P	LSB-F
7	1P0728.7104P	7P2322.9424P	LSB-G
8	1P0729.2651P	7P2324.4782P	LSB-H
9	1P0730.6049P	7P2324.3311P	LSB-I
10	1P0731.1371P	7P2316.1621P	LSB-J
11	1P0732.5719P	7P2321.6264P	LSB-K
12	1P0733.9197P	7P2320.4123P	LSB-L
13	1P0734.3601P	7P2324.3200P	LSB-M
14	1P0735.7083P	7P2324.5863P	LSB-N
15	1P0736.0511P	7P2324.1207P	LSB-O
16	1P0737.3999P	7P2324.1360P	LSB-P
17	1P0738.7487P	7P2324.7919P	LSB-Q

DCPS GPS READINGS OF GTS POINTS DATUM: WGS 84

SL. NO.	Latitude	Longitude	Point ID
1	1P0722.1230P	7P2317.6152P	GTS-44A
2	1P0723.6222P	7P2313.3171P	GTS-44B

(Handwritten signature)

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Range of Mines & Geology
Bellary - 585 201

RNI No. KARBIL/2001/47147



ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪತ್ರ

ಅಧಿಕೃತವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾದುದು
ಬಿಶೇಷ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಪತ್ರ

ಭಾಗ-III Part-III	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಮಂಗಳವಾರ, ಜನವರಿ ೨೪, ೨೦೧೭ (ಮಾಘ ೦೪, ಶಕ ವರ್ಷ ೧೯೩೮) Bengaluru, Tuesday, January 24, 2017 (Magha 04, Shaka Varsha 1938)	ನಂ. ೯೩ No. 93
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COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES SECRETARIAT

NOTIFICATION

No. CI 294 MMM 2015, Bengaluru, Dated: 23-01-2017

Ministry of Mines, Government of India, New Delhi vide their letter No.4/3/2016-M. VI dated:05.12.2016 has conveyed the approval of the Central Government under Section 17A(2) of the Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act (MMDR), 1957 by reserving an area of 470.40 hectares (four hundred and seventy point forty hectares only) in Devadari Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District, Karnataka in favour of M/s. K.I.O.C.L. Limited.,

In pursuance of the approval of the Central Government, Government of Karnataka hereby issue notification by reserving an area of 470.40 hectares in favour of M/s. K.I.O.C.L. Limited., for Iron and Manganese Ore in Devadari Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District, Karnataka. The said reservation shall be subject to provisions of Sub-Sections (2A), (2B) and (2C) of Section 17A of the MMDR Act, 1957 as amended through the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015.

The sketch showing the area reserved for iron and manganese ore in favour of M/s. K.I.O.C.L. Limited., in Devadari Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District, Karnataka State over an extent of 470.40 Hectares is appended to this Notification as **Annexure-I**.

DGPS Readings showing Latitude and Longitude Coordinates area reserved is given as under.

DGPS Readings DATUM: WGS84 Projection: UTM_ZONE_43N					
SL.No.	Latitude	Longitude	Northing	Easting	Descriptions
1	15°03'28.17336"	76°35'17.65552"	1665336.649	670720.477	Base-Station-1
2	15°02'38.48423"	76°34'31.81319"	1663799.695	669362.300	Base-Station-2
3	15°03'40.28617"	76°34'51.84298"	1665703.381	669946.913	K-1

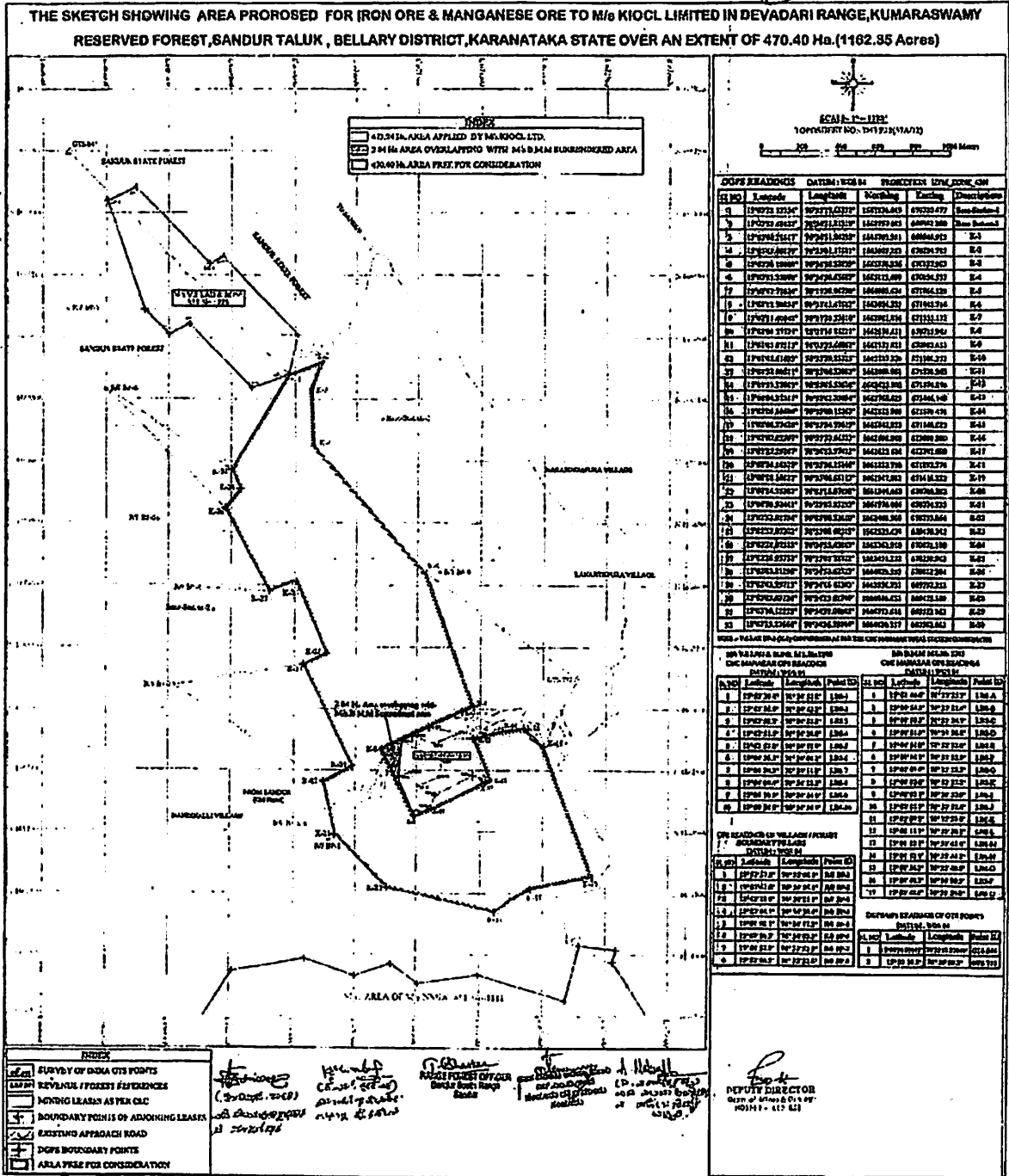
DGPS Readings DATUM: WGS84 Projection: UTM_ZONE_43N					
SL.No.	Latitude	Longitude	Northing	Easting	Descriptions
4	15°03'43.60179"	76°35'01.17191"	1665807.283	670224.785	K-2
5	15°03'36.10806"	76°34'58.20739"	1665576.336	670137.905	K-3
6	15°03'21.37078"	76°34'58.65607"	1665123.499	670154.557	K-4
7	15°02'47.71624"	76°35'28.94230"	1664095.674	671066.529	K-5
8	15°02'12.76851"	76°35'41.47882"	1663024.295	671448.716	K-6
9	15°02'11.40840"	76°35'38.33516"	1662981.816	671355.122	K-7
10	15°02'01.55724"	76°35'16.86221"	1662674.431	670715.942	K-8
11	15°01'43.87313"	76°35'25.66061"	1662132.821	670982.651	K-9
12	15°01'45.61693"	76°35'29.81225"	1662187.308	671106.271	K-10
13	15°01'52.66011"	76°35'44.33083"	1662406.901	671538.365	K-11
14	15°01'53.17863"	76°35'45.55638"	1662423.102	671574.856	K-12
15	15°02'04.35311"	76°35'41.33034"	1662765.625	671446.149	K-13
16	15°02'06.16494"	76°35'49.15563"	1662822.999	671679.476	K-14
17	15°02'06.77428"	76°35'54.73619"	1662842.933	671846.023	K-15
18	15°02'02.02297"	76°35'59.86533"	1662698.016	672000.280	K-16
19	15°01'27.29247"	76°36' 12.77452"	1661633.404	672393.609	K-17
20	15°01'24.16575"	76°35' 56.15146"	1661533.710	671897.774	K-18
21	15°01'18.18627"	76°35' 46.68113"	1661347.892	671616.222	K-19
22	15°01'24.78307"	76°35' 18.07498"	1661544.480	670760.292	K-20
23	15°01'38.92441"	76°35' 03.93295"	1661976.064	670334.755	K-21
24	15°01'53.01734"	76°35' 00.72610"	1662408.506	670235.864	K-22
25	15°01'57.09202"	76°35'08.60315"	1662535.424	670470.242	K-23
26	15°02'24.07555"	76°34'55.43883"	1663361.910	670071.100	K-24
27	15°02'26.93733"	76°35'01.78332"	1663451.222	670259.963	K-25
28	15°02'45.81296"	76°34'53.62723"	1664029.595	670012.204	K-26
29	15°02'43.29713"	76°34'46.41503"	1663950.731	669797.353	K-27
30	15°03'05.03724"	76°34'35.01740"	1664616.451	669452.169	K-28
31	15°03'10.12273"	76°34'39.09602"	1664773.618	669572.863	K-29
32	15°03'15.23864"	76°34'36.78984"	1664930.357	669502.863	K-30

Mining Lease shall be executed only upon submission of all the required statutory clearances under MM (D&R) Act, 1957; Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; Prevention of (Air and Water Pollution) Act, 1986 and other applicable Act and Rules.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Karnataka

ANVAR BHASHA
Under Secretary to Government
Commerce & Industries Department (Mines)

ANNEXURE-1



ANVAR BHASHA
Under Secretary to Government
Commerce & Industries Department (Mines)

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

No.DMG/MLS/Res. KIOCL/2016-17/0301

Office of the Director
Department of Mines and Geology
Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road
Bangalore-1, dtd: 02.02.2017

13 FEB 2017.

To,
M/s KIOCL Ltd.,
II Block, Koramangala,
Bangalore - 560034

Sir,

Sub: Reservation of an area of 470.40 ha. in Devadari range for iron ore and manganese in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd., under the provisions of Sec. 17A(2) of MMDR Act - reg.

Ref:1. GoI letter No.4/3/2016-M.VI dtd: 05.12.2016.

2. Notification No. CI 294 MMM 2015 dtd: 23.01.2017.

Government vide notification cited under ref. 2 above has reserved an area of 470.40 ha. in Devadari range, Sandur Taluk Bellary District for iron ore and manganese in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd., under the provisions of Sec. 17-A(2) of MMDR Act - reg.

Further, Govt. has directed to execute the mining lease upon submission of all required statutory clearances. Therefore, it is hereby informed to produce following statutory approvals obtained from regulatory bodies at the earliest to take further action:

1. Approved Mining Plan obtained from IBM.
2. Forest Clearance under Section 2 of FC Act, 1980.
3. Environmental Clearance obtained under EIA notification 2006.
4. CFE obtained from KSPCB.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
DIRECTOR
DEPT. OF MINES & GEOLOGY

Enclosure: Attested Sketch.



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
INDIAN BUREAU OF MINES
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CONTROLLER OF MINES**

SPEED POST



29, Industrial Suburb, II Stage,
Tumkur Road, Gorguntapalya,
Yeshwantpur,
Bangalore- 560 022.
Dated: 08 /03/2018

FAX : 080- 23371027 / 23373287
Tel : 080-23371027 / 23375366 / 67
Email ID: ro.bangalore@ibm.gov.in
No. 279/1096/2018/BNG / SCS

To:
Sri N.Vidyananda, Director
& Nominated Owner,
M/s KIOCL Limited,
II Block, Koramangala,
Bangaluru-560 034

Sub: Approval of Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan in respect of Devadari Iron Ore Mine (Reserved for M/s KIOCL Limited, under Section 17(A) of MMDR Act. 1957) over an area of 470.40 Ha (As per DMG sketch) in Devadari Range, near Nandihalli, Narasapura and Ranjitpura Villages, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District, Karnataka State of M/s KIOCL Limited submitted for approval under rule 16 of MCR, 2016 - PSU/Fresh / Forest. / Cat. A -FM/Captive.

Ref : 1. Your letter No. D (P&P)/272 dated. 02.01.2018
2. This office letter of even number dated. 14/19.02.2018
3. Letter No. Nil dated. 23.02.2018 form Manager, MECON Limited received in this office on 28.02.2018

In exercise of the power conferred by Rule 17 of Minerals (Other than Atomic and Electrocarbon Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016. vide Gazette Notification No. S.O.1857 (E) dtd.18/05.2016 issued by Controller General IBM, under F. No. T-43004/CGBM/MM (DR)/2015, I hereby approve the Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure in respect of applied area (Reserved for M/s KIOCL Limited, under Section 17(A) (2) of MMDR Act. 1957) over an area of 470.40 Ha (As per DMG sketch) in Devadari Range, near Nandihalli, Narasapura and Ranjitpura Villages, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District, Karnataka State submitted for approval under rules made in chapter V of MCR, 2016. This approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. The Mining Plan is approved without prejudice to any other laws applicable to the mine area from time to time whether made by the Central Government, State Government or any other authority and *without prejudice to any order or direction from any court of competent jurisdiction.*
2. The proposals shown on the plates and given in the document is based on the lease sketch submitted by the Applicant and is applicable from the date of approval/ date of grant of mining lease.
3. It is clarified that this approval of aforesaid Mining Plan does not in any way imply the approval of the Government in terms of any other provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, or the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 and any other laws including Forest Conservation Act, 1980, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or the rules made there under, Mines Act, 1952 and Rules & Regulations made there under.
4. Indian Bureau of Mines has not undertaken verification of the applied mining lease boundary on the ground and does not undertake any responsibility regarding correctness of the boundaries of the applied lease area shown on the ground with reference to lease map & other plans furnished by the applicant/lessee.
5. At any stage, if it is observed that the information furnished, data incorporated in the document are incorrect or misrepresent facts, the approval of the document shall be revoked with immediate effect.
6. A copy of EIA/EMP report approved by MOEF, New Delhi should be submitted to this office within one month of its approval along with a copy of their approval letter.

Contd.....2

No.279/1096/2018/BNG

7. Provisions of the Mines Act, 1952 and Rule & Regulations made there under including submission of notice of opening, appointment of manager and other statutory officials as required by the Mines Act, 1952 shall be complied with.
8. The execution of Mining Plan shall be subjected to vacation of prohibitory orders/ notices, if any.
9. The Environmental Monitoring Cell of the Company shall be established. The Environmental Monitoring Cell of the Company shall continue monitoring ambient air quality, dust fall rate, water quality, soil sample analysis and noise level measurements on various stations established for the purpose both in the core zone and buffer zone, as per Department of Environment guidelines and keeping in view IBM's Circular No. 3/92, season-wise every year or by engaging the services of an Environmental laboratory approved by MOEF/ CPCB. The data so generated shall be maintained in a bound paged register kept for the purpose and the same shall be made available to the inspecting officer on demand.
10. A yearly report shall be submitted to this office, before 1st July of every year setting forth the extent of protective and rehabilitative works carried out as envisaged in the approved mine closure plan after commencement of Mining Operations.
11. In case the Applied Mining lease falls within a radius of 10 kms of National Park/ sanctuary, recommendations of NBWL have to be obtained as per the Order of Hon'ble Supreme Court in I.A.No 460/2004.
12. The contents of Circular No 2/2010 issued by the Chief Controller of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur vide his letter No- 11013/3/MP/90-CCOM VOL-VII dated 06.04.2010 shall be complied with.
13. The Mining Plan is approved for proposals contained therein and as applicable from the date of execution of Mining Lease and for the mining activities to be carried out within the area applied for mining leasehold
14. A copy of Mining Lease Deed should be submitted to this office as well as to the Regional Controller of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines, Bangalore, within a period of 30 days from the date of execution of the Mining Lease.
15. This approval of the Mining Plan (including Progressive Mine Closure Plan) is subject to the condition that the applicant should furnish Financial Assurance as required under rule 27(1) of MCDR 2017 to the Regional Controller of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines, Bangalore, before execution of the Mining Lease.
16. The Mining Plan is approved for total mineral reserves of 7.34 Million tonnes of Iron Ore & 0.0014 Million tonnes of Manganese Ore and the proposals are valid for the following period with respective production capacity.

Year	Iron ore(in Million tonnes)	Manganese Ore (in Million tonnes)
I Year	Nil	Nil
II Year	0.33561	Nil
III year	0.554346	Nil
IV Year	1.027101	Nil
V Year	2.04858	0.000500

In addition to the statutory clearances, Reclamation and Rehabilitation (R & R) Plan is also required to be submitted before commencement of mining operations as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 18/04/2013 in WP No.562/2009 of Samaja Parivarthana Samudaya. Wherein the Hon'ble Supreme Court has restricted production limit of Iron ore to 30 MMT per annum pertaining to Bellari, Chitradurga and Tumakuru Districts of Karnataka State.

Encl: One copy of Approved Mining Plan with Progressive Mine Closure Plan.

Yours faithfully,


(G.C.Meena)

Regional Controller of Mines
Indian Bureau of Mines

By e-mail

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
INDIAN BUREAU OF MINES
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CONTROLLER OF MINES, BANGALORE**

No. MCDR -MPCOFE/15.2023-BNG-IBM_RO_BNG.

Dt: 11/10/2023

Shri/M/s. KIOCL LIMITED,

REGISTERED AND CORPORATE OFFICE II BLOCK, KORAMANGALA, SARJAPURA ROAD, BANGALORE
DEVADARI IRON ORE MINE (60500601)

Sub Approval of "Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan" including PMCP in respect of your Devadari Iron Ore Mine (ML No. 0020) over an area of 388 Ha in Narasingapur village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District, Karnataka State, submitted for approval under rule 17(3) of MCR, 2016 – PSU / Forest / Captive / 'A' Category Mechanized

Ref : (1) Your Application No. 140 dated 10/07/2023 submitting therewith soft copy of draft Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan through online portal MTS-MPAS <https://miningplan.ibm.gov.in>.

(2) Submission of final copies of Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan in Mining Tenement System / Mining Plan Approval System (MPAS) on 09/10/2023.

Sirs,

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 5 of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 read with Govt. of India order No.S.O.445 (E) dated 28.04.1987 and S.O.1857 (E) dtd.18/05/2016, I hereby approve the "Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan" in respect of your Devadari Iron Ore Mine (ML No. 0020) over an area of 388 Ha in Narasingapur village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District, Karnataka State, submitted for approval under rule 17(3) of MCR, 2016 for the period up to 31/03/2027. This approval is subject to the following conditions:

A. General Conditions:

1. The Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan is approved without prejudice to any other laws applicable to the mine from time to time whether made by the Central Government, State Government or any other Authority.
2. The Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan is approved without prejudice to any order or direction from any court of competent jurisdiction.
3. It is also clarified that the approval of your aforesaid Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan does not in any way imply the approval of the Government in terms of any other provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957 as amended the rules framed there under.
4. It is further clarified that the approval of Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan is subject to provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Forest Conservation Rules, 2003 and other relevant statutes, order and guidelines as may be applicable to the lease area from time to time.
5. The Provisions of Mines Act, 1952 and Rules & Regulations made there under shall be complied with.
6. The execution of Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan shall be subjected to vacation of prohibitory orders / notices, if any.
7. Next Financial Assurance shall be due for submission on 01/04/2027.
8. Your attention is invited to the Supreme Court interim order in W.P. (C) No.202 dated 12.12.1996 for compliance. The Approval of above said Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan is therefore, issued without prejudice to and is subject to the said directions of the Supreme Court as applicable.
9. If anything is found to be concealed as required by the Mines Act in the contents of this document and the proposal for rectification has not been made, the approval shall be deemed to have been withdrawn with immediate effect.
10. This department does not undertake any responsibility regarding correctness of the boundaries of the leasehold shown on the ground with reference to lease map & other plans furnished by the applicant/ lessee.
11. This approval for mining operation and mining related activities is restricted to the mining lease area only from this date. The mining lease area is as shown on the statutory plans by the Lessee/QP/Applicant and Indian Bureau of Mines has not undertaken verification of the mining lease boundary on the ground.
12. This Approval is given for received proposals as applicable from this date for the mining activities to be carried out within the mining lease area. The earlier instances of irregular mining/illegal mining, if any, shall not be regularized with this approval.

13. At any stage, if it is observed that the information furnished, data incorporated in the document are incorrect or misrepresent facts, the approval of the document shall be revoked with immediate effect.
14. The Approval of Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan is subject to condition that you shall maintain boundary pillars as indicated in Rule 12 (v) of Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016.
15. The Approval of Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan is without prejudice to the final order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dtd.18/04/2013 in W.P. No. 562/2009 and interim orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court from time to time in the said W.P. Nos. 25910/2009 and 26083/2009.
16. The Environmental Monitoring Cell of the company shall be established. The Environmental Monitoring Cell so established shall continue monitoring ambient air quality, dust fall rate, water quality, soil sample analysis and noise level measurements on various stations established for the purpose both in the core zone and buffer zone as per MOEF guidelines and keeping in view IBM's circular No.3/92, season wise every year or by engaging the services of an Environment Laboratory approved by MOEF/CPCB. The data so generated shall be maintained in a bound paged register kept for the purpose and the same shall be made available to the inspecting officer on demand.
17. In case the mining lease falls within a radius of 10 kms of National Park/ sanctuary, recommendations of NBWL have to be obtained as per the Order of Hon'ble Supreme Court in I A No. 460/2004.
18. A yearly report shall be submitted to this office before 1st July of every year setting forth the extent of protective and rehabilitative works carried out as envisaged in the approved mine closure plan.
19. As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition No.114/2014 dated 08.01.2020, the mining Lease holders shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc.,
20. It shall be mandatory for the project proponent, abstracting ground water, to obtain No Objection Certificate from Central Ground Water Authority or, the concerned State/Union Territory Ground Water Authority, as the case may be.
21. The next Review of Mining Plan for the subsequent period of five years shall become due 180 days before the last day of fifth year plan period i.e., 31/03/2027.

B. Special Conditions:

1. The Approval of Modifications to the Approved Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan is approved for the period from 2023-24 to 2026-2027 for total Iron Ore Reserves of 5.119 Million Tonnes which includes: 4.237 Million Tonnes of Hematitic Iron Ore (HIO), 0.882 Million Tonnes of Hematitic Siliceous Iron Ore (HSIO) and 0.0012 Million Tonnes of Manganese Ore (as on 30/06/2023) with Annual Production Capacity proposals valid for the following period with respective production capacity.

Year	Production Capacity in tonnes	
	Iron Ore #	Manganese Ore #
2023-2024	106056	51
2024-2025	651546	102
2025-2026	1181478	102
2026-2027	1996899	498

Above approved production capacity is subject to periodical changes in permissible annual production capping by DMG, Karnataka.

2. The above production proposals are subject to obtaining approval of R&R plan and the mine permissible annual production capacity by CEC & State Government. If there are any changes in the production and development proposals, Reclamation & Rehabilitation/PMCP proposals in the approved R&R plan w.r.t the approved mine plan, the document needs to be modified accordingly.

3. The detailed beneficiation study of the mine to be carried out by the Government agency and the study report to be submitted to this office. If there are any recommendations for change in the technical parameters w.r.t the approved mine plan document then the document should be modified accordingly incorporating the same.

4. The tailing dam design and structural stability study to be carried out from the Government agency. If there are any recommendations in the study for changes in tailing dam design parameters or location, the document needs to be modified accordingly. The copy of the aforesaid tailing dump design and structural stability study report may be submitted to this office immediately after its completion.

5. The Iron Ore & Manganese recovery test and complete chemical analysis of ROM should be carried out by engaging NABL accredited /Government Laboratories. The report on Recovery test study and Chemical analysis report should be submitted to this office after commencement of Mining Operations.

6. The erection of boundary pillars at the ground of mine lease boundary as per the State Govt. approved DGPS sketch to be carried out by the

Lessee at the earliest and action taken in this regard to be intimated to this office.

7. Approval of modification of Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan is subject to obtaining all the statutory clearances from the concerned Central and State Authorities before commencement of the mining plan proposals.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Suresh Prasad)

Regional Controller of Mines

Copy for kind information to:

1. The Director of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Karnataka, Bangalore
2. The Director of Mines Safety, Directorate General of Mines Safety, Bellary Sub- Region, 31, Infantry Road, Cantonment, Bellary - 584104.
3. The Controller of Mines (SZ), Indian Bureau of Mines, Bangalore.
4. Dipayan Chakraborty & Sri. Raghvendra Pratap, QP's, MECON Ltd Vivekananda Path Doranda Ranchi -834 002.

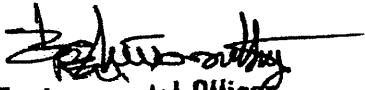
DEVADARI IRON ORE MINE (60500601)

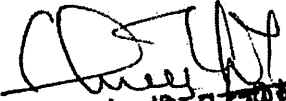
(Dr. Suresh Prasad)

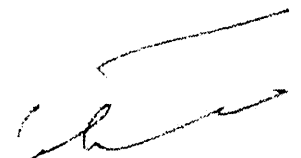
Regional Controller of Mines

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR DEVADARI IRON ORE MINE OF M/S KIOCL LIMITED (A GOVT. OF INDIA ENTERPRISE) FOR MINING OF 2 MTPA IRON ORE (ROM) & 500 TPA OF MANGANESE ORE & SETTING UP OF 2 MTPA BENEFICIATION PLANT INCLUDING CRUSHING, SCREENING, CONVEYING IN TOTAL AREA OF 485.7725 HA (ML AREA 470.40 HA AND 15.3725 HA OUTSIDE ML FOR CONVEYOR CORRIDOR/POWER TRANSMISSION LINE/APPROACH ROAD) IN DEVADARI RANGE, SANDUR TALUK, BALLARI DISTRICT, KARNATAKA STATE HELD ON 25-06-2019 AT 11.00 AM.

- Venue of Public hearing : Project Site of Devadari Iron Ore Mine, Swamimalai Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District.
- 1) Presiding Officer : Shri M Satish Kumar- K.A.S, Additional Deputy Commissioner and Additional District Magistrate, Ballari
- 2) Officers Present from KSPCB : 1. Shri Venkatesh Shekar, SEO, KSPCB, Ballari
2. Shri B C Shivamurthy, Environmental Officer (in-charge), KSPCB, Ballari
- 3) Representatives of the project proponents present : 1. Shri N Vidyananda, Director (P&P)
2. Shri S K Gorai, Director (Finance)
3. Shri T Saminathan, Director (Commercial)
4. Shri S Rajendra , GM (HR)
5. Shri K V Bhaskara Reddy, GM (Mining)
6. Shri S C Basavaraju , AGM (Mining)
- 4) Copy of Technical presentation : Enclosed as Annexure-1
- 5) Names of the Public participants : Enclosed as Annexure-2
- 6) Opinion/Suggestions/letters given by the Public : Enclosed as Annexure-3
- 7) Video C D : Enclosed as Annexure -4
- 8) Photographs : Enclosed as Annexure - 5


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY


ಹಿರಿಯ ಪರಿಷಂಕರಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
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Page 1 of 23
ADC
Additional Deputy Commissioner
Ballari.

PREAMBLE:

M/s KIOCL Limited (A Govt. of India Enterprise), Bangalore has proposed for mining of 2 mtpa Iron Ore (ROM) & 500 tpa of manganese ore & setting up of 2 mtpa Beneficiation Plant including Crushing, Screening, Conveying within mining lease area in Devadari Range, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District, Karnataka State. Entire mine lease area (470.40 ha) falls under Swamimalai Block Forest, Sandur.

The Karnataka State Government has reserved an area of 470.40 ha in favour of M/s KIOCL Limited, for Iron and Manganese Ore in Devadari Range, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District, Karnataka State vide notification no. CI 294 MMM 2015, Bengaluru dated 23.01.2017 in pursuance of the approval by Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India, New Delhi (vide their letter No. 4/3/2016-M. VI dated 05.12.2016). Devadari Iron Ore Mine is a Greenfield project and the lease will be executed after grant of environment clearance and forest clearance.

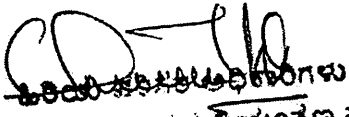
Department of Mines & Geology vide letter No. DMG/MLS/Res. KIOCL/2016-17/10301 dated 13.02.2017 issued Letter of Intent to obtain Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification 2006 for execution of mine lease. Hence Project Proponent has applied for Environmental Clearance vide Proposal No. IA/KA/MIN/72345/2018 dated 22.03.2018 for mining 2 mtpa iron ore (ROM) and 500 TPA Manganese ore and wet beneficiation plant including crushing, Screening, Conveying for a capacity of 2 MTPA in a total area of 485.7725 ha (ML area 470.4 ha & 15.3725 ha outside ML for conveyor corridor/power transmission line/approach road) in Devadari Range, Ballari dist.

Accordingly, MoEF&CC has issued the Terms of Reference (TOR) on 16.05.2018 for the said project & directed project proponent to conduct Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies. Further, TOR was amended vide letter no. J-11015/28/2018-IA.II (M) dated 22/2/2019 by MOEF&CC, GOI, as the total area required for the project changed from 482.367 ha to 485.7725 ha by keeping the ML area of 470.40 ha unchanged. In view of the above, the Project Proponent have prepared the EIA report and Executive summary of the said Project in Kannada and English version which have been submitted to Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bangalore in accordance with EIA notification and has requested to conduct the Environmental Public Hearing as per the guidelines of the MoEF&CC, GOI.

The Environmental Public Hearing (EPH) was earlier scheduled on 28-02.2019 at proposed project site of Devadari Iron Ore Mine. The public hearing was postponed by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ballari as per the request of public.


Environmental Officer,

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
BALLARI


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Page 2 of 23


Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Ballari.

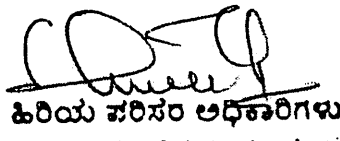
Accordingly, the Environmental Public Hearing (EPH) was re-scheduled on 25-06-2019 at proposed project site of Devadari Iron Ore Mine.

Shri B C Shivamurthy, Environmental Officer (in-charge), Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ballari extended a warm welcome to Shri M. Satish Kumar, KAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner and Additional District Magistrate, Ballari District and Shri Venkatesh Shekar, Senior Environmental Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ballari, officers of KIOCL Limited and all the public. He requested the chairman of the environmental public hearing to preside over the public hearing and requested the public to present all their submissions either in written or orally about the project, which would be a part of both written record and videography.

Shri Venkatesh Shekar, Senior Environmental Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ballari briefly explained the need of obtaining Environmental Clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change Government of India and the need of Environmental Public Hearing as per the EIA notification 2006 and amended thereafter, accordingly public notification was given in the leading newspapers 30 days in advance & explained the procedure of the public hearing and the documents were kept for the public reference. In accordance with the EIA Notification, the Environmental Public Hearing notification was published in leading news papers of Karnataka State, i.e. 'Indian Express', (English) and 'Vijay Karnataka' (Kannada) on 24-05-2019 and also published in local newspaper "Sanje-Vaani" on 18-06-2019, In 'Swathantra Horata' daily newspaper on 20-06-2019 & 23-06-2019 and also 'Ballari Belagagithu' newspaper on 12-06-2019, regarding the proposed project by inviting responses in writing from the concerned persons having stake in the environmental aspects of the project or activity. Apart from the above, we also given wide publicity through distribution of pamphlets and announcement through loudspeakers in nearby villages. Also, the draft Rapid Environment Impact Assessment (REIA) report and Executive summary were kept in the designated places like: Deputy Commissioner's Office, Ballari, Office of the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Ballari District Industry Centre, Ballari Town Municipal Council, Sandur, Village Panchayat, Toranagallu and Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ballari, South Zone Office, MOEF, Bangalore and Help desk, KSPCB, Bangalore for public reference.

Shri M. Satish Kumar, KAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner and Additional District Magistrate, Ballari District informed the gathering that, as per the procedure, it is mandatory to conduct Environmental Public Hearing for this proposed project. He informed the project proponent to give power point presentation of the proposed project, there after the public who assembled in the hearing can express their opinion, suggestions and objections for the proposed project on environmental issues freely & without any fear accordingly, the proceeding will be prepared.


Environmental Officer,


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Page 3 of 23

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
BELLARY

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On behalf of M/s KIOCL Limited (A Govt. of India Enterprise) of M/s Ecomen Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Lucknow (NABET Accredited) made technical presentation of the proposed project in Kannada language on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Project and also explained the need of the project, its salient features, pollution control measures, environment protection measures, project benefits and employment opportunities for the local people. The presentation made by the project proponent during hearing is enclosed as Annexure-1.

After the presentation by the project proponent Shri M. Satish Kumar, KAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner and Additional District Magistrate, Ballari District appealed to the public, who gathered in the hearing to express their views/suggestions/objections about the proposed project. Accordingly, the public have expressed their views/comments/objections related to environmental aspects of the proposed project. The following are the opinions and the suggestions expressed by the gathered public.

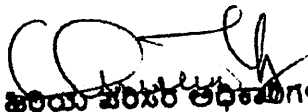
1) H. Kadappa, Ranjitpur, Narasingapuram Grama Panchayat

He was speaking about KIOCL of Devadari Mines, which comes under his village panchayat. The company has called this public meeting for the 2nd time to start mining. The meeting that had already been called was cancelled, and again now they have convened a public hearing meeting today. The company is asking for environmental clearance through this public meeting. The mine is proposed to be started by Kudremukh company in Devdari Range in Sandur Taluk. Do you all agree? If you agree, say yes, else otherwise. Because this environment is our property. This company can only be started if we all agree for it. That's why they are asking us for the same.

Before this we should know what other industries like NMDC, B.M.M, SMIORE Companies had done to us. Now the SMIORE company is establishing conveyor. Now Kudremukh company has organized a public hearing. Has the SMIORE Company given any letter to the Gram Panchayat? The plant is being built by the SMIORE Company without calling a public hearing. Nobody has not given consent for this. Suddenly they are establishing a plant. We are the farmers very adjacent to this plant and we are affected by this plant for growing our crop. There is no water in the bore wells. As farmers where should we go? If you all start mining around here, considering the present vehicle movement there would be around 500-1000 number of trucks on the road. No one will take responsibility for this. Small childrens are affected due to this. No body is bothered to enquire about sprinkling of water on roads to suppress the dust. In case this mine is started, it should not be a trouble to school going childrens.

Now the Kudremukh Company has come and assured that all the villages in this gram panchayat will be benefitted. So there is good assurance from them.


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
BELLARY


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ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ. Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Ballari.

Now if you start mining, the Kudremukh company should give priority to not only skilled workers but also to unskilled workers. If your company recruit only qualified workers with BA, MSc, Diploma and ITI educators, our childrens who have studied only upto 8th std will be left unemployed. We urge you to recruit unskilled workers and help them. This is my humble request.

2) A. Eriswamy, District Vice President of Bellary District Mine Workers Union. Ranjitpur

He said, They were all victims of blanket ban on mines which were closed due to illegal mining activity in 2011. Now after hearing the presentation of Mr Seetharam (Technical Consultant), Every aspect of the project is very good, Hence we support opening of this mining company.

We have been going door to door to all government department for the past 6 years since 2011 to seek justice and have also provided heap of documents to each department.


Every mining company gave us the same assurance and started mining activity. He further stated that he met Hon'ble labor minister and ex-district minister and briefed them about the struggles faced by them. I request Kudremukh company not to repeat what other companies have done to us.

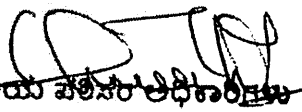
Contract employees are also entitled to equal pay as ordered by the Supreme Court. I humbly request the Kudremukh company to follow this Supreme court order in right spirit. Either it be Contract worker or permanent worker the company should follow the supreme court order unanimously.

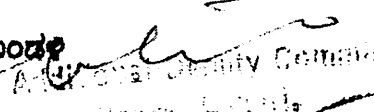
Today the situation of contract workers at NMDC is deplorable. During medical checkup there is indifference meted out on contract workers compared to permanent workers, this should not be carried forward. The Kudremukh company should avoid such situation.

When we arranged strike to hike in salary in BMM mine, some mediators have misused and betrayed us. These middlemen have accepted railway contracts awarded by the company and ditched us into streets. You award contract to any contractor we have no objection but you should compulsory execute contract agreement because without this contract workers have no say. Hence I request you to please follow the supreme court order and don't differentiate between permanent and casual employees.

We certainly support this mining company because there is no alternative other than mining in this region. And I also request this company not to follow the footsteps of BMM company and betray us. Don't buy land through mediators, so far in NMDC land losers have not been


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
BELLARY


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ಬೆಳ್ಳಾರಿ.


A. Eriswamy
District Vice President
Bellary District Mine Workers Union
Ranjitpur

employed. Due to BMM incident all the workers are left lurching in street, please don't create the same situation in your company, this is my humble request.

3). Chandragiri Subbanna, Ranjitpur

He said that I have lost my land to NMDC and the company has not given any job to me or my children. So I came here to request Kudremukh company to provide employment atleast to my childrens.

4) H. Nagaraja, Ranjitpur

He said that he has completed ITI (Electrician Trade). He also expressed that there is lot of unemployment prevailing here. There are no right jobs for ITI, and Diploma candidates. I humbly request you to please provide employment to all deserving candidates as per their qualifications.

5) Gangappa Bhujanganagar,

He said, that we welcome Kudremukh Company to start the mining activity here. We do not oppose any mining activity in Sandur taluk. Livelihood of the people living here is dependent on mining activity. I advise you not to cheat like other mining companies in the surrounding region.

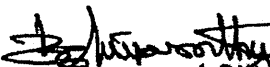
In NMDC company contract workers are not paid their daily wages per the government rules and regulations. So I request that in your company you pay wages to contract employees as per govt norms and to provide basic infrastructure and employment opportunities for the local people.


People from different states are working here in NMDC company. Our people are more qualified in education compared to them. You should provide employment to local and not to give employment to outsiders. You should not succumb to any political pressure or any other recommendations while giving employment. I request you to provide justice and employ people who need employment.

6). Huligesh, Ranjitpur

He said that he is working as contract labor in KIO.C.L. (Operation & Maintenance Contract). Here if any ITI/Diploma holders approach seeking for job he will be employed as skilled and unskilled based on recommendations. I request KIOCL not to succumb to the recommendations while recruiting.

Now, speaking to Additional Deputy Commissioner , I would like to bring to your kind notice that there are thousands of lorries/trucks plying on this road. There are schools


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
BELLARY


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Additional Deputy Commissioner
Ballari.

situated in this nearby vicinity. Students here fill their stomach by inhaling dust generated by plying of these haulage vehicles. There is no guarantee that our children's will return safely from schools. After many accidents in the region and our request, DC had ordered to appoint securities to monitor the traffic in the region , However the security will not be present after 9 pm. Here vehicles ply at high speed and I humbly request ADC to please look in the matter seriously.

There are lot of problems faced by people of Narsinghpur and Ranjitpur, students here have to walk long distance upto NMDC township. Students are facing hurdles from haulage of vehicles in the region. Most of the people here are discontinuing their education after 8th or 9th std. One more issue is that our houses are painted by dust emanated from the movement of vehicles.

7) H. Santosh, Ranjitpur.

He said that I have completed by Degree and currently living in Ranjithpur. Now what I say is that KIOCL(O&M contract plant) even after having proper qualification are employing us as unskilled workers. They are not providing any skilled jobs, they are only providing jobs for earth work. I urge that everyone is provided a proper job for right qualification.

8) Moolimani Ecrana, Laxmipur, Environmental Activist.

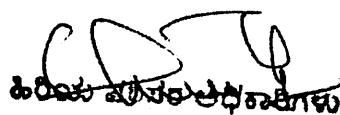
Speaking He said, Like SMIORE Kudremukh company after being rejected by Malnadu people, after being rejected by kudremukh people, for them we are extending a warm welcome here because it's a Central PSU. All the officials here are kannidigas. They are assuring that they will provide employment to local people. He further requested not to follow on the footsteps of SMIORE Company. At present environment around 15,000 acres of trees are being destroyed. If you plant trees of equal proportionate in local region it will indirectly provide employment to around 500-1000 unskilled workers

NMDC Company is employing workers from outside states. But it is commendable that the officials from Kudremukh Company are speaking Kannada. Now you are saying that Kudremukh directly and indirectly employs about 1200 to 1500 locals. However if you plant trees in 1500 acres in locally it will indirectly provide employment to about 1000 local people.

He further asked Pollution Control Board officials the details of land proposed for afforestation. The officials can answer now or later. In general, when the China Market was in good demand 99 mines were given land to plant trees elsewhere. who should go and check over there? When the forest was destroyed here. This is a semi-arid region, in this region so far there is no rain here. Why I am asking this is because most of the mines as per direction of Supreme Court, empowered committee has categorized all mines in the region into 53-C


Environmental Officer,

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
BELLARY


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category, 50-A category and 9-B category. Now only 9- A category mines are in operation and remaining is left undisturbed. Due to this mining many companies have Damaged the environment by felling of trees beyond recognition, Now who is going to do compensate afforestation in this area? Our state govt has allocated 5-6 mines to Jindal company and other 2 to MSPL Ltd company. They are producing around 30 MT of ore. This indicates that government wants the mining activity to continue. High court has also accepted this. The crores together of fund generated from all these mines are lying unused in govt coffers. We ask for concrete roads? We ask for RCC Buildings? Have they considered this anywhere.?

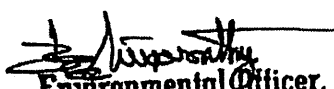
In presence of Hon'ble ADC and Tashildar, I having unsurveyed map of this region. In this map there are 15 villages in the map which have no existence. Because of non-existence of villages Kurdemukh company has come here to deceive local villagers. If people here must live a good life, and to provide justice to local farmers all the survey sketches of these 15 villages need to surveyed and made available.

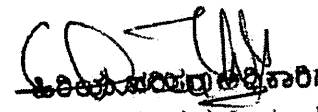
For example, Devagiri, Ramghada and Jaisingpur, Hulikunte Dharmapura, Sushilnagar, etc., are located within the mining region. When we asked to provide survey sketched of all the villages. Tashildar and DC say that the survey work is not completed. The Forest Department and revenue department say that they have done individual survey. But however joint surveys has to be carried out. For this reason I request Honble ADC and Tashildar, before commencement of this project all these 15 villages survey settlement work has to be completed. If all farmers are provided with survey maps then only they will get their status back.

9) GK Nagaraja, Narsinghpura

I am of the opinion that the company has applied for mining and after obtaining mining license, now they came for environmental clearance. So my appeal to this government is to arrange such public hearing meetings before obtaining license. When I was young here, the nallas in Bhujanganagar flowed for 365 days. Now they are gone, which means the groundwater has depleted.

Now here all the 3 directions NMDC has been established. There are only lands available to the south of our Narasinghpur. There , some farmers dug 20-25 borewells for farming their lands. Now those bore wells also drying up. That is the case, where do we go? You are all mining without leaving an inch of land since you are getting affordable rate for iron ore. What you want to leave for next generation? If you kill 'Golden egg laying hen, will it lay golden eggs again? He said. Where should the farmers go? Where the original resident should go. No body want to stay in the villages today. Not even a peon comes into the village. Because there is no infrastructure here, the situation here is as it was in pre-independence. The villages have got village panchayath but need to improve a lot.


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
BELLARY


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Additional Deputy Commissioner
Ballari.

But whatever it may be, the environmental public hearing was called today. So on behalf of the villagers of Narasingapur, we have discussed with some of our friends and elders and we would like to bring some aspects to the attention of the Additional District Collector and the Kudremukh Company.


First of all, as our friends have said, in this company there is more number of kannadigas are working for that reason we would like to welcome the Kudremukh Mines here. Recently I have visited the Jindal Company. There everyone is from north speaking in Hindi. All others are called the Tri linguistic Sutra, but they have only one language. Nowhere in the Constitution Hindi is mentioned as national language. Hindi is the language of the majority. The misfortune of our Kannadigas is that we learn their language before them and speak Telugu, Tamil and Hindi. In this company more kannadigas are there, that is the reason why we are welcoming this company. We are now submitting an appeal signed by all our farmers to Kudremukh Company. The summary of the appeal is as follows.

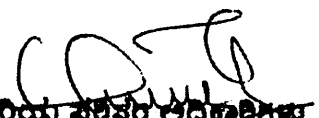
M/s.Kudremukh iron ore Company limited, Devdari Iron Ore mine Project, Narsinghpur,

Dear sir,

It is learned that you are about to start iron ore mining project at Devdari range, on the western side of our village. We want to bring the following few points to your kind attention please.

- 1) you have to give us a copy of a Mine lease letter sanctioned by Government of Karnataka.
- 2) you have to give us a copy of project plan report.
- 3) you have to give us details of project benefits to near by villages.
- 4) To identify the local citizens of Narasinghpur, only 1971 census should be used as base for identification.
- 5) The son-in-laws of this villages who has stayed here along with their family should also be considered as locals.
- 6) Unemployed young men and women in our village should be provided jobs according to their qualifications.
- 7) The contract works of your company should be given to the residents of our village only.
- 8) The water required for the project must be arranged by the company either from Nari halla dam or from TB dam. Do not put borewells locally. This is because the farmers and the village panchayat are suffering shortage of water.
- 9) Local men and women must be given priority while giving master role jobs in your company.


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
EELLARY


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Page 9 of 23
Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Ballari.

- 10) At convenient places check dams to be constructed in order to improve the water table.
- 11) you should allow us to graze animals in the devadiri region. Because if you put up a fence, where should we go, this is the only hill left out for grazing. So cattle should be allowed to graze.
- 12) Mine dust should be maintained to minimum level so as not to damage food crops and horticultural crops.
- 13) If farmers' land is acquired for their project, those who lost land should be given permanent employment. And after he retires, he should employ his children.
- 14) If you acquired the Farmer's Land, the Farmer's Land is in the name of the Farmer, and if he has having 2, 3 or 4 children, then we request that all of them to be employed.
- 15) In the past, we all grama panchayath members helped NMDC to get Kumaraswamy mine lease since it is being a as a central government-owned company ,in assumption that we will be benefit from NMDC's Kumaraswamy mine .But the NMDC is not correct we request kudremukh company not to follow in footsteps of NMDC company.
- 16) Similarly, our Gram Panchayat had earlier opposed the NMDC pellet plant. However, our village panchayat agreed to grant it by hoping that they would find employment there. Just now Representatives of Kudremukh say that 200 people are working here. I don't know. There is no one in our hometown who works in a kudremukh company. He also informed that CSR activity has been done in Raichur. Sir We are the sufferers due of dust hazards. If you do CRS activity in Raichur, what should we do here? Who will be benefited from this. As Mulemane Eranna said you have to plant more trees locally only and I appeal this kudremukh company not to behave like NMDC company please.
- 17) All recruitments should be through district employment Exchange Office only. No open call-fors should be allowed.
- 18) you have to provide 25% Reservation in employment for villagers belonging to Narasingapura Grama Panchayat - Navaloti, Vithalapura, Ranjitpur, and Narasingapuram.

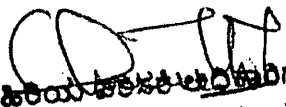
I submit these 18 points agenda to the kudremukh Company and to the Additional Deputy commissioner .For all the above 18 points our grama panchayat has passed resolution & signed by all members. I request on this occasion to make signed agreement between this company and Gram panchayat and keep a copy of it with both the parties.


Thank you

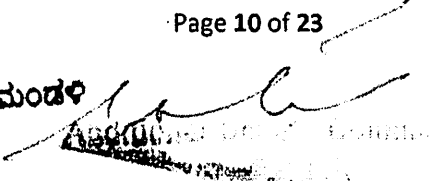
10) BG Sidhanagowda, Bhujanganagar

He said that during this month few years back, then the environment was such that people were afraid to go to forest. Gandhiji had called this Sundar Taluk "Sea in September Sandur" in those days. Due to mining in Sanduru, today environment here has changed because of

Page 10 of 23


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 Environmental Officer,
 Karnataka State Pollution Control Board,
 BELLARY


 Additional Deputy Commissioner

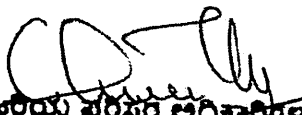
felling of trees. Please take note of this and request you to make arrangements to improve the environment here. People of sandur and surrounding villages of Bhujanganagar, Narasingapura, Navaloti, and other are mainly dependent on mining activity for their livelihood. Today our people have been employed as drivers, cleaners, operators, for these mining companies. You should follow good mining practices and providing employment to the people of surrounding 5 villages.

We are having a lot of trouble with the dust today. Most of them are coming from outside state and working here today. Our children also who have done ITI, Diploma, Mining-Mate and other engineering courses are facing unemployment problem. Other private companies like BMM, Kirloskar, Jindal are nor providing employment to local people. You said you would take 1200 employees. At least 2000 people should be provided with employment opportunities in our surrounding four villages of Sandur Taluk. I Appeals not to favor other state people for employment.

We have no objection for you to start mining here. We are ready to provide support in all respect but you should provide basic needs of local people. There is no hospital here. If by accident a person suffers from kidney failure or cancer he will be sent to Hyderabad or Bangalore for further treatment. Therefore I request you to provide a specialized hospital in the region. Another Important request is to provide bypass road for these four villages, which will benefit school children, laborers, and others in the village to lead a happy life. Already 50% work is completed with an estimated cost of 7.5 crores I request you to resolve the issue immediately and complete the work.

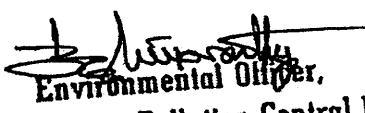
Above that, all of our children are going to sandur for study. A bus should be arranged for the surrounding 5 villages for them. There is no drinking water in our 4-5 villages. In those days, NMDC had assured us to provide one TMC water, but so far not even given us a glass of water to drink. They had given in writing those days that they will provide water for Narasapur, Nawalutai or Muthayalappante and Bhujanganagar. Today condition is such that even if we drill a borewell we are unable to get water. Therefore, we urge the Kudremukh company to provide drinking water facility for our villages.


Apart from this, I request this company to regenerate the surrounding lakes and also to construct lakes where ever space permits so that I t will improve the ground water table. Kudremukh company has convened a public hearing meeting today to seek environmental clearance for mining. This is no objection for this mining activity from our side. By considering all the above mentioned points I request you to help the local people.


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Page 11 of 23


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY


Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Bellary.

11) P.S. Dharmayanayaka, Taluk President of Karnataka State Green Farmers Association

Here, the public hearing is conducted for proposed project of iron ore mining in Devadiri Range. We welcome you here with open arms. Because, we have heard and read about Kudremukh Company in the past. They are mining in scientific way and by this they are also improving the surrounding environment and building public health and environment. KIOCL Ltd is the only company which can take up mining in scientific manner. This is one of central public sector company I have no objection what so ever for taking up mining activity by this company.

Similarly, based on Sarojini Mahshi Report I urge the company to provide employment to local people.

Similarly if you buy land from farmers, Land loosing farmers family should at least be given one job per family in your company. I argue that each farmer should be given a good price for their land. I further request Kudremukh company to conduct health checkups for local people.


Similarly, if Mining is one part, on this occasion I appeal to Additional Deputy Commissioner that you are giving mining lease to private entrepeners but you are not permanent settlement for local villagers who are cultivating land for the past60-70 years. Why there is this type of discrimination? We are cultivating and leading lives for the past 70-75 years, so far we are not given Tenancy rights. Not even one joint survey is conducted by Forest Dept and Revenue Department. There are 14 unsettled villages here, I raise this issue at every Public Hearing meetings, But till today there has not been any concrcte efforts towards settling the issues. Through this meeting I request you to solve the issue. This will benefit us a lot. With this I conclude my speech. Thank you.

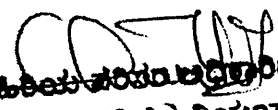
12) G.Jagadesha, Bhujanganagar, Farmers' Association.

Speaking He Said KIOCL. Devadari Iron Ore Mine of Sandur Taluk are proposing to establish a mining with a capacity of 2 MTPA iron ore production and 500 TPA manganese iron ore and 2 MTPA benefication plant that includes crushing grinding and conveying in an area of total 485.7725 hectares. If there is no problem for the surrounding villages, and if the company follows scientific mining techniques and improve the environment we have no objection what so ever from our organization.


Demands:

1)As per Sarojini Mahishi Report I urge local Kannadiga's to be given employment in your company.


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY


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Page 12 of 23


Additional Deputy Commissioner
Bellary.

2) Mining should be carried out scientifically.

3) If you acquire farmers land, you are required to give a good price for their land and one job per family.

4) Local people should be provided with free Health check ups.

All the above demands must be fulfilled. Only then this organization will support this mining activity. I hereby submit the request letter to Additional Deputy Commissioner. Thank you.

13) H. Obalesh, Forest Rights Committee, Narasapur


Speaking of which He said, we are not opposing any mine activities. In case if Today's public meeting was of a private company we would have definitely opposed it. Since it is Govt if India Public Enterprise we are cordially welcoming it. Already elders and well wishers from our villages have shared their ideas.

Why has the situation in sandur as it is today.? Please think of it. I stay in the Devadari range region, I have my house nearby. The villagers of Narasapur and Ranjithpur and others are not aware of the certain spots of the region. To say in crude language" this region is called Kadde Tatti" region. Even young boys speak about the landmarks of Aravi, and Thimmanna Betta, and many others. There is an innate connection between this region and people due to grazing of live stocks. Hence I request you to provide the details of the mining area to us. Also provide us information regarding conveyor lines and power lines. You have proposed production of 20 lakh tonnes of ore. How is this ore being transported? Weather it will be transported by Road? Or conveyor? If it is by road then weather you are using existing road or are construction bypass road for this? You are also proposing to setting up of a pellet plant. Provide the location of the plant. Where are you proposing stock yard facilities? Please provide the details of location. Weather the land required is purchased through KIADB or directly? Provide details of it.

If you are acquiring land from local farmers you should first do with survey settlement for this. Also some of the farmers here are cultivating the land in forest area since 40-50 years we request you to provide them with minimum support price. Compulsorily you need to provide all facilities to local people. I request to provide the blueprint of village maps of surrounding villages. Your are not like any other mining company, we are aware of your work in kudremukh like lakka dam, pipeline transportation and your concern towards environment. In same way we accept you to continue the same here. In same way if you are giving preference in public health, and basic facilities for local people and if this is though written communication. I have no objection for this company. We are ready to support this company in all manner.


Environmental Officer,

Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY


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Page 13 of 23


Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Baliari.


14) B. Padmanna, K.D.P. Member, Taluk Panchayat Sandur, Nominated Member


He said, We trusted all the mining companies around here and we have passed resolution through our gram panchayat in support of these mining companies. But we are really deprived of jobs, infrastructure and health. My appeal to Additional Deputy Commissioner is that "KIOCL will not follow the footsteps of the mining companies and I have no objection in passing the resolution in favour of this mining company."

If this company was a private enterprise we would not have supported. Since this is a public sector enterprise that is the reason why we are supporting this company. Here the farmers are having patta lands, apart from the encroached forest land and their livelihood depends on it. A family may have 5-6 members in land loosing family you should provide employment at least to one child per family and employ others as casual workers. People who don't have land should also be considered and children of then should be given employment according to their qualification. Also Basic infrastructure facilities for old age people, women and children should be provided. As stated by our Siddhesh Anna, a bypass road should be provided to the surrounding villages. Mainly for tipper lorries. As lot of tipper lorries ply around on these roads, fine dust is accumulated in our houses. This is causing many health hazards like Kidney problem, Lungs Problem, Cardiac Problem, Ortho Problem etc. I urge this Kudremukh Company (KIOCL from the Government of India) to arrange free health check-up for all the villagers in the surrounding village.


Now if we go to NMDC Donimalai Hospital, we are asked to make medical card of Rs 15/- even then first preference is given to their employees and not us. If there is any medical emergency what will be our fate? Hon'ble Additional District Commissioner should look into this matter seriously. Look at the current situation, this land, air water belongs to us. Now when the company is in need of our land they come to us with folded hands, after acquiring our lands we may be required to meet them with folded hands. I request KIOCL Company not to repeat such situations. Because we have good faith in KIOCL compared to all other companies. All other mining companies have betrayed us, but we have faith in your company and sincerely hope you will not betray us. We support the mining activity by your company in all respects.

While providing employment to local people in KIOCL Ltd (O&M contract), they are creating indiscrimination by way of asking to get certified copy from Gram Panchayat. Why can't you provide employment based on Aadhaar Card, Transfer Certificate and Scorecard? Take a decision that will not be unfair to anyone and provide employment to all land holders or land less people based on their qualification. Please provide qualified employment opportunities in a manner that is qualified, without caste discrimination. I then request that


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY


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Page 14 of 23


Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Ballari.

the school identify the poor talented students and grant them scholarship for further education or send them for higher education from your company.

Finally, I appeal to the Gram panchayat that before making arrangements for any public meetings please take consent of the local people. You have announced for village fair festival "Orramana Jatre" why you have not announced regarding this public hearing. In addition, I ask this gram panchayat, why you have not taken consent of local people and called them for Passing of resolution for KIOCL company. We have confidence on Gram panchayat president, please take consent from all parties and act. We will support you in all respects.

15) Kumaraswamy, Ranjitpur

In his previous meeting, KIOCL had presented the various locations for different plant activities. So far we are unaware of the exact location on this occasion I request you to please kindly give in writing the locations of various plants. Why I am stressing about my village is because last time in your booklet you forgot to mention our village name. However this time you have mention our village name in your report here and there.

Another issue is that no work has progressed with respect to unsettled villages. Regarding this We have already appealed to minister and Thasildhar. They too have assured but nothing has been materialized so far. I hereby request you to have written agreement with local people regarding this issue

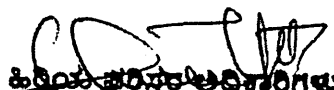
16) Nehru Desai, (Narsinghpur)

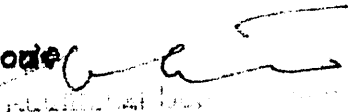
He requested that the following demands be made through an Agreement.

We have passed a resolution in the village panchayat, and have prepared a appeal highlighting some important issues. I along with my president are giving this to Honble Additional Deputy Commissioner.

- 1) People who are giving land to this company should be given a fair price to their land. Priority should be given to locals in employment. People of Narasingapuram Gram Panchayat should be given A, B, C, & D category posts with 80% seats reservation in employment for people of project affected area.
- 2) Villages affected by this project should be provided with infrastructure facilities such as drinking water, street lights, sanitation, paramedics, road, transport and other facilities.
- 3) Establishment of wellness centers for senior citizens with disabilities in Narasingapura Gram Panchayat.
- 4) All contract based works of the mining company should be given to the local people.


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY


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Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY


- 5) We are requesting you to provide blue print of this mining project.
- 6) please provide the details of mining activity and its location.
- 7) please provide complete details of conveyor line, and power line.
- 8) You have a proposal of producing 20 lakh tonnes of iron ore. In my opinion this much quantity cannot be transported in conveyor system. If you are transporting through road, which roads are being utilized for this.? And if you are utilizing existing roads then it will create lot of problem for local villagers. Please kindly make arrangement for bypass road.
- 9) There is no information on the 500 TPA plant and its location. I urge you to kindly provide this to the public.
- 10) whether the land for mining will be acquired directly or through company, please clarify regarding this.

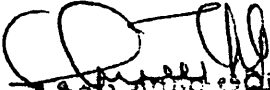
I appeal Honble Additional District Collector to provide justice to mining affected people of this region.

17) Muniyappa, Subrayanahalli.

He said- that farmers and workers in our country are like 2 eyes guiding us. Mahatma Gandhi once said that "when the peasants and workers are self-strong, then only our country will be strong and secure" So in order of this villages should be provided with basic infrastructure facilities, employment and facilities to farmers. and also good market for their products. To meet these requirement industries are required. The industry should be such that it should be environment friendly, social-consciousness and should be friendly with farmers and workers. Hence I believe that Kudremukh company to our region is our good fortune. Most of the employees and officials are from Karnataka, this company is working in karnatka for the past 40 years. Lobby is going on to shift this company to other states like orrissa, andhrapradesh etc. Our officials have encouraged to survive in own state.

The specialty of Kudremukh company, founded in 1976, in Mudigere Taluk kudremukh region for mining of low grade iron ore have not only dome mining but they have planted around 70 lakhs trees and have developed dense forest in the region. So this is an environment friendly company with scientific mining techniques. Earlier there were 4-5 villages like Samse, kalasa, jamble etc which are very remote area with very poor infrastructure facilities. When this company started they have developed good infrastructure and provided roads, employment and basic facilities, now the children of this region are well educated and are working as doctors engineers in foreign countries. This company is having good social consciousness for local villagers and for their health. Hence we should all


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY


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Page 16 of 23
Additional Deputy Commissioner
Ballari.

welcome this company, which will help us to develop into modern villages with all basic infrastructure facilities.

I wish this company to develop as a model company and with a belief that all of you will support this company, I will finish my few words. Thank you.

18) Srishaila Aldahalli, Janasangrama Parishad, Samaja Parivatana Sangatane, Sandur.

He said that – since 2000 we are fighting for the nationalization of mining, because mining will be well worth if it is under government control. If the mining is given to private hand it will be a costly affair to the common people. As you have already noted that we have done lot of agitations from 2000-2010 in all the meeting we are emphasizing regarding the nationalization of the mineral wealth. In 2003, the then Chief Minister SM Krishna had de-notified the mining area. Since then due to illegal mining activity thousand of our workers were left homeless. Who is responsible for it? No one. Neither the govt nor the mining owners make any alternative for the mining workers who lost their jobs due to mining. They made profit and workers were forced to streets .

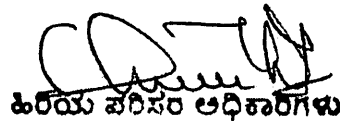
In this regard, our clear stance is that we will support Kudremukh mining company for this mining project. We will not encourage private entrepuners. Suppose if we oppose Kudremukh company now definitely it will be handed over to private companies. You might be unaware that people who have given land for establishment of Jindal company have not got employment even after repeated requests. We can fight against a Govt company but it is very difficult to fight against a private company. Hence we should support and encourage Govt Companies to grow.

Now if Kudremukh company bring their employees from Chickamangaluru, Udupi area we will oppose that, because of the depletion of forest area there is no rain and no crops. We are of the opinion that atleast our children will get jobs if such govt companies are established here. I request Kudremukh company not to create friction with local villagers like NMDC company. Your company should cooperate and provide employment and other basic facilities to the local villages. Because people here are plagued with poverty and backward in their education. So don't misuse them. If you don't attend our demands we will definitely fight against your company and close it. As we have all day to day information regarding mining in the region you can't cheat Jana sangrama Parishad or Samaja parivaratana Samudaya organizations.

We have struggled to bring water to topup the nearby lakes, because it will help farmers and develop agricultural activities. I hope your company is not greed oriented and will focus on welfare of the local people and gain the confidence of local people.


Environmental Officer,

Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY



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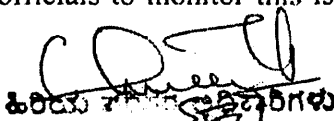

Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Ballari.

You have given very detailed presentation, however you have not mentioned about enough information of tailing disposal system. You have not clearly mentioned the details containing in 33 hectares of land. Because of the NMDC tailing dam issue, so far downline cultivable lands have not restored its fertility. In the same way you are proposing to build a tailing dam. Almost all tailing dams constructed by mining companies are breached and are polluting the narihalla dam and the same dam water is utilized for drinking purposes. People who consume this water are facing health issues. Please make a note of this. Also there is no conclusion but there is some confusion on filter cake technology used in tailing disposal system. Please make corrections in your detailed EIA report. I request you to make corrections scientifically and make changes accordingly, with this I conclude my few words, thank you.

19) A.M. Shivakumar, Janasangrama Parishad, Social Transition Organization, Sandur.

He said, The most important thing today is that this company belongs to Central PSU and called for environment public hearing to start the mining project. The project proponent has to inform the effect of the project on the surrounding environment. Also they should clearly spell out in their report regarding mining in scientific way without affecting the environment. If this company is established they should clearly spell out who will be benefited by this project ? the effect of the project on environment ? and how they are going to implement developmental activities in the villages. In todays world industries and mining companies are necessary for any development. These should be environment friendly and should be employment oriented for local people. Since this is a PSU company, compared to other private mining companies these PSU employ both locals and officers, it is easy to meet our demands by this PSU Company compared to Private mining companies. Nagaraj From Bhujangnagar proposed 17 point agenda, for that we all agree and give consent for that 17 point program. If the company makes MoU with grama sabha then we can ask the company to comply with MoU or take action against them. Dharma Naik had stated earlier that " There are mining land along with farming land., we want to both of them to survive. If you top up the lakes in the region both farmers and workers will make their livelihood". It is required to make proper arrangements for proper utilization of rain water during rainy season by making proper drains and collection system so that it will improve the ground water table. As srisaila told earlier " Mining should be nationalized" we will oppose for establishment of any private companies. However PSU should work in environment friendly manner, if not we will definitely oppose for this too. KIOCL also proposed that they are utilizing 485 hectares of forest land in that you are destroying 485 hectares of forest. So where are you going to rejuvenate such forest? Our intention for asking this is that you should not plant trees in yadgiri, Gulbarga, Raichur district etc not even in gudekote village, You should grow within this taluk. Because if you cut tree in this region you should also plant trees in the same region. So I kindly request Forest officials to monitor this issue. Karnataka State Pollution


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY


Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Ballari.

control Board have conveyed the public meeting here, in the same way you should advice them to grow plants in the same region. Everyone needs environment and everyone needs plants. IF there are trees there will be rain. The responsibility is upon us to either construct or conserve environment. If the company is planned any township it should be constructed in sandur. You have proposed 15 hectares for conveyor line and power line, you should plant trees on both side all along the line. This is a PSU company, if it works in tandem with environment it should be given public consent, I finish my speech with these few words. Thank you.


20) Shanmukhappa - Narsinghpur

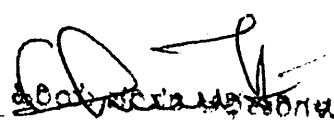
He said, Everyone said it would benefit everyone. All the people from Sandur, Bhujanganagar and Krishnanagar have spoken. But no one is asking how the company will compensate for the project effected people. Hence I'm briefing the problems faced by us to our honble ADC. Ours is an unsurveyed village. Even after conducting survey in 1972, the survey map has not come out. According to the 1972 survey we do not have any survey number. But we are having survey number as per 1955 survey records. There is no survey number for the land that came after 1955. No land acquisition can be done without survey settlement. Survey should be done first.

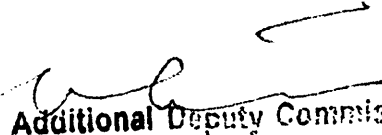
Kudremukh Company is a Government Company, we request the company to give proposal assuring overall development in the region. This is our land please provide justice and please help in survey settlement issue and then only you have to acquire the lands. But we are not opposing this company. Company should give employment to all childrens of the farmers who lost land for this project.

Whatever good we have done to NMDC has backfired. When I was a mandala panchayat president I had supported NMDC Company. Recently a interview was conducted in NMDC people from Byaladila, panna, madhyapradesh and orrisa had attended. Only 5 our of 100 people attending the interview were from Bellary. Everyone here supported for establishment of NMDC company here 40 years back, since then people from other states are given employment and not local people. If no jobs are given to locals should we eat mud here.? We are the sufferers from dust and smoke. Farmers who lost land should get compensation. You should list the people on the basis of the census in the villages. First of all give free education to every home around it. Also, arrange for free treatment of health, heart disease, lung disease and everything else. We have enough money in the DMF Fund please kindly spend it for good. With these few words I conclude my speech. Thank you

21) Pampapati, TAM. Members


Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY


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ಬೆಳ್ಳಾರಿ.


Additional Deputy Commissioner

Bellary.
Page 19 of 23

We are not against any industry. So many mines are in operation here. It is a known fact, crores of money goes to State and Central Govt. no need to praise KIOCL. See the reality of difficulties people are suffering here. So many mines are here but there are no job to local people. I am a small contractor. Hundreds of people come to my house for job . Most of the people are addicted to liquor. Males are dying due to this .They leave away small children and young widows .What are the facilities you are giving to them? Earlier during public hearing of NMDC, I was the only person who supported it when whole Taluk was against it. They utilized and later deceived me

This KIOCL has come here about couple of years back, but how many locals were given jobs ? and now you have called public hearing meeting and when our president approached regarding local employment. then you are asking to provide list of your people. On this occasion I want to know in last 3-4 years how many employment you have given to local and how many contract given to local people weather those contracts are given to local or outsiders ?

NMDC & KIOCL are brothers. Both are central PSUs. Whole area there is no farm land. Only mines are there. No rains & no crops. How should we live? If we go to Bangalore and say we are from bellary, they say you are rich people. You make money out of soil & rock. But you try to understand the local condition. We neither support, nor go against your mines. If we don't support you some private companies will come here for mining.

Tomorrow who will ensure the fulfillment of promises? I request DC to give some solution to this. We are hardly 10,000 people from 4 to 5 villages. We supported NMDC. But how many locals are employed? Tomorrow KIOCL will say we are under Central Govt. and we are to follow different rules. When NMDC started its activities my father was young. He did not get job. I am educated but unemployed. Who will ensure job to my son? After stoppage of Mines, no jobs to our local people. No water, no land for cultivation. Where should we go?. We are totally depending on NMDC. But NMDC is not giving work to local contractors. They call for open tenders and encourage other state contractors. They bid at as low as 20% and get tender. We are unable to think how they are managing. We have to beg them for everything. This land is ours. Why should we beg them? We will request our DC. Now KIOCL is telling, all officers are from Karnataka, they are good and will take care of locals. Even in NMDC locals are there, but they are loyal to NMDC and don't care about locals. KIOCL is central government unit, and they will not take care. They don't even care for MP. If this land is given to state government unit, they will listen to DC, MLA & MP. We ca get our work done. We have only a little land with us. Where should we go if this also is taken for project?

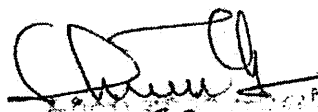
Additional Deputy Commissioner,

Bellari.

Page 20 of 23


Environmental Officer,

Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY


Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Bellari.
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Our ancestors committed mistake. They surrendered land at just 1000/- per acre. In turn only one of my uncle got job. We six brothers are here without job & no land for cultivation. BMM also acquired land. No industry came and additionally all mines are closed. No jobs now. We are not against any company or any government. You have to ensure local employment. That too preference should be in this local village panchayath. You must establish your township here itself. Many will get their livelihood due to this. We still remember Mr. Ghorpade who established township in Sandur, instead of Bellary, due to which Sandur has developed tremendously. We have changed our lifestyle in a process of following them and now we are giving importance to our children's education. I request DC not to permit KIOCL until all agreements are done. If permission is given with foul play, we don't hesitate to protest against KIOCL. In the interest of local people. It is requested to keep this in mind before giving permission. Thanks for the opportunity given to me for expressing my views.

22) D. Hanumayya, Vittalanagar

DSS Services President of Sandur Taluk

Speaking to the district officials, he said that the educated local people should be given jobs, Honble ADC should make arrangement to provide employment to all public and educated youth in the region.

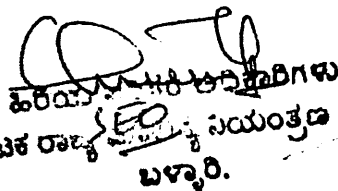
23) K.M. Shivaprakash, Navalooty

"A child who has burnt its mouth because of hot milk, takes in curd after cooling it". This is a saying in Kannada and we are in this situation now. Earlier NMDC before establishing itself had given false attractive promises to us. In turn it has given only dust. Land is ours, water is ours, road, and even the power is ours. But, workers are from outside. People who had given land for NMDC, were deprived of way to their own land. Compound was built across and we had to approach court for settlement. School going children were deprived of road to school. Daily workers who built their houses in vacant land were deprived of right of way to their house. When people fought, no concrete decisions were taken. DC of district and GM of NMDC keep on changing almost every six months and every time we are forced to give fresh representations.

Where is DMF Fund being spent? what compensation has being given to people who lost land? Land here are destroyed. People here have lost their health. Today we are presenting DC with an appeal. to frequent changes of DCs we are forced to give representations


Environmental Officer,

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
BELLARY


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ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ.

Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Ballari.

frequently. We don't want this. We want a proper agreement. Here NMDC sells ore, Jindal purchases and transportation is done by other company. We the people who lost land are here are left to suffer from dust.

We are unable to walk in road due to dust generated by truck movement. Houses in ranjithpur, vital nagar and narasapur are not required to be painted. They are automatically painted by dust. If water is sprinkled to suppress dust, slush is formed. Please understand our situation. Our generation is almost at the end. At least provide better facilities for future generation. This is my humble request. Thank you.

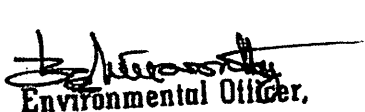
24) Muliemani Eranna

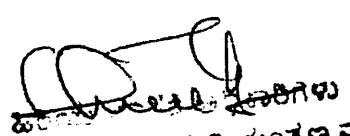
Speaking a second time he said - Thousands of acres of forest land is destroyed (marana homa). Why didn't the Forest Officer come? It has divided in to north zone and south zone an is provided with adequate staff. Why this range forest officer has not come here? Earlier there was one mine toward north of BMM called Devadhari kolla. Range officer said that the area belongs to forest land and had given the same in writing that the mines was closed. If these forest officers stay with us we local people gain lot of strength. How this police people have arrived here for public meeting even Forest department officials should have attended. Here the project proponent say that there are lizards, scorpions, and other small plants. We don't know the truth of it. If what kind of plants are present mining should be allowed? If what kind of plants are not there should mining not be allowed? Only forest officers can clarify on this matter. They should clearly outline after conducting joint meeting with north and south zone.

We spoke with both the RFO and DFO we were told not to do marketing campaign like in kumaryswamy mines. Thousand of acres of land is destroyed here. Please tell people what is the real situation here. If there is any discrepancy in implementation please inform us, we as farmers and local people will gain strength to fight against it.

The presiding officer of Environmental Public Hearing **Shri M. Satish Kumar, KAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner and Additional District Magistrate** has informed that, This is an environmental public hearing and everyone has the opportunity to speak in our democracy. In that respect, we have allowed everyone to express their opinion and everyone's opinion has been recorded and it has become a document. We are not taking any decision here. This is the stage for collecting your opinion, my responsibility is to take your opinion hence I have given opportunity to all of you to express your opinion freely and without any fear. We have recorded all your opinions along with videography and large numbers of written suggestions/objections/queries. Further he informed that the proceedings of the


Page 22 of 23

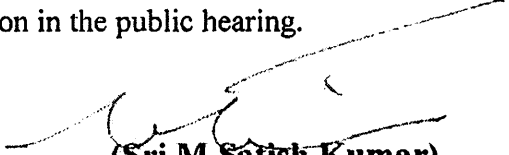

 Environmental Officer,
 Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
 BELLARY

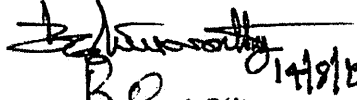

 Additional Deputy Commissioner,
 Ballari.

Environment Public Hearing will be prepared in both Kannada and English language along with relevant documents are forwarded to Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi for further deliberation and necessary action.

He thanked the public for active participation in the public hearing.


(Sri S Venkatesh Shekar)
Senior Environmental Officer
KSPCB, Ballari
14/8/19


(Sri M Satish Kumar)
Additional Deputy Commissioner
and Additional District Magistrate
Ballari District


Ro 14/8/19
Environmental Officer,
Karnataka State Pollution Central Board
BELLARY



57

F.No.J-11015/28/2018-IA-II (M)

Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Impact Assessment Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Prithvi Wing, 2nd Floor
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj
New Delhi-110 003
Date: 13th August 2021

To

M/s KIOCL Limited
II Block, Koramangala
Bangalore South
Bangalore Urban
Karnataka – 560 034

Sub: Proposal for Environmental Clearance of Devadari Iron Ore mine with a mine capacity of 2 MTPA Iron Ore (ROM) and 500 TPA Manganese Ore with 2 MTPA wet Beneficiation plant located at notified and reserved mining lease area of 401.5761 ha (388.0 ha for Mining & 13.5761 ha for conveyor, approach road, etc.) falling under Swamimalai Block Forest, Kumaraswami Reserve Forest Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary district, Karnataka by M/s KIOCL Limited -- EC

Sir,

This has reference to proposal no.IA/KA/MIN/72345/2018 for Environmental Clearance of Devadari Iron Ore mine with a mine capacity of 2 MTPA Iron Ore (ROM) and 500 TPA Manganese Ore with 2 MTPA wet Beneficiation plant located at notified and reserved mining lease area of 401.5761 ha (388.0 ha for Mining & 13.5761 ha for conveyor, approach road, etc.) falling under Swamimalai Block Forest, Kumaraswami Reserve Forest Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary district, Karnataka by M/s KIOCL Limited

1. EAC Meeting Details:

EAC meeting	33 rd EAC Meeting
Date of Meeting	13 th – 16 th July, 2021

2. Project details:

Name of the Proposal	Proposal for EC of Devadari Iron Ore mine with a mine capacity of 2 MTPA iron ore (ROM) and 500 TPA manganese ore with 2 MTPA Wet Beneficiation plant.		
Location	Village	Nandhihalli, Ranjitpura	Narsarapura,

M/s KIOCL Limited, Karnataka

1 | Page

	Tehsil/Taluka	Sandur
	District	Ballari
	State / UT	Karnataka
	Latitudes	15°1'18.18627" & 15°3'43.60179"N
	Longitudes	76°34'35.0174" & 76°36'12.77452"E
	SoI Topo sheet No.	57 A/12 (D43E12)
Company's Name	KIOCL Limited	
Accredited Consultant and certificate no.	Ecomen Laboratories Pvt. Ltd. QCI/NABET Certificate No. NABET/EIA/2023/RA 0203, valid up to September 21, 2023.	
KML file	Submitted	
Seismic zone	II	

3. Category details:

Category of the project	A
Provisions	1(a)(i) and 2b
Mining lease Area (MLA)	470.4 ha
Additional information	<p>Govt. of Karnataka (GoK) vide gazette notification dated 23.01.2017 notified an area 470.40 ha forest land in Devadari range, Sandur Taluka, Ballari District, Karnataka for Iron ore & Manganese ore mining in favour of KIOCL Limited under section 17A(2) of MMRD Act 1957. Subsequently KIOCL has submitted application for EC & FC clearance for an extent of 470.40 ha ML area + 15.3725 ha for conveyor Corridor, approach road, Power transmission line/water line) for total area of 485.7725 ha. During the process of Forest clearance Addl. Chief Secretary, (Forest, Environment, Ecology) GoK has recommended the FC proposal for an extent of 401.5761 ha (388.0 ha for Mining & 13.5761 ha for conveyor, approach road, etc) in-principle stage-I approval to MoEF&CC, Gol.</p> <p>MoEF&CC, Gol vide letter dated 24.06.2021 accorded In-Principle stage -I FC approval for the same extent of 401.5761 ha i.e., 388.00 ha for Mining lease & 13.5761 ha for conveyor, approach road, power transmission line/water line of total 401.5761 ha.</p> <p>Hence Mining Lease area will now be reduced from 470.4 ha to 388 ha and the area outside the ML will reduce from 15.3725 ha to 13.5761 ha making the total area reduced from 485.7725 ha to 401.5761 ha.</p>

4. ToR/EC Details:

ToR Proposal No.	IA/KA/MIN/72345/2018
Online application date for Form-I	22/03/2018
Documents Submitted	Brief summary, GPS file, Survey of India Toposheet, Proposed TOR, PFR, Approval

	letter of mining plan, Acknowledgement that proposal is seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 has been successfully uploaded on the portal of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India, Proof of reservation of 470.4 ha area, Mining lease gazette notification
EAC meeting date	24/04/2018
ToR Letter No.	J-11015/28/2018-IA.II (M)
ToR grant Date	16/05/2018
Production capacity	2 MTPA Iron Ore (ROM) & 500 TPA Manganese & Wet Beneficiation Plant including crushing, Screening, conveying for a capacity of 2 MTPA
Soil	1, 16,102 cu.m. of top soil
Waste	waste during proposed plan period-6.351664 M.cu.m for iron ore, 0.00085 M.cu.m for Manganese ore
Total Excavation	The total excavation (highest) for Iron ore shall be 7.87 Million TPA & Manganese ore 0.0022 Million TPA.
Crusher	3 proposed crushers: Primary Jaw Crusher 350 TPH, Secondary Cone Crushers 250 TPH, Tertiary & Quarternary Cone Crushers 250 TPH
EIA/EMP uploaded on	12/09/2019

5. Lease Details:

Prospecting operation, Commence date	Geological Survey of India prospected the area during the year 2005 to 2008.	
Application for the Mining lease area and Date	KIOCL has submitted application on 25.07.2015 to GoK for reservation of mining area in Devadari range under the provision of section 17 A (2A) of MMDR Act, 1957	
Validity of mine lease	50 years from the date of ML deed registration.	
Letter of Intent	Letter No.	Letter No. DMG/MLS/Res. KIOCL/2016-17/10301
	Date	13.02.2017
Additional information	Department of Mines & Geology vide letter No. DMG/MLS/Res. KIOCL/2016-17/10301 dated 13.02.2017 issued Letter of Intent to obtain Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification 2006 for execution of mine lease deed.	

6. Mining plan details:

Mining	Letter No.	279/1096/2018/BNG/505
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Plan(approved by Indian Bureau of Mines/DMG)	Date	08.03.2018	
	Validity	5 year plan period	
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description		
Bench Height	6 m		
Bench Width	11 m		
Method of Mining	Opencast mining with conventional shovel dumper combination		
Individual bench slope	Bank slope angle 75°		
Overall pit slope	less than 36°		
Drilling/Blasting	Controlled blasting in the pits to keep the ground vibration level within permissible limit. Rock breaker will be used so that no secondary blasting is required.		
RoM output size	2 MTPA of Iron Ore (ROM) and 500 TPA of Manganese Ore. The total excavation (highest) shall be 7.87 million TPA.		
	Lump Ore	Fines Ore	Iron ore concentrate
	+10 - 40 mm (Over & under size : Max. 5% Each)	Size: - 10mm (with oversize 5% maximum and undersize 20% maximum)	(-)325 mesh
Life of mine	Considering the present mineable reserve, the life of mine is calculated 7 years. However, after the detailed exploration of entire mining lease area, the expected mineral reserve is likely to substantiate a mine life of around 20 years.		
Transportation details	The Iron ore produced in the mine will be transported through Downhill Conveyor to the nearest railway siding at Ranjithpura Railway Station/BMM Railway Siding which is about 4 kms away from the proposed mine site. The railway siding facilities, which already exists at Ranjithpura/BMM Railway Siding will be utilized for transportation of iron ore to KIOCL plants at Mangalore. Manganese Ore produced from mine will be transported through trucks to Railway siding about 4 km from mine site		
Dumpers capacity	35 Tonnes		
Additional information	The ore and over burden will be excavated and transported by conventional shovel – dumper combination after loosening the hard rock mass by blasting. Excavators of 3.5 - 4.5 m ³ capacity will be utilized for excavation and loading and 35 tonne capacity dumpers will be used for the transportation of the ore and overburden. The blasted ore will be loaded by the excavator and transported by dumper to a ROM stock pile close to the proposed crushing plant.		

7. Land Area Breakup:

Private land	NIL
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Government land	Forest land
Total Mining lease area (MLA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Govt. of Karnataka (GoK) vide gazette notification dated 23.01.2017 notified an area 470.40 ha forest land in Devadari range, Sandur Tq, Ballari Dt., Karnataka for Iron ore & manganese ore mining in favour of KIOCL Limited under section 17A(2) of MMRD Act 1957. MoEF&CC, GoI vide letter dated 24.06.2021 accorded In-Principle stage-I FC approval for the extent of 401.5761 ha i.e., 388.00 ha for Mining lease & 13.5761 ha for conveyor, approach road, power transmission line/water line of total 401.5761 ha. Hence Mining Lease area will now be reduced from 470.4 ha to 388 ha and the area outside the ML will reduce from 15.3725 ha to 13.5761 ha making the total area reduced from 485.7725 ha to 401.5761 ha.
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	NA

8. Nearest village / town/ highway/railway station / water bodies

Particulars	Particular's Name	Distance & Directions
Village	Nandhihalli	1.6 km, W
Village	Narsarapura	1.1 km, E
Village	Ranjitpura	1.5 km, E
TOWN	Sandur	4.6 km, NW
Road	MDR-131	6.2 km, E
Road	MDR-40	5.4 km, NW
Road	MDR-49	5.2 km, N
Railway station	Toranagallu	28 km, N
Railway station	Ranithpura	1.5 km, E
Water body	Narihalla	4.2 km, NW
Water body	Narihalla dam and reservoir	4.9 km, N

9. Water requirement

Total water requirement	2953.21 m3/hr	Fresh water	143.48 m3/hr
		Treated water	2809.73 m3/hr
Source	Tungabhadra Dam		
Permission	In progress		
Additional information	<p>The approval of withdrawal of water from State Govt. is in advance stage.</p> <p>Chief engineer, KNNL, TB dam, Munirabad, has recommended the proposal of drawl of 4 MLD of water from downstream of TB dam near Nimbhapura village, for Devadari mining project. Further, on 05.2.2021, Managing Director, KNNL, has also recommended the proposal to Govt of Karnataka. Due to COVID 19 Pandemic lockdown in the state of Karnataka, the approval</p>		

	process got delayed. Meeting of water allocation committee was held on 16.06.2021 and proposal for sanction of water was considered favourably by the committee.
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10. Presence of Environmentally Sensitive areas in the study area

Forest Area/Environmental Zone	Land/Protected Sensitivity	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter/Remarks
Forest Land		Yes	Mining area falls under Kumaraswamy Reserved forest.
National park		NO	
Wildlife Sanctuary		NO	

Schedule-1 species	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter/Remarks		
Schedule-I species	Yes	Sl. No.	Common Name / Local Name	Scientific Name
		1	Black buck	Antelope cervicapra
		2	Indian wolf	Canis lupus pallipes
		3	Panther	Pantheropardus
		4	Sloth bear	Melursusursinus
		5	Monitor lizard	Varanus spp.
		6	Python	Python molurus
		7	Common peafowl	Pavocristatus
Wildlife Conservation Plan	Yes	Conservation plan for all the seven Schedule-1 species have been prepared and submitted for the approval to the Chief Wild Life Warden under acknowledgement vide letter No. KIOCL/DPP/06 dated 11/08/2020.		

11. Green belt/plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation	447.78 ha as per Mine Plan (Due to reduction of ML area, the revised area for Green Belt /Plantation at the conceptual period will be 353.7099 ha).
Budget for green plant & plantation till the end of life of mine.	Capital cost: Rs 100 lac. Recurring cost Rs 10 lacs (during first 5 years)
Budget for nursery	25 lac proposed under CER

Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone	Safety Zone 9.9571 ha. Green belt 31.8419 ha.
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines	-
500 m safety zones of nearest habitation villages	-

12. Baseline detail

Baseline Data (Air / Water / Noise / Soil / Ground water table/ others)

Period of baseline data collection	March to May 2018
Season (Summer / Pre-monsoon / Post-monsoon / Winter)	Pre-monsoon

13. Public Hearing (PH) Details

Advertisement for PH with date	'Indian Express', (English) and 'Vijay Karnataka' (Kannada) on 24-05-2019.
Date of PH	25-06-2019
Venue	Project Site of Devadari Iron Ore Mine, Swamimalai Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District.
Chaired by	Additional Deputy Commissioner and Additional District Magistrate, Ballari District
Main issues raised during PH	Employment, Education, Plantation, Infrastructure, Grazing land, Pollution especially Dust, Noise & Water.
Budget proposed for addressing issues raised during PH	Company has earmarked Rs 5 Crs under Environment Management plan and Rs 10.87 Crs for various activities under Corporate Environment Responsibility.
Additional information	CER will be implemented in 1 st Five-year plan period on execution of mining lease deed and commencement of mining activities.

14. Court case details:

Court Case	No
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15. Rehabilitation & Resettlement:

R & R details	Not Applicable
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16. Affidavit/Undertaking details:

Affidavit/Undertaking	Letter No. KIOCL/Mining/DIOM/1863, dated 10/09/2019 by GM (Mining, O&M Doni project), KIOCL Limited, Bangalore
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17. ADS details:

S.No.	ADS Point	Reply
1	Approval for the allocation of water from Tungabhadra Dam to use in Devadari iron Ore mine.	The company has planned to source water from Tunga Bhadra dam or Narihalla reservoir. The requirement of water would be 2953.21 m ³ /hr. Recovery of water in the plant would be around 2809.73 m ³ /hr. Therefore, the makeup water requirement for the project is 143.48 m ³ /hr rounding to 150 m ³ /hr (3.6 MLD). Accordingly, company has submitted application on 12.10.2018 to Principal Secretary, Water Resource Department, Govt. of Karnataka. As per the Govt. of Karnataka directions, Company has resubmitted application in prescribed format on

		13.03.2020 for allocation of 4 MLD water from TB Dam or Narihalla reservoir. Water resource department, GoK vide letter dated 22.05.2020 directed Managing Director, <i>Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited (KNNL)</i> to verify the application and submit the detail report regarding the proposal. The application is under process with Water Resource Dept., GoK.															
2	Submit the present status of the forest clearance for 470.40 ha mining lease area and outside the mine lease area of 15.3725 ha.	<p>Company has submitted FC application in Form "A" on 16.03.2018 through online portal of MoEF&CC, GoI. On 23.08.2018, Nodal officer, GoK accepted FC application. Company has submitted hard copy of FC application on 28.08.2018 to Deputy Conservator of Forest (DCF), Ballari.</p> <p>DCF, Ballari visited Devadari mine site on 25.09.2019 and submitted Part II report to CCF, Ballari Circle. Thereafter, CCF, Ballari Circle submitted Part III report to Nodal Officer, GoK. On 19.02.2020 PCCF, GoK forwarded FC proposal to Additional Chief Secretary (Forest), GoK along with Part IV report for submission to MoEF&CC, GoI for in-principle (Stage I) FC approval.</p> <p>Currently, the Forest Clearance application is being processed in the office of Additional Chief Secretary (Forest), GoK for State Govt recommendations for in-principle (Stage I) FC approval. The State Government was sought clarification from PCCF and same was forwarded to CCF, Ballari Circle for review and opinion.</p>															
3	PP need to bring out the total excavation quantity for mineral wise, waste generation, Top soil generation, OB/IB/SB generation and its quantity of reserves mineral wise etc.	<p>Reserves ,Excavation and Generation of waste during proposed plan period</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>Iron ore</th> <th>Manganese ore</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Probable reserves</td> <td>7.34 million tonnes</td> <td>1400 tonnes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total excavation(Waste+ore)</td> <td>7.87 Million TPA</td> <td>0.0022 Million TPA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waste generation (OB/SB/IB)</td> <td>6.351664 M.cu.m</td> <td>0.00085 M.cu.m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Top soil generation</td> <td>0.116102 M.cu.m</td> <td>NIL</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Description	Iron ore	Manganese ore	Probable reserves	7.34 million tonnes	1400 tonnes	Total excavation(Waste+ore)	7.87 Million TPA	0.0022 Million TPA	Waste generation (OB/SB/IB)	6.351664 M.cu.m	0.00085 M.cu.m	Top soil generation	0.116102 M.cu.m	NIL
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Waste generation (OB/SB/IB)	6.351664 M.cu.m	0.00085 M.cu.m															
Top soil generation	0.116102 M.cu.m	NIL															
4	PP need to submit the Revised CER for the total cost of the project including cost of land	<p>Total cost of the project is Rs. 787.5 Crores Proposed CER expenses is Rs. 10.87 Crores</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sl. No.</th> <th>Details of Activities</th> <th>Amount proposed (Rs lakhs) Approx.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sl. No.	Details of Activities	Amount proposed (Rs lakhs) Approx.												
Sl. No.	Details of Activities	Amount proposed (Rs lakhs) Approx.															

		1	Creation of Health infrastructure & assistance	50
		2	Creation of Education facilities.	50
		3	Environment sustainability	565
		4	Infrastructure development	320
		5	Hygiene and Health	50
		6	Sustainable livelihood	25
		7	Development of Sports facility & cultural activity	15
		8	Skill Development	12
			Total	1087
5	PP need to submit the EMP cost.	Capital cost to be made on Environment Management plan is Rs 500 lakhs and Recurring cost per year is Rs 100 lakhs.		
6	List of Flora & Fauna details duly authenticated by the Department of Forest/Wild life division of the state Government.	List of Flora and Fauna authenticated by DCF, Forest Department, Ballari is enclosed. Schedule – I Fauna are Black buck, Panther, Sloth Bear Common peafowl, Monitor lizard, Python & Indian Wolf. Site Specific Conservation plan for above seven Schedule-I Fauna have been prepared & submitted to Chief Wild Life Warden at Bengaluru vide letter No. KIOCL/DPP/06.		
7	PP needs to bring the Revised R&R plan and the HR policy for the engagement of 500 employees.	This project is Greenfield project and there are no habitants within lease area. Rehabilitation and Resettlement is not envisaged. For engagement of 500 employees for this project, KIOCL being CPSU has well defined HR policy for recruitment of workers and officer category. Out of 500, 435 shall be permanent employees & 65 out sourced employees through local contractors.		
8	Permission for shifting of School and its alternative location	This project is Greenfield project and no habitants within the lease area. No school is existing within the core zone hence shifting of school to alternate location is not envisaged		
9	Estimated quantity of Manganese reserve and life in the mine lease area	The Probable Manganese ore Reserves are 1400 tons with an average grade of 34.96% Mn. Initial 4 years is envisaged for preparatory works like preparation of storage yard, removal of OB, road and production of Manganese ore at the rate of 500 tonnes/year starting from 5th year of mine plan onwards. The life of mine is considered as 7 years.		
10	PP did not provide the details of the	Reserves ,Excavation and Generation of waste during proposed plan period		

	overburden, inter-burden, top soil generation etc.	Description	Iron ore	Manganese ore
		Probable reserves	7.34 million tonnes	1400 tonnes
		Total excavation (Waste+ore)	7.87 Million TPA	0.0022 Million TPA
		Waste generation (OB/SB/IB)	6.351664 M.cu.m	0.00085 M.cu.m
		Top soil generation	0.116102 M.cu.m	NIL
11	PP needs to submit the plan of utilization of wastes overburden, inter-burden, filtered tailings and its dumping locations should bring out.	<p>Waste dumps Management (Utilization & dumping location) Total quantity of waste generation (OB/SB/IB) during proposed plan period will be 6.351664 M.cu.m for Iron ore & 0.00085 M.cu.m for Manganese ore. Some quantity of overburden waste is envisaged for laying of mine roads. The overburden/ waste generated during the excavation of iron ore will be dumped at the western side of the lease area demarcated as Waste Dump-1 Similarly, the waste generated by the Manganese pit will be dumped at Waste Dump-2 demarcated at the south western corner of the lease area. After the mine reaches the conceptual stage, backfilling is envisaged in a sequential manner such that the terrain attains its original profile. All overburden dumps and tailing stack yards are planned for afforestation with indigenous species. Details of Tailing dump Pond and its management: The low-grade iron ore will be processed for up-gradation of the Fe content. The capacity of tailing dump pond is 3 Mt. The filtered tailing cake will be disposed off in tailing dump pond @ 0.4 MT /year. The tailings generated by iron ore beneficiation will be dewatered and the tailing cakes will be dumped at north-west corner of the lease.</p>		
12	Undertaking for not utilization of ground water resources.	Undertaking for not utilization of ground water resources has been submitted.		
13	Undertaking by way of Affidavit in compliance of the Ministry OM 30.05.2018.	Devadari Iron Ore Mine is a Greenfield project and the mine is yet to commence the operations. Environmental Clearance is one of the prerequisites for execution of Mining Lease Deed. Affidavit for compliance of the Ministry's OM no. 3-50/2017-IA.III (Pt.), dated 30th May 2018 that this judgment is not applicable to the said project.		
14	In addition to above, on further examination of	The project is both mining (1 (a) (i)) and beneficiation (2(b)). Corrected Form -2 has been		

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	the proposal it has found that in Form-2 details of the beneficiation is mentioned but the application is only made in schedule 1 (a) (i) i.e. mining of mineral. In view of the same it is requested to clarify whether the application involve mining as well as beneficiation or not. If yes, the revised from-2 needs to be submitted.	submitted.
2.	ADS Dated 30/08/2021	Replied on 28/06/2021
1	The Committee observed that latitude & longitude needs to be verified as per coordinate provided by the State Government.	Latitude & Longitude are verified with the coordinates provided by the State Government vide notification no. CI 294 MMM 2015, Bengaluru, dated 23-01-2017 by Commerce and Industries Secretariat, Government of Karnataka.
2	The Committee asked the PP to submit the approval of State Government for withdrawal of water from TB Dam or Narihalla reservoir.	The approval of withdrawal of water from state govt. is in advance stage. Total water requirement is 2953.21 m ³ /hr. Water recovery shall be 2809.73 m ³ /hr making total make up water requirement 143.48 m ³ /hr rounding to 150 m ³ /hr. Chief engineer, KNNL, TB dam, Munirabad, has recommended the proposal of drawl of 4 MLD of water from downstream of TB dam near Nimbhapura village, for Devadari mining project. Further, on 05.2.2021, Managing Director, KNNL, has also recommended the proposal to Govt of Karnataka. Due to COVID 19 Pandemic lockdown in the state of Karnataka, the approval process is getting delayed. It is understood that, water allocation committee was held on 16.06.2021 and proposal for sanction of water was considered favourably. Copy of letter of Chief engineer and Managing Director, KNNL has been submitted.
3	PP should submit the species to be planted and select indigenous local species.	List of plants/species (Indigenous local species) that will be planted under Afforestation/ Green Belt Development program including Safety Zone in respect to Devadari Iron ore Mine of M/s KIOCL has been submitted
4	PP may expedite the process for grant of FC and submit the Stage-I of FC for consideration of the proposal for	MoEF&CC, Gol accorded on 24.06.2021 Stage-I In-principle approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for diversion of 401.5761 ha (388.0 ha for Mining & 13.5761 ha for conveyor line, approach road, power transmission line/water line

	grant of EC. In addition to this PP shall also submit a distance of mining lease from the protected area if any falling within the 10 KM of the project site.	etc.) of forest land in Swamimalai Block forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari Dt. for Mining in Devadari hill range in favour of KIOCL Ltd. Copy of Stage -I / In-principle approval is submitted. No protected area is falling within 10 km from the project site. Protected area buffer zone map has been submitted.																								
5	PP should verify the list provided by State Government and mention the schedule against each species. PP should also prepare the conservation plan for all the schedule-1 species and submit the same for the approval of the Chief Wildlife Warden. PP shall upload the list of schedule-1 species, copy of conservation plan and its proof of submission to CWWL on the PARIVESH Portal.	<p>The verified list mentioning Schedule, Part and Serial No. against each species of Fauna has been submitted (Source –Working group of Ballari forest division) of ADS reply. There are total seven Schedule-1 species as per the list mentioned in the Table below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sl. No.</th> <th>Common Name / Local Name</th> <th>Scientific Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Black buck</td> <td>Antelope cervicapra</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Indian wolf</td> <td>Canis lupus pallipes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Panther</td> <td>Pantheropardus</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Sloth bear</td> <td>Melursus ursinus</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Monitor lizard</td> <td>Varanus spp.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Python</td> <td>Python molurus</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>Common peafowl</td> <td>Pavocristatus</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Conservation plan for all the seven Schedule-1 species have been prepared and submitted for the approval to the Chief Wild Life Warden under acknowledgement vide letter No. KIOCL/DPP/06 dated 11/08/2020. List of schedule-1 species, copy of conservation plan and its proof of submission to CWWL have been uploaded on the Parivesh Portal.</p>	Sl. No.	Common Name / Local Name	Scientific Name	1	Black buck	Antelope cervicapra	2	Indian wolf	Canis lupus pallipes	3	Panther	Pantheropardus	4	Sloth bear	Melursus ursinus	5	Monitor lizard	Varanus spp.	6	Python	Python molurus	7	Common peafowl	Pavocristatus
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6	The Committee is of the view that isopleth is not incorporated in the EIA/EMP Report nor in the annexure rather it is uploaded separately. Further, there is no indexing in the isopleth. The Committee is of the view that air quality modeling should be done for all the activities viz. drilling, blasting, loading, unloading, transportation,	<p>Revised isopleths with indexing considering the related activities have been submitted.</p> <p>Original analysis report of samples collected and the accreditation certificate of the laboratory have been submitted as an annexure with the ADS reply.</p>																								

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	<p>crushing, conveying, beneficiation activities considering the total excavation and material re-handling. The control case and worst case scenario needs to be demonstrated with controlling factor and GLCs values for all the pollutants needs to be mentioned clearly. In addition to this the Original analysis report of sample collected needs to be submitted along with the accreditation certificate of the laboratory. The input parameters used for the modeling needs to be submitted to the Ministry.</p>	
7	<p>PP should provide the complete details (area, location, tentative budget, timeline) for the grazing land.</p>	<p>The proposed mining project falls within SM block reserve forest area of total extent is 6993 ha. The proposed mining project area is 401.5761 ha. The balance land status remain same & available for grazing.</p> <p>However, under CER company proposed to develop grazing land near Mudukalapenta /Vittalnagar area with an estimated cost of Rs 65 lakhs including cost of land.</p> <p>In this regard a request letter is submitted to DC Ballari, to provide 25 ha C&D class revenue land for development of grazing land in order to increase fodder yield by way of good & fast-growing grass seedling, watering, distribution of fodder and measure to improve soil fertility under corporate environmental responsibility fund in & around Narasingapura /Ranjithpura /Bujanganagara villages, SandurTq, Ballari Dt. This will enhance the growth of livestock as well as socio-economic development of nearby villagers. Copy of request letter to DC Ballari has been submitted.</p>
8	<p>Activities proposed under CER needs to be revised as suggested by EAC during the meeting.</p>	<p>Project proponent has provided CER on environmental sustainability for Rs. 565 lacs and sustainable livelihood for Rs. 25 lacs including other activities of capital nature which can be monitored. Details of CER have been submitted.</p>

19. Details of the EMP:

Activities	Capital cost (Crores)	Recurring cost (Lakhs/annum)
Capital and recurring cost on Environment	5	100

20. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	(Rs. In Crore)
Capital Cost for Environment Protection	5
Budget for addressing the Public Hearing issues	Company has earmarked Rs 5 Crs under Environment Management plan and Rs 10.87 Crs for various activities under Corporate Environment Responsibility.
Total Cost for EMP	5
Recurring Cost for EMP	1
Project Cost	787.5
Employment	The direct employment will be 500 persons. Indirect employment will be about 1000 persons.

20. The Committee observed that details of expenses proposed in Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) submitted by PP are very generic. The Committee also observed shortfalls in the mine plan. It is also noted that Wildlife conservation plan has been prepared and submitted for approval to PCCF. It is also noted that 10.87 Crores have been earmarked for public hearing concerns.

21. After detailed deliberations made by the Project Proponent and the Consultant, the Committee during its meeting during 13th to 16th July, 2021 recommended the proposal for Environmental Clearance of Devadari Iron Ore mine with a mine capacity of 2 MTPA Iron Ore (ROM) and 500 TPA Manganese Ore with 2 MTPA wet Beneficiation plant for 401.5761 ha (388.0 ha for Mining + 13.5761 ha for conveyor, approach road, etc.) out of 485.7725 ha project area (470.40 ha mine lease area + 15.3725 ha conveyor, approach road etc) located at Swamimalai Block Forest, Kumaraswami Reserve Forest Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary district, Karnataka by M/s KIOCL Limited along with the specific conditions.

22. The Ministry has examined the proposal in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and further amendments thereto; and after accepting the recommendation of 33rd meeting during 13th to 16th July, 2021, Ministry grants the proposal for Environmental Clearance of Devadari Iron Ore mine with a mine capacity of 2 MTPA Iron Ore (ROM) and 500 TPA Manganese Ore with 2 MTPA wet Beneficiation plant for 401.5761 ha (388.0 ha for Mining + 13.5761 ha for conveyor, approach road, etc.) out of 485.7725 ha project area (470.40 ha mine lease area + 15.3725 ha conveyor, approach road etc) located at Swamimalai Block Forest, Kumaraswami Reserve Forest Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary district, Karnataka by M/s KIOCL Limited with the following specific conditions alongwith the standard conditions:

A. Specific conditions

- 1) Mining shall be restricted to 388.00 ha only.
- 2) Proper plan up to 22 years as operation will commenced up to 22 years. Mass balance in terms of iron ore rejects with iron containing less than 35, management of tailing as mass balance including the water balance as wet beneficiation and dry beneficiation.
- 3) Wildlife conservation plan has to be dynamic. Action plan and monitoring plan has to be prepared and proper operation of wildlife conservation plan needs to be done. The Wildlife conservation plan has been prepared and submitted for approval to PCCF. Copy of approval sent to PCCF needs to be submitted to Ministry. At the stage of implementation and on approval of the plan, the monitoring structure should be in place so that implementation of the plan can be done for which it has been prepared.
- 4) 10.87 Crores have been earmarked for public hearing concerns. Detailed table with activity-wise, component-wise needs to be submitted by PP.
- 5) The peripheral plantation plan should be taken up in 2 years with minimum 3 m height sapling with 2 × 2 m spacing.
- 6) Since it is a Greenfield project, entire peripheral plantation must be completed before the mining activity actually starts with 95% survival rate. At the end of 1 year, monitoring for 95% survival rate and the gap plantation must be done.
- 7) The EC will only be functional after obtaining permission for with-drawl of groundwater from the competent authority.
- 8) As the Public Hearing has been carried out for the entire 485.7725 Ha, project proponent after taking Stage-II Forest Clearance for remaining area i.e. 84.1964 Ha; may again approach the Ministry for undertaking mining in the remaining area with the proper mining plan.

B. Standard conditions

I. Statutory compliance

- (1) This Environmental Clearance (EC) is subject to orders/ judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble High Court, Hon'ble NGT and any other Court of Law, Common Cause Conditions as may be applicable.
- (2) The Project proponent complies with all the statutory requirements and judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2nd August,2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in matter of Common Cause versus Union of India &Ors before commencing the mining operations.



- (3) The State Government concerned shall ensure that mining operation shall not be commenced till the entire compensation levied, if any, for illegal mining paid by the Project Proponent through their respective Department of Mining & Geology in strict compliance of Judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2nd August, 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in matter of Common Cause versus Union of India & Ors.
- (4) This Environmental Clearance shall become operational only after receiving formal NBWL Clearance from MoEF&CC subsequent to the recommendations of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife, if applicable to the Project.
- (5) This Environmental Clearance shall become operational only after receiving formal Forest Clearance (FC) under the provision of Forest Conservation Act, 1980, if applicable to the Project.
- (6) Project Proponent (PP) shall obtain Consent to Operate after grant of EC and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein. The mining activity shall not commence prior to obtaining Consent to Establish / Consent to Operate from the concerned State Pollution Control Board/Committee.
- (7) The PP shall adhere to the provision of the Mines Act, 1952, Mines and Mineral (Development & Regulation), Act, 2015 and rules & regulations made there under. PP shall adhere to various circulars issued by Directorate General Mines Safety (DGMS) and Indian Bureau of Mines from time to time.
- (8) The Project Proponent shall obtain consents from all the concerned land owners, before start of mining operations, as per the provisions of MMDR Act, 1957 and rules made there under in respect of lands which are not owned by it.
- (9) The Project Proponent shall follow the mitigation measures provided in MoEFCC's Office Memorandum No. Z-11013/57/2014-IA.II (M), dated 29th October, 2014, titled "Impact of mining activities on Habitations-Issues related to the mining Projects wherein Habitations and villages are the part of mine lease areas or Habitations and villages are surrounded by the mine lease area".
- (10) The Project Proponent shall obtain necessary prior permission of the competent authorities for drawl of requisite quantity of surface water and from CGWA for withdrawal of ground water for the project.
- (11) A copy of EC letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat / local NGO etc. if any, from whom suggestion / representation has been received while processing the proposal.
- (12) State Pollution Control Board/Committee shall be responsible for display of this EC letter at its Regional office, District Industries Centre and Collector's office/ Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- (13) The Project Authorities should widely advertise about the grant of this EC letter by printing the same in at least two local newspapers, one of which shall be in vernacular language of the concerned area. The advertisement shall be done within 7 days of the issue of the clearance letter mentioning that the instant project has been accorded EC and copy of the EC letter is available with the State Pollution Control Board/Committee and web site of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (www.parivesh.nic.in). A copy of the advertisement may be forwarded to the concerned MoEFCC Regional Office for compliance and record.

- (14) The Project Proponent shall inform the MoEF&CC for any change in ownership of the mining lease. In case there is any change in ownership or mining lease is transferred than mining operation shall only be carried out after transfer of EC as per provisions of the para 11 of EIA Notification, 2006 as amended from time to time.

II. Air quality monitoring and preservation

- (1) The Project Proponent shall install a minimum of 3 (three) online Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations with 1 (one) in upwind and 2 (two) in downwind direction based on long term climatological data about wind direction such that an angle of 120° is made between the monitoring locations to monitor critical parameters, relevant for mining operations, of air pollution viz. PM10, PM2.5, NO₂, CO and SO₂ etc. as per the methodology mentioned in NAAQS Notification No. B-29016/20/90/PC/I/I, dated 18.11.2009 covering the aspects of transportation and use of heavy machinery in the impact zone. The ambient air quality shall also be monitored at prominent places like office building, canteen etc. as per the site condition to ascertain the exposure characteristics at specific places. The above data shall be digitally displayed within 03 months in front of the main Gate of the mine site.
- (2) Effective safeguard measures for prevention of dust generation and subsequent suppression (like regular water sprinkling, metalled road construction etc.) shall be carried out in areas prone to air pollution wherein high levels of PM10 and PM2.5 are evident such as haul road, loading and unloading point and transfer points. The Fugitive dust emissions from all sources shall be regularly controlled by installation of required equipments/ machineries and preventive maintenance. Use of suitable water-soluble chemical dust suppressing agents may be explored for better effectiveness of dust control system. It shall be ensured that air pollution level conform to the standards prescribed by the MoEFCC/ Central Pollution Control Board.

III. Water quality monitoring and preservation

- (1) In case, immediate mining scheme envisages intersection of ground water table, then Environmental Clearance shall become operational only after receiving formal clearance from CGWA. In case, mining operation involves intersection of ground water table at a later stage, then PP shall ensure that prior approval from CGWA and MoEFCC is in place before such mining operations. The permission for intersection of ground water table shall essentially be based on detailed hydro-geological study of the area.
- (2) Regular monitoring of the flow rate of the springs and perennial nallahs flowing in and around the mine lease shall be carried out and records maintain. The natural water bodies and or streams which are flowing in an around the village, should not be disturbed. The Water Table should be nurtured so as not to go down below the

pre-mining period. In case of any water scarcity in the area, the Project Proponent has to provide water to the villagers for their use. A provision for regular monitoring of water table in open dug well located in village should be incorporated to ascertain the impact of mining over ground water table. The Report on changes in Ground water level and quality shall be submitted on six-monthly basis to the Regional Office of the Ministry, CGWA and State Groundwater Department / State Pollution Control Board.

- (3) Project Proponent shall regularly monitor and maintain records w.r.t. ground water level and quality in and around the mine lease by establishing a network of existing wells as well as new piezo-meter installations during the mining operation in consultation with Central Ground Water Authority/ State Ground Water Department. The Report on changes in Ground water level and quality shall be submitted on six-monthly basis to the Regional Office of the Ministry, CGWA and State Groundwater Department / State Pollution Control Board.
- (4) The Project Proponent shall undertake regular monitoring of natural water course/ water resources/ springs and perennial nallahs existing/ flowing in and around the mine lease and maintain its records. The project proponent shall undertake regular monitoring of water quality upstream and downstream of water bodies passing within and nearby/ adjacent to the mine lease and maintain its records. Sufficient number of gullies shall be provided at appropriate places within the lease for management of water. PP shall carryout regular monitoring w.r.t. pH and included the same in monitoring plan. The parameters to be monitored shall include their water quality vis-à-vis suitability for usage as per CPCB criteria and flow rate. It shall be ensured that no obstruction and/ or alteration be made to water bodies during mining operations without justification and prior approval of MoEFCC. The monitoring of water courses/ bodies existing in lease area shall be carried out four times in a year viz. pre- monsoon (April-May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January) and the record of monitored data may be sent regularly to Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and its Regional Office, Central Ground Water Authority and Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, State Pollution Control Board and Central Pollution Control Board. Clearly showing the trend analysis on six-monthly basis.
- (5) Quality of polluted water generated from mining operations which include Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) in mines run-off; acid mine drainage and metal contamination in runoff shall be monitored along with Total Suspended Solids (TDS), Dissolved Oxygen (DO), pH and Total Suspended Solids (TSS). The monitored data shall be uploaded on the website of the company as well as displayed at the project site in public domain, on a display board, at a suitable location near the main gate of the Company. The circular No. J- 20012/1/2006-IA.II (M) dated 27.05.2009 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may also be referred in this regard.
- (6) Project Proponent shall plan, develop and implement rainwater harvesting measures on long term basis to augment ground water resources in the area in consultation with Central Ground Water Board/ State Groundwater Department. A report on amount of water recharged needs to be submitted to Regional Office MoEFCC annually.

- (7) Industrial waste water (workshop and waste water from the mine) should be properly collected and treated so as to conform to the notified standards prescribed from time to time. The standards shall be prescribed through Consent to Operate (CTO) issued by concerned State Pollution Control Board (SPCB). The workshop effluent shall be treated after its initial passage through Oil and grease trap.
- (8) The water balance/water auditing shall be carried out and measure for reducing the consumption of water shall be taken up and reported to the Regional Office of the MoEF&CC and State Pollution Control Board/Committee.

IV. Noise and vibration monitoring and prevention

- (1) The peak particle velocity at 500m distance or within the nearest habitation, whichever is closer shall be monitored periodically as per applicable DGMS guidelines.
- (2) The illumination and sound at night at project sites disturb the villages in respect of both human and animal population. Consequent sleeping disorders and stress may affect the health in the villages located close to mining operations. Habitations have a right for darkness and minimal noise levels at night. PPs must ensure that the biological clock of the villages is not disturbed; by orienting the floodlights/ masks away from the villagers and keeping the noise levels well within the prescribed limits for day /night hours.
- (3) The Project Proponent shall take measures for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. The workers engaged in operations of HEMM, etc. should be provided with ear plugs /muffs. All personnel including laborers working in dusty areas shall be provided with protective respiratory devices along with adequate training, awareness and information on safety and health aspects. The PP shall be held responsible in case it has been found that workers/ personals/ laborers are working without personal protective equipment.

V. Mining plan

- (1) The Project Proponent shall adhere to the working parameters of mining plan which was submitted at the time of EC appraisal wherein year-wise plan was mentioned for total excavation i.e. quantum of mineral, waste, over burden, inter burden and top soil etc.. No change in basic mining proposal like mining technology, total excavation, mineral & waste production, lease area and scope of working (viz. method of mining, overburden & dump management, O.B & dump mining, mineral transportation mode, ultimate depth of mining etc.) shall not be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, which entail adverse environmental impacts, even if it is a part of approved mining plan modified after grant of EC or granted by State Govt. in the form to Short Term Permit (STP), Query license or any other name.
- (2) The Project Proponent shall get the Final Mine Closure Plan along with Financial Assurance approved from Indian Bureau of Mines/Department of Mining & Geology

as required under the Provision of the MMDR Act, 1957 and Rules/ Guidelines made there under. A copy of approved final mine closure plan shall be submitted within 2 months of the approval of the same from the competent authority to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for record and verification.

- (3) The land-use of the mine lease area at various stages of mining scheme as well as at the end-of-life shall be governed as per the approved Mining Plan. The excavation vis-à-vis backfilling in the mine lease area and corresponding afforestation to be raised in the reclaimed area shall be governed as per approved mining plan. PP shall ensure the monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. The compliance status shall be submitted half-yearly to the MoEFCC and its concerned Regional Office.

VI. Land reclamation

- (1) The Overburden (O.B.) generated during the mining operations shall be stacked at earmarked OB dump site(s) only and it should not be kept active for a long period of time. The physical parameters of the OB dumps like height, width and angle of slope shall be governed as per the approved Mining Plan as per the guidelines/circulars issued by D.G.M.S w.r.t. safety in mining operations shall be strictly adhered to maintain the stability of top soil/OB dumps. The topsoil shall be used for land reclamation and plantation.
- (2) The reject/waste generated during the mining operations shall be stacked at earmarked waste dump site(s) only. The physical parameters of the waste dumps like height, width and angle of slope shall be governed as per the approved Mining Plan as per the guidelines/circulars issued by DGMS w.r.t. safety in mining operations shall be strictly adhered to maintain the stability of waste dumps.
- (3) The reclamation of waste dump sites shall be done in scientific manner as per the Approved Mining Plan cum Progressive Mine Closure Plan.
- (4) The slope of dumps shall be vegetated in scientific manner with suitable native species to maintain the slope stability, prevent erosion and surface run off. The selection of local species regulates local climatic parameters and help in adaptation of plant species to the microclimate. The gullies formed on slopes should be adequately taken care of as it impacts the overall stability of dumps. The dump mass should be consolidated with the help of dozer/ compactors thereby ensuring proper filling/ leveling of dump mass. In critical areas, use of geo textiles/ geomembranes / clay liners / Bentonite etc. shall be undertaken for stabilization of the dump.
- (5) The Project Proponent shall carry out slope stability study in case the dump height is more than 30 meters. The slope stability report shall be submitted to concerned regional office of MoEF&CC.
- (6) Catch drains, settling tanks and siltation ponds of appropriate size shall be constructed around the mine working, mineral yards and Top Soil/OB/Waste dumps to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the water bodies (Nallah/ River/ Pond etc.). The collected water should be utilized for watering the

mine area, roads, green belt development, plantation etc. The drains/ sedimentation sumps etc. shall be de-silted regularly, particularly after monsoon season, and maintained properly.

- (7) Check dams of appropriate size, gradient and length shall be constructed around mine pit and OB dumps to prevent storm run-off and sediment flow into adjoining water bodies. A safety margin of 50% shall be kept for designing of sump structures over and above peak rainfall (based on 50 years data) and maximum discharge in the mine and its adjoining area which shall also help in providing adequate retention time period thereby allowing proper settling of sediments/ silt material. The sedimentation pits/ sumps shall be constructed at the corners of the garland drains.
- (8) The top soil, if any, shall temporarily be stored at earmarked site(s) within the mine lease only and should not be kept unutilized for long. The physical parameters of the top soil dumps like height, width and angle of slope shall be governed as per the approved Mining Plan and as per the guidelines framed by DGMS w.r.t. safety in mining operations shall be strictly adhered to maintain the stability of dumps. The topsoil shall be used for land reclamation and plantation purpose.

VII. Transportation

- (1) No Transportation of the minerals shall be allowed in case of roads passing through villages/ habitations. In such cases, PP shall construct a 'bypass' road for the purpose of transportation of the minerals leaving an adequate gap (say at least 200 meters) so that the adverse impact of sound and dust along with chances of accidents could be mitigated. All costs resulting from widening and strengthening of existing public road network shall be borne by the PP in consultation with nodal State Govt. Department. Transportation of minerals through road movement in case of existing village/ rural roads shall be allowed in consultation with nodal State Govt. Department only after required strengthening such that the carrying capacity of roads is increased to handle the traffic load. The pollution due to transportation load on the environment will be effectively controlled and water sprinkling will also be done regularly. Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. Project should obtain Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificate for all the vehicles from authorized pollution testing centers.
- (2) The Main haulage road within the mine lease should be provided with a permanent water sprinkling arrangement for dust suppression. Other roads within the mine lease should be wetted regularly with tanker-mounted water sprinkling system. The other areas of dust generation like crushing zone, material transfer points, material yards etc. should invariably be provided with dust suppression arrangements. The air pollution control equipments like bag filters, vacuum suction hoods, dry fogging system etc. shall be installed at Crushers, belt-conveyors and other areas prone to air pollution. The belt conveyor should be fully covered to avoid generation of dust while transportation. PP shall take necessary measures to avoid generation of fugitive dust emissions.

VIII. Green Belt

- (1) The Project Proponent shall develop greenbelt in 7.5m wide safety zone all along the mine lease boundary as per the guidelines of CPCB in order to arrest pollution emanating from mining operations within the lease. The whole Green belt shall be developed within first 5 years starting from windward side of the active mining area. The development of greenbelt shall be governed as per the EC granted by the Ministry irrespective of the stipulation made in approved mine plan.
- (2) The Project Proponent shall carryout plantation/ afforestation in backfilled and reclaimed area of mining lease, around water body, along the roadsides, in community areas etc. by planting the native species in consultation with the State Forest Department/ Agriculture Department/ Rural development department/ Tribal Welfare Department/ Gram Panchayat such that only those species be selected which are of use to the local people. The CPCB guidelines in this respect shall also be adhered. The density of the trees should be around 2500 saplings per Hectare. Adequate budgetary provision shall be made for protection and care of trees.
- (3) The Project Proponent shall make necessary alternative arrangements for livestock feed by developing grazing land with a view to compensate those areas which are coming within the mine lease. The development of such grazing land shall be done in consultation with the State Government. In this regard, Project Proponent should essentially implement the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court with regard to acquisition of grazing land. The sparse trees on such grazing ground, which provide mid-day shelter from the scorching sun, should be scrupulously guarded/ protected against felling and plantation of such trees should be promoted.
- (4) The Project Proponent shall undertake all precautionary measures for conservation and protection of endangered flora and fauna and Schedule-I species during mining operation. A Wildlife Conservation Plan shall be prepared for the same clearly delineating action to be taken for conservation of flora and fauna. The Plan shall be approved by Chief Wild Life Warden of the State Govt.
- (5) And implemented in consultation with the State Forest and Wildlife Department. A copy of Wildlife Conservation Plan and its implementation status (annual) shall be submitted to the Regional Office of the Ministry.

IX. Public hearing and human health issues

- (1) The Project Proponent shall appoint an Occupational Health Specialist for Regular as well as Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the mining activities, as per the DGMS guidelines. The records shall be maintained properly. PP shall also carryout Occupational health check-ups in respect of workers which are having ailments like BP, diabetes, habitual smoking, etc. The check-ups shall be undertaken once in six months and necessary remedial/ preventive measures be taken. A status report on the same may be sent to MoEFCC Regional Office and DGMS on half-yearly basis.

- (2) The Project Proponent must demonstrate commitment to work towards 'Zero Harm' from their mining activities and carry out Health Risk Assessment (HRA) for identification workplace hazards and assess their potential risks to health and determine appropriate control measures to protect the health and wellbeing of workers and nearby community. The proponent shall maintain accurate and systematic records of the HRA. The HRA for neighborhood has to focus on Public Health Problems like Malaria, Tuberculosis, HIV, Anaemia, Diarrhoea in children under five, respiratory infections due to bio mass cooking. The proponent shall also create awareness and educate the nearby community and workers for Sanitation, Personal Hygiene, Hand washing, not to defecate in open, Women Health and Hygiene (Providing Sanitary Napkins), hazard of tobacco and alcohol use. The Proponent shall carryout base line HRA for all the category of workers and thereafter every five years.
- (3) The Proponent shall carry out Occupational health surveillance which be a part of HRA and include Biological Monitoring where practical and feasible, and the tests and investigations relevant to the exposure (e.g. for Dust a X-Ray chest; For Noise Audiometric; for Lead Exposure Blood Lead, For Welders Full Ophthalmologic Assessment; for Manganese Miners a complete Neurological Assessment by a Certified Neurologist, and Manganese (Mn) Estimation in Blood; For Inorganic Chromium- Fortnightly skin inspection of hands and forearms by a responsible person. Except routine tests all tests would be carried out in a Lab accredited by NABH. Records of Health Surveillance must be kept for 30 years, including the results of and the records of Physical examination and tests. The record of exposure due to materials like Asbestos, Hard Rock Mining, Silica, Gold, Kaolin, Aluminium, Iron, Manganese, Chromium, Lead, Uranium need to be handed over to the Mining Department of the State in case the life of the mine is less than 30 years. It would be obligatory for the State Mines Departments to make arrangements for the safe and secure storage of the records including X-Ray. Only conventional X-Ray will be accepted for record purposes and not the digital one). X-Ray must meet ILO criteria (17 x14 inches and of good quality).
- (4) The Proponent shall maintained a record of performance indicators for workers which includes (a) there should not be a significant decline in their Body Mass Index and it should stay between 18.5 -24.9, (b) the Final Chest X-Ray compared with the base line X-Ray should not show any capacities ,(c) At the end of their leaving job there should be no Diminution in their Lung Functions Forced Expiratory Volume in one second (FEV1), Forced Vital Capacity (FVC), and the ratio) unless they are smokers which has to be adjusted, and the effect of age, (d) their hearing should not be affected. As a proof an Audiogram (first and last need to be presented), (e) they should not have developed any Persistent Back Pain, Neck Pain, and the movement of their Hip, Knee and other joints should have normal range of movement, (f) they should not have suffered loss of any body part. The record of the same should be submitted to the Regional Office, MoEFCC annually along with details of the relief and compensation paid to workers having above indications.
- (5) The Project Proponent shall ensure that Personnel working in dusty areas should wear protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.

- (6) Project Proponent shall make provision for the housing for workers/labors or shall construct labor camps within/outside (company owned land) with necessary basic infrastructure/ facilities like fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche for kids etc. The housing may be provided in the form of temporary structures which can be removed after the completion of the project related infrastructure. The domestic waste water should be treated with STP in order to avoid contamination of underground water.
- (7) The activities proposed in Action plan prepared for addressing the issues raised during the Public Hearing shall be completed as per the budgetary provisions mentioned in the Action Plan and within the stipulated time frame. The Status Report on implementation of Action Plan shall be submitted to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry along with District Administration.

X. Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER)

- (1) The activities and budget earmarked for Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) as per Ministry's O.M No 22-65/2017-IA. II (M) dated 01.05.2018 or as proposed by EAC should be kept in a separate bank account. The activities proposed for CER shall be implemented in a time bound manner and annual report of implementation of the same along with documentary proof viz. photographs, purchase documents, latitude & longitude of infrastructure developed & road constructed needs to be submitted to Regional Office MoEF&CC annually along with audited statement.
- (2) Project Proponent shall keep the funds earmarked for environmental protection measures in a separate account and refrain from diverting the same for other purposes. The Year wise expenditure of such funds should be reported to the MoEFCC and its concerned Regional Office.

XI. Miscellaneous

- (1) The Project Proponent shall prepare digital map (land use & land cover) of the entire lease area once in five years purpose of monitoring land use pattern and submit a report to concerned Regional Office of the MoEF&CC.
- (2) The Project Authorities should inform to the Regional Office regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- (3) The Project Proponent shall submit six monthly compliance reports on the status of the implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards to the MOEFCC & its concerned Regional Office, Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board.
- (4) A separate 'Environmental Management Cell' with suitable qualified manpower should be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive. The Senior Executive shall directly report to Head of the Organization. Adequate number of qualified

Environmental Scientists and Mining Engineers shall be appointed and submit a report to RO, MoEFCC.

- (5) The concerned Regional Office of the MoEFCC shall randomly monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the MoEFCC officer(s) by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.

23. The Ministry or any other competent authority may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.

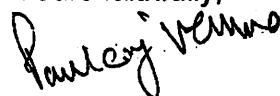
24. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attracts action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

25. The above conditions will be enforced inter-alia, under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules made there under and also any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India/ High Court and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.

26. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

27. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,

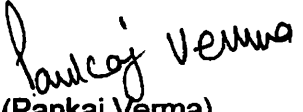


(Pankaj Verma)
Scientist E

Copy to:

- (1) The Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001.
- (2) The Secretary, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Karnataka, Secretariat, Bengaluru.
- (3) The Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Karnataka, Secretariat, Bengaluru.
- (4) The Secretary, Department of Forests, Government of Karnataka, Secretariat, Bengaluru.
- (5) The Chief Wildlife Warden, Forest Department, Bengaluru.

- (6) The Dy. Director General of Forests, Ministry of Env., Forest and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Kendriya Sadan, 4th Floor, E&F Wings, 17th Main Road, Koramangala II Block, Bangalore – 560 034.
- (7) The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110 032.
- (8) The Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, 18/11, Jam Nagar House, Man Singh Road, New Delhi-110 011.
- (9) The Chairman, Karnataka Pollution Control Board, Parisara Bhavan, No # 49, Church Street, Bengaluru – 560 001.
- (10) The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur- 440 001.
- (11) The District Collector, Bellary District.
- (12) Guard File.
- (13) PARIVESH.


(Pankaj Verma)
Scientist E

26.08.2021



KARNATAKA

05

BENGALURU

THURSDAY 26.08.2021

HC notice on Konkan Rly facilities

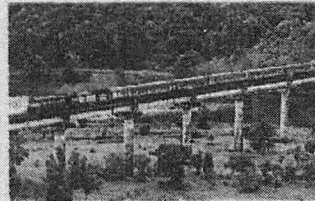
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court on Wednesday issued notice to the Ministry of Railways, Chairman and Managing Director of Konkan Railway Corporation Limited, the General Manager, South Western Railway, Hubballi, and Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, on a public interest litigation seeking directions to provide better facilities to Konkan Railway travellers. The PIL sought facilities for the physically challenged and persons with disabilities, senior citizens and

sickly people in all Konkan Railway stations.

A division bench of Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Sachin Shankar Magadam issued notice after hearing the petition filed by George Fernandes, president, Railway Seva Samithi, Uttara Kannada, vice-president Venkatraman Bommayya Nayak and secretary Rajeev Gaonkar.

The petitioners alleged that the facilities provided at Konkan Railway stations are far below standard, compared to Indian Railways. Konkan Railway has provided foot overbridges at six major stations, but they are not up to the



standard requirements recommended by Indian Railways.

The Supreme Court had issued guidelines to provide better facilities for boarding and deboarding in all public places, including railway stations, to facilitate the physically challenged, persons with disabilities, senior citizens and sickly persons, they said. In-

dian Railways provided such facilities in almost all stations but no such facilities were provided in the stations of Konkan Railways. The deficiencies at lack of foot overbridge at platform of desired height, boarding and deboarding facilities, and other amenities they claimed.

"When wheelchairs and other facilities are provided at an Indian Railway bogies, why are such facilities not provided at Konkan Railway stations... it appears to be dereliction of duty and negligence shown to guidelines issued by the Supreme Court, which is contemptuous," the petitioners alleged

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Ro.No.-600 Dated- 24.08.2021

Time extension e-Tender Notice

Due to unavoidable reasons e-Tender NIT No NCB/ 06 /EE (C&M) /MB-II/JOSHIYARA/2021-22 is hereby extended as given below :

Last Date for submission of bid on website : 09.09.2021 upto 5:00 PM
Last Date of Offline Submission of Hard copy: 09.09.2021 upto 5:00 PM
Date of Opening of e-Tender on website : 10.09.2021 at 11:00AM
For fuller & further details, kindly visit " e-procurement portal <http://eukntenders.gov.in>"

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No. KIOCL/MINING/DIGMEC/212 Date : 26.08.2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that the MoEF&CC, Govt vide their letter No.F.No.J-11015/28/2018-IA-II(M) dated 13th August 2021 has accorded Environmental Clearance for the Devadari Iron ore mine of M/s KIOCL Ltd for mine capacity of 2 MTPA Iron ore (ROM) and 500TPA manganese ore with 2 MTPA wet Beneficiation plant located at notified and reserved mining lease area of 401.5761 ha (388.0 ha for Mining & 13.5761 ha for conveyor, approach road etc) falling under Swamimalai Block forest, Kumaraswami Reserve forest range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary district, Karnataka. Copy of the clearance letter is available with the Karnataka State Pollution control Board and web site of the MOEF&CC (www.parivesh.nic.in), Gol, DGM (Mining)

ರಿಯಲ್ ಎಸ್ಟೇಟ್ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ
ನಂ. 1/14, 2ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, 3ನೇ ಕ್ರಾಸ್, ವಿಜಯ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560027.
ವಿಳಾಸ: 3ನೇ ಕ್ರಾಸ್, ವಿಜಯ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560027.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂ: 080-22249798/22249799

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ರೇವಾ/ಬಿಆರ್/ಆಡಳಿತ/06/2021-22 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 24.08.2021

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ)

ವಿಷಯ : ಸೇರಿಸಿದ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲದಿಂದ ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ವಾಹನಗಳ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಉಪಯೋಗಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಹೊರ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲದಿಂದ ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ವಾಹನಗಳ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 1999-2000 ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವಿಕಾಸ <http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು. ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸಿ ಕ್ರಮವಹಿಸುವುದು. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸ.	ವಿಷಯ	ದಿನಾಂಕ
1	ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಇ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ರಾಜೀಕರಣ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	26.08.2021
2	ದ್ವಿ ಲಕೋಟಿ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಂತೆ ಇ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	10.09.2021 5.30 PM
3	ದ್ವಿ ಲಕೋಟಿ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಂತೆ ಇ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	14.09.2021 11.30 AM

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ,
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಿಯಲ್ ಎಸ್ಟೇಟ್ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ
ವಾಣಾಜ್ಯ/ಉದ್ಯಮ/ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಾಧನ/1235/2021-22

ಕೋಶಿಡ್ 19, ಆತಂಕ ಬೀದಿ, ಮುನ್ನಡ್ಡರಿಕೆ ಇರಲಿ.

ಮಾಸ್ಕ್ ಧರಿಸಿ | 6 ಅಡಿ ದೂರವಿಡು | ದೈಹಿಕ ಅಂತರವಾಹಿಸಿ | ಕೈಗಳ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತೆ ಕಾಪಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿ

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ಬೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿ)

ನ, ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ (ಎಸ್.ಸಿ.ಎಸ್.ಪಿ) ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿಗಳಿಂದ ಬುಕು 2000) ಅನ್ವಯ ಏಟಂವಾರು

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ಇಪಟ್ಟಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು : 08151-232238.

ಶ್ರೀ ರಜಾ ದಿನದ ಮುಂದಿನ ಕೆಲಸದ ಬಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾರೂ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸದಿದ್ದರೆ. ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಗಳು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ

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ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/ಇಂಜಿ/ಬಿ-2/ಬಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ್-09/2021-22/948 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23-08-2021

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ 09/2021-22 (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್ ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರಿವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ತಿರಸಿ ಇವರಿಂದ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವೀಕ್ಷಿತ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಹಾಗೂ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಲ್ ಮೆಂಟ್ ಆದ 2019-20 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನವೀಕೃತ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಹಾಗೂ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್ ಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಿಂದ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ತಿಕ್ಕಾ (ಲಾಬಿ (ಪೂರಕ ವೆಚ್ಚ) ಯೋಜನೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಖರೀದಿ ಪಾಡವರ್ತಕ ಕಾನೂನು ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿ-2000 ಹಾಗೂ Standard Tender Document ನಂತೆ KW-III ತತ್ಸಂಬಂಧ ಕಾಲಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾದ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ದೇಶಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಏಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ರೆಯಲಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ-ಆಡಳಿತ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಥವಾ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿದಂತೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಇನ್ನಿತರ ವಾರಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಚಿತ್ರಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಟೆಂಡರಿಂಗ್ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಮುಂದಿನ ತೇದಿನೆಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/ಆಇ675ವೆಚ್ಚ/12/2020, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 2-12-2020 ರಂತೆ (Annexure (EMD Declaration) ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ Upload ಮಾಡಬೇಕು. ಟೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಕೊಂಡ ಕಡತದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿವೆ.

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಹೆಸರು	ಟೆಂಡರಿಂಗ್ ದೊಡ್ಡ (ರೂ ೮,೯೪)
2	3
rdpr/ee/sir/pb-2/2021-22/Edu/ndent No-85283	73.00

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಶೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್-ಬಿಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ತುಂಬಿ ವಾರ್ಡ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13-09-2021 ಸಂಜೆ 18.00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ.

Technical Bid ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 14-09-2021 ಸಂಜೆ 16.30 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ Financial Bid ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20-09-2021 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ (ಸುದ್ದಿಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ).

ಸಹಿ/-ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರು

ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ತಿರಸಿ, ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/ಇಂಜಿ/ಬಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/2021-22/ದೇಶಪಾಠಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮುಕ್ತ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ

ಮುಕ್ತಗಂಗೋತ್ರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು-570 006.

ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ

ಂ:ಕರಾಮವಿ/ಯುಇಡಿ/ಸ/ಪಿಎಂಸಿ/18/2021-22 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23.08.2021

"ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ"

के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड

KIOCL ಲಿಮಿಟೆಡ್

(ಭಾರತ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಒಂದು ಅಂಗವು)

CIN: L19100K287601069374

ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಟ್ ಕಛೇರಿ: II ಬಾಕ್, ಕೋರಮಂಗಲ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು - 560034.

E Mail: bnbd@kioclltd.in Website: www.kioclltd.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕೆಐಒಎಲ್/ಮೈನಿಂಗ್/ಇಸಿ/212 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26/08/2021

ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯದ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಸಂಡೂರು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ, ಕೆಬಿಸಿಎಲ್ ನಿಯಮಿತ ಅವರ ದೇವದಾರಿ ಕಲ್ಪಿಡದ ಅದಿರು ಗಣಿ ಮಿಂದ 2 MTPA ಕಲ್ಪಿಡದ ಅದಿರು (ROM) ಮತ್ತು 500TPA ಮ್ಯಾಂಗಿನೀಸ್ ಅದಿರು ತೆಗೆಯಲು ಮತ್ತು 2 MTPA ಕಲ್ಪಿಡದ ಅದಿರಿನ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣಾ ಘಟಕ 401.5761 ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಲು (ಗಣಿಗಾರಿಂಗ್, 389.0 ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಮೈನಿಂಗ್‌ಗಿಲೇಸ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಮತ್ತು 13.5761 ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಕನ್ಸೇಡ್, ವಿಶ್ವಾತ್ ಪ್ರಸಾರಣಾ ರಸ್ತೆ ಗಾಗಿ) ಪರಿಶರ, ಅಲ್ಲೂ ಮತ್ತು ಹವಾಮಾನ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಸಹಿವಾಲಯ ಭಾರತ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ರ್ಧರ ಪತ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಬಿ-11015/28/2018-ಎಂ II(ಎಂ) ದಿನಾಂಕ 13.08.2021 ರ ಮೂಲಕ ಪರಿಶರ ಅನುಮತಿ ನೀಡಿದೆ. ಪರಿಶರ ಅನುಮತಿ ಪತ್ರದ ಪ್ರತಿಯು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಾರಿನ್ಸ್ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಮಂಡಳಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅಲ್ಲೂ ಮತ್ತು ಹವಾಮಾನ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಸಹಿವಾಲಯ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: www.pariवेश.nic.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದು ಉಪಪ್ರಧಾನ ದೃವೀಕೃತ (ಗಣಿಗಾರಿತಿ)

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮತ್ತು ಒಳಜಲರೂಪಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ

ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಕಛೇರಿ, 1ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಕಾವೇರಿ ಭವನ, ಕೆ.ಪಿ. ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560009.

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಬೆಂಜಮಂ/ಸಹಿ/ವಿಎಂ/23-2017(ಬಿ-IV)/ಇಸಿ/1532/1543/2021-22 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25.08.2021

ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ವಿಷಯ: ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಜಲಮಂಡಳಿ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ-2018ರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಅಂತಿಮ ಮತ್ತು ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ.

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಜಲ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.08.2018ರ ಮಿಕ್ಕುಳಿದ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ವೃಂದದ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರ, ಕಿರಿಯ ಅಭಿಯಂತರ, ಮಾಪನ ಓದುಗ, ಪ್ರಯೋಗಾಲಯ ಸಹಾಯಕ ದರ್ಜೆ-1 ವೃಂದಗಳ ಅಂತಿಮ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಆಯ್ಕೆಪಟ್ಟಿ ಮತ್ತು ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ಪಟ್ಟಿಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಸಹಾಯಕ, ಕಿರಿಯ ಸಹಾಯಕ, ಬೆರಳಚ್ಚುಗಾರ-ಯಾ-ಡಿಇಓ, ಎರಡನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಉಗ್ರಾಣಾ ವಾಲಕ, ಆಪರೇಟರ್, ಕೆಮಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿ ಗ್ರೇಡ್-II ವೃಂದಗಳ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಆಯ್ಕೆಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಭಿಧಿಗಳ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
समन्वित क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय
INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE
Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E& F Wings, 17th Main Road,
IIInd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560 034.
Tel.No.080-25635901, E.Mail: rosz.bng-mef@nic.in



F.No.4-KRA 1269/2020-BAN/12/7
Dated the 15th February, 2021

To

The Additional Director General of Forests (FC),
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi - 110 003.

Subject: Proposal for diversion of 401.5761 ha (revised from 484.0733 ha.) (388.00 ha. for Mining + 13.5761 for approach road = 401.5761 ha) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Bellari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s. KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd), Bengaluru-regarding (Online Proposal No.FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018 -reg.

Sir,

With reference to Ministry's letter No.8-24/2020-FC dated 28/01/2021 on the above subject, it is informed that the undersigned has carried out site inspection of the forest land proposal for diversion as well as proposed Compensatory Afforestation land on 09/02/2021. Accordingly, a detailed site inspection report is attached herewith for kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

(K.P.Singh)
Regional Officer

Encl: As above.

Copy to: The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 110 003.

(K.P.Singh)
Regional Officer

PROFORMA FOR SITE INSPECTION

The project site was inspected on 09.02.2021 along with CCF Ballari, DCF Ballari and the representatives of the User agency i.e KIOCL.

	Title of the Project:	Diversion of 484.0733 ha. of (including 470.40 ha. for Mining Lease and the remaining for ancillary purposes like Conveyor Corridor, Transmission Lines, Service Roads outside Mining Lease, etc.) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s. KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd.), Bengaluru. (The State Government has stated that the User Agency shall revise the proposal to 401.5761 ha forest land (instead of 484.0733 ha))
1.	Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:	Section - 4 Notified area.
3.	Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof:	No. Along with Mining Lease the proposed area for diversion includes allied structures like conveyor corridor, transmission lines, service roads etc.
4.	Total cost of the project at present rates:	Rs.78750 lakhs as per the project proponent
5.	Wildlife:	The forest land proposed for diversion does not form part of any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor, Wildlife Migration Corridor, etc. The proposed land is not located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of any Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. DCF has reported that wild animals found in the area include Leopard, Sloth bear, Four-horned antelope, Jackal, Hare, Wild Pig, Indian Porcupine, Indian Pangolin, Monitor lizard, Star tortoise, Peafowl, etc.
6.	Vegetation:	Enumeration of trees has been done by Sample Plot method (48 sample plots of 1 ha. each). There are totally 99330 trees in different girth classes in

		<p>the sampled area.</p> <p>The number of trees for revised extent of will be proportionately less. About 80% of the trees are in the girth class of under 60 cm.</p> <p>Major tree species include <i>Anogeissus latifolia</i>, <i>Chloroxylon swietenia</i>, <i>Terminalia tomentosa</i>, <i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i>, <i>Langerstromea paviflora</i>, <i>Grewia tilliaefolia</i>, <i>Boswellia serrate</i>, <i>Madhuca latifolia</i>, <i>Acacia catechu</i>, <i>Azadirachta indica</i>, <i>Albizzia lebbeck</i>, <i>Cassia fistula</i>, <i>Vetara indica</i>, etc.</p>
7.	Background note on the proposal:	<p>KIOCL Limited is a GOI undertaking established in the year 1976. The Government of Karnataka has reserved an area of 470.40 ha in favour of M/s. KIOCL Ltd, for Iron and Manganese Ore in Devadari Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District, Karnataka. The total lease area falls under forest land.</p> <p>The iron ore deposits are mostly found in the hill ranges, which form part of the forest land. The exploration conducted by GSI has proved resource of Hematite iron ore and Manganese ore in notified mining lease area.</p> <p>This project will supply iron ore requirement for KIOCL's Pellet Plant of capacity 3.5 MTPA and Iron & Manganese ore requirement for Blast Furnace Unit of capacity 2.16 lakhs TPA located at Mangalore.</p>
8.	Compensatory afforestation (CA):	<p>DCF, Ballari has identified 968.1466 ha of degraded forest land in various Reserve Forests of Kudligi Range (439 ha) and Hadagali Range (530 ha.) of Ballari Division.</p> <p>The CA sites identified in various Reserve Forests of Kudligi Range totalling 439 ha. was visited along with DCF and CCF, Ballari on 9/2/2021. The patches of land identified are suitable for raising CA. However, since multiple patches have been identified in different Reserve Forests within a range, it is advisable that a larger area encompassing these identified patches should be</p>

		protected and treated for better management as well as for preventing fragmentation of the Reserve Forest as the proposed CA areas are to be chain-linked/barbed wire fenced. For example, during the visit to Benakallu RF in Bopalpura Village in Kudligi Range, wherein, an area of 150.00 ha. was earmarked for CA. It was noticed that on the adjoining site another additional area of about 200 ha. was available and fit for CA, but was not considered by the officials. Taken together a total of 350 ha. in 2 patches on either side of the district road would have been an ideal compact block for CA plantations. It was also observed that while proposing small patches of forest land (25 ha.) for CA, major portions of available forest land, at some sites (Hirekeriyagahalli Village Survey No.141, Keriyanahalli Reserve Forest - 25 ha.) major patch of available forest land adjoining cultivation areas have not been included in the proposed CA plantation area. Hence it is proposed that the DCF, Ballari may revisit the proposed CA sites and suggest larger patches of forest areas for proposed CA so that it could be protected and treated for better management in future as well as prevent fragmentation of forest areas due to fencing of 17 different proposed CA sites.
9.	Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials:	No violation noticed.
10.	Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not:	No, as per State government records.
11.	Reclamation Plan:	

	Details and financial allocation:	The UA has to do it as per the Progressive Mining Closure plan and R&R plan for the lease
12.	Details on catchment and command area under the project:	<p>The topography is hilly and the rainfall received is between 750 to 1000mm. Due to hilly nature the rain water drains down as seasonal drainage.</p> <p>To arrest soil erosion and landslides which may result due to open cast nature of mining, adequate measures, both physical and vegetative structures, are required to be implemented as per the Environmental plan and reclamation plan.</p>
13.	Cost benefit ratio:	1:142
14.	Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:	<p>DCF, Ballari, CCF, Ballari Circle, APCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA) and PCCF, Karnataka have not recommended the proposal in the larger interest of protection and bio-diversity value of the forest land, under FC Act, 1980, as allotment of fresh/virgin forest area for mining before expiry of all the broken up forest area (existing mines in the forest area) is not justifiable and thus can be avoidable.</p> <p><i>(Detailed reasons cited by DCF, CCF and PCCF-HoFF, Karnataka for not recommending the proposal are given in the Enclosure at Annexure I)</i></p> <p>State Government has recommended the proposal. The reason for State Government overruling the PCCF(HoFF)'s opinion and recommending the proposal are mentioned below:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "The KIOCL has agreed as a goodwill gesture to develop a forest corridor for easy movement of animals, particularly elephants, in the State of Karnataka. Accordingly, the Company has committed to spend Rs.50 crores over a period of 10 years to develop the corridor. This would be done by spending an amount of Rs.10 crores during the first year after execution of the Mining lease, followed by Rs.4-5 crores per annum in the next 9 years totaling Rs.50 crores.

		<p>2. The UA has also agreed to implement planting of saplings under the guidance of the Forest Department at the project site as well as the abandoned mining area.</p> <p>3. The Company will pay towards CA charges and NPV, etc applicable to Central PSUs.</p> <p>4. The company is a flagship CPSU steel producer in the State. It is for the first time that it has obtained a captive mine in the State. Further, it has plans to invest around Rs.3500 crores in the State and provide employment to 1500 persons. Such investment and employment would enhance the State GSDP and also provide revenues to the State.</p> <p>5. The UA has also stated that the proposed ML is already reserved for the Company by the Deptt. of Commerce and Industries (Mines) of Government of Karnataka vide Notification No.CI 294 MMM 2015, dated 23.01.2017 and has obtained mining plan approval from IBM on 08.03.2018 for production of 2 mtpa Iron Ore. The company is ready to exclude 82 hectares out of 484.0733 ha forest land. Hence the UA requires 388 ha for mining and 13.5761 ha for ancillary purposes (construction of downhill conveyor, approach road, etc.,). Thus, as per the requirement of UA, the proposed land extent will be revised to 401.5761 ha”.</p>
15.	<p>Recommendations of Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF & CC, Bangalore along with detailed reasons:</p>	<p>i. The lease is on the hill of Swamimalai block forest as in the case of many leases in Sandur region of Ballari District. It is well wooded and has good stretch of forest – Eco-Class III Southern Dry Deciduous forests having 0.3 canopy density in the proposed area.</p> <p>ii. On the same hill an old C Category Mining Lease of 24.47 ha. exists i.e., M/s. Bharat Mines and Minerals which is now auctioned and allotted to M/s. Kirloskar Ferrous Industries and is recommended by DCF, CCF, PCCF and the State Government for its forest clearance.</p>

iii. As per the Information provided by DCF, Ballari during the inspection the details of Mines and production capacity in Ballari Forest Division, Ballari as on 31.01.2021 is given as under :

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of Mines	Production Capacity (In MMT)
	A & B Category Mines		
1	Working Mines - A & B Category	24	18.806
2	Resumed - auctioned mines (Which are stopped on 31/03/2020)	03	1.192
3	To be resumed - A & B Category (Which are R & R approved)	32	14.380
4	To be resumed - which are R & R plan not approved	14	7.560
	Sub Total	73	41.938
	C Category Mines		
5	Working mines - Category -C mines	06	5.865
6	Category - C mines which are already auctioned, but yet to be resumed	06	1.698
7	Category - C Mines yet to be auctioned (0.54 MMT for each lease)	14	7.560
	Sub Total	26	15.123
	Grand Total	99	57.061

iv. During the visit, it was noted that the proposed land for diversion is situated in Section 4 notified area of Swamimalai Forest Block in Sandur Taluka, Ballari District and as per the information provided by DCF, Ballari, it was noticed that there

are 33 working mining leases in Ballari Forest Division as on 31/01/2021 spread over an area of 4115.14 ha. having an annual production capacity of 25.863 MMT.

v. The forest land 401.5761 ha. proposed for diversion is a fresh virgin forest area on a hilly terrain with steep slopes. Major tree species include *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Langerstromea paviflora*, *Terminalia tomentosa*, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Chloroxylon swietenia*, *Grewia tiliaefolia*, *Boswellia serrate*, *Madhuca latifolia*, *Acacia catechu*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Alibizzia lebbeck*, *Cassia fistula*, *Vetera indica* etc.

vi. Enumeration of trees has been done by sample plot method (48 sample plots of 1 ha. each). There are totally 99330 trees in different girth classes in the originally proposed forest area of 484.0733 ha. for diversion. The number of trees for the revised extent i.e., 401.5761 ha. will be proportionally less. About 80% of the trees are in the girth class of under 60 cms.

vii. Further the selected site is on a hill ridge with steep slopes on either sides with about 99330 trees which will have to be cut in stages, which if opened up would cause severe erosion of soil and its consequent negative effect locally and in the lands located below and far off. The user agency i.e., KIOCL has reduced the originally proposed forest area for diversion from 484.0733 ha. to 401.5761 ha. i.e., a reduction of 82.4972 ha. which is mostly located in the South Western, Western and North Western steep sloppy portions of the originally proposed 484.0733 ha. area in 5 different patches. The user agency may be advised to explore the possibility of further reduction of forest land requirement in sloppy areas with dense vegetation so that in future soil erosion and other related environmental issues can be avoided.

viii. Based on the perusal of the year-wise land use plan as told by the user agency i.e., KIOCL during the site visit, in the initial five years a total

116
117

		<p>of 118.48 ha. of forest area would be utilized involving a felling of a total of 21259 trees of which 17501 trees would be of girth size 0-60 cm and 3758 trees above 60 cm girth.</p> <p>ix. During the inspection Wildlife movement was observed in the proposed site and community droppings of Four-horned antelope were noticed at various places. Major wildlife found in the area include Leopard, Sloth bear, Four horned antelope, Jackal, Hare, Wild boar, Indian porcupine etc. However, there are no other rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna reported in the area. Conservation Plan for wildlife needs to be prepared in consultation with the Chief Wildlife Warden. The said plan shall be implemented at the project cost for betterment of the adjoining wildlife habitat and reduction in Man-Animal conflict in the surrounding habitations.</p> <p>x. DCF, Ballari has identified 968.1466 ha. of degraded forest land in 17 different locations in Reserve Forests of Kudligi Range (439 ha.) and Hadagali Range (530 ha.) of Ballari Division.</p> <p>The CA sites identified in various Reserve Forests of Kudligi Range totalling 439 ha. was visited along with DCF and CCF, Ballari on 9/2/2021. The patches of land identified are suitable for raising CA. However, since multiple patches have been identified in different Reserve Forests within a range, it is advisable that a larger area encompassing these identified patches should be protected and treated for better management as well as for preventing fragmentation of the Reserve Forest as the proposed CA areas are to be chain-link/barbed wire fenced. For example, during the visit to Benakallu RF in Bopalpura Village in Kudligi Range, wherein, an area of 150.00 ha. was earmarked for CA, it was noticed that on the adjoining site another additional area of about 200 ha. was available and fit for CA, but was not considered by the officials. Taken together a total of 350 ha. in 2 patches on either side of the</p>
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		<p>district road would have been an ideal compact block for CA plantations. It was also observed that while proposing small patches of forest land (25 ha.) for CA, major portions of available forest land, at some sites (Hirekeriyagahalli Village Survey No.141, Keriyanahalli Reserve Forest – 25 ha.) major patch of available forest land adjoining cultivation areas have not been included in the proposed CA plantation area. Hence it is proposed that the DCF, Ballari may revisit the proposed CA sites and suggest larger patches of forest areas for proposed CA so that it could be protected and treated for better management in future as well as prevent fragmentation of forest areas due to fencing of 17 different proposed CA sites.</p> <p>xii. It is also to note that KIOCL is a subsidiary of Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and pursuant to stoppage of mining activity in Kudremukh from 1/1/2006, KIOCL does not have a mine of its own for captive usage in order to feed raw material to its pellet plant and blast furnace unit at Mangalore. Since there are already existing mining leases on the same hill which the Forest Department and Government have recommended, this proposed lease if it is reduced and restricted in area, will be less imposing and less destructive of the landscape.</p>
16.	Regional Officer, IRO shall give detailed comments on whether there are any alternatives routes/alignments for locating the project on the non-forest land:	Mining is a site specific activity.
17.	Utility of the Project:	As per the project proponents, revenue generation to District/State. Direct and indirect employment to the local population of the area. Overall economic development of the region. This project will supply iron ore requirement for the company owned pellet plant of capacity 3.5 MTPA and iron ore and manganese ore requirement for Blast furnace unit of capacity 2.16 lakhs TPA at

		Mangalore as per the details given by the project proponent.
18.	Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious value:	There are no Protected/Archaeological/ Heritage Sites/Defence establishments located in the proposed area.
19.	Situation w.r.t. any P.A.	<p>It is at a distance of 19.22 km from the nearest Wildlife Sanctuary i.e, Daroji Bear Sanctuary.</p> <p>The forest land proposed for diversion does not form part of any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor, Wildlife Migration Corridor, etc. The proposed land is not located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of any Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.</p>
20.	Any other information relating to the Project:	<p>During discussions with concerned officials, it was noted that Hon'ble Supreme Court has fixed a ceiling on maximum amount of iron ore that can be extracted from three districts namely Ballari, Chitradurga and Tumkur. As per Orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 14/12/2017 in Writ Petition (C) No. 562 of 2009 and other interlocutory Application No's 270, 271, 273, 56562, 76163, 76167 and 103342 filed by Samaj Parivarthana Samudaya and Others Vs. State of Karnataka and Others, the annual production capacities have been fixed as follows :</p> <p>(i) "With regard to Category 'A' and 'B' Mining leases for District Ballari" the annual production cap for the district may be enhanced by 3 MMT to 28 MMT and wherein NMDC and MML will operate with maximum annual production ceiling of 12 MMT and 2 MMT for the year 2017-18 respectively and thereafter from 2018-19 these will also operate at the MPAP limit as per the approved R & R plans subject to the overall limit of annual production fixed for the district, until further orders.</p> <p>(ii) The existing ceiling of 5 MT fixed for 'A' and 'B' Mining leases for District Tumkur and Chitradurga may be enhanced by 2 MMT to 7 MMT, until further orders; and</p>

		(iii) With regard to Category 'C' mining leases which have been e-auctioned to the end users, the production cap of individual mining leases be regulated through the limits approved in the R & R plan without reference to the general cap fixed for the District concerned."
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Signature

Name and Designation
of Inspecting Officer :

K.P. SINGH, IFS
REGIONAL OFFICER

Date of Inspection:

09/02/2021

Reasons cited by DCF, Ballari for not recommending the proposal:-

1. " The production capacity of all the existing mines (59 'A' & 'B' category mines, 26 'C' category mines and 14 mines whose R&R plan is yet to be approved) is calculated as 53.599 MMT, which far exceeds the 28 MMT Maximum Permissible Annual Production (MPAP) limit fixed for the A & B category mines of Bellary district (According to Hon'ble Supreme Court of India Judgement dated 14.12.2017, in the Samaj Parivartana Samudaya & Ors. Vs State of Karnataka & Ors.). Therefore, before expiring the existing opened-up mining blocks, recommending and approving new mining lease in the fresh or virgin forest area is not justifiable and would cause serious and irreparable damage to the forest/ nature/ environment.
2. As per the meeting held on 28.03.2016 under the Chairmanship of PCCF(HoFF), Bengaluru, it was decided not to grant approvals for new mining lease in the fresh forest areas. (Copy enclosed). So, recommending / approval of mining in the fresh forest area would undermine the decision of Karnataka Forest Department.
3. From the field verification and enumeration of trees, it was found that around 99,390 trees which needs to be felled/ cut for this mining activity. Felling of around 99,390 trees would negatively affect the local flora, fauna and other environment resources. Therefore, FC approval for new mining activities in this 484.0733 ha fresh virgin forest area would lead to severe soil erosion, destruction of streams/water resources and thus causes serious environmental damages.
4. This mining project in the 484.0733 ha fresh virgin forest area would destroy the local streams, the change the local weather pattern and may lead to ecosystem imbalance. Therefore, this new mining proposal in the fresh forest area would ultimately endanger the water security and/or livelihood security of the local people.
5. Therefore, this project should not be accepted or considered for approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980".

Reasons cited by CCF, Ballari for not recommending the proposal:-

1. " I have also inspected the proposed site on 6.12.2019 and affirm the views of the DCF, Ballari Division in rejecting the diversion of forest land.
2. I agree with the information given in the Part-II and recommendations of the DCF, Ballari.

3. I recommend for rejecting the forest land diversion over an extent of 484.0733 ha in the larger interest of protection and bio-diversity value of the forest land under the FC Act, 1980.

The proposed forest land is not part of any PA, but is having a thick dry deciduous forest interspersed with grassy blanks. Most of these areas are pure patches of *Anogeissus* and *Boswellia* forests which are very unique. This forest is home to Indian leopard, sloth bear, Indian wolf and many more flora and fauna. From the report of DCF, it found that there are about 99390 trees to be cut, if this area is to be diverted for the mining purpose. An approximate 5 Sq.Km is to be diverted in this land scape question of passing this area under DSS criteria fixed for identification of inviolate areas arises, which unfortunately could not be done at this level and recommend to subject this area to pass this test as well.

Besides above observation, I have read the report of DCF regarding the annual production cap on iron ore as fixed by the Hon'ble Supreme court in its order in WP NO.562/2009, as this is the legal matter involving Rule of the land as fixed by the Honorable Apex court, I hope this issue will also be taken into consideration while taking decision on this matter.

Over all I recommend not to consider this diversion in the interest of forest, wildlife, water security and soil health of this land scape as it's already subjected to severe damage by existing mines".

Reasons cited by ACCF(FC) & Nodal Officer (FCA) for not recommending the proposal:-

" Inspected the 482.467 ha of forest land in Swamymalai Forest Block on 16.01.2020. During inspection I was accompanied by CCF, Ballari, DCF, Ballari and officials of KIOCL and other field staff of Sandur range. The Forest land is located in villages namely Nandihalli and Ranajipura and Narsapura of Sandur Range of Ballari Division. The forest land proposed for diversion for mining purpose is hilly in nature and is having good growth of *Anogeissus*, *Boswellia*, *Albizzia* and other dry deciduous species. Top of the hill is flat and either side of hillock are having steep slopes. As we climb to the top of the hill there is one non-working mine which was given earlier to M/s. Bharath Mines and Minerals Limited.

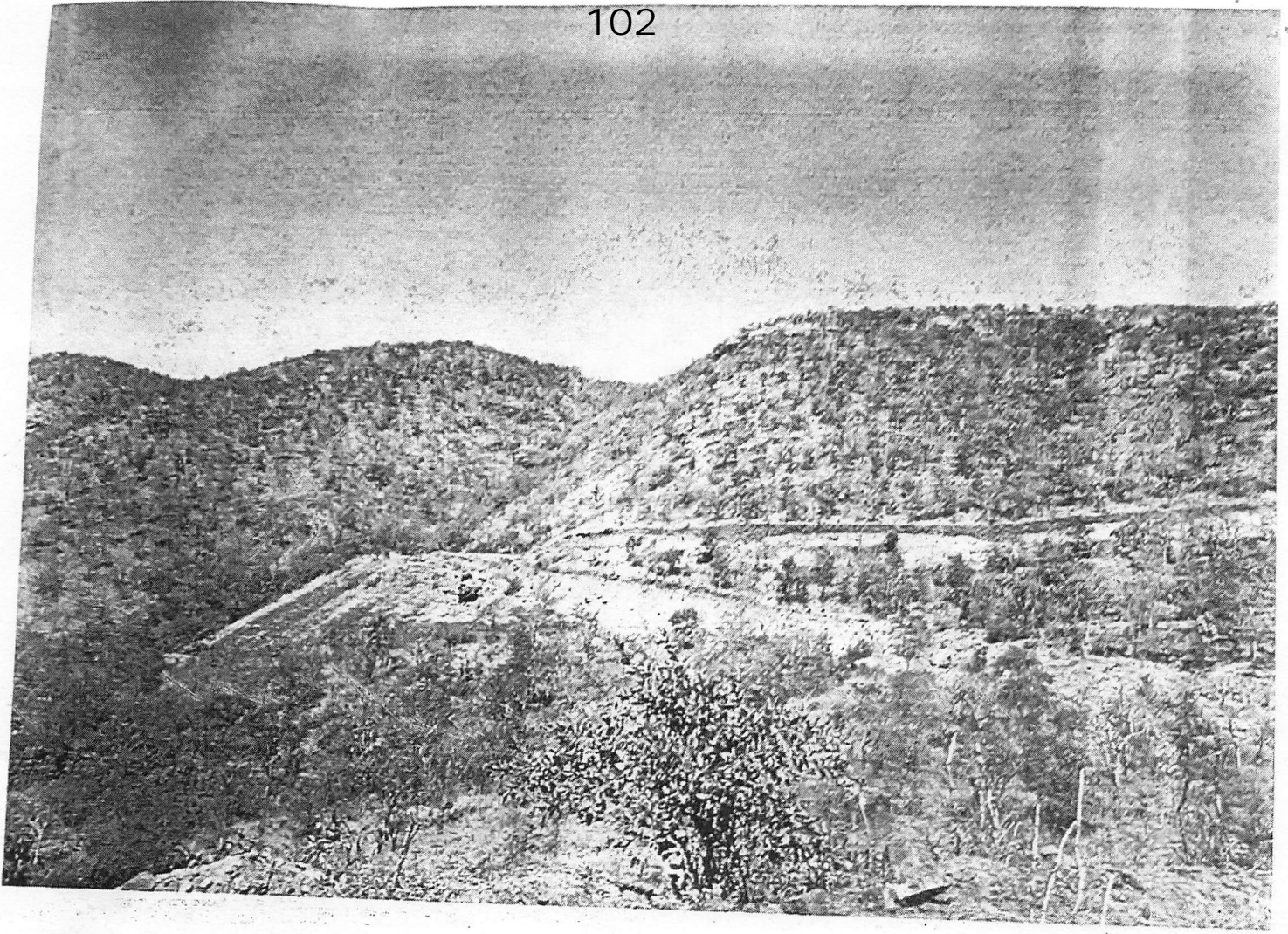
I concur with the inspection report of DCF Ballari and CCF Ballari that this area need not be recommended for mining purpose because it is having very good dry deciduous forest. With the opening of these type of forest areas for mining purpose the soil erosion from the hillocks will be very high which will effect the drainage system down below and ultimately effect the health of local habitants living in the vicinity. Loss of such a good dry

deciduous forest will be for ever and such a forest can't be recreated. The diversion of forest land for mining purpose will adversely affect the eco-system of the area. Hence, the 482.367 ha of forest land in Swamymalai Forest Block of Sandur Range is not recommended for diversion for mining purpose to M/s. KIOCL".

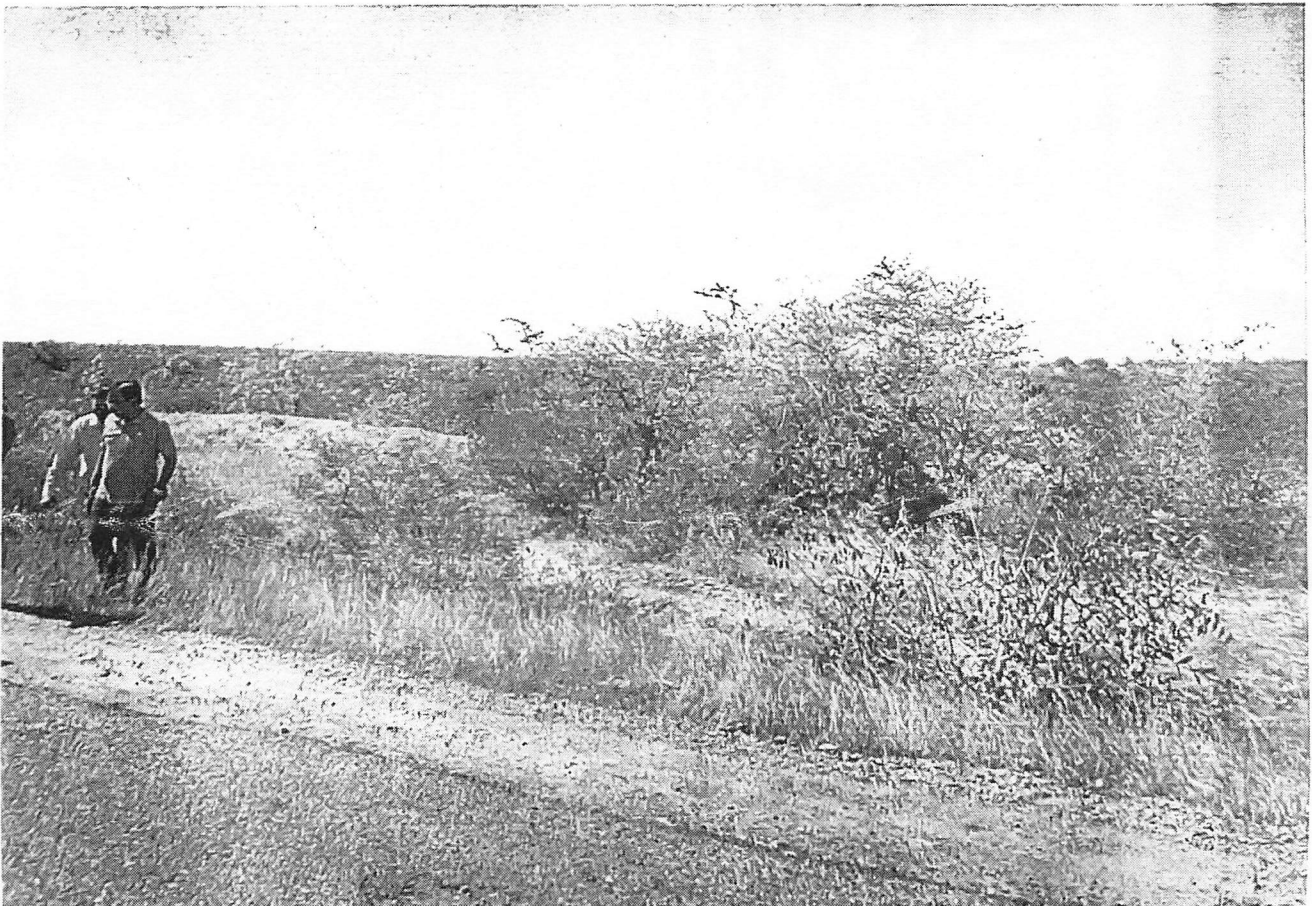
PHOTOS ¹⁰⁰ OF MINE AREA

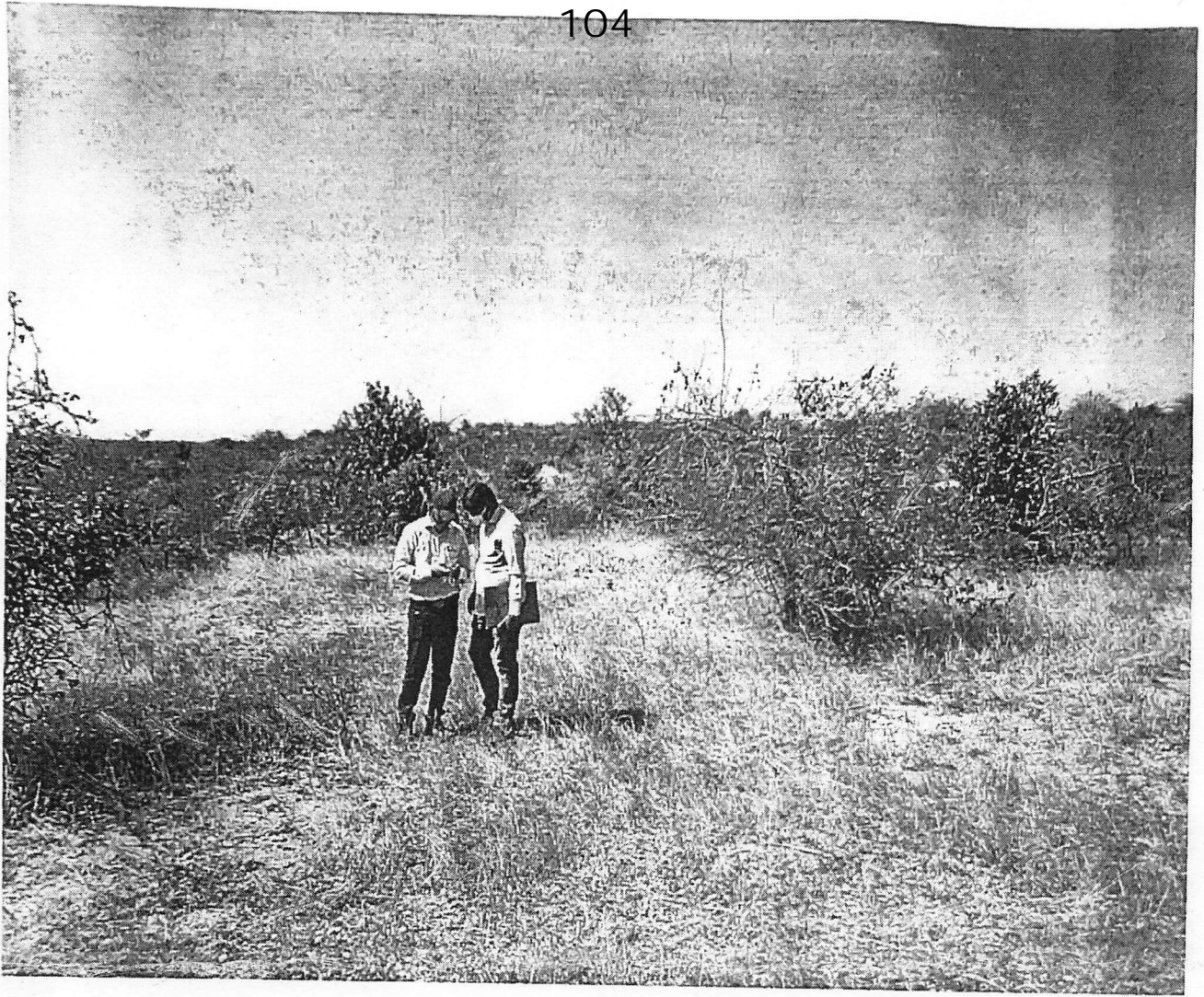






103
CA AREA





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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 1100 03
Dated: 24th June, 2021

To,
The Additional Chief Secretary (Forests),
Ecology and Environment Department,
Government of Karnataka,
Bengaluru.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha. for approach road=401.5761 ha.) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of IWs KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru. -regarding (Online Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018).

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Karnataka's letter No. FEE 19FFM 2020 (e) dated 09th October, 2020 on the above mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and to say that the said proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the Government of Karnataka and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee, the Central Government hereby agrees to *accord Stage-I / In-principle* approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha. for approach road=401.5761 ha.) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of IWs KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru. -regarding (Online Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018), subject to the following conditions:-

A: Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department and compliance is to be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:

- i. The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted (i.e. 401.5761 ha of forest land) under this proposal,

as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the State Concerned;

- ii. The land identified for the purpose of CA shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India topo sheet of 1:50,000 scale;
- iii. The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited through online e-portal into the CAMPA account in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;
- iv. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited in CAMPA account only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance;
- v. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
- vi. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector;
- vii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019;
- viii. State government was informed earlier by the Ministry that small forest land adjoining cultivation areas should not be proposed for CA on account of management issues associated with such small forest patches. The State government shall therefore propose revised CA area with sufficiently large patches, and got the same verified from the Integrated Regional Office, Bengaluru. The so verified CA land details along with KML file shall be submitted by the State Govt. to the Government of India prior to Stage II approval;
- ix. The Mines Department, Karnataka/ User Agency in consultation with the Forest Department, Karnataka shall prepare a plan with maps to secure dense vegetation on the slopes of the proposed area, and implement the same during the course of the lease period;
- x. In view of prevalence of wildlife in the area, a Site-specific Wild Life Management Plan shall be prepared, and implemented at the cost of the

User Agency;

- xi. It is reported that a number of seasonal nalas (streams) originate in the area proposed for forest diversion. A CAT Plan duly approved by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Karnataka shall be implemented at the cost of the user agency;**
- xii. Following activities, as per approved plan / schemes, shall be undertaken in the lease area by the User Agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department. Approved scheme/plan shall be submitted to the Ministry along with compliance of Stage-I approval:**
 - a. Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream shall be implemented within a period of three year with effect from the issue of Stage-II clearance in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department.**
 - b. Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds, in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion in accordance with the approved scheme;**
 - c. Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour in accordance with the approved scheme;**
 - d. Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching, in accordance with the approved scheme, so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28° ; and**
 - e. No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan.**
- xiii. Safety Zone Management: Following activities, at project cost, shall be undertaken by the user agency for the management of safety zone as per relevant guidelines issued by the Ministry's guidelines:**
 - a. User agency shall ensure demarcation of safety zone (7.5 meter strip all along the inner boundary of the mining lease area), and its fencing, protection and regeneration by erecting adequate number of 6 feet high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates with barbed wire fencing and deploying adequate number of watchers under the supervision of the. State Forest Department;**
 - b. Boundary of the safety zone of the mining lease, adjacent to habitation/roads, should be properly fenced by the user agency;**
 - c. Safety zone shall be maintained as green belt around mining lease and to ensure dense canopy in the area, regeneration shall be taken-up in this area by the user agency at project cost under the supervision of the State Forest Department;**
 - d. Afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone, shall also be done at the project cost under the supervisions of the State Forest Department. The degraded forest land (DFL) so selected will be informed to the MoEF & CC with shape files before Stage-II approval and afforestation will be done within**

three years from the date of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department; and

e. The State Government and the user agency shall ensure that safety zone is maintained as per the prescribed norms;

xiv. The KML files of the area to be diverted, the CA areas, the proposed SMC treatment area and the WLMP area shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details prior to Stage II approval;

B: Conditions which need to be complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted and compliance is to be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over by the user agency;
- iii. The Compensatory Afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over double the degraded i.e. $401.5761 \times 2 = 803.1522$ ha. of degraded forest land at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided. With provision for ten years on subsequent maintenance;
- iv. Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- v. **The area is within a mineralised zone. It is reported that at present there are 4 mining zones where active mining is taking place by a large number of organisations as per their individual plans. On the other hand, the cumulative impact of mining on forest, wildlife and ecology needs to be understood and acted upon. As such, the area requires a comprehensive view with regard to sustainable mining vis-à-vis forest, wildlife and ecological conservation including promotion of green mining infrastructure in the future which could not only have least impact on forest and wildlife in the area but in some cases could actually promote forest and wildlife by itself. A comprehensive study jointly by a couple of reputed institutes like IIT(ISM), Dhanbad, IIT, Delhi, IISc, Bengaluru, ICFRE, Dehradun shall be undertaken by the State Government at the cost of the user agency so as to draw a perspective co-management plan for mining and forest and wildlife conservation and development, including for green mining infrastructure development. The study report shall be submitted within one year for its consideration by Govt. of India and issuing guidelines/ direction for follow-up action by the mining companies at their cost. It is clarified that this study shall not be linked to the present FC approval;**

- vi. **The User Agency and the State Government shall strictly adhere to the directions/ guidelines issues by the Honourable Supreme Court for mining, including directions on mining in Bellary district, and comply with all the statutory conditions for scientific and sustainable mining issued by competent authority;**
- vii. **Road side plantation of local species and bamboo shall be raised along the approach road to the mine at the cost of the user agency;**
- viii. **The State Government shall prepare a time-bound plan for return of those forest areas in 'A', 'B' and 'C' category mines in Bellary district which could not be auctioned on account of non-viability, to the State Forest Department after proper Rehabilitation and Resettlement as per directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, and submit the Plan to the Govt. of India within six months. It is clarified that this condition is not linked to the instant proposal of forest land diversion, but the same shall be one of the issues for consideration for any forest land diversion in Karnataka State in the future, i.e. after six months;**
- ix. **User agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;**
- x. **Period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;**
- xi. **The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;**
- xii. **No labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;**
- xiii. **The user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.**
- xiv. **The User Agency shall comply with the Hon'ble Supreme Court order on re-grassing, and re-grass the mining area and any other areas which may have been disturbed due to mining to restore them to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna, etc. in a timely manner;**
- xv. **The boundary of the diverted forest land, mining lease and safety zone, as applicable, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates;**
- xvi. **The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;**

- xvii. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- xviii. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
- xix. The layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- xx. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area;
- xxi. The user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- xxii. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife shall be carried with by the State Government and user agency;
- xxiii. The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly; and
- xxiv. The user agency shall comply all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bengaluru.
3. The Nodal Office (FCA), Forest Department, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, for uploading.



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FOREST
BALLARI DIVISION, BALLARI

No.MI/MNG/KIOCL/BLY/CR/2017-18/NDR 3
Demand Notice

Dated:27.10.2021

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining & 13.5761 ha for approach road) of Forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Managanesc Ore Mining in Devadhari Hill Range in favour of M/s. KIOCL, Limited, Bangalore Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018[FORM-A] – Reg,

- Ref: 1) Letter F.No.8-24/2020-FC Dt.24.06.2021 & 29.09.2021 of MoEFCC, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
2) Order No. APAJI 19 FFM-2014(e) Dt. 06.07.2021 & 18.10.2021 of the Government of Karantaka.
3) Letter No. A5(1).MNG.CR.21/2017-18 Dt. 15/19.07.2021 & 22/25.10.2021 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru.
4) Letter No. A5(1)/GFL/CR-28/2009-10 Dt. 19.04.2021 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru.
5) This office even number letter Dt.22.07.2021

With rereference to the above subject, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climat Change (Forest Conservation Division), New Delhi has accorded Stage-I / In-principial approval for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining & 13.5761 ha for approach road) of Forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur taluk, Ballari District for Iron and Managanese Ore Mining in Devadhari Hill Range in favour of M/s. KIOCL, Limited, Bangalore imposing certain conditions vide letter under Ref (1). The Government of Karnataka has directed the Department to submit compliance report to conditions stipulated in Stage-I approval vide letter under Ref(2).

Further, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation) & Nodal officer, Bangalore has communicating the said Stage-I approval the GOK and directed the undersigned to issue the Demand Notice to User Agency as per conditios stipulated by Government of India vide letter under Ref(3). In this regard, the undersiged had requested for clarifications some issues regarding this proposal. The same has been received vide letter Dt.22/25.10.2021 under Ref(3). In accordance with the clarification received by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation) & Nodal officer, Bangalore and approval of Stage-I Clearance by GoI, this demand notice is issued.

As per the applicable rates [Common Sanctioned Schedule of Rates (CSSR) for the year 2021-22] notified vide letter under Ref(4), the details amount to be remitted as applicable for the above referred proposal are calucalated as here under ;

Sl. No	Specific activities	Particulars	Extent (ha)	CA applicable rate (Rate / ha)	Total amount payable (In Rs.)
1	Net Present Value [Condition No. A(i)]	Eco-Class-III	401.5761	8,03,000/-	32,24,65,608.00
2	Compensatory Afforestation (CA) [Condition No. A(iii)]	Raising of plantation in degraded forest land	803.1522 (401.5761 ha X 2)	17,08,000/-	137,17,83,958.00

Sl. No	Specific activities	Particulars	Extent (ha)	CA applicable rate (Rate / ha)	Total amount payable (In Rs.)
3	Safety Zone Plantation [Condition No. A(xiii)(c)]	Regeration of Safety Zone	9.9576 ha	17,08,000/-	1,70,07,581.00
4	Fencing of Safety Zone Area [Condition No. A(xiii)(b)]	Fencing of Safety Zone Area	13.22 kms	3,52,000/-	46,53,440.00
5	Afforestation in degraded Forest [Condition No. A(xiii)(d)]	Afforestation in degraded Forest (1½ times of Safety Zone area)	14.9364 ha (9.9576 ha X 1½ times)	17,08,000/-	2,55,11,371.00
Total					174,14,21,958.00

(Rs. One hundred and seventy-four crores Fourteen lakhs Twenty-one thousand Nine hundred and Fifty-eight only). The Demand Notice issued hereby is subject to any directives or changes issued by the Department / Government from time to time.

Procedure for payment: This Demand Notice is to be uploaded on FC web portal (www.parivesh.nic.in) for acceptance by the Nodal Officer. After acceptance by the Nodal Officer, a Challan should be generated from the web portal for payment to the account mentioned in the Challan and submit the original remittance challan to this office for further action.

Further, it is requested to submit the compliance report (ink-signed hard copies) in 7 sets alongwith documents through Range Forest Officer, Sandur South Range, Sandur & Assistant Conservator of Forests, Ballari for field verification and further processing.

This is for your information and necessary action.

Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Bellary Division, Bellary

To,

The Chariman-cum-Manging Director
M/s. KIOCL, Limited (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited),
2nd Block, Kormangala, Bangalore – 560 034.


AGENCY COPY	
NEFT / RTGS CHALLAN for Ad-HOC CAMPA	
Date : 29-10-2021	
Agency Name.	KIOCL LIMITED
Application No.	5832568361
State Code.	KA
Address.	II BLOCK, KORAMANGALA, BANGALORE 560034Bangalore Urban
Amount(in Rs)	1741421958/-
Amount in Words :One Hundred and Seventy-Four Crore Fourteen Lakh Twenty-One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty- Eight Rupees Only	
NEFT/RTGS to be made as per following details;	
Beneficiary Name:	KARNATAKA CAMPA
Pay to Account No.	CAMPAKA5832568361
Bank Name & Address:	Union Bank of India Branch Address : 52, Sunder Nagar New Delhi, Pin 110003
IFSC Code:	UBIN0534498
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Challan is strictly to be used for making payment to CAMPA by NEFT/RTGS only 	


BANK COPY	
NEFT / RTGS CHALLAN for Ad-HOC CAMPA	
Date : 29-10-2021	
Agency Name.	KIOCL LIMITED
Application No.	5832568361
State Code.	KA
Address:	II BLOCK, KORAMANGALA, BANGALORE 560034 Bangalore Urban
Amount(in Rs)	1741421958/-
Amount in Words :One Hundred and Seventy-Four Crore Fourteen Lakh Twenty-One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty- Eight Rupees Only	
NEFT/RTGS to be made as per following details;	
Beneficiary Name:	KARNATAKA CAMPA
Pay to Account No.	CAMPAKA5832568361
Bank Name & Address:	Union Bank of India Branch Address : 52, Sunder Nagar New Delhi, Pin 110003
IFSC Code:	UBIN0534498
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Challan is strictly to be used for making payment to CAMPA by NEFT/RTGS only 	

After making successful payment, User Agencies may send a line of confirmation through
Email: ubicampa@unionbankofindia.com


Online payment history made by User Agency under CAMPA

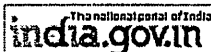
Help

Sno.	Proposal Detail	Application_No	Application No (New)	Date of IN-PRINCIPLE	Amount to be Paid/Amount Paid (in Rs.)	Payment Status	Payment Detail	Demand Letter
1	FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018 (../viewreport.aspx?pid=FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018) DEVADARI IRON ORE MINE	MIN325682018361	5832568361	24 Jun 2021	CA: 1371783958/- Addl CA : 0/- PCA: 0/-, CAT : 0/- Safety Zone: 17007581/-, Addl PA : 0/- Fencing of safety zone : NPV: 322465608/- 4653440/- Afforestation in degraded forest(1.5 times of safe : 25511371/- Other Charges2 : 0/- Other Charges3 : 0/- Total : 1741421958/-	 Paid	Fund Demand Verified by : 29 Oct 2021 Nodal Officer On Bank Name : Union Bank Of India Mode of Payment : NEFT/RTGS (Challan) Challan Generated On : 29 Oct 2021 Transaction Date : 29 Oct 2021	Demand Letter (../writereaddata/Fundpdf/281020211318064068_FPKAMIN325682018_User_Fund_Demar Generated Challan (../UserAccount/Neft_Challan.aspx?pid=MIN325682018361)



BHARAT ([HTTPS://SWACHHBHARAT.MYGOV.IN/](https://swachhbharat.mygov.in/))


 Power To Empower ([WWW.DIGITALINDIA.GOV.IN/](http://www.digitalindia.gov.in/))



 (HTTPS://DATA.GOV.IN/)


 The national portal of India
india.gov.in ([HTTPS://INDIA.GOV.IN/](https://india.gov.in/))


my gov ([HTTPS://WWW.MYGOV.IN/](https://www.mygov.in/))


Meity ([HTTP://MEITY.GOV.IN/](http://meity.gov.in/))


 (HTTP://WWW.PMINDIA.GOV.IN/EN/)


 (HTTP://WWW.NIC.IN/)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden,
Karnataka.



Office : 080-23341993

: 080-23346389

E-mail: pccfwl@gmail.com

Aranya Bhavan, 2nd Floor,

18th Cross, Malleswaram,

Bangalore-560 003

Date: 21-02-2022

No. PCCF/WL/D/CR-34/2021-22

To,

The Director (P&P),
KIOCL Limited,
2nd Block, Koramangala,
Bengaluru-560034.

Sir,

Sub: Approval of Wildlife Management Plan to Comply Stage I FC Condition No (X) of Devadari Iron Ore Mine of KIOCL Ltd.

Ref: 1 Your Letter No D(P&P)/65 dated: 18.12.2021

2 E-mail dated: 11.01.2022 of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bellary Division, Bellary.

3 Your Letter No D(P&P)/75 dated: 08.02.2022

* * *

Adverting to the letter cited under ref.(1) on the subject, the Wildlife Management Plan in respect of the above project prepared & submitted by the Director (P&P), KIOCL Limited, was forwarded to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bellary Division, Bellary for comments. Further, the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bellary Division, Bellary submitted site specific observations vide E-mail cited under ref.(2). As per the direction issued in this regard the Director (P&P), KIOCL Limited has submitted clarifications to the observations made by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bellary Division, Bellary and requested to approve the vide letter cited under ref(3). The clarification submitted by your office has been examined and approved the Wildlife Management Plan as noted here under;

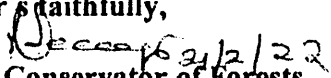
:The Wildlife Management Plan:

Sl. No	Particulars	1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	4 th Year	5 th Year
Biodiversity Conservation						
1	Research fund to study "Status and Ecology of Four Horned Antelope a Schedule 1 species in Sandur Region" to ZSI, Western Regional Centre, MoEF&CC	15,00,000	10,00,000	NA	NA	NA
2	Development of Butterfly Park and maintenance	5,00,000	1,25,000	1,25,000	1,25,000	1,25,000
3	Development and maintenance of Tree Park in 4 ha area (Includes rare, threatened, medicinal and endemic trees of the region)	10,00,000	3,00,000	3,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000
4	Research fund to study ecologically sensitive grasslands and associated flora in the hilltop plateaus	10,00,000	10,00,000	NA	NA	NA
5	Eradication of weeds and invasive species in the areas rich in wildlife	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000
6	Management and development of grasslands for angulates and herbivores	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000

SL No	Particulars	1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	4 th Year	5 th Year
7	Camera traps near check dams and Rainwater harvesting ponds for recording presence & movement of wild animals in the area	5,00,000	5,00,000	NA	NA	NA
8	Creation of ponds and water holes for wildlife	5,00,000	NA	NA	NA	NA
Human-Wildlife Conflict						
9	Patrolling Vehicle to curb wildlife related offenses, anti-poaching squad, equipped with communication instruments	20,00,000	NA	NA	NA	NA
10	Appointment of Guards as watch and ward	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000
11	Roadside signage and hoardings	2,50,000	NA	2,50,000	NA	NA
12	Awareness for local communities about Human Wildlife Conflicts (all the peripheral villages at village community halls and high schools)	1,00,000	1,00,000	1,00,000	1,00,000	1,00,000
Awareness and Capacity-Building						
13	Education and awareness programs and related material development	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000
14	Awareness programs for mining staff and local community - 50 programs @ 10,000	1,00,000	1,00,000	1,00,000	1,00,000	1,00,000
15	Educational video about four horned antelope and identifying and protecting key grasslands	10,00,000	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total		9250000	3925000	1675000	1325000	1325000

The Wildlife Management Plan above has been approved with following conditions.

1. The designs & locations of the above proposed measures for Rs. 1.75 Crore (One Crore Seventy five thousand only) shall be approved by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bellary Division and recommended and submitted through the Chief Conservator of Forests, Bellary Circle, Bellary.
2. Additional budget of Rs. 1.75 Crore as maintenance shall be provided after completion of above five year.
3. Additional budget of Rs. 4.00 crore shall be provided towards "Species Recovery Plan" for the conservation of Four Horned Antelope.

Your's faithfully,

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Wildlife), & Chief Wildlife Warden,
Bangalore.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
(ಅರಣ್ಯ ಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು) ರವರ ಕಚೇರಿ

Office of the
Principal Chief Conservator of
Forests
(Head of Forest Force)



ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, 18ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡ ರಸ್ತೆ
ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 003
Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross
Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560 003
Telephone : 080 2334 6472
Email : apccffc@gmail.com

E-office File No. KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/17/2019-FC
Encl. 1 sets of hard copies

E-75021 ✓
Date 28-02-2022

To,

The Director (P & P)
KIOCL Limited
2nd Block, Koramangala
Bengaluru- 560 034

Sir,

Sub: Approval of Catchment Area Treatment Plan (CATP) as a Compliance to Stage-I FC approval condition No. PART-A (xi and xii) for obtaining Stage-II approval for diversion of 401.5761 ha of forest land in SM Block, Sandur Taluk Ballari District in favour of KIOCL, Ltd

Ref: 1. Your letter No. D(P&P) 64 dated 16-12-2021 and 24-02-2022
2. Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle letter No.M1/MNG/KIOCL/FLD/CR-6/2019-20 dated 22-02-2022

Adverting to the letter cited under ref (1) on the above subject, the Catchment Area Treatment Plan (CATP) in respect of the above project prepared submitted by the Director (P & P), KIOCL Limited, was forwarded to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division to examine the CATP and submit the opinion through Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle. Accordingly, vide letter dated 22-02-2022 the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle submitted the CATP plan with certain observation, of Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle are as follows.

1. Said CAT Plan delineates the forest area proposed for diversion in to 3 main (major) and 7 micro watersheds. Further the Plan lists/enumerates 23 ravines (large & small) emanating from the proposed mining area. The catchment area land use plan, though delineated appropriately is not very legible in the Plan submitted and could not be interpreted for the same reason.
2. The User Agency may be asked in near future to revise the proposed CAT Plan in accordance with the mining plan (approved land use plan).
3. The measures proposed here in (biological and engineering) are limited only to the mining area. However, the foothills just below the proposed mining area and adjoining

valley (both on eastern and western flank of the proposed mining area) where the streams emanating from the proposed mining area (401.5761 ha) actually flow is where these interventions would actually help in minimising the ecological damage expected to be caused in the mining area.

4. The period of implementation of the proposed CAT Plan may have proper timeline.
5. The proposed CAT Plan shall be implemented by the UA in addition to the R&R plan as mandated for any other mine to be operationalized.
6. The User Agency has prepared the CATP Plan for Rs.2.05 Crores for implementing the Water and Soil Conservation Works. This CATP Plan needs to be revised both physical and financial targets duly increase in the quantity of check dams and other related works specified in rerint No. 5, 6, 7 & 10 to be carried out in the said project.

Activities of Catchment Area Treatment Plan are as follows.

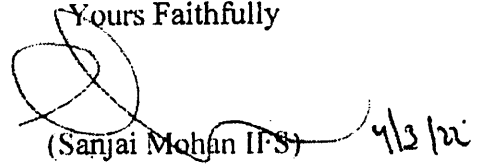
Sl.No.	Particular	Unit	Qty	Amount in Rs (Lac)
1.	Gabion Bandhara: Gabion with wire mess (C/S of 4.61 sqm constructed with boulders) Quarried stone shall be used for construction of Gabion. The placement shall be site specific and skilled worker shall be employed for interlocking the individual members. Galvanised 2.3mm thick galvanised wire mess of size 10 x 10 cm shall be used for maintain the stability of structure (Length-10m).	No	1.00	2.94
2.	Gabion Bandhara: structure (Length-12m).	No	5.00	17.00
3.	Gabion Bandhara: structure (Length-14m).	No	8.00	30.96
4.	Masonry Check Dam: Providing and constructing uncoursed random rubble masonry check dam of local stones with required size in CM 1:4, (1 cement, 4 coarse sand) including curing, striking off joints on wall faces, scaffolding, all leads and lifts etc complete (Length-16m).	No	2.00	17.62
5.	Box Gabion Check Dam: Placement of Rubble/boulders inside Gabions to line and level by using required MS/GI pipe frame for all heights to the satisfaction of EIC the rate is inclusive of making of gabion boxes, transportation of rubble from quarry and breaking of rubble to required size, making corner stones, facing of stones, all leads and lifts etc complete (Length-14m).	No	2.00	11.22
6.	Plum Concrete Check Dam: providing and laying in situ Plum Concrete M 20 and 30%	No	1	14.26

	boulders and 70% concrete in proportion of trap metal for foundation and bedding, including bailing out water by any means, formwork, compacting and curing etc. Complete (Length-19m).			
7.	Installation of Geo textile of slope: Grading of Slope surface to remove unwanted / protruding objects such as plant roots, stones, rocks etc. Dig Trench at the bottom and at the top for anchoring the Geo mat. Metal hooks and wooden / bamboo pegs installation at specified intervals on the mats laid on the slope surface. Everything complete.	Sqm	11750 .00	30.55
8.	Box Gabion Wall: Placement of Rubble / boulders inside Gabions to line and level by using required MS / GI pipe frame for all heights to the satisfaction of EIC the rate is inclusive of making of gabion boxes, transportation of rubble from quarry and breaking of rubble to required size, making corner stones, facing of stones, all leads and lifts etc complete.	Cum	687.5 0	28.19
9.	Trees: Supplying and planting of plans as per noted varieties, with height of 6-7 ft, including excavation of pit of size 0.6 m 0.6 m, removal of excavated earth to desired location filling the pit with soil mixture etc. As per specifications and as directed complete in all respect.	No	1784	21.41
10.	Grass Plantation- Providing planting and developing grass area with the approved variety including with height of 6" to 1 ft, with distance of 1.ft, excavating the existing soil to a maximum depth of about 15mm, removal of excavated earth to directed location, dressing the soil in proper slopes, planting approved quality grass with good quality manure mixture, including weeding, cutting the grass, watering etc.	No	22220 .00	3.78
11.	Manual Seeding: Large scale mass seeding was done by mixing seeds available in the region with local farmyard manure and spread across barren areas by manually.	MT	8.00	8.80
12.	Maintaince and Top Soil Collection in 3 year: Mine / Plateau Top Soil (manual collection), Labour cost-spreading, Soil from outside for spreading on the edges, Seasonal Meadow of Grassland Ecosystem and its Maintaince.	LS		19.00
Total Rupees in Lakhs				205.73

The Catchment Area Treatment Plan (CATP) above has been approved in-principle with following conditions.

1. The User Agency will implement all the activities proposed in the Catchment Area Treatment Plan as well as additional observations made in the plan by forest Department at the cost of KIOCL in consonance with the mine plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines as compliance to Stage-I FC Condition No. Part A (xi).
2. The User Agency shall furnish undertaking that they will implement the revised CATP which will be submitted by the duly incorporating approved mining plan in it.
3. The User Agency will implement the work under the Supervision of the Forest Department.
4. Implementation of CATP will be during specified period as finalized by Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle.
5. Monitoring Mechanism of CATP will be finalised by Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle.

Yours Faithfully



(Sanjai Mohan I.P.S)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle, Ballari for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari Division, Ballari for information and necessary action.



RS-13

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FOREST
BALLARI DIVISION, BALLARI

No.MI/MNG/KIOCL/BLY/CR/2017-18

Dated:19.09.2022

Demand Notice (Difference of CA & other charges)

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha for approach road = 401.5761 ha of Forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Managanese Ore Mining in Devadhari Hill Range in favour of M/s. KIOCL, Limited (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bangalore Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018[FORM-A] – Reg,

- Ref: 1) Letter F.No.8-24/2020-FC Dt.24.06.2021 & 05.08.2021 of MoEFCC, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
2) Order No. APAJI 19 FFM-2014(e) Dt. 06.07.2021 & 18.10.2021 of the Government of Karantaka.
3) Letter No. A5(1).MNG.CR.21/2017-18 Dt. 15/19.07.2021 & 22/25.10.2021 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru.
4) Letter No. A5(1)/GFL/CR-28/2009-10 Dt. 24.05.2022 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru.
5) This office even number letter Dt.27.10.2021 & 09.05.2022.
6) M/s. KIOCL Limited, Bangalore letter Dt.13.09.2022
7) Email received on 16.09.2022 from office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru

* * * * *

With reference to the above subject, the Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi has accorded 'in principle' approval (Stage-I) under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha for approach road = 401.5761 ha of Forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Managanese Ore Mining in Devadhari Hill Range in favour of M/s. KIOCL, Limited (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bangalore vide letter under Ref(1).

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru has directed the User Agency to make payments (Net Present Value, CA and other charges) through e-payment module and submit Condition-wise Complaine Report in respect of all the condition stipulated in Stage-I approval vide letter under Ref(2). In this regard, the undersigned has issued demand notice for remittance of NPV & other charges and directed the User Agency to submit Compliance Report through field officers vide letter under Ref(3). Accordingly, you have remitted the payments (Net Present Value, CA and other charges) through e-payment module as per demand notice issued by office of the undersigned and submitted Complaine Report through field officers vide letter under Ref(6). In this regard, office of the undersigned has submitted the compliance report vide letter Dt.09.05.2022 under letter Ref(5).

Further, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru has directed the undersigned to issue demand notice for pending payment with respect to your proposal.


Further to this, there is a revision in the CA charges [Common Sanctioned Schedule of Rates (CSSR) in the year 2022-23] notified vide letter under referene (4). The differential CA charges as applicable for the above referred proposal are calucalated as here under;

Sl. No	Specific activities	Particulars	Extent (ha)	Present Rate	Amount (Rs)	Already paid (Rs)	Amount to be paid (Rs)
1	Compensatory Afforestation (CA) [Condition No. A(iii)]	Raising of plantation in degraded forest land	803.1522 (401.5761 ha X 2)	18,36,000/-	1,47,45,87,439.00	137,17,83,958.00	10,28,03,481.00
2	Safety Zone Plantation [Condition No. A(xiii)(c)]	Regeration of Safety Zone	9.9576 ha	18,36,000/-	1,82,82,154.00	1,70,07,581.00	12,74,573.00
3	Fencing of Safety Zone Area [Condition No. A(xiii)(b)]	Fencing of Safety Zone Area	13.22 kms	3,93,000/-	51,95,460.00	46,53,440.00	5,42,020.00
4	Afforstation in degraded Forest [Condition No. A(xiii)(d)]	Afforstation in degraded Forest (1½ times of Safety Zone area)	14.9364 ha (9.9576 ha X 1½ times)	18,36,000/-	2,74,23,230.00	2,55,11,371.00	19,11,859.00
5	Wildlife Conservation Plan			-	7,50,00,000.00	-	7,50,00,000.00
6	Catchment Area Treatment Plan (CATP)			-	2,05,73,000.00	-	2,05,73,000.00
Grand Total							20,21,04,933.00

(Rs. Twenty crores twenty-one lakhs four thousand nine hundred and thirty-three only) (

Procedure for payment: This Demand Notice is to be uploaded on FC web portal (www.parivesh.nic.in) for acceptance by the Nodal Officer. After acceptance by the Nodal Officer, a Challan should be generated from the web portal for payment to the account mentioned in the Challan and submit the original remittance challan to this office for further action.

This is for your information and necessary action.


Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Bellary Division, Bellary

To,

The Chariman-cum-Manging Director
M/s. KIOCL, Limited (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited),
2nd Block, Kormangala, Bangalore – 560 034.

संदर्भ / Ref: 7000-BR/7041-175/3/2022

दिनांक / Date: 23.09.2022

सेवा में / To,

THE GENERAL MANAGER
KIOCL LTD
BENGALURU

महोदया/ प्रिय महोदय
Madam/ Dear Sir,

विषय/ Sub: TRANSFER OF FUNDS OF RS. 20,21,04,933/- THROUGH RTGS

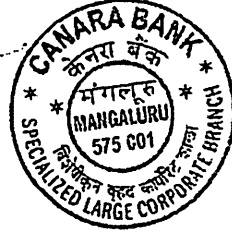
We wish to inform you that, as per your instructions, we have transferred an amount of Rs. 20,21,04,933/- (Rupees Twenty Crores Twenty One Lakhs Four thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty Three only) to the account of 'Karnataka Campa' maintained with Union Bank of India. The detail of the transaction is furnished below:

Account Number	150735832568537
Beneficiary details	Karnataka Campa
IFSC Code	UBIN0996335
UTR number	CNRBR52022092390445390
Date of transaction	23.09.2022

This letter is issued at the specific request of the company.

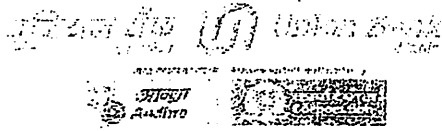
सादर / Regards

CHIEF MANAGER



124

AGENCY COPY



NEFT / RTGS CHALLAN for CAMPA Funds

Date : 23-09-2022

Agency Name.	KIOCL LIMITED
Application No.	5832568537
MoEF/SG File No.	8-24/2020-FC
Location.	KARNATAKA
Address.	II BLOCK, KORAMANGALA, BANGALORE 560034Bangalore Urban
Amount(in Rs)	202104933/-

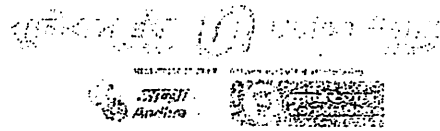
Amount in Words :Twenty Crore Twenty-One Lakh Four Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Three Rupees Only

NEFT/RTGS to be made as per following details;

Beneficiary Name:	KARNATAKA CAMPA
IFSC Code:	UBIN0996335
Pay to Account No.	150735832568537 <small>Valid only for this challan amount.</small>
Bank Name & Address:	Union Bank Of India FCS Centre,21/1, III Floor, Jelitta Towers, Mission Road, Bengaluru-560027

- This Challan is strictly to be used for making payment to CAMPA by NEFT/RTGS only

BANK COPY



NEFT / RTGS CHALLAN for CAMPA Funds

Date : 23-09-2022

Agency Name.	KIOCL LIMITED
Application No.	5832568537
MoEF/SG File No.	8-24/2020-FC
Location.	KARNATAKA
Address:	II BLOCK, KORAMANGALA, BANGALORE 560034 Bangalore Urban
Amount(in Rs)	202104933/-

Amount in Words :Twenty Crore Twenty-One Lakh Four Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Three Rupees Only

NEFT/RTGS to be made as per following details;

Beneficiary Name:	KARNATAKA CAMPA
IFSC Code:	UBIN0996335
Pay to Account No.	150735832568537 <small>Valid only for this challan amount.</small>
Bank Name & Address:	Union Bank Of India FCS Centre, 21/1, III Floor, Jelitta Towers, Mission Road, Bengaluru-560027

- This Challan is strictly to be used for making payment to CAMPA by NEFT/RTGS only

Note:After making the required payment through challan, if the payment status has not been updated even after 7 working days, then kindly mail a copy of your challan with transaction date and reference id to Email: fcsblr@unionbankofindia.bank , epurse@unionbankofindia.bank, ubin0903710@unionbankofindia.bank

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi: 1100 03,

Dated: 16th December, 2022

To

The Additional Chief Secretary (Forests),
Forest, Ecology and Environment Dept.,
Government of Karnataka,
Bangalore.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha. for approach road=401.5761 ha.) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru. -regarding (Online Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018).

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Karnataka's letter No. FEE 19FFM 2020 (e) dated 09th October, 2020 on the above mentioned subject, wherein prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha. for approach road=401.5761 ha.) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru, was sought in accordance with Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted under Section-3 of the said Act, *In-principle approval/Stage-I clearance* for diversion of the said forest land was accorded by the Ministry vide its letter of even number dated 24.06.2021 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Government of Karnataka vide their letter No. FEE 19 FFM 2020 (e) dated 18th August, 2022 and letter No. FEE 19 FFM 2020 dated 01st October, 2022, *Final approval/Stage - II approval* of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha. for approach road=401.5761 ha.) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru, subject to the following conditions: -

A: Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land to user agency by the State Govt.:

- i. The State Govt. shall ensure that the Mines Department, Karnataka/ User Agency in consultation with the Forest Department, Karnataka will implement a plan to secure dense vegetation on the slopes of the proposed area, and implement the same during the course of the lease period;
- ii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the prevalence of wildlife in the area, a Site-specific Wild Life Management Plan will be implemented at the cost of the user agency, before commencement of work;
- iii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the number of seasonal nallas (streams) originate in the area proposed for forest diversion. A CAT Plan duly approved by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Karnataka will be implemented at the cost of the user agency, before commencement of work;
- iv. The State Govt. shall ensure the complete compliance on FRA, 2006; It should also be ensured that the FRA certificate issued by District collector is complete with letter number, date, name, signature and official seal, as required in the certificate;
- v. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- vi. The State Government may ensure that the KML files of the area to be diverted, the CA areas, the proposed SMC treatment area and the WLMP area shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal;
- vii. The State Government shall ensure that the mining lease holder shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake re grassing the mining area, and any other areas which may have been disturbed due their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna, etc.;

B: Conditions which need to be complied after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Govt.:

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The Compensatory Afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over double the degraded i.e. $401.5761 \times 2 = 803.1522$ ha. of degraded forest land at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and mono-culture of any species may be avoided. With provision for ten years on subsequent maintenance;
- iii. The user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and transfer the same to the NA, CAMPA under intimation to this Ministry;
- iv. The area is within a mineralised zone. It is reported that at present there are 4 mining zones where active mining is taking place by a large number of organizations as per their individual plans. On the other hand, the cumulative impact of mining on forest, wildlife and ecology needs to be understood and acted upon. As such, the area requires a comprehensive view with regard to sustainable mining *vis-à-vis* forest, wildlife and ecological conservation including promotion of green mining infrastructure in the future which could not only have least impact on forest and wildlife in the area but in some cases could actually promote forest and wildlife by itself. A comprehensive study jointly by a couple of reputed institutes like IIT(ISM), Dhanbad, IIT, Delhi, IISc, Bengaluru, ICFRE, Dehradun shall be undertaken by the State Government at the cost of the user agency so as to draw a perspective co-management plan for mining and forest and wildlife

- conservation and development, including for green mining infrastructure development. The study report shall be submitted within one year for its consideration by Govt. of India and issuing guidelines/ direction for follow up action by the mining companies at their cost. It is clarified that this study shall not be linked to the present FC approval, however the State shall ensure the compliance;
- v. The User Agency and the State Government shall strictly adhere to the directions/ guidelines issues by the Honorable Supreme Court for mining, including directions on mining in Bellary district, and comply with all the statutory conditions for scientific and sustainable mining issued by competent authority;
- vi. The State Govt. shall ensure that the road side plantation of local species and bamboo raised along the approach road to the mine at the cost of the user agency;
- vii. The State Government shall prepare a time-bound plan for return of those forest areas in 'A', 'B' and 'C' category mines in Bellary district which could not be auctioned on account of non-viability, to the State Forest Department after proper Rehabilitation and Resettlement as per directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, and submit the Plan to the Govt. of India within six months. It is clarified that this condition is not linked to the instant proposal of forest land diversion, but the same shall be one of the issues for consideration for any forest land diversion in Karnataka State in the future, i.e. after six months, however the State shall ensure the compliance;
- viii. The State Govt. shall ensure the User Agency must do the needful as per Hon'ble SC directions and follow the instructions and recommendation of the CEC and also take required approval in a time bound manner for the regularization of the violations in the Kudremukh Forest and National Park. It would be obligatory on the State Government and UA to get the regularization of the violation of FC Act in the matter is done in time. The State shall also ensure the non binding conditions laid down by the FAC in the matter;
- ix. The period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulating) Act, 1957, as amended or Rules framed there under;
- x. Following activities, as per approved plan / schemes, shall be undertaken in the lease area by the User Agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department. Approved scheme/plan shall be submitted to the Ministry along with compliance of Stage-I approval:
- (a) Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream shall be implemented within a period of three year with effect from the issue of Stage-II clearance in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department.
- (b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds, in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion in accordance with the approved scheme;
- (c) Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour in accordance with the approved scheme;
- (d) Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching, in accordance with the approved scheme, so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28° ; and
- (e) No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan;
- xi. Safety Zone Management: Following activities, at project cost, shall be undertaken by

- the user agency for the management of safety zone as per relevant guidelines issued by the Ministry's guidelines:
- (a) User agency shall ensure demarcation of safety zone (7.5-meter strip all along the inner boundary of the mining lease area), and its fencing, protection and regeneration by erecting adequate number of 6 feet high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates with barbed wire fencing and deploying adequate number of watchers under the supervision of the State Forest Department;
 - (b) Boundary of the safety zone of the mining lease, adjacent to habitation/roads, should be properly fenced by the user agency;
 - (c) Safety zone shall be maintained as green belt around mining lease and to ensure dense canopy in the area, regeneration shall be taken up in this area by the user agency at project cost under the supervision of the State Forest Department;
 - (d) Afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone, shall also be done at the project cost under the supervisions of the State Forest Department. The degraded forest land (DFL) so selected will be informed to the MoEF&CC with shape files before Stage-II approval and afforestation will be done within three years from the date of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department; and
 - (e) The State Government and the user agency shall ensure that safety zone is maintained as per the prescribed norms;
- xii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without obtaining prior approval of the Central Government;
 - xiii. The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
 - xiv. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
 - xv. No labour camps shall be set up inside the forest area. Labour management plan should be implement with emphasis that no labour camp be set up in the close vicinity of the eco-fragile and sensitive areas;
 - xvi. The Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
 - xvii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates;
 - xviii. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
 - xix. No damage to the flora and fauna of the area shall be caused;
 - xx. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area;
 - xxi. The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;
 - xxii. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred

- to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India;
- xxiii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the Compliance report of this approval is uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
- xxiv. The Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the para 1.21 of comprehensive guidelines issued vide this Ministry F. No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28th March, 2019;
- xxv. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife shall be carried with by the State Government and user agency; and
- xxvi. The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval letter dated 24.06.2021 for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency and also the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court Order (S) and NGT Order (S), if any, pertaining to this project for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

Digitally Signed by Dheeraj
Mittal
Date: 16-12-2022 12:41:38
Reason: Approved

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
2. The Nodal Officer, (FCA), Department of Forest, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
3. The Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, for uploading.

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi: 1100 03,
Dated: 21st March, 2023

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Forest, Ecology and Environment Deptt.,
Government of Karnataka,
Bangalore.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha. for approach road=401.5761 ha.) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of IWs KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru. -regarding (Online Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018).

Sir

I am directed to refer to Govt. of Karnataka letterNo.FEE 19 FFM 2020 (e) dt 27.02.2023 and KIOCL D.O. letter No. CMD/5037 dated 01.03.2023 and this Ministry's Stage-II/Final approval letter dt 16.12.22 and to say that in partial modification to the said approval letter, the conditions (i), (ii) (iii) and (vii) of Part- A (Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land to user agency by the State Govt.) are hereby shifted as conditions of Part B (Conditions which need to be complied after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Govt.).

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Signed by Dheeraj Mittal
Date: 21-03-2023 13:23:19


Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
2. The Nodal Officer, (FCA), Department of Forest, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
3. The Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, for uploading.

F < R5-16

	Consent For Establishment (CFEs) Consent No. CTE-332501 Valid upto: 26/07/2027	131	Karnataka State Pollution Control Board Parisara Bhavana, No.49, Church Street, Bengaluru-560001 Tele : 080-25589112/3, 25581383 Fax:080-25586321 email id: ho@kspcb.gov.in
Industry Colour: RED Industry Scale: LARGE			
(This document contains 6 pages including annexure & excluding additional conditions)			

Consent Order No. CTE-332501 **PCB ID:** 107066 **Date.** 27/07/2022

To,
 The Applicant
 Kiocl Limited
 DGM (Mining), KIOCL Limited,
 II Block, Koramangala,
 Bangalore 560034

Sir,

Sub: Consent to Establish under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981-reg.,

- Ref:** 1. CFE application submitted by the industry/organization on 31/12/2021 at Regional Office
2. Inspection of the project site by Regional Officer Bellary on 08/02/2022
3. Proceedings of the ECM dated 18/05/2022 ,held on 05/05/2022

With reference to the above, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board hereby accords Consent for Establishment for new Activity under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 at the location indicated below subject to the following terms & conditions.

Location:

Name of the Applicant: Kiocl Limited
Address: Near Nandihalli-Narasingapura and Ranjithpura Villages, Devadari Iron Ore Mine, Sandur Tq, Ballari Dist
Industrial Area: Not In I.A, Narsapura, Ranjithpura ,
Taluk: Sanduru, District: Bellary

Conditions:

- This consent for establishment is valid up to 26/07/2027 from the date of issue.
- The applicant shall not undertake expansion/diversification without the prior consent of the Board.
- The applicant shall obtain necessary license/clearance from other relevant statutory agencies as required under the law.
- This consent is granted considering the following activities:

Sr	Product Name	Applied Qty	Unit
1	iron ore mining with capacity 2 million tpa (as per IBM approval)	0.000	Million Metric Tons/Annum
2	manganese ore of capacity 500 tpa (as per IBM approval)	0.000	Metric Tonnes/Annum
3	operation & maintenance of stp of capacity 25 kld	0.000	Kilo Litres/Day
4	wet beneficiation plant of capacity 2 million tpa	0.000	Million Metric Tons/Annum

I. WATER CONSUMPTION:

1. The source of water shall be from River and total water consumption shall be as below.

Particulars	Water consumption(KLD)
Cooling Water	3444.0
Domestic Purpose	25.0
Spray in Mines	150.0
Others	10.0

**Consent For Establishment (CFEs)**

Consent No. CTE-332501 Valid upto: 26/07/2027

132

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
Parisara Bhavana, No.49, Church
Street, Bengaluru-560001
Tele : 080-25589112/3, 25581383
Fax: 080-25586321
email id: ho@kspcb.gov.in

Industry Colour: RED Industry Scale: LARGE

(This document contains 6 pages including annexure & excluding additional conditions)

II. WATER POLLUTION CONTROL:

1. The discharge from the premises of the applicant shall pass through the terminal manhole/manholes where from the Board shall be free to collect samples in accordance with the provisions of the Act or Rules made there under.
2. The applicant shall treat the domestic wastewater from the factory in septic tank with soak pit. No overflow from the soak pit is allowed. The septic tank and soak pit shall be designed as per IS 2470 Part - I and Part- II
3. The applicant shall treat the domestic wastewater in the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) as per the proposal submitted. It shall meet the standards specified in Annexure-I & shall be used on land for gardening/greenbelt within the factory premises.
4. The quantity of domestic waste water and trade effluent generated from the proposed industry shall not exceed the permitted quantity as indicated below

Discharge of effluents under the Water Act:

Sl. No.	Description	Permitted Quantity of discharge in KLD	Mode/Place of disposal
1	Cooling Water	0.000	water used of cooling and ore beneficiation purposes shall be recycled completely. There shall not be discharge of effluent.
4	Domestic Purpose	20.000	Sewage generated from the domestic activity shall be treated in proposed new 25 KL STP and treated sewage shall be utilized for plantation and secondary purposes.
2	Others	0.000	Water is used for green belt development purposes. There is no discharge.
3	Spray in Mines	0.000	Water is used for spraying purposes for dust suppression. There is no discharge.

5. The applicant shall treat the trade effluent in proposed ETP which consists of the following;
6. The applicant shall ensure that the ETP will treat the effluent to the stipulated standards as indicated in Annexure-I
7. The applicant shall not discharge any effluent outside the industry premises.
8. The applicant shall provide separate flow meter for inflow & outflow of effluents through ETP and separate energy meter and shall maintain a logbook for hourly record of meter reading for the verification of inspecting officers
9. The applicant shall discharge the effluents only to the place mentioned in the Consent order.

III. AIR POLLUTION CONTROL:

1. The Source of emission, Stack height & Air Pollution Control (APC) measures shall be as specified in ANNEXURE-II.
2. The applicant shall provide port holes for sampling of emission, access platforms for carrying out stack sampling, electrical points and all other necessary arrangements including ladder as indicated in Annexure-II.
3. The applicant shall upgrade/modify/replace the control equipment with prior permission of the Board.

**Consent For Establishment (CFEs)**

Consent No. CTE-332501 Valid upto: 26/07/2027

133

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
Parisara Bhavana, No.49, Church Street, Bengaluru-560001
Tele : 080-25589112/3, 25581383
Fax:080-25586321
email id: ho@kspcb.gov.in

Industry Colour: RED Industry Scale: LARGE

(This document contains 6 pages including annexure & excluding additional conditions)

IV. NOISE POLLUTION CONTROL:

The applicant shall ensure that the ambient noise levels within its premises during construction and during operational period shall not exceed w.r.t Area/Zone as per Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 as mentioned below:-

- In Industrial Area 75 dB(A) Leq during day time and 70 dB(A) Leq during night time.
- In Commercial Area 65 dB(A) Leq during day time and 55 dB(A) Leq during night time.
- In Residential Area 55 dB(A) Leq during day time and 45 dB(A) Leq during night time.
- In Silence Zone 50 dB(A) Leq during day time and 40 dB(A) Leq during night time.

Note: - * Day time shall mean 6 am to 10 pm and Night time shall mean 10 pm to 6 am.

- * dB(A) Leq denotes the time weighted average of the level of sound in decibels on scale A which is relatable to human hearing.
- * A "decibel" is a unit in which noise is measured.
- * "A", in dB(A) Leq, denotes the frequency weighting in the measurement of noise and corresponds to frequency response characteristics of the human ear.
- * Leq: It is an energy mean of the noise level over a specified period.

V. SOLID WASTE (OTHER THAN HAZARDOUS WASTE) DISPOSAL:

- The applicant shall collect, treat and dispose off all solid waste generated from the process other than wastes covered under the Hazardous and other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules 2016, in such manner so as not to cause environmental pollution.
- The details of solid waste generated from the proposed plant and mode of disposal shall be as below.

Sr	Solid Waste Name/Type	Qty-Unit	Mode of Disposal
1	Over burden	485053.0000 - M.T	OTH

VI. HAZARDOUS AND OTHER WASTES (MANAGEMENT & TRANSBOUNDRY MOVEMENT) RULES 2016:

- The applicant shall apply and obtain authorization under Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules 2016, and comply with the provisions of the said Rules.

VII. GENERAL:

- The applicant shall transport and store the raw materials in a manner so as not to cause any damage to environment, life and property. The applicant shall be solely responsible for any damages to environment.
- The applicant shall not commission the proposed plant for trial or regular production unless necessary Water & air pollution control equipments are installed as specified in the Consent Order.
- The applicant shall ensure that the treatment plant and control equipments are completed and commissioned simultaneously along with construction of the factory and erection of machineries.
- The applicant shall not change or alter (a) raw materials or manufacturing process, (b) change the products or product mix (c) the quality, quantity or rate of discharge/emissions and (d) install/replace/alter the water or air pollution control equipments without the prior approval of the Board.
- The applicant shall immediately report to the Board of any accident or unforeseen act or event resulting in release of discharge of effluents or emissions or solid wastes etc. in excess of the standards stipulated. And the industry shall immediately take appropriate corrective and preventive actions under intimation to the Board.
- The Board reserves the right to review, impose additional condition or conditions, revoke, change or alter the terms and conditions.
- This CFE does not give any right to the Party/Project Authority/Industry to forego any other legal requirement, that is necessary for setting/operation of the plant.
- The applicant shall furnish pointwise compliance to the conditions given under this consent for establishment along with the application for Consent to operate.



Consent For Establishment (CFEs)

Consent No. CTE-332501 Valid upto: 26/07/2027

134

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
Parisara Bhavana, No.49, Church Street, Bengaluru-560001
Tele : 080-25589112/3, 25581383
Fax:080-25586321
email id: ho@kspcb.gov.in

Industry Colour: RED Industry Scale: LARGE

(This document contains 6 pages including annexure & excluding additional conditions)

- 9. The applicant is liable to reinstate or restore, damaged or destroyed elements of environment at his cost, failing which, the applicant/occupier as the case may be shall be liable to pay the entire cost of remediation or restoration in advance an amount equal to the cost estimated by Competent Agency or Committee.
10. The applicant shall comply with all the Conditions and guidelines issued from time to time.
11. The applicant must create structure/facility for rain water harvesting and ground water recharge.
12. The applicant shall develop extensive green belt within the periphery of the plant.
13. This consent is issued without prejudice to Court Cases pending in any Hon'ble Court.

Please note that this is only consent for establishment issued to you to proceed with the formalities for establishment of the industry and does not give any right to proceed with trial/regular production. For this purpose, separate consents of the Board for discharge of liquid effluent and the emissions to the air shall have to be obtained by remitting prescribed consent fee. The application for consent has to be made 45 days in advance of commissioning for trial production of the plant.

The receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged.

Consent Fee paid : Rs. 1400000

Note:

The Conditions II (2),(5),(6) & IV (b,c,d) mentioned in the schedule are not applicable.

Additional Conditions:

1) This consent for establishment is issued after prior approval of Chairman & MS for the production of Iron Ore Mining of capacity 2 Million TPA. Manganese Ore of capacity 500 TPA and wet beneficiation plant of capacity 2 Million TPA and installation of 25 KLD STP. 2) This CFE is valid upto 5 years from the date of issue. 3) The applicant shall comply with the conditions imposed in MoEF, GOI Environmental Clearance order No. F.No.J-11015/26/2018-IA-II(M) Dated:13.08.2021. 4)The applicant shall comply with the conditions imposed in the IBM Mining Plan approval obtained from Ministry of Mines, GOI No. 279/ 1096 /2018 /BNG/505 dated:09.03.2018. 5) The applicant shall submit the copy of Stage-II Forest Clearance on receipt of the same and scientific engineering sketch of tailing pond for disposal of slime generated from ore beneficiation plant. 6) The applicant shall comply with Annexures-I,II,III & IIII attached herewith.

COPY TO:

- 1. The Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Regional Office, Bellary for information and to inspect the industry during your next visit to the area.
2. Master copy (Dispatch).
3. Office copy.

ANNEXURE- II

Table with 8 columns: Chimney, Capacity, Minimum chimney height, Constituents to be controlled, Tolerance limits, Fuel, Air pollution Control equipment, Date of which air pollution control equipments shall be provided. Row 1: 1 D.G. Sets, DG Set-1000KV A, 30 PM,SO2,NOx,CO, NMHC, 0,0,0,0,0, DIE, AEC, Before Commissioning

**Consent For Establishment (CFEs)**

Consent No. CTE-332501 Valid upto: 26/07/2027

135

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2 Any Other....	IO Fines loading Hooper Bottom	1 PM,SO2,NOx,CO, NMHC	1200,0,0,0,0	PM < 1200 ug/m3	FIL	Before Commissioning
3 Vibratory Screen	Vibratory Screen (3 No's)	1 PM,SO2,NOx,CO, NMHC	PM < 1200 ug/m3		DSS,HDC,W SP,WBW	Before Commissioning
4 Conveyer or Belt	Conveyer Belts	0 PM,SO2,NOx,CO, NMHC	PM < 1200 ug/m3		DSS,HDC,W SP,WBW	Before Commissioning
5 Cone Crusher	Tertiary & Quarternary Cone Crushers - 250 TPH	0 PM,SO2,NOx,CO, NMHC	PM < 1200 ug/m3		DSS,HDC,W SP,WBW	Before Commissioning
6 Cone Crusher	Secondary Cone Crusher - 250 TPH	0 PM,SO2,NOx,CO, NMHC	PM < 1200 ug/m3		DSS,HDC,W SP,WBW	Before Commissioning
7 Jaw Crusher -1	Jaw Crusher - 350 TPH	1 PM,SO2,NOx,CO, NMHC	PM < 1200 ug/mg3		DSS,HDC,W SP,WBW	Before Commissioning

Nota:

AEC : Acoustic Enclosures

FIL : Bag Filter

DSS,HD : Dust Suppressor
C,WSP,
WBWDSS,HD : Dust Suppressor
C,WSP,
WBWDSS,HD : Dust Suppressor
C,WSP,
WBWDSS,HD : Dust Suppressor
C,WSP,
WBW**LOCATION OF SAMPLING PORTHOLES, PLATFORMS, ELECTRICAL OUTLET.****1. Location of Portholes and approach platform:**

Portholes shall be provided for all chimneys, stacks and other sources of emission. These shall serve as the sampling points. The sampling point should be located at a distance equal to atleast eight times the stack or duct diameters downstream and two diameters upstream from source of low disturbance such as a Bend, Expansion, Construction Valve, Fitting or Visible Flame or rectangular stacks, the equivalent diameter can be calculated from the following equation.

$$\text{Equivalent Diameter} = \frac{2 (\text{Length} \times \text{Width})}{(\text{Length} + \text{Width})}$$

- The diameter of the sampling port should not be less than 100mm dia". Arrangements should be made so that the porthole is closed firmly during the non sampling period.
- An easily accessible platform to accommodate 3 to 4 persons to conveniently monitor the stack emission from the portholes shall be provided. Arrangements for an Electric Outlet Point of 230 V 15 A with suitable switch control and 3 Pin Point shall be provided at the Porthole location.
- The ladder shall be provided with adequate safety features so as to approach the monitoring location with ease.

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF KARNATAKA
POLLUTION CONTROLBOARD



Consent For Establishment (CFEs)

Consent No. CTE-332501 Valid
upto: 26/07/2027

136

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Industry Colour: RED Industry Scale: LARGE

(This document contains 6 pages including annexure & excluding additional conditions)

Validity unknown

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Date: 2022.07.27 14:07:29
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**Devadari Iron Ore Mine of M/s. KIOCL Limited
Ballari District.**

PCB ID: 107066

Additional conditions to the XGN CTE order issued in respect of M/s. Devadari Iron Ore Mine of KIOCL Limited., Devadari Range, Near Nandihalli-Narasingapura and Ranjithapura Villages, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District.

ANNEXURE-I

1. This consent is granted to carryout following activities:

Sl. No.	Production activity	Capacity
1	Iron Ore Mining	2 Million TPA
2	Manganese Ore	500 TPA
3	Wet Beneficiation Plant	2 Million TPA
4	Operation & maintenance of Sewage Treatment Plant	25 KLD

2. The mining area shall not exceed shall not exceed 401.5761 Ha (388.0 ha for Mining & 13.5761 ha for conveyor, approach road etc.,) and in case of increase in mining area, separate CFE shall be obtained from the Board.
3. The applicant shall comply with the conditions imposed in MoEF, GOI Environmental Clearance order No. F.No.J-11015/28/2018-IA-II(M) Dated:13.08.2021.
4. The applicant shall comply with the conditions imposed in the IBM Mining Plan approval obtained from Ministry of Mines, GOI No. 279/1096/2018/BNG/505 dated:09.03.2018.
5. The applicant shall submit the copy of Stage-II Forest Clearance on receipt of the same.

Water Pollution Control:

- a) The sewage generated from the domestic activity shall be treated in proposed 25 KL STP and treated sewage shall be utilized for maintenance of green belt and secondary purposes. The applicant shall submit STP feasibility report and treatment methodology proposed to be adopted.
- b) The applicant shall ensure that treated sewage from outlet of STP shall confirm to the following standards:-

Sl. No.	Parameter	Limit	Frequency of monitoring
1	pH	6.5-9.0	Monthly
2	BOD, 3 days at 27°C (mg/l, Max)	<=20	
3	Suspended Solids (mg/l)	<=30	
4	Oil and Grease (mg/l)	<=10	

- a) There shall not be generation of trade effluent from the mining activity.
- b) The applicant shall ensure that there shall not be any discharge of either treated or untreated sewage/effluent into natural nala/storm water drains at any point of time.

**SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER
MINES AND METALLURGICAL SECTION**

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Devadari Iron Ore Mine of M/s. KIOCL Limited
Ballari District.

PCB ID: 107066

ANNEXURE-II

Fugitive Emission Standards	
Particulate Matter	1200 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
Note: Fugitive emission shall be monitored in the predominant downwind direction at a distance 25.0 ± 2.0 meters from the source of fugitive emission as per following:	
Area	Monitoring location
Drilling & Blasting	Drilling, excavation and loading applicable for operating benches above water table.
Haulage	Haul roads to ore processing plant, waste dumps and loading areas and service road.
Crushing & Screening plant	Run-off mine unloading at hopper, crushing areas, screens and transfer points, Screens, conveying and transportation of ore discharge points.
Loading	Intermediate stock bin/pile areas, ore stock bin/pile areas, wagon/truck loading areas.
Dumping	Active waste
Sewage Standards	
pH	5.5-9.0
Suspended solids (non-rainy day)	50 mg/l
Suspended Solids (rainy day)	100 mg/l
Oil & grease	10 mg/l
Note:	
(i) All efforts shall be made to reuse and re-circulate the treated effluent.	
(ii) The aforesaid effluent standards shall be complied with for sewage, service water, beneficiation of ore wash water and surface run-off put together.	


 SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER
 MINES AND METALLURGICAL SECTION

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Devadari Iron Ore Mine of M/s. KIOCL Limited
Ballari District.

PCB ID: 107066

ANNEXURE-IIB

NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS

Pollutant	Time Weighted Average	Concentration in Ambient Air		Method of Measurement
		Industrial, Residential, Rural & other Areas	Ecologically sensitive area (Notified by Central Government)	
Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂)	Annual* 24 Hours**	50 µg/m ³ 80 µg/m ³	20 µg/m ³ 80 µg/m ³	- Improved West and Gacke method. - Ultraviolet fluorescence.
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	Annual* 24 Hours**	40 µg/m ³ 80 µg/m ³	30 µg/m ³ 80 µg/m ³	- Modified Jacob & Hochheiser (Na-Arsenite) Method. - Chemiluminescence.
Particulate Matter (Size less than 10 µm) or PM ₁₀	Annual* 24 Hours**	60 µg/m ³ 100 µg/m ³	60 µg/m ³ 100 µg/m ³	- Gravimetric. - TOEM. - Beta attenuation.
Particulate Matter (Size less than 2.5 µm) or PM _{2.5}	Annual* 24 Hours**	40 µg/m ³ 60 µg/m ³	40 µg/m ³ 60 µg/m ³	- Gravimetric. - TOEM. - Beta attenuation.

* Annual Arithmetic mean of minimum 104 measurements in a year at a particular site taken twice a week 24 hourly at uniform interval.

** 24 hourly/8 hourly/1 hourly monitored values, as applicable, shall be complied with 98% of the time in a year. 2% of the time, they may exceed the limits but not on two consecutive days of monitoring.

Note:

Whenever & wherever monitoring results on two consecutive days of monitoring exceeds the limits specified above for the respective category, it shall be considered adequate reason to institute regular or continuous monitoring and further investigation.


SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER
MINES AND METALLURGICAL SECTION





**Devadari Iron Ore Mine of M/s. KIOCL Limited
Ballari District.**

PCB ID: 107066

**ANNEXURE – III
ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS**

1. There shall not be any point air pollution sources in the project.
2. The applicant shall monitor the Fugitive Emissions at places as described in Annexure-II and submit reports to the Board once in three months. The Particulate Matter monitored in the predominant downwind direction at a distance 25.0 ± 2.0 meters from the source of Fugitive Emissions shall not exceed $1200 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.
3. The applicant shall conduct Ambient Air Quality Monitoring in the area and the Ambient Air Quality shall conform to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) prescribed in Environment (Protection) Seventh Amendment Rules 2009, as per Annexure-IIB enclosed.
4. Wet drilling method shall be adopted to avoid dust emissions. Eco-friendly blasting material shall be used to minimize ground vibrations and flying rocks.
5. The mode of disposal of solid waste and the area selected for the same shall be got approved by the Board duly furnishing the relevant information within 30 days from the receipt of this consent for establishment.
6. The excavated pits shall be filled with overburden material and sufficient plantation shall be carried out as per the reclamation programme as per progressive mine closure plan.
7. The dumping of overburden shall be done systematically as per the EMP in IBM approved mining plan.
8. Bunds of sufficient height and length to be constructed to stop the storm water flowing through the dumps of the mining area. This will prevent the rush of storm water carrying the loose soil down below either to the reservoir or to the fields.
9. Construction of sufficient check dams, gully plugs, retaining wall, and contour trenches to control soil erosion from the top of the dumps shall be undertaken as per approved Mining Plan of IBM.
10. The applicant shall adopt continuous water sprinkling system to suppress the dust particles in the mining area and also while transporting the Ore.
11. The applicant shall carryout biological reclamation of the dump area.
12. The applicant shall dump the over burden in designated area as per IBM approved plan. Adequate number of retaining wall shall be provided to arrest dump run off.
13. E-waste management, plastic waste management awareness to be taken up with employees and local community through digital display at prominent places.
14. Ground vibration studies may be taken up and the report may be submitted.
15. Plantation to be taken 7.5 m buffer zone in addition to the other places as per the conceptual plan.
16. The applicant shall carryout Environmental monitoring as per schedule mentioned in the EIA to obtain Environmental Clearance.
17. The applicant shall submit half yearly consent compliance reports (April to September in the month of December and October to March in the month of June) to the Board.


**SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER
MINES AND METALLURGICAL SECTION**

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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND GEOLOGY
BENGALURU – 560 001

Mining Lease Deed No – 020 (2023)

Govt. order No: CI 294 MMM 2015, dated: 23.01.2017

For Iron and Manganese Ores over an area of 388.00 Ha

With:

M/s KIOCL Limited.,
IInd Block, Koramangala,
Bengaluru – 560 034.


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BACKGROUND:

A. Ministry of Mines, Government of India, New Delhi vide letter No.4/3/2016-M. VI dated: 05.12.2016 has conveyed the approval of the Central Government under Section 17A (2) of the Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act (MMDR), 1957 by reserving an area of 470.40 hectares for Iron and Manganese Ore mining lease in Devadari Hill Range, Swamimalai Block Forest, Ballari District, Karnataka in favour of M/s. KIOCL Limited.,

In pursuance of the approval of the Central Government, Government of Karnataka has issued notification No CI 294 MMM 2015 dated: 23.01.2017 by reserving an area of 470.40 hectares in favour of M/s. KIOCL Limited., for Iron and Manganese Ore mining lease in Devadari Hill Range, Swamimalai Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District, Karnataka. The said reservation was issued subjected to provisions of Sub-Sections (2A), (2B) and (2C) of Section 17A of the MMDR Act, 1957 as amended through the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015. KIOCL Limited shall pay an additional amount as specified under Schedule-VI of MMDR Act, 1957 and as amended time to time apart from contribution towards District Mineral Foundation Trust and National Mineral Exploration Trust or any other statutory payment. KIOCL approached MoEF for Forest Clearance and the MoEF issued Forest clearance for mining activities in 388.00 Ha in Devadari Hill Range, Swamimalai Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District, and Karnataka. M/s KIOCL limited has submitted all the statutory clearances.

B. Accordingly, the State Government is now executing this deed for grant of a Mining Lease to the Lessee in consideration of the fee, royalties,


Jr. Jagad Gautham (IAS)
Director
Dept. of Mines and Geology,
No.49. "KHANIJA BHAVAN", Bengaluru - 01


के.वि.भास्कर रेड्डी
K.V. Bhaskara Reddy

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covenants and agreements hereinafter reserved and contained on the part of the Lessee to be paid, observed and performed.

1. DEFINITIONS

The expressions used in this Lease shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them under the Act and the rules made thereunder.

2. GRANT OF LEASE

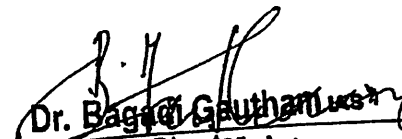
2.1. The State Government hereby grants the Mining Lease to the Lessee over an area described in Schedule B ("**Lease Area**") for conducting mining operations for a period of **50 years** commencing from the date on which this duly executed mining lease deed is registered with respect to **Iron and Manganese Ore** only.


2.2. The Lease shall be with respect to all those the mines beds/veins seams of the Minerals situated lying and being in or under the Lease Area.

2.3. Subject to the Lessee paying the royalties and making other payments required to be paid and observing and performing all the covenants and agreements herein contained and on the part of the Lessee to be observed and performed shall and may quietly hold and enjoy the rights and premises of the Lease Area for and during the term hereby granted without any unlawful interruption from or by the State Government, or any person rightfully claiming under it.

3. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

3.1. The rights and obligations of the State Government and the Lessee shall be as specified in the Act and the rules made thereunder, including without limitation the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016.


 Dr. Bageshwar Gaikwad
 Director
 Dept. of Mines and Geology,
 No.49, "KHANIJA BHAVAN", Bengaluru - 01


 ಕೆ.ವಿ. ಭಾಸ್ಕರ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ
 K.V. Bhaskara Reddy
 ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ (ಉತ್ಪಾದನಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣಾ ವಿಭಾಗ)
 (Mining Projects)

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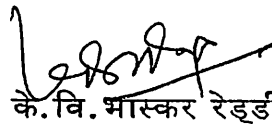
3.2. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing,

(a) the Lessee shall:

- (i) at all times comply with the provisions of the Act and the rules made there under and any other applicable law;
- (ii) make prompt payment of royalty and any other payment required to be made by the Lessee;
- (iii) pay such compensation as may be assessed by lawful authority in accordance with the law in force on the subject for all damage, injury, or disturbance which may be done by the Lessee in exercise of the powers granted by this Lease and to indemnify and keep indemnified fully and completely the State Government against all claims which may be by any person or persons in respect of any such damage, injury or disturbance and all costs and expenses in connection therewith;
- (iv) take measures, at his own expense, for the protection of environment like planting of trees, reclamation of mined land, use of pollution-control devices, and such other measures as may be prescribed by the Central or State Government from time to time;
- (v) without delay send to the Deputy Commissioner/Collector a report of any accident causing death or serious bodily injury or serious injury to property or seriously affecting or endangering life or property which may occur in the course of the operations under this Lease;
- (vi) weigh or cause to be measured or weighed upon some part of the Lease Area all minerals from time to time won from the Lease Area, with prior notice being given to the Deputy Commissioner/Collector every such measuring or weighing in order that he or some person on his behalf may be present thereat;


J. Bagadi Gautham IAS

Director
Dept. of Mines and Geology,
Bengaluru - 01



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K.V. Bhaskara Reddy
ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ (ಉತ್ಪಾದನಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಯೋಜನಾಂಗ)

- (vii) submit to the State Government a full report of the work done by the Lessee and disclose all information acquired by the Lessee in the course of the operations carried on under this Lease regarding the geology and mineral resources of the area covered by the Lease; and
- (viii) pay stamp duty and registration charges as may be applicable in respect of this deed.

(b) the State Government shall:

- (i) have the right to, at all times to enter into and upon and to grant or demise to any person or persons whomsoever liberty to enter into and upon the Lease Area for all or any purposes other than those for which sole rights and Lease are hereby expressly conferred upon the Lessee, including without limitation, to make on, over or through the said lands such roads, tramways and ropeways as shall be considered necessary or expedient for any purposes and to obtain from and out of the said lands such stone, earth or other materials as may be necessary or requisite for making, repairing or maintaining such roads, tramways, railways and ropeways to pass and repass at all times over and along such roads, tramways, railways and ropeways for all purposes and as occasion shall require;
- (ii) have the right to appropriate any performance security provided by the Lessee in accordance with terms of such performance security and require the Lessee to replenish the performance security. In case the performance security has been provided through a security deposit after termination of the Lease and fulfillment of all obligations of the Lessee, such security deposit shall be returned to the Lessee after



Dr. Bagadi Gautham IAS

Director

Dept. of Mines and Geology,

No.49, "KHANIJA BHAVAN", Bengaluru - 01



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K.V. Bhaskara Reddy

ಮಿಣಿ ಶಾಖೆ (ಉತ್ಪಾದನಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣಾ)

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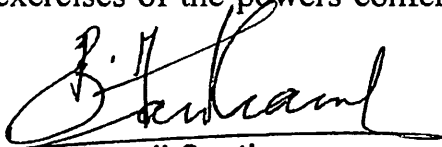
appropriate deductions. It is clarified that the security deposit shall not carry any interest, and

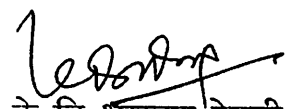
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(iii) have the right to carry out or perform any work or matters which in accordance with the covenants in that behalf are to be carried out or performed by the Lessee, but have not been so carried out or performed within the time specified in that behalf, and the Lessee shall pay the State Government on demand all expenses which shall be incurred in such carrying out or performance of the same.

3.3. If the State Government is desirous of exercising its right of pre-emption with respect to any mineral(s) the State Government shall pay the average sale price of such minerals as published by IBM prevailing at the time of pre-emption.

3.4. In the event of the existence of a state of war or emergency (of which existence the President of India shall be the sole judge and a notification to this effect in the Gazette of India shall be conclusive proof) the State Government with the consent of the Central Government shall from time to time and at all times during the said term have the right (to be exercised by a notice in writing to the Lessee/Lessees) forthwith take possession and control of the works, plant, machinery and premises of the Lessee on or in connection with the Lease Area or the operations under this Lease and during such possession or control, the Lessee shall conform to and obey all directions given by or on behalf of the Central or State Government regarding the use of employment of such works, plants, premises and minerals, provided that fair compensation, which shall be determined in default of agreement by the State Government shall be paid to the Lessee for all loss or damage sustained by him/them by reason or in consequence of the exercises of the powers conferred by this clause and provided also that


Dr. Bagadi Gautham IAS
Director


के. वि. भास्कर रेड्डी
K.V. Bhaskara Reddy

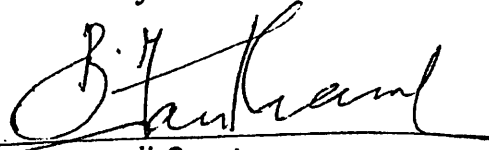
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the exercise of such power shall not determine the said term hereby granted or affect the terms and provisions of this clause.

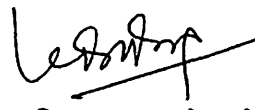
3.5. If after the receipt of an offer of compensation for any damage which is likely to arise from the proposed operation of the Lessee, the occupier of the surface of any part of the said lands shall refuse his consent to the exercise of the rights and powers reserved to the State Government and granted by this Lease, the Lessee shall report the matter to the State Government and shall deposit with it the amount offered as compensation and if the State Government is satisfied that the amount of compensation is reasonable or if it is not so satisfied and the Lessee shall have deposited with it such further amount as the State Government may consider reasonable, the State Government shall order the occupier to allow the Lessee to enter upon the said land and carry out such operations as may be necessary for the purpose of the Lease. In assessing the amount of such compensation the State Government shall be guided by the principles of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

3.6. Every notice required to be given to the Lessee shall be given in writing to such person as may be nominated by the Lessee and such nomination shall be informed to the State Government in writing. If no such nomination is made then the notice shall be sent to the Lessee by registered post/speed post addressed to the Lessee at the address shown in the application for the Lease or at such other address in India as the Lessee may designate from time to time and every such service shall be deemed to be proper and valid service upon the Lessee and shall not be questioned or challenged by him.

3.7. If in any event the orders of the State Government are revised, reviewed or cancelled by the Central Government in pursuance of proceedings under the



G. Jagannath Gautham IAS
 Director
 Dept. of Mines and Geology



ಕೆ.ವಿ. ಭಾಸ್ಕರ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ
 K.V. Bhaskara Reddy

ಇದರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 149/2023/ಎಂಎಂ-23

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Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2013, the Lessee shall not be entitled to compensation for any loss sustained by the Lessee in exercise of the powers and privileges conferred upon the Lessee by these presents.

4. GOVERNING LAW

This Lease and all questions of its interpretation shall be construed in accordance with the laws of India. In the event of any dispute in relation to the this Lease and in respect of all matters touching the relationship of the Lessee and the State Government, suits of petitions shall be filed in jurisdictional civil courts and it is hereby expressly agreed that neither party shall file a suit or appeal or bring any actions at any place other than the courts named above.

In witness whereof there presents have been executed at the Bengaluru on 02.01.2023

Signatories



The State Government

Name: Dr. Bagadi Gautham

Designation: Director

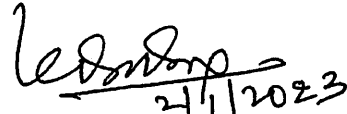
Date: 02.01.2023

Dr. Bagadi Gautham IAS

Director

Dept. of Mines and Geology,

No.49, "KHANUJA BHAVAN", Bengaluru - 01



M/s KIOCL Limited

Name: K.V. Bhaskara Reddy

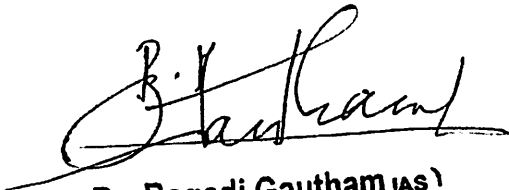
Designation: Director (P & P)

Date: 02.01.2023

के. वि. भास्कर रेड्डी / K.V. Bhaskara Reddy
निदेशक (उत्पादन एवं परियोजनाएँ) / Director (Production & Projects)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बेंगलूरु - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS:

1. Lessee shall prepare Reclamation and Rehabilitation (R&R) plan and get the approval of CEC as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in W P No:562/2009 dated:18.04.2013 and implement the approved R&R plan.
2. Mining lease is subject to terms and conditions as prescribed under Rule 12 of MOAHCEM Rules, 2016.
3. Lessee shall abide by the conditions stipulated in EIA Notification dtd: 14.09.2006 and as amended from time to time.
4. Lessee shall carryout the mining operation as per the conditions imposed by in the Forest Clearance issued by MoEF letter No: 8-24/2020-FC Dated: 16.12.2022 and also strictly comply the below condition of the said letter.
"ix. The Mines Department, Karnataka/ User Agency in consultation with the Forest Department, Karnataka shall prepare a plan with maps to secure dense vegetation on the slopes of the proposed area, and implement the same during the course of the lease period;
5. Lessee shall transport the mineral only through designated RFID/GPS mounted vehicles.
6. Lessee shall pay DMF, NMET and other applicable funds, fees, charges, compensations etc., apart from Dead Rent/Royalty in accordance with/at the rates specified in the schedule/amended Act.
7. Lessee shall not engage child / bonded labour in mining.
8. Weigh bridge shall be integrated with ILMS.
9. The lessee shall have to fulfill all the statutory/regulatory requirements under MMDR Act 1957, M(OAHCEM) Concession Rules, 2016, MCDR 1988, Forest Act, 1980 as well as other applicable Acts, Rules and Regulations, Notifications etc., as amended from time to time to the satisfaction of relevant authorities under such Acts, Rules etc.



Dr. Bagadi Gautham (AS)
 Director
 Dept. of Mines and Geology,
 No.49, "KHANIJA BHAVAN", Bengaluru - 01



ಕೆ.ವಿ. ಭಾಸ್ಕರ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ
 R.V. Bhaskara Reddy
 ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ (ಉತ್ಪಾದನ ಂವ ಪರಿಯೋಜನಾಂ)
 Director/Production & Projects

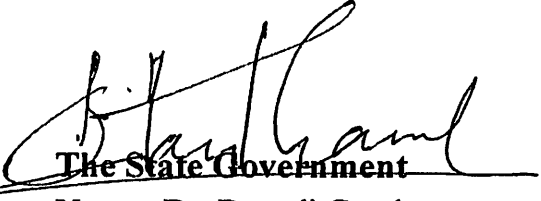
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10. The Orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and other competent Courts, directives of ~~the~~ ^{ಅನುಸರಿಸಬೇಕಾದ} ~~competent~~ ^{ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು} authorities are to be scrupulously followed, to the satisfaction of the concerned authorities under relevant legislations etc.
11. The lessee shall comply with the provisions of the Stamp Act as amended from time to time to the satisfaction of the concerned authority under the Act. Any difference amount in stamp duty/registration fee, arises/ is found at a later stage, lessee shall pay the same immediately upon intimation.
12. The mining lease holders shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc.

Signatories


 The State Government

Name: Dr. Bagadi Gautham

Designation: Director

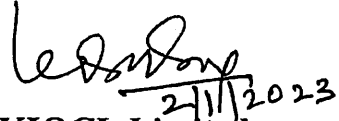
Date: 02.01.2023

Dr. Bagadi Gautham (AS)

Director

Dept. of Mines and Geology,

No.49, "KHANJA BHAVAN", Bengaluru - 01


 2/1/2023

M/s KIOCL Limited

Name: K.V. Bhaskara Reddy

Designation: Director (P & P)

Date: 02.01.2023

ಕೆ.ವಿ. ಭಾಸ್ಕರ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ / K.V. Bhaskara Reddy

ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ (ಉತ್ಪಾದನಾ ಮತ್ತು ಯೋಜನೆ) / Director (Production & Projects)

ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಐ.ಎಂ.ಎಸ್. ಲಿಮಿಟೆಡ್ / KIOCL LIMITED

II ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಕೊರಮಂಗಲಾ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು - 560 034

II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

Witness :

Subrahmanya

1) Subrahmanya Bhat M. Senior Manager (Law)
 KIOCL Ltd 2nd Block, Koramangala
 Bangalore - 34

2) Basavaraj
 Dy. General Manager (Mining)
 KIOCL Ltd.
 II Block, Koramangala.
 Bangalore - 34

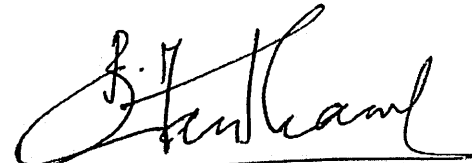
SCHEDULE A - LIST OF PERSONS

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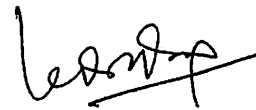
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF M/S KIOCL LIMITED
(A GOVT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)

Regd. Office: II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru- 560 034

S. No.	Name of Director	Designation	PAN Number	Address
1.	Shri. T. Saminathan	Chairman-cum- Managing Director	ABHPS5092G	15/H15, Avalapalli Hudco, Bagalur Road, Hosur, Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu - 635109
2.	Shri. Swapan Kumar Gorai	Director (Finance)	AFAPG2288P	QTR No.-D 5, Kudremukh Colony, 2nd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560034
3.	Shri. K. V. Bhaskara Reddy	Director (Production & Projects)	AANPR9216Q	134, M S Ramaiah City, 8th Phase, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560076
4.	Shri. Binay Krushna Mahapatra	Director (Commercial)	AFRPM4929G	Plot No. N-6/117, Jayadev Vihar, Near Rameswar Temple, Nayapalli, IRC Village, Khorda, Bhubaneswar, Odisha - 751015
5.	Ms. Sukriti Likhi	Govt. Nominee Director	AABPL1293M	C-7, Tower 10, New Moti Bagh, New Delhi - 110023
6.	Shri. Devidatta Satapathy	Govt. Nominee Director	AVOPS6329M	Flat No. 503, Tower 10, CWG Village Complex, Near Akshardham Mandir, New Delhi - 110092
7.	Shri. Changdev Sukhadev Kamble	Independent Director	AGZPK6821G	Link Road, Plot No. 43, Dropadi Bangala Samata Nagar, Pandharpur, Solapur, Maharashtra - 413304
8.	Dr. Usha Narayan	Independent Director	AEYPN9278B	007, Gorakhnath Road, Purana Gorakhpur, Jai Hospital and Maternity Home, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh - 273015



Dr. Bagadi Gautham (IAS)
Director
Dept. of Mines and Geology,
No.49, "KHANIJA BHAVAN", Bengaluru - 04



के.वि. भास्कर रेड्डी / K.V. Bhaskara Reddy
निदेशक (उत्पादन एवं परियोजनाएँ) / Director (Production & Projects)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बंगलूरु - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

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SCHEDULE B - PARTICULARS OF THE LEASE AREA

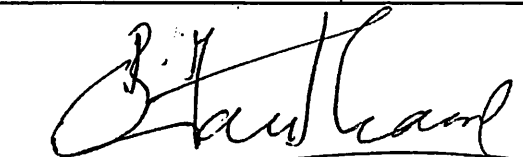
Sl. No.	Particulars	Details/Status
1	Location	
	Name of the Mine	Devadari Iron Ore Mine of M/s KIOCL Limited
	Name of the Letter of Intent holder	M/s KIOCL Limited (A Govt. of India Enterprise)
	Name of the erstwhile lessee and Mine Lease (M.L.) Number	Not Applicable
	Latitude, Longitude of Corner Points as per DGPS	Mentioned below

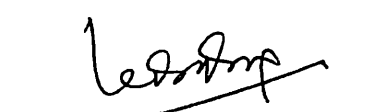
Joint Survey DGPS Co-Ordinates of ML area of 388.00 ha in Devadari Hill Range, Swamimalai Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District

DGPS Instruments: PENTAX G6 **Date of Survey: 20.10.2022 to 22.10.2022**

ML Boundary Points/ (Boundary Points as per Notification) **DGPS COORDINATES, Datum: WGS 84, Projection UTM ZONE 43P NORTH**

	Latitude	Longitude	Northing	Easting
SOI-BLR 09/Base Station	15°01'46.93740''	76°34'38.49650''	1662216.896	669573.228
GTS-SI 51 (MSL:844)	15°04'38.93217''	76°33'53.80403''	1667493.417	668200.808
BP-1 (K-23)	15°01'57.08111''	76°35'08.58877''	1662535.086	670469.815
BP-2(K-25)	15°02'26.92721''	76°35'01.76893''	1663450.908	670259.536
BP-3 (K-26)	15°02'45.80071''	76°34'53.61483''	1664029.216	670011.837
BP-4 (K-29)	15°03'10.11033''	76°34'39.08232''	1664773.234	669572.457
BP-5 (K-30)	15°03'15.22147''	76°34'36.77508''	1664929.826	669502.426
BP-6 (K-2A)	15°03'38.09905''	76°34'58.96690''	1665637.689	670160.149
BP-7 (K-3)	15°03'36.08886''	76°34'58.16315''	1665575.736	670136.588
BP-8 (K-4)	15°03'21.35242''	76°34'58.61061''	1665122.925	670153.203
BP-9 (K-5)	15°02'47.70741''	76°35'28.92930''	1664095.399	671066.143
BP-10 (K-6)	15°02'12.75765''	76°35'41.46955''	1663023.960	671448.441
BP-11 (K-7/LBS-L(KFIL))	15°02'11.39010''	76°35'38.33528''	1662981.254	671355.130
BP-12 (K-8)	15°02'01.54312''	76°35'16.85106''	1662673.994	670715.613
BP-13 (K-9/LBS-A(KFIL))	15°01'43.84657''	76°35'25.62412''	1662131.997	670981.567
BP-14(K-10/LBS-Q (KFIL))	15°01'45.68789''	76°35'29.67496''	1662189.459	671102.155
BP-15 (K-11/LBS-N (KFIL))	15°01'52.64912''	76°35'44.32019''	1662406.561	671538.050
BP-16 (K-12/LBS-M (KFIL))	15°01'53.16930''	76°35'45.54410''	1662422.812	671574.491
BP-17 (K-13)	15°02'04.34444''	76°35'41.31890''	1662765.356	671445.809
BP-18 (K-14)	15°02'06.15548''	76°35'49.14609''	1662822.706	671679.193
BP-19 (K-15)	15°02'06.76399''	76°35'54.72458''	1662842.614	671845.678
BP-20 (K-16)	15°02'02.01519''	76°35'59.85396''	1662697.774	671999.942
BP-21 (K-17)	15°01'27.30734''	76°36'12.74819''	1661633.856	672392.819
BP-22 (K-18)	15°01'24.15083''	76°35'56.14312''	1661533.249	671897.528
BP-23 (K-19.A)	15°01'21.71013''	76°35'31.34567''	1661452.889	671157.367


Dr. Bagadi Gautham (as)


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K V Bhaskara Reddy

EXCLUDED BOUNDARY POINTS FROM NOTIFICATION				
K-1/LBS-1 (VSL/JSW)	15°03'40.267''	76°34'51.800''	1665702.768	670224.638
K-2	15°03'43.58777''	76°35'01.15598''	1665806.848	670224.313
K-19	15°01'18.17087''	76°35'46.67892''	1661347.418	671616.159
K-20	15°01'24.77481''	76°35'18.06409''	1661544.224	670759.969
K-21	15°01'38.91556''	76°35'03.91779''	1661975.789	670334.304
K-22	15°01'53.00821''	76°35'00.71429''	1662408.223	670235.513
K-24	15°02'24.06562''	76°34'55.42705''	1663361.602	670070.750
K-27	15°02'43.28769''	76°34'46.40294''	1663950.438	669796.994
K-28	15°03'05.02503''	76°34'35.00291''	1664616.073	669451.739


DGPS COORDINATES OF VILLAGE/FOREST BOUNDARY POINTS					
SL No	Point ID	GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES		UTM_N43P GRID COORDINATES	
		Latitude	Longitude	Northing	Easting
1	VB-16	15°01'35.82324"	76°35'04.62734"	1661880.902	670356.179
2	VB-35	15°02'18.63232"	76°34'21.04283"	1663187.279	669044.970
3	VB-36	15°02'43.96626"	76°34'30.20013"	1663967.834	669312.921
4	VB-39	15°03'02.11087"	76°34'17.14731"	1664522.705	668919.105
5	VB-40	15°03'36.79389"	76°34'03.29843"	1665585.697	668497.918
6	VB-41	15°04'08.75235"	76°35'17.95415"	1666583.864	670720.408
7	VB-42	15°03'20.23988"	76°35'20.17559"	1665093.364	670797.496
8	VB-50	15°02'38.50730"	76°36'03.32861"	1663820.075	672095.592
9	VB-51	15°02'36.57927"	76°36'05.33495"	1663761.254	672155.945
10	VB-52	15°02'48.26075"	76°35'32.56873"	1664113.190	671174.718
11	VB-53	15°02'15.76567"	76°37'04.57070"	1663134.468	673929.853
12	VB-57	15°03'58.70401"	76°35'39.83565"	1666279.758	671376.103

Details of Mining Lease area of M/S KIOCL LIMITED		Extent
Notified area of M/s KIOCL Limited as per Gazette Notification No. CI 294 MMM 2015 dated: 23.01.2017		470.40 ha
Excluded area from Gazette Notification		82.40 ha
Survey and Demarcation of revised ML area after excluding 82.40 ha from Notified area		388.00 ha

Village	Devadari Hill Range, Swamimalai Block Forest	
Tahsil/taluka	Sandur	
District	Ballari	
State	Karnataka	
2	Area (Hectares/Square Kilometres)	
	Total area in Ha.	388.00 ha
3	Estimated resources in MMT	32.80 million metric tons of iron ore 1400 tons of manganese ore

Sketch enclosed

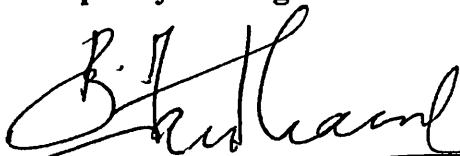

 Dr. Bagadi Gautham IAS
 Director

 13 | Page
 के. वि. भास्कर रेड्डी
 K.V. Bhaskara Reddy
 निदेशक (उत्पादन एवं परियोजनाएं)

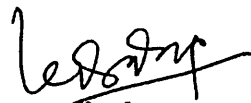
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 ಬಾಗದಿ ಗೌತಮ್ ಸೇವೆ

SCHEDULE-C ಉಪನೋಂದಿಸಿದ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ DETAILS OF VALUE OF ESTIMATED RESOURCES, AVERAGE ANNUAL PAYMENTS AND ROYALTY FOR CALCULATION OF STAMP DUTY	
Name of the Block, ML No	M/s KIOCL Limited
Mineral	Iron Ore and Manganese
Estimated Reserves	Iron Ore - 32.8 MMT Manganese - 0.0014 MMT
Grade %	58.04 Fe % 34.96 Mn%
Value of Estimated Resources	Rs. 4950.06 Crores
% of Lumps	20%
% of Fines	80%
Average Annual Sale Price in Rs Lumps	4835.25
Average Annual Sale Price in Rs Fines	3145.92
Average Annual Sale Price of Manganese in Rs	10385.58
Additional Amount	150% of Royalty
Annual production as per approved mining plan from 2 nd year	0.33 MMT
Royalty for iron ore per annum (Average IBM ASP from January -2022 to December-2022)	17.24 Crores
Additional Amount is	25.86 Crores
Four times annual payment (Additional Amount + Royalty)	172.4 Crores

In the above table value of estimated resources is higher than four time annual payment, hence Value of estimated resources shall be considered for calculation of stamp duty and registration fee.

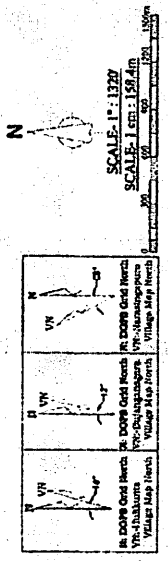
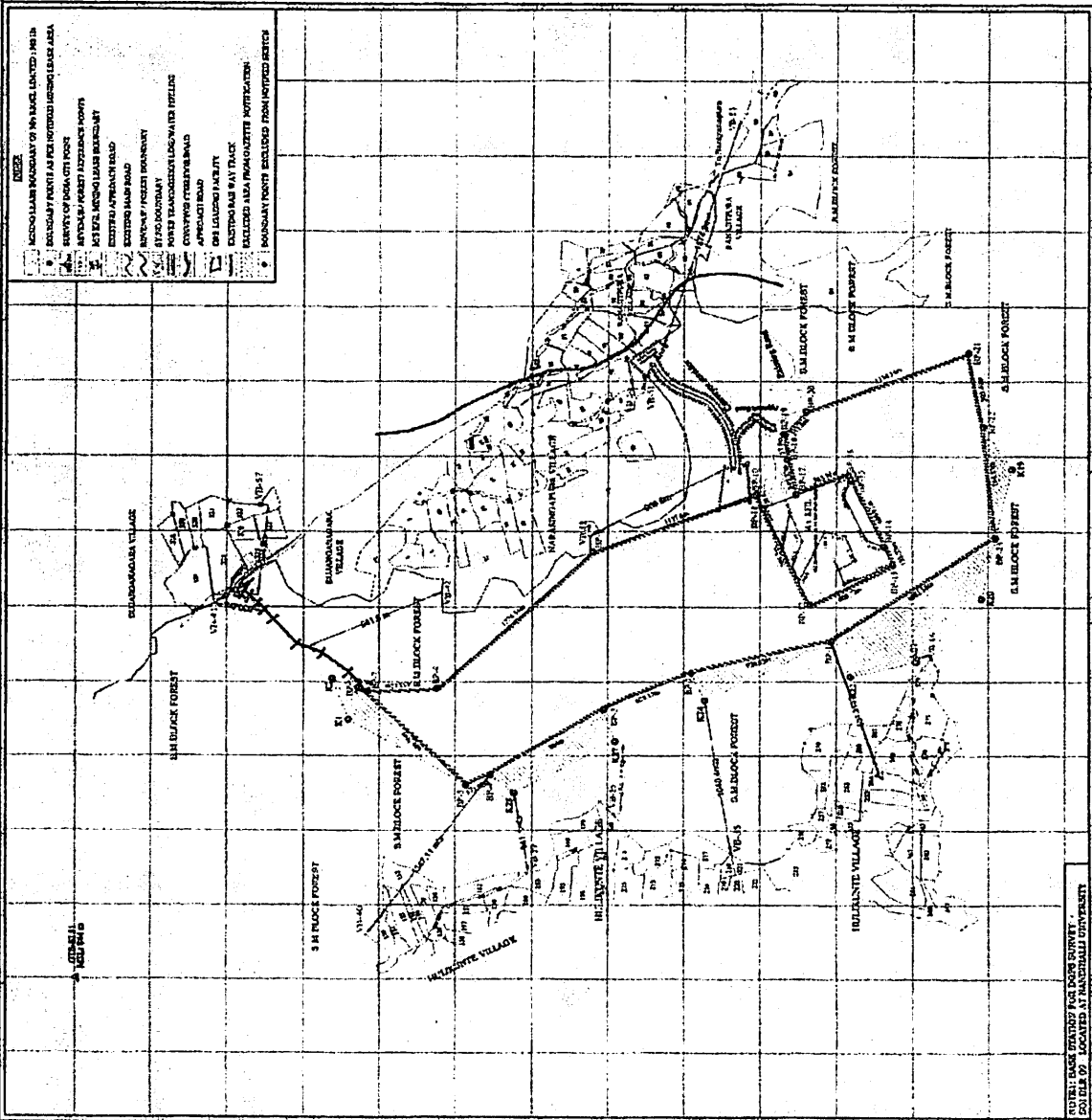


Dr. Bagadi Gautham (as)
 Director
 Dept. of Mines and Geology,
 No.49, "KHANJIA BHAVAN", Bengaluru - 01



के. वि. भास्कर रेड्डी / K.V. Bhaskara Reddy
 निदेशक (उत्पादन एवं परियोजनाएँ) / Director (Production & Projects) 14 | Page
 के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
 II ब्लॉक, कोरामंगला, बंगलूरु - 560 034
 II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

SKETCH SHOWING THE MINING LEASE AREA OF DEVADARI IRON ORE MINE SANCTIONED TO M/s KIOCL LIMITED OVER AN EXTENT OF 388.00 HA WITHIN THE NOTIFIED AREA OF 470.40 HA IN DEVADARI HILL RANGE, SWAMIMALAI BLOCK FOREST AT SANDUR TALUK, BALLARI DIST., KARNATAKA



BOUNDARIES:
 NORTH: SWAMIMALAI BLOCK FOREST AREA
 SOUTH: SWAMIMALAI BLOCK FOREST AREA
 EAST: M. AREA OF M/S. KIOCL LIMITED (M/S. KIOCL) & SWAMIMALAI BLOCK FOREST AREA
 WEST: SWAMIMALAI BLOCK FOREST AREA

DETAILS OF MINING LEASE AREA OF M/S. KIOCL LIMITED

EXTENT	AREA
NOTIFIED AREA OF M/S. KIOCL LIMITED AS PER ACCEPTED REGULATIONS IN CATEGORY III (M/S. KIOCL)	470.40 HA
EXCLUDED AREA FROM GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION	82.40 HA
REMAINING AREA AFTER EXCLUSION	388.00 HA

COORDINATES OF VILLAGE FOREST BLOCKS POINTS

Block No.	Point No.	Longitude	Latitude
1	1	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	2	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	3	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	4	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	5	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	6	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	7	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	8	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	9	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	10	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	11	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	12	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	13	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	14	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	15	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	16	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	17	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	18	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	19	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	20	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"

COORDINATES OF M. AREA OF DEVADARI IN DEVADARI HILL RANGE, SWAMIMALAI BLOCK FOREST AND SURVEY TALKULI BLOCK FOREST

Block No.	Point No.	Longitude	Latitude
1	1	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	2	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	3	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	4	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	5	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	6	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	7	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	8	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	9	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	10	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	11	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	12	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	13	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	14	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	15	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	16	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	17	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	18	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	19	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	20	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"

BOUNDARY POINTS OF THE NOTIFIED AREA FROM THE NOTIFIED AREA

Block No.	Point No.	Longitude	Latitude
1	1	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	2	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	3	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	4	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	5	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	6	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	7	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	8	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	9	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	10	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	11	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	12	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	13	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	14	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	15	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	16	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	17	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	18	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	19	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"
1	20	75° 34' 15.0000"	12° 52' 15.0000"

ಇದರ 2 ಭಾಗವನ್ನು 288.00/30.00/23
 ಉಳಿಸುವುದಾಗಿ
 ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ
 62.91.2023

Assistant Engineer
 Department of Mines and Geology
 Bangalore.

Assistant Engineer
 Department of Mines and Geology
 Bangalore.



Print Date & Time : 18-01-2023 01:38:54 PM

ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 2883

ಸೆಬ್ ರಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರಾರ್ ಸಂಠೂರು ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ 18-01-2023 ರಂದು 10:39:34 AM ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ವಿವರಿಸಿದ ಶುಲ್ಕದೊಂದಿಗೆ

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ವಿವರ	ರೂ. ಪೈ
1	ನೋಂದಣಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ	495006000.00
2	ಸ್ಯಾನಿಟಿಂಗ್ ಫೀ	1500.00
	ಒಟ್ಟು :	495007500.00

ಶ್ರೀ M/S KIOCL Limited Bengaluru Represented by Mr.K V Bhaskara Reddy Director (P & P) ಇವರಿಂದ ಹಾಜರ ಮಾಡಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿದೆ

ಹೆಸರು	ಫೋಟೊ	ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಟ್ಟ ಗುರುತು	ಸಹಿ
ಶ್ರೀ M/S KIOCL Limited Bengaluru Represented by Mr.K V Bhaskara Reddy Director (P & P)			

ಕೆ.ವಿ. ಭಾಸ್ಕರ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ / K.V. Bhaskara Reddy
ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ (ಉತ್ಪಾದನಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣಾ) / Director (Production & Projects)
ಕೆ ಆರ್ ಆರ್ ಸಿ ಲಿಮಿಟೆಡ್ / KIOCL LIMITED
II ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಕೊರಮಂಗಲಾ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

ಬರೆದುಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾಗಿ ಒಪ್ಪಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಹೆಸರು	ಫೋಟೊ	ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಟ್ಟ ಗುರುತು	ಸಹಿ
1	M/S KIOCL Limited Bengaluru Represented by Mr.K V Bhaskara Reddy Director (P & P) . C/o - (ಬರೆದುಕೊಂಡವರು)			

ಕೆ.ವಿ. ಭಾಸ್ಕರ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ / K.V. Bhaskara Reddy
ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ (ಉತ್ಪಾದನಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣಾ) / Director (Production & Projects)
ಕೆ ಆರ್ ಆರ್ ಸಿ ಲಿಮಿಟೆಡ್ / KIOCL LIMITED
II ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಕೊರಮಂಗಲಾ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

ರಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರೇಷನ್ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಕೆಲಂ 88(I) ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಹಾಜರಾಗಲು ವಿನಾಯ್ತಿಯಿರುವ Sri The Governor of Karnataka acting through the Director , Department of Mines And Geology of the State of Karnataka . ಇವರು ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜನ್ನು ಬರೆದುಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುವುದನ್ನು ನಾನು ಒಪ್ಪಿರುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ಗುರುತಿಸುವವರು

ಇದು.....1
 ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜಿನ.....18.....ನೇ ಪುಟ


ಉಪನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
 ಸೊಂಡೂರು

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಹೆಸರು ಮತ್ತು ವಿಳಾಸ	ಸಹಿ
1	Subrahmanya Bhat M Senior Manger (Law) M/s KIOCL Ltd 2nd Block Koramangala Bengaluru-34	
2	Basavaraju S C, Dy. General Manager (Mining) M/s KIOCL Ltd 2nd Block Koramangala Bengaluru-34	

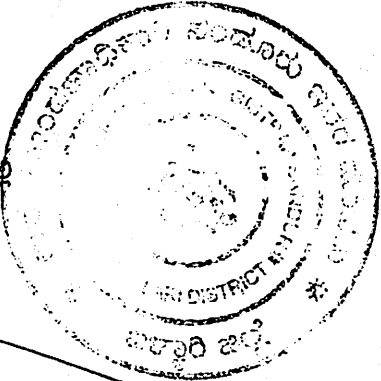
ಉಪನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
 ಸೊಂಡೂರು

SAKALA No.IG0143000038539

ಉಪನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
 ಸೊಂಡೂರು



1 ನೇ ಪುಸ್ತಕದ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು
 ನಂಬರ SNR-1-02883-2022-23 ಆಗಿ
 ಸಿ.ಡಿ. ನಂಬರ SNRD1060 ನೇ ಧರಣಿ
 ದಿನಾಂಕ 18-01-2023 ರಂದು ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ



ಉಪನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
 ಸೊಂಡೂರು (ಸಂಚಾರಿ)
 ಸೊಂಡೂರು



ಇದು.....2.....ನೋಂದಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/2023-23
 ದಾಖಲೆ ದಿನ.....19.....ನೇ ಪುಟ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
 ನೋಂದಣಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಮುದ್ರಾಂಕ ಇಲಾಖೆ
 Department of Stamps and Registration
 ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ

ಉಪನೋಂದಣಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ
 ಸೊಂಡೂರು

1957 ರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮುದ್ರಾಂಕ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಕಲಂ 10 ಎ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿಯ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ

ಶ್ರೀ M/S KIOCL Limited Bengaluru Represented by Mr.K V Bhaskara Reddy Director (P & P) , ಇವರು 2796783900.00 ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿತ ಮುದ್ರಾಂಕ ಶುಲ್ಕವಾಗಿ ಪಾವತಿಸಿರುವುದನ್ನು ದೃಢೀಕರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ

ಪ್ರಕಾರ	ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.)	ಹಣದ ಪಾವತಿಯ ವಿವರ
ಚೆಲನ್	2549280900.00	Challan No CR0123003000326324 Rs.2549280900/- dated 12/Jan/2023
ಚೆಲನ್	247503000.00	Challan No CR0123003000326324 Rs.247503000/- dated 12/Jan/2023
ಒಟ್ಟು :	2796783900.00	

ಸ್ಥಳ : ಸೊಂಡೂರು

ದಿನಾಂಕ : 18/01/2023

ಉಪನೋಂದಣಿ ಮತ್ತು ಯುಕ್ತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ
 ಉಪ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ
 ಸೊಂಡೂರು

Book of 30/09/2023 - 160

Rs. 18



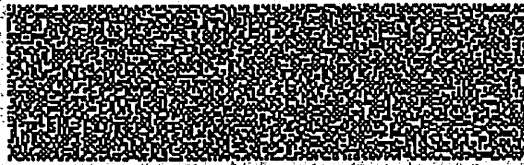
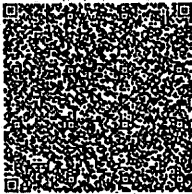
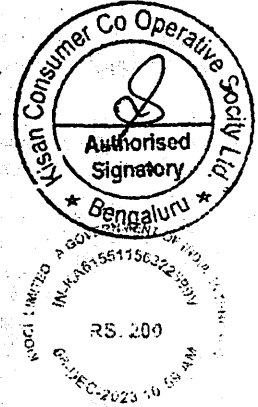
सत्यमेव जयते

INDIA NON JUDICIAL

Government of Karnataka

e-Stamp

Certificate No. : IN-KA61551156322599V
 Certificate Issued Date : 06-Dec-2023 10:59 AM
 Account Reference : NONACC/kakscsa08/HRBR LAYOUT1/ KA-SV
 Unique Doc. Reference : SUBIN-KAKAKSCSA0890696167160312V
 Purchased by : KIOCL LIMITED A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE
 Description of Document : Article 12 Bond
 Description : MINING LEASE DEED
 Consideration Price (Rs.) : 0
 (Zero)
 First Party : DIRECTOR OF MINES AND GEOLOGY GOVT OF KARNATAKA
 Second Party : KIOCL LIMITED A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE
 Stamp Duty Paid By : KIOCL LIMITED A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE
 Stamp Duty Amount(Rs.) : 200
 (Two Hundred only)
 सत्यमेव जयते



Please write or type below this line

"CORRIGENDUM TO THE ORIGINAL MINING LEASE DEED EXECUTED"

This office executed the Original MINING LEASE DEED (ML - 020) on 02.01.2023. In the original mining lease deed, under caption "**Background**" A at para 2 following has been substituted:

G.V. Kiran
 जी.वी. किरण / G.V. KIRAN
 निदेशक (उत्पादन एवं परियोजनाएं)
 Director (Production & Projects)

Girish.R.
 Girish.R, I.A.S
 Director
 Dept. of Mines and Geology.

Statutory Authorised Signatory for KIOCL LIMITED

1. The authenticity of the e-stamp certificate should be verified at 'www.shclrestamp.com' or using e-Stamp Mobile App of State e-Stamping Agency.
2. Any discrepancy in the details on this Certificate and as available on the website / Mobile App renders it invalid.
3. The Onus of checking the authenticity is on the users of the certificate.
3. In case of any discrepancy please inform the Competent Authority.

28/12/2023 - 2/6/24

KIOCL Limited shall pay an additional amount as specified under Schedule - V of MMDR Act, 1957 and as amended time to time apart from Royalty, contribution towards District Mineral Foundation Trust and National Mineral Exploration Trust or any other statutory payment.

The other contents of the Original Mining Lease Deed remains unchanged.

The State Government
Director,
Dept. of Mines & Geology
Date: 06.12.2023

Girish.R, I.A.S
Director

Dept. of Mines and Geology,
No.49, "KHANIJA BHAVAN", Bengaluru - 01

Witnesses:

1) AGM (Mining)
KIOCL Ltd.
Koramangala, Bangalore.

2) AGM (Legal)
KIOCL Ltd.
Koramangala
Bangalore.

M/s. KIOCL Limited
Ganti Venkat Kiran
Director (Production & Projects)
Date: 06.12.2023

जी.वी. किरण / G.V. KIRAN
निदेशक (उत्पादन एवं परियोजनाएं)
Director (Production & Projects)
के आई ओ सी एल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बंगलूरु - 560 034
II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034

162

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ನೋಂದಣಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಮುದ್ರಾಂಕ ಇಲಾಖೆ
Department of Stamps and Registration

ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ

1957 ರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮುದ್ರಾಂಕ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಕಲಂ 10ಎ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿಯ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ

Sri .M/S KIOCL Limited Bengaluru Represented by Mr. Ganti Venkat Kiran, Director (P & P) . S/o ಇವರು ₹1,000.00 ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿತ ಮುದ್ರಾಂಕ ಶುಲ್ಕವಾಗಿ ಪಾವತಿಸಿರುವುದನ್ನು ದೃಢೀಕರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಪ್ರಕಾರ	ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.)	ಹಣದ ಪಾವತಿಯ ವಿವರ
E-Payment	100.00	Online Challan Reference Number RG0224000006801879 Dated:19/02/2024
E-Payment	900.00	Online Challan Reference Number RG0224000006801879 Dated:19/02/2024
Total:	1,000.00	

ಸ್ಥಳ : ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ

ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20/02/2024

4
ಉಪ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮತ್ತು ಯುಕ್ತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಉಪ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ
ನೋಂದಣಿ

ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ :- SNR-1-03249-2023-24




163

ಸಂದೂರು ಉಪ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ 20/02/2024 ರಂದು 11:14:33 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ವಿವರಿಸಿದ ಶುಲ್ಕದೊಂದಿಗೆ

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ವಿವರ	₹ ರೂ.ಪೈ
1	ನೋಂದಣಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ	100.00
2	ಸೇವಾ ಶುಲ್ಕ	280.00
3	ಪರಿವರ್ತನಾ ಶುಲ್ಕ	35.00
4	ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ	900.00
	ಒಟ್ಟು	1,315.00



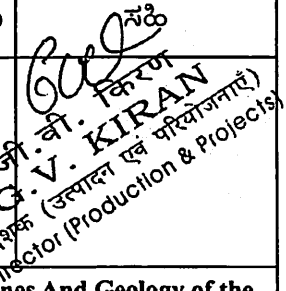
ಇಲ್ಲಿ.....
 ಹಸ್ತಾಕ್ಷರಿಸಿದ.....
 4
 ಉಪನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
 ಸೋಂದೂರು

Sri .M/S KIOCL Limited Bengaluru Represented by Mr. Ganti Venkat Kiran, Director (P & P) . S/o ಇವರಿಂದ ಹಾಜರು ಮಾಡಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಹೆಸರು	ಫೋಟೋ	ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಟ್ಟಿನ ಗುರುತು	ಸಹಿ
1	Sri .M/S KIOCL Limited Bengaluru Represented by Mr. Ganti Venkat Kiran, Director (P & P) . S/o, , 56, Resident of: , 2nd Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Bengaluru South, BENGALURU URBAN, KARNATAKA - 560034 (Presenter)		 Left Thumb	 ಜಿ.ವಿ. ಕಿರಣ್ G.V. KIRAN ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ (ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಾಜೆಕ್ಟ್‌ಗಳು) Director (Production & Projects)

ಫೌಂಡ್
 ಉಪನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
 ಸೋಂದೂರು

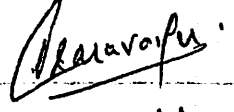
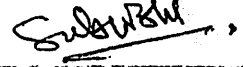
ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು ಬರೆದುಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುವುದುಂಟೆಂದು ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ

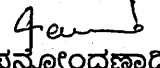
ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಹೆಸರು	ಫೋಟೋ	ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಟ್ಟಿನ ಗುರುತು	ಸಹಿ
1	Sri .M/S KIOCL Limited Bengaluru Represented by Mr. Ganti Venkat Kiran, Director (P & P) . S/o , , 56, Resident of: , 2nd Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Bengaluru South, BENGALURU URBAN, KARNATAKA - 560034 (Claimant)		 Left Thumb	 ಜಿ.ವಿ. ಕಿರಣ್ G.V. KIRAN ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ (ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಾಜೆಕ್ಟ್‌ಗಳು) Director (Production & Projects)
2	Sri .The Governor of Karnataka acting through the Director, Department of Mines And Geology of the State of Karnataka . S/o , , 45, Resident of: , Bengaluru, Bengaluru North, BENGALURU URBAN, KARNATAKA - 560006 (Executant)			
	I have satisfied myself as to the execution of the document by Sri .The Governor of Karnataka acting through the Director, Department of Mines And Geology of the State of Karnataka . who is exempted from personal appearance under sub-section (i) of Section 88 of the Indian Registration Act 1908			


ಫೌಂಡ್
 ಉಪನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
 ಸೋಂದೂರು

ಗುರುತಿಸುವವರು

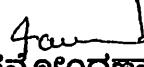
164

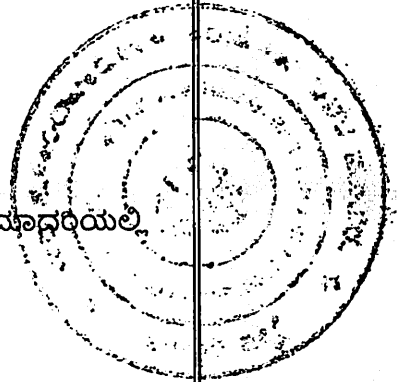
SR.No	Identifier Name	Address	ಸಹಿ
1	Basavaraju SC C/o General Manager (Identifier)	M/s KIOCL Ltd., 2nd Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Bengaluru South, BENGALURU URBAN, KARNATAKA - 560034	
2	Subramanya Bhat M C/o AGM (Law) (Identifier)	M/s KIOCL Ltd., 2nd Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Bengaluru South, BENGALURU URBAN, KARNATAKA - 560034	


ಉಪನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಉಪ ನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಸೋಂಟೂರು



1 ನೇ ಪುಸ್ತಕದ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು
ನಂಬರ್ SNR-1-03249-2023-24 ಆಗಿ
ದಿನಾಂಕ 20/02/2024 ರಂದು ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಮೌಢಿಯಲ್ಲಿ
ಕೇಂದ್ರಿತ ದತ್ತಾಂಶ ಕೋಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇಖರಿಸಿದೆ.


ಉಪನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಉಪ ನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಸೋಂಟೂರು



ಇದು..... 2024/2023-24
ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು.....
4
ಸೋಂಟೂರು



ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪತ್ರ

ಅಧಿಕೃತವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾದುದು

ಸಂಪುಟ -೧೫೮ Volume - 158	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಮಂಗಳವಾರ, ೦೨, ಮೇ, ೨೦೨೩ (ವೈಶಾಖ, ೧೨, ಶಕವರ್ಷ, ೧೯೪೫) BENGALURU, TUESDAY, 02, MAY, 2023 (Vaishakha , 12, SHAKAVARSHA, 1945)	ಸಂಚಿಕೆ ೮೬ Issue 86
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ಭಾಗ ೧

ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಆದೇಶಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಸುತ್ತೋಲೆ ಮುಂತಾದ
ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳಿಗೂ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಆದೇಶಗಳು

Proceedings of the Government of Karnataka

- Sub:** Proposal for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha. for approach road=401.5761 ha.) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru.
- Read:**
1. Letter No.KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/17/2019-FC, dated: 13-02-2020 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Bengaluru.
 2. Letter No. FEE 19 FFM 2020 (e), dated: 09-10-2020 of the Government of Karnataka.
 3. Letter No: F.No.08-24/2020-FC, dated: 24-06-2021 of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division).
 4. Letter No. FEE 19 FFM 2020 (e), dated: 06-07-2021 of the Government of Karnataka.
 5. Letter No. KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/17/2019-FC, dated: 09-06-2022 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation) & Nodal Officer (FCA), Bengaluru.
 6. Letter No. FEE 19 FFM 2020 (e), dated: 18-08-2022 of the Government of Karnataka.
 7. Letters No: F.No.08-24/2020-FC, dated:16-12-2022 and 21-03-2023 of the Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division).

Preamble:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) Bengaluru vide letter read (1) above has submitted the proposal to obtain Stage-I approval under Section-2 (2a2)

of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha. for approach road=401.5761 ha.) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru.

This proposal was sent to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India vide letter read at (2) above, by the Government of Karnataka with a recommendation to accord Stage-I approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Government of India vide its letter read at (3) above has conveyed In- principle approval (Stage-I) by stipulating certain conditions and the same was communicated to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests vide its letter read at (4) above.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation) & Nodal Officer (FCA) Bengaluru vide letter read at (5) above has sent proposal with the compliance report to Government of Karnataka with a request to accord Stage-II approval and the same was forwarded to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India with a recommendation to accord Stage-II approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation), Act-1980 vide its letter read at (6) above.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India has accorded Stage-II approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation), Act-1980 vide its letters read at (7) above by imposing certain conditions.

The proposal has been examined in detail and hence the order.

Government Order No. FEE 19 FFM 2020 Bengaluru,

Dated:11-04-2023

In the circumstances as explained in the preamble above, the Government is pleased to accord Stage-II approval for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (388.00 ha for mining + 13.5761 ha. for approach road=401.5761 ha.) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd. (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru subject to the fulfilment of following conditions:

A:Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land to user agency by the Forest Department .:

The Forest Department shall ensure the complete compliance on FRA, 2006; It should also be ensured that the FRA certificate issued by Deputy Commissioner is complete with letter number, date, name, signature and official seal, as required in the certificate;

The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;

The Forest Department may ensure that the KML files of the area to be diverted, the CA areas, the proposed SMC treatment area and the WLMP area shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal;

B: Conditions which need to be complied after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the Forest Department

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The Compensatory Afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over double the degraded i.e. 401.5761X2=803.1522 ha. of degraded forest land at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and mono-culture of any species may be avoided. With provision for ten years on subsequent maintenance;
- iii. The user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and transfer the same to the NA, CAMPA under intimation to The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
- iv. **The area is within a mineralised zone. It is reported that at present there are 4 mining zones where active mining is taking place by a large number of organizations as per their individual plans. On the other hand, the cumulative impact of mining on forest, wildlife and ecology needs to be understood and acted upon. As such, the area requires a comprehensive view with regard to sustainable mining vis-à-vis forest, wildlife and ecological conservation including promotion of green mining infrastructure in the future which could not only have least impact on forest and wildlife in the area but in some cases could actually promote forest and wildlife by itself. A comprehensive study jointly by a couple of reputed institutes like IIT(ISM), Dhanbad, IIT, Delhi, IISc, Bengaluru, ICFRE, Dehradun shall be undertaken by the Forest Department at the cost of the user agency so as to draw a perspective co-management plan for mining and forest and wildlife conservation and development, including for green mining infrastructure development. The study report shall be submitted within one year for its consideration by Govt. of India and issuing guidelines/ direction for follow up action by the mining companies at their cost. It is clarified that this study shall not be linked to the present FC approval, however the Forest Department shall ensure the compliance;**
- v. **The User Agency and the Forest Department shall strictly adhere to the directions/ guidelines issued by the Honorable Supreme Court for mining, including directions on mining in Bellary district, and comply with all the statutory conditions for scientific and sustainable mining issued by competent authority;**
- vi. **The Forest Department shall ensure that the road side plantation of local species and bamboo raised along the approach road to the mine at the cost of the user agency;**
- vii. **The Forest Department shall prepare a time-bound plan for return of those forest areas in 'A', 'B' and 'C' category mines in Bellary district which could not be auctioned on account of non-viability, to the State Forest Department after proper Rehabilitation and Resettlement as per**

- directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, and submit the Plan to the Govt. of India within six months. It is clarified that this condition is not linked to the instant proposal of forest land diversion, but the same shall be one of the issues for consideration for any forest land diversion in Karnataka State in the future, i.e. after six months, however the Forest Department shall ensure the compliance;
- viii. The Forest Department shall ensure the User Agency must do the needful as per Hon'ble Supreme Court directions and follow the instructions and recommendation of the CEC and also take required approval in a time bound manner for the regularization of the violations in the Kudremukh Forest and National Park. It would be obligatory on the Forest Department and UA to get the regularization of the violation of FC Act in the matter is done in time. The Forest Department shall also ensure the non binding conditions laid down by the FAC in the matter;
- ix. The period of diversion under this approval shall be Co-terminus with mining lease period i.e. upto 17-01-2073.
- x. Following activities, as per approved plan / schemes, shall be undertaken in the lease area by the User Agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department. Approved scheme/plan shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, along with compliance of Stage-I approval:
- a. Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream shall be implemented within a period of three years with effect from the issue of Stage-II clearance in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department.
 - b. Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds, in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion in accordance with the approved scheme;
 - c. Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour in accordance with the approved scheme;
 - d. Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching, in accordance with the approved scheme, so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28° ; and
 - e. No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan;
- xi. Safety Zone Management: Following activities, at project cost, shall be undertaken by the user agency for the management of safety zone as per relevant guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change;
- a. User agency shall ensure demarcation of safety zone (7.5-meter strip all along the inner boundary of the mining lease area), and its fencing, protection and regeneration by erecting adequate number of 6 feet high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates with

- barbed wire fencing and deploying adequate number of watchers under the supervision of the State Forest Department;
- b. Boundary of the safety zone of the mining lease, adjacent to habitation/roads, should be properly fenced by the user agency;
 - c. Safety zone shall be maintained as green belt around mining lease and to ensure dense canopy in the area, regeneration shall be taken up in this area by the user agency at project cost under the supervision of the State Forest Department;
 - d. Afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone, shall also be done at the project cost under the supervisions of the State Forest Department. The degraded forest land(DFL) so selected will be informed to the MoEF&CC with shape files before Stage-II approval and afforestation will be done within three years from the date of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department; and
 - e. The Forest Department and the user agency shall ensure that safety zone is maintained as per the prescribed norms;
- xii. The Forest Department shall ensure that the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without obtaining prior approval of the Central Government;
 - xiii. The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
 - xiv. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
 - xv. No labour camps shall be set up inside the forest area. Labour management plan should be implement with emphasis that no labour camp be set up in the close vicinity of the eco-fragile and sensitive areas;
 - xvi. The Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
 - xvii. The Forest Department shall ensure that the boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates
 - xviii. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
 - xix. No damage to the flora and fauna of the area shall be caused;
 - xx. The concerned Deputy Conservator of forests, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area;

- xxi. The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, State Government, Integrated Regional Office, Bengaluru and to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, by the end of March every year regularly;
- xxii. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India;
- xxiii. The Forest Department shall ensure that the Compliance report of this approval uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
- xxiv. The Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the para 1.21 of comprehensive guidelines issued vide the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, F. No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28th March, 2019;
- xxv. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife shall be carried with by the Forest Department and user agency; and
- xxvi. The Forest Department and user agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval letter dated 24.06.2021 for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency and also the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court Order (S) and NGT Order (S), if any, pertaining to this project for the time being in force, as applicable to the project
- xxvii. The Mines Department, User Agency will implement a plan to secure dense vegetation on the slopes of the proposed area, and implement the same during the course of the lease period in consultation with the Forest Department.
- xxviii. The Forest Department shall ensure that the prevalence of wildlife in the area, a Site- specific Wild Life Management Plan will be implemented at the cost of the user agency, before commencement of work;
- xxix. The Forest Department shall ensure that the number of seasonal nalas (streams) originate in the area proposed for forest diversion. A CAT Plan duly approved by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) will be implemented at the cost of the user agency, before commencement of work;
- xxx. The Forest Department shall ensure that the mining lease holder shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake re grassing the mining area, and any other areas which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna, etc;

By order and in the name of the

Governor of Karnataka

(M. Manjunatha)

Under Secretary to Government

Forest, Ecology and Environment Department (Forest-C)

सं./ S-25016/1/2021-KIOCL-Part(1)
भारत सरकार / Government of India
इस्पात मंत्रालय / Ministry of Steel
(KIOCL Division)

उद्योग भवन, नई दिल्ली
Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi
दिनांक/Date: 28th June, 2024

To,

CMD, KIOCL Limited,
II Block, Koramangala,
Bengaluru - 560034

Subject:- Approval of Hon'ble Finance Minister and Hon'ble Steel Minister on the proposal appraised by Public Investment Board (PIB) in respect of Phase-I of Devadari Iron Ore Mine (DIOM) Project (ML No-20/2023) of KIOCL, at Bellary District, Karnataka-reg.

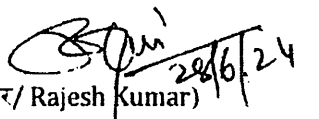
Sir,

I am directed to say that Hon'ble Finance Minister and Hon'ble Steel Minister have approved the Phase-I of Devadari Iron Ore Mine (DIOM) project of KIOCL Ltd, with an estimated cost of Rs. 882.46 crores including ex-post facto approval of pre-operative expenditure of Rs. 529.19 crores. Cost of the phase-I of the project is to be met through reserves of KIOCL Ltd and remainder through debt, with a debt to equity ratio of 30:70.

2. The approval, as stated above, is subject to the recommendations of the PIB for approval of Phase-I of DIOM Project of KIOCL Ltd, as laid down in the para-15 of the Record of Discussion of the PIB Meeting held on 06.06.2024 (copy enclosed). KIOCL is directed to ensure compliance of these recommendations.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: as above


(राजेश कुमार/ Rajesh Kumar)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
दूरभाष ☎: 011-23061601
✉: rajesh.kr41@gov.in

No.28(01)/PFC-II/2024
 Government of India
 Ministry of Finance
 Department of Expenditure
 PFC-II Division

North Block, New Delhi
 11th June, 2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: - Minutes of the meeting of the Public Investment Board (PIB) held on 06.06.2024 at 02:30 PM to appraise the proposal of Ministry of Steel for "Development and commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project (MLNo-20/2023), District-Bellary, Karnataka-reg.

The undersigned is directed to forward the approved minutes of the PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024 at 02:30 PM under the Chairmanship of Finance Secretary & Secretary (Expenditure) to appraise the proposal of Ministry of Steel for "Development and commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project (MLNo-20/2023), District-Bellary, Karnataka. Ministry is requested to obtain approval of the Competent Authority in terms of Para. 8 of DoE's OM No.24(35)/PF-II/2012 dated 05.08.2016.

2. This issues with the approval of the Finance Secretary & Secretary (Expenditure).

Encl: - As above.

H. Jaiswal
 11/07/2024
 (Hema Jaiswal)

Dy. Director General (PFC-II)

हेमा जायसवाल / HEMA JAISWAL
 उप निदेशक / Deputy Director General
 वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance
 व्यय विभाग / Department of Expenditure
 भारत सरकार / Government of India
 नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

To,
 The Secretary
 Ministry of Steel
 Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi

Copy to: -

1. AS & FA, Ministry of Steel, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi
2. AS (Budget), Budget Division, D/o Economic Affairs
3. Shri Anurag Goyal, Senior Adviser, NITI Aayog

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

Minutes of the meeting of the Public Investment Board (PIB) held on Thursday, the 06th June 2024 at 02:30 PM to appraise the proposal of Ministry of Steel for "Development and commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project (MLNo-20/2023), District-Bellary, Karnataka "under the Chairmanship of Finance Secretary and Secretary (Expenditure) in the FRESCO Room no. 169-D, Ministry of Finance, Gol, North Block, New Delhi.

A meeting of the PIB was held on the 06th June 2024 at 02:30 PM under the Chairmanship of Finance Secretary & Secretary (Expenditure), Ministry of Finance to appraise the proposal of Ministry of Steel for "Development and commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project (MLNo-20/2023), District-Bellary, Karnataka". The list of participants is enclosed as **Annexure-1**.

2. At the outset, **Finance Secretary and Chairman**, PIB welcomed Secretary, Ministry of Steel and all other participants present in the PIB meeting. **Secretary, Ministry of Steel** introduced the proposal and requested Joint Secretary, Ministry of Steel to make presentation before the PIB on the proposal.

3. **Joint Secretary (Steel)** made a detailed presentation on the subject proposal contained in the PIB Note. He informed that Ministry of Mines, Govt. vide letter dated 05.12.2016 granted approval under Section 17 A (2) of MMDR Act, 1957 for reserving an area of 470.40 ha in Devadari Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary district in favour of KIOCL Limited. Government of Karnataka issued Gazette notification on 23.01.2017 for reservation of Devadari Iron Ore Mine in favour of KIOCL. KIOCL executed Mining Lease Deed of DIOM with Director, Mines and Geology, Govt. of Karnataka on 02.01.2023 for 388.0 ha area for a period of 50 years for iron ore and manganese ore mining (ML No. 020 of 2023). KIOCL has registered the ML Deed of DIOM on 18.01.2023 at the Office of Sub-Registrar, Sandur Taluk, Ballari Dist. KIOCL Board on 02.02.2024 approved the Techno-Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project prepared by M/s MECON Limited and financially appraised by M/s IFCI Ltd. As per TEFR, Total cost of the project is estimated to be ₹ 1,783.89 crores.

3.1 DIOM Project of KIOCL envisages to produce 2.0 million tons per annum iron ore and 500 tons per annum manganese ore from Devadari Iron Ore Mine including creation of crushing & conveying facility, water and power arrangement and 1.0 million tons beneficiation plant to process mined iron ore in two phases: -

(i) In first phase, Mine Development and Operations will be carried out for initial 03 years through hiring of mining machinery with a provision for

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

	- Forest corridor for easy animal movement - wild life conservation	10.00		10.00
	Sub-Total (6)	41.86	0.00	41.86
7	Pre-operative Expenses	542.19	16.14	558.33
8	Government Subsidy	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Total fixed capital cost (1 to 7)	639.62	879.92	1,519.54
10	Total Contingency	4.87	44.00	48.87
11	Total fixed capital cost including Contingency	644.49	923.92	1,568.41
12	Interest During Construction (IDC)	35.78	153.92	189.70
13	Total fixed capital cost Including Contingency & IDC	680.27	1,077.84	1,758.11
14	Margin Money for Working Capital			25.78
15	Total fixed capital cost Including Contingency, IDC & Margin Money			1,783.89
16	Less: Input Tax Credit (ITC)			76.75
17	Total fixed capital cost (with Input tax Credit Benefit)			1,707.14

*Cost towards mine development and environmental control measures are included under this head for Phase-I

Cost estimates for the project along with scheduled duration year wise:

(Rs. in Cr)

Year	Phase 1 Basic Facilities	Phase 2 Major Facilities	Total
Year 0	542.19*		542.19
Year 1	74.55	-	74.55
Year 2	39.98	-	39.98
Year 3	23.55	-	23.55
Year 4	-	550.66	550.66
Year 5	-	499.64	499.64
Year 6	-	5.51	5.51
Year 7	-	5.51	5.51
Year 8	-	5.51	5.51

हेमा जायसवाल / HEMA JAISWAL
उप सचिव/ Deputy Secretary
वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance
व्यय विभाग / Department of Expenditure
भारत सरकार / Government of India
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

Public Expenditure F.No.28(01)/PFC-II/2024

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

Year 9	-	5.51	5.51
Year 10	-	5.51	5.51
Total	680.27	1077.84	1758.11

*Mining Rights Acquisition Cost

3.4 Project Finance:

The project financial resources will be arranged through debt funding from financial institutions. Project envisages funding in Debt: Equity ratio of 2:1 as envisaged in TEFRR. Out of total cost of Rs. 1,783.89 Crores, Debt is proposed at Rs.1,189.26 Crores and the rest Rs.594.63 Crores shall be provided by KIOCL as equity. No budgetary support is requested / required.

Accordingly, the Financing Plan would be as under-

(Rs. in Cr)

S. No.	Source of Fund	Already incurred by KIOCL	Balance to be incurred	Total requirement
1.	Debt	-	1189.26	1189.26
2.	Equity of KIOCL	529.19	65.44	594.63
Total		529.19	1254.70	1783.89

3.5 Project Viability:

The hurdle rate will be considered at 10 percent.

IRR (Post Tax) is 15.08%

(Rs. in Cr)

S.No	Index	Value
1	Cumulative profit over 20 years of operation	2,456.30
2	Average profit per year	122.82
3	Cumulative cash surplus over 20 years of operation	2,612.99
4	Internal rate of return	15.08%
	Post tax	15.08%
	Pre-Tax	16.94%
5	Pay-back period	11.88 Years

H. Jaiswal
11/07/2024

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

6	NPV @ 10% Discount rate	
	Post-tax	450.91
	Pre -tax	659.92

GST on Capital Expenditure – Rs 142.66 Crores

GST on sales (Over 20 years of Operation) - Rs 20,215.91 Crore

Corporate Tax – Rs 760.96 Crore

3.7 Economic Benefits of the Project is listed below:

Apart from the above, KIOCL will also contribute as per rules towards the District Mineral Fund (DMF) and pay Royalty to the State exchequer. Over and above as mentioned above, there are non-quantifiable social benefits such as direct and indirect employment and socio-economic development in the area. This project will also generate about 1200 in number indirect employment to the population from local and surrounding areas. A substantial number of contractual manpower for operation of plant will also likely come from surrounding areas. Company will also undertake Corporate Social Responsibility and Corporate Environment Responsibility activities for the benefit of local people, economic development of local area and to conserve ecology and environment.

4. After the presentation, **Finance Secretary & Secretary (Expenditure)** invited comments from representatives of the Ministry/ Departments present in the meeting.

5. **Additional Secretary (Budget) and Representative from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and Department of Public Enterprises (DPE)** supported the proposal.

6. **Representative from Ministry of Mines** stated that the Ministry supports the proposal. However, he apprised the committee that as per Section 4A (4) of the MMDR Act, 1957, the production and dispatch from the Devadari Iron Ore mining lease has to commence within a period of two years after the date of execution of mining lease, which is further extendable by a period not exceeding one year, by the State Government, failing which the lease shall lapse. Accordingly, it is urgent and necessary to start the production and dispatch of the minerals from DIOM Project within the stipulated timelines as per MMDR Act (i.e. by 17 Jan, 2025) so as to avoid lapsing of mining lease agreement.

हेमा जायसवाल / HEMA JAISWAL

उप महानिदेशक / Deputy Director General

वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance

व्यय विभाग / Department of Expenditure

भारत सरकार / Government of India

ई-मेल: hema.jaiswal@finmin.gov.in

11/07/24
MoEF&CC, D/o Expenditure F.No.28(01)/PFC-II/2024

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

Reply of Ministry of Steel: It was informed that all efforts are being made to start the operations of the mines within the stipulated timelines.

7. Advisor (Cost), DoE made the following observations:

- (i) He observed that the project is proposed in two phases. In Phase-I, it is noted that majority of the funding is in equity form which in a way is less risky. However, in Phase-II, the funding is mostly through debt which casts greater risks on the viability of the project. He suggested that going forward, if the market improves the funding can be done through issuing of IPO or any other mode as suitable to the company. However, as a whole the IRR is favorable for the company.
- (ii) He enquired regarding inclusion of provisions of the cost escalations in the TEFRR. If not, whether M/o Steel envisages no cost escalation during the project lifetime?
- (iii) He also enquired about involvement of Forex Exchange in the project.
- (iv) He observed that KIOCL have spent more than Rs 500 crore for the project which is beyond the permissible limit of DoP of Company as per DPE Guidelines. This may be considered and the M/o Steel may provide specific reasons for the same.

Reply of Ministry of Steel: Secretary (Steel) explained that as per the project planning procedures of MECON Limited (Project Consultant), the escalations are not provided exclusively in the estimates but are already embedded in the calculations. There are no ill effects foreseen in such conditions. There is no Forex requirement for the project. As regard to expenditure incurred beyond Rs 500 crore, it has been explained that to secure the mining lease within the time frame provided in the statute, the company had to take commercial decisions in the public interest and incur the expenditure.

8. Senior Adviser, NITI Aayog made the following observations:

- (i) He stated that there was a proposal of disinvestment of KIOCL in the past. In this regard, he enquired whether there were any plans for

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

disinvestment in KIOCL and if that would have any bearing on the operationalization of the mine.

- (ii) He pointed out that DIOM will be able to provide raw material security to the extent of only about 1.6 MTPA, whereas the requirement is much more considering that the pellet plant has a capacity of 3.5 MTPA. In this regard, he enquired that whether the proposed DIOM project will meet and fulfill the total requirements of raw material for the Pellet plant? Whether it would still be possible to operate the pellet plant optimally as raw material security has been the problem identified in the proposal. He also enquired whether capacity expansion of the Mine would require additional CAPEX.
- (iii) He pointed out that there is some inherent subsidy in the allocation of Mine on administrative basis as the premium to be paid has been fixed at 150% of the royalty i.e. about 22% of the value of ore which is less than the reserve price usually kept for mining auctions. In this regard, he enquired about the additional payments made to the exchequer by KIOCL which has obtained mining lease through administrative allocation in comparison with the private mining players realizing mining leases through auction mode. He further suggested that higher profitability should be targeted for the project taking into account the lower cost of the raw material.

Reply of Ministry of Steel: Secretary (Steel) clarified that KIOCL is in non-strategic sectors and disinvestments proposals if approved by government in future, will be adhered appropriately. Further, the Project proposes a partial fulfillment of raw material requirement for KIOCL Pellet plant. Moreover, with the available sourcing of raw materials from NMDC Ltd through Long Term Agreement (LTA) will also benefit the company's operations. Regarding additional payments to the exchequer, it was informed that KIOCL will pay an additional premium of 150% of Royalty as per statute to State exchequer.

9. **Additional Secretary (PFC-II), DoE** made the following observations:

- Hemraj*
11/7/2024
- (i) At the outset, he enquired about the IRR for the whole KIOCL company and the financial viability of the project.
- (ii) He further enquired regarding the pending statutory clearances as mentioned in the presentation like pending forest clearance for the

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

use of approach road etc.; which may lead to delay in the implementation of the project?

- (iii) He stated that at present the exploration made at the G2 level is done only for a limited area (~approximately 29 acres) under the project, whereas the exploration at the G4 level has been carried out for approximately 129 acres. He suggested to expeditiously complete the exploration work of the mining area to assess the availability of the ore at the mining site and further take a decision on implementing Phase-II of the project.
- (iv) He also enquired that whether the proposed DIOM project will fully or partially meet the total requirements of raw material for the KIOCL Pellet plant?
- (v) He observed that majority of the sale of the KIOCL products comes from exports. He cited the year 2022, when several hefty export duties were imposed on exports of iron materials including iron fines and pellets due to strategic reasons. In this regard, He desired to know that whether the possible fluctuations in the international iron ore steel markets including levies such as export duty are addressed in the instant proposal and whether any contingency plans for the same are envisaged in the project such that the instant proposal is capable to absorb such uncertainties in future.
- (vi) He also enquired about a discrepancy observed in the EFC proposal where at para 1.3 of the EFC note the proposed cost of the project is mentioned as Rs.1783.89 crores and on the other hand at para 3 of the EFC note which provide details about the Project Cost, the cost of the project is mentioned as Rs. 1758.11 crores.

Reply of Ministry of Steel: Secretary (Steel) informed that KIOCL is proposing to undertake exploration in G2 level for entire block in the Phase-I before any major investments in Phase-II. Further he added that KICOL shall trade the ores in domestic market in case any adversaries in international sales and the project will be viable in all cases. Regarding the discrepancy, it was informed that the difference appeared due to inclusion of Rs. 25.78 crore as a contingency fund or margin money for working capital. He further clarified that the pending statutory clearances will cause delay in the implementation of the project.

हेमा जायसवाल / HEMA JAISWAL
उप महानिदेशक / Deputy Director General
वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance
व्यय विभाग / Department of Expenditure
भारत सरकार / Government of India

M/o Finance, D/o Expenditure F.No.28(01)/PFC-II/2024

Page 8 of 15

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

10. Finance Secretary and Secretary (Expenditure) complimented JS (Steel) for making a very competent presentation before the PIB. He made the following observations:

- (i) He enquired about the quality of iron ore produced from the proposed DIOM project in comparison to the iron ore produced from NMDC mines, which partially fulfills the requirement of raw material for the KIOCL Pellet Plant.
- (ii) He further wished to know whether the payback period proposed in the presentation is envisaged from the start of the project or from the date of completion of the Project.
- (iii) He desired to know that whether any of the pending statutory clearances as mentioned in the presentation would hamper the timelines of the project implementation.
- (iv) He observed that the project is proposed in two phases. In this regard, he desired to know whether Phase-I of the project, if considered as a standalone project, is financially viable considering that Phase-II of the project is not initiated? What will be the approximate IRR of the Phase-I of the Project independently? Whether it will be positive or negative?

Reply of Ministry of Steel: Secretary (Steel) stated the Phase-I operations as a standalone project is also financially viable and has payback period of within 08 years, which indicates that the rate of returns are reasonable. He further clarified that realizing all the pending statutory clearances will not be delayed and it will not affect the timelines of the implementation of the project.

11. Finance Secretary and Secretary Expenditure reviewed all the comments from all the stakeholders. He observed that the proposal requires urgent approvals for avoiding lapse of Mining lease, as informed by the Ministry of Mines, the Mine needs to be operationalized by 17th January, 2025 failing which Mining lease will lapse. He further observed that, as stated by Ministry of Steel, Phase-I of the project is financially viable as a standalone project. Phase-II of the project can further be refined and fine tuned after receipt of the complete G2 level survey information and a decision can be taken to consider it as a separate project at a later date. He observed that non initiation of Phase-II of the

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

project will not in any way affect the operationalization of Devadari Mines. Therefore, the PIB can consider the approval of Phase-I of the project so that KIOCL may start its mining and exploration operations to avoid lapsing of the lease as well as to take an informed decision on whether to carry out the Phase-II project.

12. Secretary (Steel) and other officers of M/o Steel agreed with the decision of PIB. However, it was informed that it would be necessary to establish the downhill conveyor for material transportation as per the orders of Apex Court at mines with production capacity of 1.0 mtpa or more, which also forms the part of Environmental Clearances (EC) conditions as imposed by MoEF&CC. Ministry of Steel also informed that some ancillary activities may also be required to be carried out to set up this conveyor.

13. Considering the above observations made by M/o Steel, the PIB felt that M/o Steel may come up with a revised cost estimate for Phase-I covering minimum additional CAPEX for conveyors systems along with associated infrastructure of power and approach roads and some other essential activity from the Phase-II, so as to make Phase-I financially viable and profitable on its own.

14. M/o Steel agreed to the PIB and Ministry of Steel in consultation with KIOCL Ltd revised the project proposal for Phase-I with total cost entailing to Rs 882.46 crore by including essential activities required for operationalization of mines. M/o Steel also agreed to defer the activities such as establishment of beneficiation plant etc. which are not essential for successful execution of Phase-I and can be taken up on a later date after G2 level exploration report are available. It is further proposed to consider debt to equity ratio of 30:70 in Phase-I, considering the amount of Rs 529.19 crore already invested by KIOCL towards acquiring of the mine. The following minimum facilities have been considered for finalizing the CAPEX required for Phase-I operations as already envisaged in phased manner and detailed in TEFR:

- Hema*
11/07/2024
- (a) Mining operations (Capex)
 - (b) Detailed exploration activity
 - (c) Repair/strengthening of existing approach road (erstwhile BMM road) to mine
 - (d) Over land downhill conveyor
 - (e) Power supply facilities including MRSS with 33 KV transmission line to cater to downhill conveyor & other infrastructural facilities.

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

- (f) Approach road-2 (from Hill bottom unloading point to nearest railway siding)
- (g) Environmental expenses
- (h) Preoperative expenses (already spent amount of Rs 529.19 crores)
- (i) Preliminary expenses
- (j) Statutory expenses

Recommendations of the PIB

15. After detailed deliberations, **Public Investment Board** recommended for approval of taking up the Phase-I of the Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project of KIOCL Ltd in Bellary District of the State of Karnataka at an estimated cost of Rs. 882.46 crore as mentioned at **Annexure-II** subject to the following conditions:

- I. M/o Steel to commence the mining operations before 17th January, 2025 so as to avoid lapse of the mining lease.
- II. M/o Steel should ensure that the remaining pending statutory clearances shall not lead to delay in the implementation of the project.
- III. M/o Steel to expeditiously complete the exploration work of the mining area along with implementation of Phase-I of the project and come up with a report so as to take an informed decision on the initiation of Phase-II of the project.
- IV. M/o Steel should ensure that the appropriate contingency plans are envisaged such that the project is capable to absorb the uncertainties and possible fluctuations in the international iron ore steel markets including the implementation of levies such as export duty.
- V. M/o Steel should ensure that the project fulfills and meet all the statutory clearances and regulations during its mining lifetime operation.
- VI. M/o Steel should ensure that there is no duplication of expenditure in construction of approach road, railway siding and other related infrastructure.

H. JAISWAL
11/10/2024

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

- VII. M/o Steel should ensure effective monitoring of the project to avoid time and cost overrun.
- VIII. Considering the functional need for incurring expenditure for acquiring mining lease and its attendant charges, forest & wildlife conservation charges etc, ex-post facto approval for expenditure of Rs.529.19 Cr is recommended for approval.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Hema Jaiswal
11/57/2024

हेमा जायसवाल / HEMA JAISWAL
उप सहायक, Deputy Director General
वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance
जयपुर / Department of Expenditure
भारत सरकार / Government of India
नई दिल्ली, New Delhi

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

Annexure-I

List of Participants

Department of Expenditure

1. Dr. T.V.Somanathan, Finance Secretary & Secretary (Expenditure)
2. Shri Sanjay Prasad, Additional Secretary (PFC-II)
3. Ms. Hema Jaiswal, DDG (PFC-II)
4. Shri Pawan Kumar, Chief Advisor Cost
5. Shri Divyansh Shukla, DD (PFC-II)
6. Shri Shashvat Sangwan, Assistant Secretary
7. Ms. Kalpashree K.R., Assistant Secretary

Budget Division

1. Sh. Ashish Vachani, Addl. Secretary (Budget)

NITI Aayog

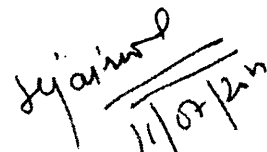
1. Sh. Anurag Goyal, Sr. Adviser
2. Shri Aditya Vikram, Sr. Associate

Ministry of Steel

1. Shri Nagendra Nath, Secretary
2. Ms. Sukriti Likhi, AS & FA
3. Dr. Sanjay Roy, Joint Secretary
4. Ms. Neha Verma, Director
5. Shri Rajkumar, Joint Director
6. Shri G.V. Kiran, CMD, KIOCL
7. Shri B.K. Mahapatra, Director (Comm.) & Director (Fin.)
8. Shri Vasudha Chandra, GM (Mining), KIOCL
9. Shri Ajit Kumar, GM, NDO, KIOCL Ltd.
10. Shri Ranjeet Kumar, CGM I/C, MECON Ltd.
11. Shri B.S. Rao, GM (Finance), MECON Ltd.
12. Shri Srinivas Thathari, AGM, MECON Ltd.
13. Shri Rajesh Kumar, Under Secretary
14. Shri Mukesh Singhal, LO, KIOCL Ltd.

Representatives other Ministries/Departments

1. Dr. Saurabh Upadhyay, Scientist 'C' MoEF&CC
2. Shri P.K. Sharma, Director, Deptt. of Public Enterprises
3. Shri Mustaq Ahmad, Director, Ministry of Mines
4. Shri Shashi, ASO, Mines
5. Shri Mukesh Singhal, LO, KIOCL, Ltd.


 11/07/24
 हेमा जायसवाल
 उप सचिव
 वित्त विभाग
 भारत सरकार
 HEMA JAISWAL
 General
 Finance
 Expenditure
 Ministry of India

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

Annexure -II

Financial calculations

S.No.	Description	Phase I (Earlier)	Phase I (Revised)
1	Land and Site Development	1.39	10.00
2	Civil & Structural Works	50.20*	108.04
3	Main Plant & Equipment	0.00	0.00
4	Consultancy and Project Management Charges	2.43	10.95
5	Miscellaneous Fixed Assets (MFA)	1.55	109.41
	Sub-Total (1to5)	55.57	238.40
6	Preliminary Expenses		
	Scientific Studies	0.24	0.24
	Exploration Cost	23.36	22.18
	Legal Expenses	0.59	0.59
	Upfront Fee for Loan	7.67	1.18
	Forest corridor for easy animal movement-wildlife conservation	10.00	10.00
	Sub-Total (6)	41.86	34.19
7	Pre-operative Expenses	542.19	554.66
8	Government Subsidy	0.00	0.00
9	Total fixed capital cost (1to7)	639.62	827.24
10	Total Contingency	4.87	14.25
11	Total fixed capital cost including Contingency	644.49	841.50
12	Interest During Construction (IDC)	35.78	40.96
13	Total fixed capital cost including Contingency & IDC	680.27	882.46
14	Margin Money		
15	Total fixed capital cost including Contingency, IDC & Margin Money		882.46
16	Less: Input Tax Credit (ITC)		22.05
17	Total fixed capital cost (With Input Tax Credit Benefit)		860.41

*Cost towards mine development and environmental control measures are included under this head for Phase-I

Hema
11/07/2024

हेमा जायसवाल / HEMA JAISWAL
उप महानिदेशक / Deputy Director General
वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance
व्यय विभाग / Department of Expenditure
भारत सरकार / Government of India

PIB meeting held on 06.06.2024: Development and Commencement of Devadari Iron Ore Mine Project

Annexure-II Contd.

Profit and IRR calculations

Sl. No.	Index	Unit	Value
1	Cumulative Profit	Rs. Crore	2,809.67
2	Average Profit per Year	Rs. Crore	140.48
3	Cumulative Cash Surplus	Rs. Crore	3,319.31
4	Break Even Capacity(Average)		
5	Conventional	%	23.14%
6	Cash	%	12.73%
7	Internal Rate of Return		
8	Post Tax	%	19.32%
9	Pre-Tax	%	22.76%
10	Pay Back period	Years	7.81
11	DSCR		6.56

H. Jaiswal
11/07/2024

हेमा जायसवाल / HEMA JAISWAL
उप महानिदेशक / Deputy Director General
वित्त मंत्रालय / Ministry of Finance
व्यय विभाग / Department of Expenditure
भारत सरकार / Government of India
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU**W.P.NO. 13311 /2021 (PIL)****(ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)****BETWEEN**

Giridhar Kulkarni,
S/O Raghavendra,
Aged 33 years,
No. 102, c/o R L Kulkarni
Gourinandan Residency,
4th Cross, R K Marg,
Hindwadi, Belagavi- 590011.

Petitioner**AND**

1. Forest Advisory Committee,
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-110003,
Represented by its Chairperson.
2. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi – 110 003
Represented by its Secretary
3. State of Karnataka,
represented by
Additional Chief Secretary,
Forests, Environment and Ecology Department,
Government of Karnataka,
Karnataka Government Secretariat,
Room No. 447, 4th Floor, Gate No. 2,
M. S. Building,
Bengaluru-560001.

Pchm

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force),
Karnataka Forest Department,
Aranya Bhavan,
18th Cross, Malleshwaram,
Bengaluru-560003.
5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) and
Chief Wildlife Warden
Karnataka Forest Department,
2nd Floor, Aranya Bhavan,
18th Cross, Malleshwaram,
Bengaluru-560003.
6. KIOCL Limited,
C/O Ministry of Steel,
Udyog Bhavan,
New Delhi – 110011.
Represented by its Secretary,
7. Ministry of Mines
Shastri Bhavan,
New Delhi – 110 001
Represented by its Secretary

Respondents

**MEMORANDUM OF WRIT PETITION UNDER SECTION
226 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA**

FACTS

The Petitioner submits as follows:

1. The present petition is filed seeking the quashing of the decision of the First Respondent in respect of Agenda-4, F. No. 8-24/2020-FC in its meeting dated 31-05-2021 in respect

Petitioner

of the Impugned project of the Sixth Respondent, the said decision is produced as **Annexure-A**. The Petitioner is also seeking the quashing of the Stage-I/In-principle approval dated 24-06-2021 issued by the Second Respondent for the impugned project of the Sixth Respondent the said approval is produced as **Annexure-A1**. The Petitioner is also seeking a direction to the First and Second Respondents to reject the Form-A application of the Sixth Respondent pertaining to the impugned project. The said application is produced as **Annexure-A2**. The Petitioner is also seeking the quashing of the Notification dated 23-01-2017 issued by the Third Respondent, reserving 470.40 Has., of forest area for the impugned project produced as **Annexure-A3**, in the best interests of ecology and economy of the state. The present petition is a Public Interest Litigation.

2. The Petitioner is a public-spirited individual, espousing the causes of the wildlife, general public and balance in the eco system through advocacy and activism. The Petitioner has been undertaking conservation activities for a substantial period of time. Petitioner has carried out several awareness campaigns about preservation of wildlife and forests in Karnataka. Recognizing and appreciating his efforts to conserve forests and wildlife the Petitioner has been recognised as 'Deccan Herald Change Maker' in January 2021. The Karnataka Forest Department has also acknowledged the Petitioner's sincere efforts by appreciating his suggestions on

P. Chinn

various aspects of forest and wildlife management. The Petitioner has been undertaking campaigns to educate vehicle drivers on responsible use of roads within tiger reserves, national parks and sanctuaries. The Petitioner has been participating and aiding the state authorities in issues regarding preservation of wild animals and ensuring their safety against fragmentation, forest fire, hunting, road and railway accidents, etc. The Petitioner is approaching this Honourable in the discharge of his Fundamental Duty under Article 51A(g) of the Constitution and the present petition in the nature of a Public Interest Litigation.

3. Ballari district is located in the central region of the eastern sector of the State of Karnataka and forms a part of the southern portion of the Deccan peninsula and is rich in Bio-diversity. Some of the forest areas in the district are home to many endangered and endemic Flora and Fauna. The Sandur hills deserves a special mention. It is characterized by picturesque gorges and steep hills with lush green vegetation broken at frequent intervals by numerous mines. There are a number of tree species with closed canopy cover. There are also a good number of sandal wood trees, bamboos, shrubs, climbers and other types of plants etc, The thick dry deciduous forest is interspersed with grassy banks. In most parts of these forests there are pure patches of Anogiessus and Boswelia forests which are unique to this region. These are not only unique but also the best quality forests available

P. Chinn

in the eastern plains, which are otherwise very dry, barren and extremely hot. These forests have a significant bearing on the rain fall received in the surrounding area and the climate of the region. In fact, the rain fall in Sandur forest area is found to be higher than the surrounding plains on account of these forests. Though the proposed forest land is not part of any Protected Area, the proposed area for the impugned project is at a distance of 19.22 km from the Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary and 17.52 kms., from Eco-sensitive zone of Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary, 14.04 kms from the Gudekote Sloth Bear Sanctuary and 10.29 kms from the Eco-sensitive zone of Gudekote Sloth Bear Sanctuary. The proposed project area is also home to wild animals like leopard, sloth bear, four-horned antelope, jackal, hare, wild pig, Indian porcupine, Indian pangolin, monitor lizard, star tortoise, peafowl, painted bush quail, grey partridge etc., many of which are listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The impugned project is proposed to be undertaken in this bio-diversity rich region of Sandur Range.

4. The Sixth Respondent (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), in the year 2018 submitted an Online proposal seeking approval under Section 2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act for diversion of 401.5761 hectare (revised from 484.0733 ha.- 388.00 ha for mining and 13.5761 ha. for approach road) of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block

Pdmm

Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese Ore Mining in Devadari Hill Range. The proposed forest land for diversion is located in Swamimalai Forest Block, Section-4 Notified area.

5. The Fourth Respondent vide letter dated 30-08-2018 directed Deputy Conservator of Forest (DCF), Ballari Division for further processing of the proposal as per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Accordingly, the DCF made the Part-II submission of the proposal on 13-11-2019 rejecting the proposal for the following reasons as extracted from the said document:

- The proposed project area (forest area) is a hillock, having steep slope and very thick tree growth. Further, based on tree enumeration exercise, it was found that, about 99,330 trees, (ninety nine thousand three hundred and thirty trees would be felled at different stages of the project. Therefore, there are more probabilities and chances that the proposed forest area would face severe soil erosion and landslides.
- The forest land (proposed project area) is not part of National Park, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve, tiger reserve, elephant corridor, etc. However, it is 19.22 km from the Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary, and 17.52 kms distance from its Eco Sensitive Zone area. Also, the proposed project area is 14.04 kms from the Gudekote Sloth Bear Sanctuary and 10.29 kms from its

Pdmm

Eco-Sensitive Zone.

- The proposed mining area has very good floral and faunal biodiversity. The area is having very good number of tree species with closed canopy cover. Some of the floral and faunal species observed in the proposed mining area (sample plot area) includes, **Flora:** Santalum album (sandal/srigandha), Tectona Grandis (Tega), Stereospermum chelonoides (Udedu), Soymida febrifuga (Somae), Feronia elephantum (Bela), Anogeissus latifolia (Dindalu), Cochlospermum religiosum, Buchnanian latifolia (Murike), Pterocarpus marsupium (Honne), Dalbergia paniculata (Paccheri), Terminalia tomentosa (Budure), Elaeodendron glaucum (Mukarti), Boswellia serrata (Dhupa), Diospyros melanoxylon (Tumbre), Grewia tiliaefolia (Jane), Maduca longifolia (Hippe), Lagerstoemia parviflora (Channangi), Sterculia arens (Raktabootala), Gardenia latifolia (Kallubikke), Gardenia gummifera (Bikke), Givotia rottaleriformis (Palike), Sapindus trifoliatus (Antavala), Aegle marmelos (Bilvapatre), Gymnosporia montana (Thondarasi), Erythrina indica (Aluvana), Strychnus potatorum (Chillada), Ailangium lamarckii (Kallumavu), Albizz lebeck (Sirasa), Zizyphus jujuba (Kadu Bare), Emblica officinalis (Nelli), Ficus religiosa (Arall), Ficus infectoria (Basire), Ficus glomerata (Attimara), Hardwickia binata (Kamara), Bauhinia variegata (Kogile), Prosopis cineraria (Kadu Banni), Acacia

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catechu (Kaggali Mara), Holeoptelia imegerifolia (Tapasi), Syzygium cuminii (Nerale), Tamarindus indica (Hunase), Azadiracta indica (Neem), Bombax malsbarcum (Burige), Acacia cocinna (Sige), Albizzia amara (Chujjallu/Kaadu Seege), Bassia longifolia (Hippe), Wrightia tinctoria (Neeli), Cassia fistula (Kakke), Carissa carendus (Kavale), Dodonia viscosa (Bandarike), Crotalaria sandurensis (Guluguluppahalli), Sorghum vulgare (Bilijola) etc. **Fauna:** Leopard, sloth bear, jackal, four-horned antelope, hare, wild pig, Indian porcupine, monitor lizard, star tortoise, pangolin, grey partridge, painted bush quail and peafowl etc.

- The requirement of forest land proposed by the user agency is avoidable as, there are **67 different categories of existing mines** (all broken up area) available for auctioning or allotment or resumption (in addition to **32 currently working mines**). Any of the existing but non-working mining area can be allotted to the Sixth Respondent through necessary change in the guidelines or rules, after following due process of law. Further, this project necessitates felling/cutting of about **99,330 trees**, which is a real or imminent threat to the nature/environment and that may ultimately lead to eco-system imbalance and also endangers the livelihood security of the local people. Therefore, allotment of 484.0733 ha fresh/virgin forest area for mining before

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expiry of all the broken-up forest area (existing mines in the forest area) is not justifiable and thus is avoidable.

- The production capacity of all the existing mines (59 'A' & 'B' category mines, 26 'C' category mines and 14 mines whose 'R&R' Plan is yet to be approved) is calculated as 53.599 MMT, which far exceeds the 28 MMT Maximum Permissible Annual Production (MPAP) limit fixed for the 'A' & 'B' category mines of Bellary district as stipulated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 14.12.2017, in the matter of Samaj Parivartana Samudaya & Others Vs State of Karnataka & Others. Therefore, before expiring the existing opened-up mining blocks, recommending and approving a new mining lease in fresh or virgin forest area is not justifiable and would cause serious and irreparable damage to the forest/nature/environment.
- As per the meeting held on 28.03.2016 under the Chairmanship of PCCF (HoFF), Bengaluru, it was decided not to grant approvals for new mining lease in the fresh forest areas. So, recommending / approval of mining in the fresh forest area would undermine the decision of Karnataka Forest department.
- From the field verification and enumeration of trees, it was found that around 99,330 trees which needs to be felled/cut for this mining activity. Felling of around

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99,330 trees would negatively affect the local flora, fauna and other environmental resources. Therefore, FC approval for new mining activities in this 484.0733 ha fresh virgin forest area would lead to severe soil erosion, destruction of streams/water resources and thus cause serious environmental damages.

- This mining project in the 484.0733 ha fresh virgin forest area would destroy the local streams, change the local weather pattern and may lead to ecosystem imbalance. Therefore, this new mining proposal in the fresh forest area would ultimately endanger the water security and/or livelihood security of the local people.
- Therefore, this project should not be accepted or considered for approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The site inspection report and opinion of the DCF, Ballari Division are produced as **Annexures B and B1**.

6. Chief Conservator of Forest, Ballari Circle made the Part-III submission of the proposal on 07.12.2019 by not recommending the proposal because of the following reasons extracted from the document:

"The proposed forest land is not part of any PA but is having thick dry deciduous forests interspersed with grassy blanks. Most of these areas are pure patches of

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Anogiessus and Boswelia forests which are very unique. This forest is home to Indian leopard, sloth bear, Indian wolf, and many more flora and fauna. From the report of DCF it found that there are about 99390 trees to be cut, if this area is to be diverted for the mining purpose. An approximate 5 Sq. Km. is to be diverted in this land scape. Question of passing this area under DSS Criteria fixed for identification of inviolate areas arises which unfortunately could not be done at this level, and I Recommend to subject this area to pass this test as well. Besides above observation I have read the report of DCF regarding the annual production cap on iron ore as fixed by the Hon'ble Supreme court in its order in WP No 562/2009. As this is the legal matter involving Rule of the land as fixed by The Hon'ble Apex court, this issue will also be taken in to consideration while taking decision on this matter. Over all I recommend not to consider this diversion in the interest of forest, wildlife, water security and soil health of this land scape as its already subjected to severe damage by existing mines."

The site inspection report and recommendation dated 07-12-2019 of the CCF, Ballari Circle are produced as **Annexures C and C1.**

7. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA) inspected the site on 16-01-2020 and submitted the site inspection report and

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recommended against the proposal for the following reasons as extracted:

"The forest land proposed for diversion for mining purpose is hilly in nature and is having good growth of Anogiessus, Boswellia, Albizzia and other dry deciduous species. Top of the hill is flat and either side of hillock are having steep slopes. As we climb to the top of the hill there is one non-working mine which was given earlier to M/s. Bharath Mines and Minerals Limited. I concur with the inspection report of DCF Ballari and CCF Ballari that this area need not be recommended for mining purpose because it is having very good dry deciduous forest. With the opening of these type of forest areas for mining purpose the soil erosion from the hillocks will be very high which will affect the drainage system down below and ultimately affect the health of local habitants living in the vicinity. Loss of such a good dry deciduous forest will be for forever and such a forest can't be recreated. The diversion of forest land for mining purpose will adversely affect the eco-system of the area. Hence, the 482.367 ha of forest land in Swamimalai Forest Block of Sandur Range is not recommended for diversion for mining purpose to M/s. KIOCL".

The site inspection report dated 16-01-2020 is produced as **Annexure D.**

8. The Fourth Respondent gave the Part-IV submission of the proposal to the Third Respondent on 18-02-2020 not

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recommending the proposal and requesting the Government of Karnataka not to consider the proposal for diversion of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 giving the following reasons:

- The forest area in question is with excellent bio diversity with about 300 types of Medicinal Plants and well ground trees with rare endangered and threatened wildlife like the four-horned antelope, sloth bear, leopard, wolf, pangolin, star tortoise, hare and variety of birds. Such quality of forests is not available in the Eastern plains till one reaches the eastern foot hills of Western Ghats or up in the north Konchavaram forests of Chincholi in Kalburgi district several hundreds of Km away. Thus, these are unique and rare in best quality forests in the eastern plains, which are otherwise in very dry barren and very hot and which have bearing significantly on the rain fall received in surrounding area and the climate of the region. In fact, the rain fall in Sandur forest areas is found to be higher than the surrounding plains on account of very good forests.
- climate change has become a reality. Onset of monsoon onset was delayed by a couple of months in the past two years and subsequently there was a deluge causing severe floods. The receding monsoon in 2018 had almost failed, incidents of long dry spells

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and sudden cloud burst or intense cyclones and hurricanes have increased. All these phenomena are primarily due to deforestation and tree felling in addition to release of greenhouse gases into atmosphere, bearing a negative on climate and food production. Hence in the interest of welfare of the people the diversion of such forest areas should be postponed till a strong need arises i.e., after the exhaustion of the already broken up mines of their iron ore reserves in Sandur both inside and outside forest areas.

- the selected site is on a hill ridge with steep slopes on both sides with about 90,000 trees which will have to be cut in stages, causing severe soil erosion and its consequent negative would affect locally and the lands located below. Removal of 90,000 trees could have negative repercussions on environment and land.
- mining in the proposed area and transportation along roads in the forests would cause severe dust, vehicle exhaust and noise pollution which will have a negative bearing on the flora and fauna with layers of dust settling on them and destroying them.
- however, since these hills are rich in Iron ore and till date about 8,000 hectares of the 32,000 hectares of the Sandur forest area have already been leased out

P. Chinn

and broken open for iron ore mining and ore being mined can cover the present and future demand of ore, it may not be advisable for the time being to approve diversion of such forest lands for mining. It is estimated that the already broken up mine areas of Sandur can yield over 50 MMT of Iron ore for the next 40-50 years, even if the capping on production is raised by the Hon'ble Supreme Court from present 35 MMT to 50 MMT or above, exploitation of fresh forest areas can be deferred till existing broken up mines are exploited fully for the ore reserves, which will give a window period of 30-50 years for the proposed fresh forest areas by which time massive efforts to combat climate change would have been successfully made and also the fully exhausted mines would have been surrendered and afforested, giving scope for such diversion on a future date.

- the proponent being a Government of India public sector undertaking, there is no scope for getting the Compensatory Afforestation (CA) lands in lieu of forest land lost.

Considering all the above stated facts, the stand taken by the Forest Department in respect of not opening fresh (unbroken) forest areas for mining activities and the opinions of Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari, Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle and Additional Principal

P. Chinn

Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation) & Nodal Officer (FCA) to not to recommend forest diversion, the Fourth Respondent has opined *"it is requested not to consider the proposal for seeking 'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 484.0733 hectare [including 470.40 ha for mining lease and the remaining for ancillary purposes like conveyor corridor, Transmission Line, Service Roads outside mining lease, etc.] of forest land in Swamimalai (SM) Block Forest, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District for Iron Ore and Manganese ore mining in Devadari Hill Range in favour of M/s KIOCL Ltd (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited), Bengaluru."* Copy of this submission dated 18-02-2020 is produced as **Annexure E**.

9. The Third Respondent overruled the recommendation of the Fourth Respondent and recommended the acceptance of the Forest Clearance proposal requesting the Second Respondent through a communication dated 09-10-2020 to convey the Stage I approval for the project proposal. The Third Respondent justified the over ruling of the recommendation of the Fourth Respondent, mentioning the following reasons in his Part V submission:

- that the Sixth Respondent has agreed as a good will gesture to develop a forest corridor for easy movement of animals and spend Rs. 50 crores over a period of 10 years to develop the corridor.

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- that the Sixth Respondent has agreed to plant saplings under the guidance of the Forest Department at the project site as well as the abandoned mining area.
- that the Sixth Respondent will pay Compensatory Afforestation (CA) charges, Net Present Value (NPV), etc., applicable to Central Public Sector Units (CPSUs).
- that the Sixth Respondent is a flagship CPSU steel producer in the state and has for the first time obtained a captive mine in the State. Further, it has plans to invest around Rs 3500 crores in the State and provide employment to 1500 persons. Such investment and employment would enhance the State Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) and also provide revenues to the state.
- that the Sixth Respondent has also stated that the proposed Mining License (ML) is already reserved for the Company by the Department of Commerce and Industries (Mines) of Government of Karnataka vide Notification No. CI 294 MMM 2015, dated 23-01-2017 and has obtained mining plan approval plan from Indian Bureau of Mines on 08-03-2018 for production of 2 mtpa Iron Ore. Also the Company is ready to exclude 82 hectares out of

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484.0733 hectares forestland thus the proposed land extent will be revised to 401.5761 hectares.

The recommendation of the Third Respondent dated 09-10-2020 is produced as **Annexure F**.

10. After receiving Annexure-F, the Second Respondent observed certain shortcomings and communicated the same to the Third Respondent vide letter dated 26-11-2020. However, shockingly, instead of replying to the same on its own or obtaining the inputs from the Forest Department, the Third Respondent took all the required inputs from the Sixth Respondent (vide letter dated 10.12.2020 of Chairman-cum-Managing Director of KIOCL Limited, Bengaluru) and sent the same to the Second Respondent vide letter dated 01-01-2021 stating that: (a) the Sixth Respondent is a flagship CPSU steel producer in the State and that it has obtained a captive mine in the State for the first time. Since it will be investing around Rs.3500 crores in the state and provide employment to 1500 persons, such investment and employment would enhance the state GSDP and also provide revenue to the State. (b) Also, since the required forest land has been reduced, there is a need to revise the mining plan from Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) and the Second Respondent may impose the condition to get such plan approval while according Stage-I approval. Also, (c) since the area of forest land to be diverted has decreased, if any condition is to be imposed on the CA site

P. Chinn

issue, the Second Respondent may impose the same while according Stage-I approval. Query of the Second Respondent dated 26-11-2020 and response of the Third Respondent dated 01-01-2021 are produced as **Annexures-G and G1.**

11. Upon receiving Annexure-G1, further clarifications were sought by the Second Respondent vide letter dated 29-01-2021. Yet again the Third Respondent took all the Inputs from the Sixth Respondent (vide letter dated 06.02.2021 of Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the Sixth Respondent) rather than the Forest Department and forwarded the point wise reply to the Second Respondent vide letter dated 10-02-2021. The said communication dated 10-02-2021 is produced as **Annexures H.** Similarly, when further queries were raised regarding the project pertaining to observations made by the officers of the forest department, the Third Respondent yet again got the responses from the Sixth Respondent instead of the forest department for reasons best known to the Third Respondent. A copy of the said letter dated 10-12-2020 written to the Third Respondent by the Sixth Respondent is produced as **Annexure-H1.**
12. Meanwhile, the Second Respondent vide its letter dated 28-01-2021 requested the Integrated Regional Office (IRO) of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,

P. Chinn

Bengaluru to carry out Site Inspection report and submit the report at the earliest. Copy of the said letter is produced as **Annexure-J**.

13. The IRO, Bengaluru vide its letter dated 15-02-2021 submitted the Site Inspection Report to the Second Respondent, the highlights of which are:

- the lease is on the hill of Swamimalai block forest as in the case of many leases in Sandur region of Ballari District. It is well wooded and has good stretch of forest – Eco-Class III Southern Dry Deciduous forests having 0.3 canopy density in the proposed area.
- on the same hill there is an old C Category Mining Lease of 24.47 ha. M/s. Bharat Mines and Minerals has now auctioned and allotted it to M/s. Kirloskar Ferrous Industries and the DCF, CCF, PCCF and the State Government have recommended granting of forest clearance for this mine.
- during the visit, it was noted that the proposed land for diversion is situated in Section 4 notified area of Swamimalai Forest Block in Sandur Taluka, Ballari District and as per the information provided by DCF, Ballari, it was noticed that there are 33 working mining leases in Ballari Forest Division as

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on 31/01/2021 spread over an area of 4115.14 ha., having an annual production capacity of 25.863 MMT.

- the forest land of 401.5761 ha., proposed for diversion is a fresh virgin forest area on a hilly terrain with steep slopes. There are major tree species.
- further the selected site is on a hill ridge with steep slopes on either side with about 99330 trees which will have to be cut in stages, which if opened up would cause severe erosion of soil and its consequent negative effects on the lands located below and far off. The user agency i.e., KIOCL has reduced the originally proposed forest area for diversion from 484.0733 ha. to 401.5761 ha. i.e., a reduction of 82.4972 ha. which is mostly located in the South Western, Western and North Western steep sloped portions of the originally proposed 484.0733 ha. area in 5 different patches. The user agency may be advised to explore the possibility of further reduction of forest land requirement in sloped areas with dense vegetation so that in future soil erosion and other related environmental issues can be avoided.

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- during the inspection Wildlife movement was observed in the proposed site and community droppings of Four horned antelope were noticed at various places. Major wildlife found in the area include Leopard, Sloth bear, Four horned antelope, Jackal, Hare, Wild boar, Indian porcupine etc. Conservation Plan for wildlife needs to be prepared in consultation with the Chief Wildlife Warden. The said plan shall be implemented at the project cost for betterment of the adjoining wildlife habitat and reduction in Man-Animal conflict in the surrounding habitations.
- It is also to noted that KIOCL is a subsidiary of Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and pursuant to stoppage of mining activity in Kudremukh from 1/1/2006, KIOCL does not have a mine of its own for captive usage in order to feed raw material to its pellet plant and blast furnace unit at Mangalore. Since there are already existing mining leases on the same hill which the Forest Department and Government have recommended, this proposed lease if it is reduced and restricted in area, will be less imposing and less destructive of the landscape.
- Proposed area for diversion is falling in Not In High Conservation Value Zone based on Decision Rule1

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and Decision Rule 2 Out of total proposed forest area, 15 ha of land classified as moderately dense forest, 364 ha area of land as open forest and 22 ha of land as Non-Forest (land without tree cover) in terms of forest classes (as per the ISFR 2019) based on the interpretation of satellite data period 2017-2018. wrto the DSS analysis report.

The IRO report while looking into the recommendations of both the Karnataka Forest Department and Government of Karnataka, IRO also observed some issues such as:

- to reply EDS of the Ministry which include some forest related issues also, State Government is preferring to get inputs from the User Agency (UA) rather than the Forest Department.
- forest Department's concern that when some opened up mines are there (pending allocation through auction), why new/virgin areas should be opened.
- the reason given for such allocation to User Agency (UA), that unless it has any captive mines, cost of raw material will increase (but cost to environment is ignored).
- revised approved mining plan is required with respect to 401. 5761 hectares.
- It is to be ascertained whether there is any other mine of KIOCL and what is the status and also

P. Chinn

whether CPSUs can procure ores from merchant mines, and whether CPSU can also participate in auction.

- whether the Court can be approached to relax direction for C-category (only auction).
- for district and state level cap, both the court orders to be read together”.

Copies of the fact sheet and site inspection report dated 15-02-2021 of the Integrated Regional Office, Bengaluru of MoEF & CC are produced as **Annexures K and K1**.

14. The proposal was considered by the First Respondent in its meeting held on 17-02-21. Site report of the Regional officer of Integrated Regional office Bengaluru was also deliberated upon. The First Respondent, in view of all above observations and after thorough deliberation and discussion with the Nodal officer (FCA), Karnataka, Regional Officer, IRO Bengaluru, and the representatives of the user agency decided that a Subcommittee of the First Respondent shall visit the area and ascertain the factual position on the ground, discuss the proposal with officials of the State Government at various levels and also with representatives of the Sixth Respondent and also look into the rationale of allowing iron ore mining in virgin forest area when a number of already opened up areas of de-allocated mines are available in the State. The Forest Conservation Division was instructed to ascertain with the Seventh Respondent if

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there is any Court embargo on allowing new iron ore mines in virgin forest area and if there is any production cap for iron ore mining in Bellary district/Karnataka State and that proposed mining by the Sixth Respondent is permissible now. Since the State Integrated Regional office reported that major patches of forest land adjoining to cultivation areas have not been included in the proposed CA areas, the DCF, Bellary was instructed to revisit the proposed CA sites and suggest larger patches of forest area for CA so that it could be treated for better management in future, subject to in-principle approval if accorded by the Ministry. Copy of the Minutes of Meeting of the First Respondent dated 17-02-2021 is produced as **Annexure L**.

15. Accordingly, by a letter dated 10-03-2021 the Forest Conservation Division of the Second Respondent sought the information from Seventh Respondent if there is any embargo by any Court on allowing new iron ore mines on virgin forest area and if there is any production cap for iron ore mining in Bellary district/Karnataka State and whether the proposed mining by the Sixth Respondent can be permissible now. Copy of the letter dated 10-03-2021 is produced as **Annexure-M**. Further, a Sub Committee of the First Respondent was constituted to carry the site inspection.

16. The Sub-Committee has suggested that the First

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Respondent may consider the proposal for Stage-I has recommended by Government. of Karnataka with a specific condition that the Sixth Respondent should complete the detailed exploration of the proposed area and prepare a Reclamation and Rehabilitation Plan as per the guidelines issued by CEC of the Honorable Supreme Court and comply to all the statutory conditions for scientific and sustainable mining before grant of final area for mining under FC Stage-II along with other recommendations. The report also mentioned that, out of 51 'C' category mines that have been cancelled on the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court, 14 have already been auctioned and remaining 37 mining leases are found to be non-viable and hence could not be auctioned. The Sub-Committee reported that no 'C' category mine is available for the Sixth Respondent in the State of Karnataka. Regarding Maximum Annual Production (MAP) of iron ore of Category A, B and C working mines from in the district it was informed by the Regional officer (IRO Bengaluru) that in the sub-committee report the figures may be read as 50.122 MMT instead of 43.122 as 7 MMT production from NMDC.

17. Such recommendation of Stage-1 clearance for the Impugned project despite the project being rejected by all the concerned officers of the Karnataka Forest Department has evoked widespread criticism and opposition from various quarters. It is widely believed that the Sub

P. Chinn

Committee had no option but to recommend the impugned project because of the immense pressure being exerted upon it from various quarters. Clearance of the impugned project will set a wrong precedence and trigger more such proposals in the area, rendering to naught the caps and conditions laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, opening up hither to protected virgin forests to the ravages of mindless mining. A news report capturing such opposition is produced as **Annexure-N**.

18. Report of the Sub-committee was deliberated upon by the First Respondent in its meeting dated 31-05-2021 and it recommended the proposal for grant of In-principle approval despite observing that:

- the cumulative impact of mining on forest, wildlife and ecology needs to be understood and acted upon. As such, the area requires a comprehensive view with regard to sustainable mining vis-à-vis forest, wildlife and ecological conservation including promotion of green mining infrastructure in the future which could not only have least impact on forest and wildlife in the area but in some cases could actually promote forest and wildlife by itself.
- A comprehensive study jointly by a couple of reputed institutes like IIT(ISM), Dhanbad, IIT, Delhi, IISc, Bengaluru, ICFRE, Dehradun shall be undertaken by

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the State Government at the cost of the user agency so as to draw a perspective co-management plan for mining and forest and wildlife conservation and development, including for green mining infrastructure development. The study report shall be submitted within one year for its consideration by Govt of India and issuing guidelines/ direction for follow-up action by the mining companies at their cost. **It is clarified that this study shall not be linked to the present FC approval.**(emphasis supplied)

- since the State Government was informed that small forest land adjoining cultivation areas should not be proposed for CA, the State government shall propose a revised CA area with sufficiently large patches and get the same verified from the IRO, Bengaluru. The so verified CA land details shall be submitted by the State Govt. to the Government of India prior to Stage II approval.
- In view of prevalence of wildlife in the area, a site-specific Wild Life Management Plan shall be prepared and implemented at the cost of the User Agency.
- It is reported that a number of seasonal nalas (streams) originate in the area proposed for forest

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diversion. A CAT Plan duly approved by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Karnataka shall be implemented at the cost of the user agency.

- Road side plantation of local species and bamboo shall be raised along the approach road to the mine at the cost of the user agency.
- The State Government shall prepare a time-bound plan for return of those forest areas in 'A', 'B' and 'C' category mines in Bellary district which could not be auctioned on account of non-viability, to the State Forest Department after proper Rehabilitation and Resettlement as per directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, and submit the Plan to the Govt. of India within six months. It is clarified that this condition is not linked to the instant proposal of forest land diversion, but the same shall be one of the issues for consideration for any forest land diversion in Karnataka State in the future, i.e., after six months. Copy of the Minutes of Meeting dated 31-05-2021 is produced as Annexure-A.

19. The above listed conditions stipulated by the FAC are contrary to the Judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 14-12-2017 in *Samaj Parivartana Samudaya & Others Vs State of Karnataka & Others* produced herein as **Annexure-P**. These conditions are also contrary to the

P. Chinn

mandate of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, National Forest Policy, 1988, National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-21). and the National Mineral Policy. Relevant extracts of the National Forest Policy, Wildlife Action Plan and Mineral Policy are produced as **Annexures-P1, P2 and P3**. These conditions are also contrary to the recommendations of the DCF and CCF, Ballari Circle, APCCF (Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA) and the Fourth Respondent as in Annexures-B, B1, C, C1, D and E. It is also contrary the decision of the Karnataka Forest Department dated 28-03-2016 stating that *"no fresh applications/ pending applications/ general approval... approved under section 5 of the MMDR Act by central Government in forest areas shall be considered under Forest (Conservation) Act,1980. However, the same may be considered only after auctioning of C category mines, resumption of mining in already broken up areas (category 'A' & 'B' Mines) and grant of new mines if any in revenue areas."* (**Annexure-P4**) which was also conveyed to the Third Respondent by a letter dated 17-03-2016 produced as **Annexure-P5**. A similar decision was also taken on 13-08-2019 stating *"no fresh forest areas should be considered for prospection or mining activities till a detailed exercise is undertaken in the state for mapping the mineral resource within and outside forest areas and decision is taken to prioritize exploitation of mineral outside the forest areas."* The same is produced as **Annexure-P6**. The said conditions are also against the objectives of the

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Working Plan for the Ballari Forest Division (2013-14 to 2022-23), produced as **Annexure-P7**.

20. The conditions stipulated in Annexure-A1 to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department prior to Stage-II approval, are unrealistic and non-implementable on ground. Some such glaring discrepancies are as follows:

(a) **Pt. A(ix)**- preparing a plan to secure dense vegetation on the slopes of the proposed area will not mitigate the ecological damage. It is submitted that the DCF, Ballari Division while rejecting the project proposal for has clearly stated that the proposed project area (forest area) is a hillock, having steep slope and very thick tree growth. Further, based on tree enumeration exercise, it was found that, about 99,330 trees, which needs to be cut/felled during various stages of project implementation. Therefore, there is more probability and chances that the proposed forest area would face severe soil erosion/landslides. Hence, no mitigation plan can compensate the damage which will take place if the project is taken up in and around the slopes.

(b) **Pt. A(x)**- Implementation of a Site-specific Wild Life Management Plan is impossible. It is submitted that the Forest Officers have while rejecting the project,

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have mentioned in their reports that this project will cause damage to wildlife habitat and also escalate human-wildlife conflict in the region. In this backdrop, no site-specific wildlife management plan can restore the wildlife habitat which will be destroyed by the impugned project.

- (c) **Pt. (xi)**- a number of seasonal nalas (streams) originate in the area proposed for forest diversion and a CAT Plan duly approved by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, is suggested as a solution. It is submitted that the DCF, Ballari Division while rejecting the project proposal has clearly stated in his report that FC approval for new mining activities in these virgin forest would lead to severe soil erosion, destruction of streams/water resources causing serious environmental damage. He further states that such fresh mining in the virgin forest area will destroy the local streams, change the local weather pattern and may lead to ecosystem imbalance, ultimately endangering the water security and livelihood security of the local people. Therefore, the natural ecosystem which consists of streams too cannot be recreated or restored by any CAT plan in order to compensate the damage likely to happen if mining takes place.

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(d) **Pt. A(xii)-** Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream have been suggested to be implemented within a period of three years with effect from the issue of Stage-II clearance. These measures are supposed to include planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds, in the appropriate area within the mining lease, construction of check dams, retention /toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour, stabilizing the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching, etc. It is submitted that the Forest Officials have clearly mentioned in their reports that soil health of this land scape is already subjected to severe damage by existing mines; loss of good dry deciduous forest will be for ever and such a forest cannot be recreated. Hence none of the mitigation measures listed above can compensate the ecological and environmental damage caused by the impugned project.

(e) **Pt. A(Xiii)-** The demarcation of safety zone as suggested in its fencing, protection and regeneration by erecting adequate number of 6 feet high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates with barbed wire fencing and deploying adequate number of watchers for supervision, etc., are impractical as such structures act as barriers for the free movement of wildlife in such a virgin forest area.

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- (f) **Pt. B(iii)**- Compensatory Afforestation over double the degraded land consisting of a mixture of local indigenous species will not restore the irreplaceable ecological value of the pristine natural forest cover that has evolved for thousands of years, destroyed for the impugned project. It is a proven fact that in many natural forest areas such plantation activities have failed.
- (g) **Pt. B(v)**- a joint comprehensive study by a couple of reputed institutes like IIT(ISM), Dhanbad, IIT, Delhi, IISc, Bengaluru, ICFRE, Dehradun has been stipulated, to study the cumulative impact of mining on forest, wildlife and ecology. This is with an object to obtain a comprehensive view with regard to sustainable mining vis-à-vis forest, wildlife and ecological conservation including promotion of green mining infrastructure in the future which could not only have least impact on forest and wildlife in the area but in some cases could actually promote forest and wildlife by itself. The State Government is to draw a perspective co-management plan for mining and forest and wildlife conservation and development, including for green mining infrastructure development, the study report is to be submitted within one year for its consideration by the First Respondent for issuing guidelines/ direction for follow-up action by the mining company at its cost. It is

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clarified that this **study shall not be linked to the present FC approval.** It is a well known fact that mining in Ballari district has already caused irreversible damage to the forest and wildlife habitat. Mining is intrinsically an ecologically destructive activity. Hence, there can never be a green mining. Such study or planning even if undertaken, should be prior to the Forest Clearance. Such study not being linked to the Forest Clearance speaks volumes of the mere eyewash that this condition is meant to be.

- (h) **Pt. B(vi)-** this condition stipulates that the User Agency and the State Government shall strictly adhere to the directions/ guidelines issues by the Honourable Supreme Court for mining, including the directions on mining in Bellary district, and comply with all the statutory conditions for scientific and sustainable mining issued by competent authority. The DCF, Ballari Division has clearly stated In his report that any attempt to approve the impugned proposal will be contrary to the Supreme Court order as in Annexure-P (Samaj Parivartana Samudaya case) wherein a cap has been put on production of iron ore in Ballari district. He also mentioned that any attempt to approve this project would be contrary the decisions of Karnataka Forest Department taken in 2016 and 2019 as in Annexures- P3 and P5, not to

P. Chinn

approve new mining projects in the virgin forest areas. Hence, this condition itself is not legally tenable.

- (i) **Pt. B(vii)**- Road side plantation of local species and bamboo are of no use. With the impugned project severely impacting the natural flora, none of the plantation activities can compensate such damage.

- (j) **B(ix)**- the condition of depositing the cost of felling of trees by the User Agency with the State Forest Department serves no purpose as the ecological impacts of the mass felling of trees in pristine forests is irreversible. As for the felling being undertaken under supervision of the forest department, with the forest department already being severely understaffed, it is practically impossible to monitor such mass tree felling continuously, which may force the forest staff to compromise their priority protection duties.

- (k) **B(xii)**- regarding the condition that no labour camp shall be set up in the forest land and that the User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas, mining in the proposed area and transportation

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along roads in forests would cause severe dust, vehicle exhaust and noise pollution which will have its negative bearing on the flora and fauna with layers of dust settling on them and destroying them. So, even though the labour camps are not established on forest land, the movement of vehicles carrying them and also the ore, would definitely cause adverse impact on the nearby forest areas.

- (l) **B(xiii)**- Translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled, it is undebatable that translocation of trees has not seen much success on ground. Even if translocation is taken up, only trees can be translocated and not the eco system of which they are a part. Hence, this condition does not have any scientific basis.
- (m) **B(xviii)**- No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused, this is a baseless condition as it is common knowledge that there can be no mining without causing damage to flora and fauna. Further, the various Forest Officers right from the DCF to the PCCF have unequivocally mentioned in their reports that the impugned project will cause irreversible damage to the flora and fauna of the area. Hence, this condition itself is meaningless.

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(n) **B(XX)**- that the concerned Divisional Forest Officer will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area is prima facie impractical and contrary to the report of the DCF, Ballari where it is clearly mentioned that the project will have adverse impact on the forests of the region. Hence, this condition itself is meaningless.

21. The First, Second, Third and Seventh Respondents have ignored the glaring ecological consequences of the impugned project which include irreparable and dangerous disturbance to the ecologically fragile Sandur Hills, destruction of streams and water sources, human-wildlife conflict especially human-leopard conflict which is increasing in the region every year. Of the total of 32,000 hectares of forest area, 8,000 hectares of pristine forests is already destroyed. Some news reports highlighting the ecological repercussions and people's opposition to the impugned project in the region are produced as **Annexures-Q, Q1 and Q2**. In fact, despite availability of funds, rehabilitation and rejuvenation of the areas already ravaged by mining in Sandur, is yet to take off. Some news reports highlighting the issue are produced as **Annexures-Q3 and Q4**. The impugned project will adversely impact the local weather pattern, ecosystem balance, water security and the livelihood security of the local people. The impugned

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project will also cause soil erosion, pose a threat to habitats of wild animals like leopard, sloth bear, four-horned antelope, jackal, hare, wild pig, Indian porcupine, Indian pangolin, monitor lizard, star tortoise, peafowl, painted bush quail, grey partridge etc. many of which are listed under Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Recommending the Impugned project despite the availability of existing opened up mines is prima facie inadvisable and will cause a serious threat to forest and wildlife and also lead to environmental degradation.

22. The Petitioner is approaching this Honourable Court in the present petition, asserting violation of Right to Life which include Right to pristine environment and ecology under Article 21 of the Constitution of the citizens and in public interest, bound by his fundamental duty under Article 51A(g) of the Constitution, asserting the failure of the State to discharge its mandatory obligation under Article 48A of the Constitution.
23. The Petitioner submits that he has not filed any other writ or any other proceeding on the same set of facts and circumstances of this petition.

GROUND

24. The impugned project is an abdication of the duty of the

Petitioner

Respondents as envisaged under Article 48A of the Constitution and also the 'Public Trust doctrine' upheld by the Honourable Supreme Court in the matter of *M. C. Mehta v. Kamal Nath (1997) 1 SCC 388* and reiterated in a catena of cases till date.

25. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 14-12-2017 as in Annexure-P, has capped the extraction of ore in Bellary through 'A' and 'B' category mines to 28 MMT and through 'C' category mines, as per the R&R plan. The DCF, Ballari in his report as in Annexure-B has observed that the existing mining itself has exceeded the cap imposed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and that any fresh mining would be a direct violation of the said direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and has mentioned this as one of the main reasons to reject the impugned project. Hence, Annexures-A and A1 are not tenable in view of the court order in Annexure-P and the opinion of the DCF in Annexure-B.
26. In the meeting held on 28.03.2016 (Annexures-P4) under the Chairmanship of PCCF (HoFF), Bengaluru, it was decided not to grant approvals for any new mining lease in fresh forest areas. The same was further reiterated by the Fourth Respondent to the Third Respondent by a letter dated 13-08-2019 as in Annexure-P6. Accordingly, the approval of the impugned project and the Phase-1 clearance given to the same as in Annexures A and A1

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respectively, are contrary to the said decision of the Karnataka Forest department.

27. The recommendations and site inspection reports of as in Annexures-B, B1, C, C1 and D of the officers of the Karnataka Forest Department further reiterated by the Fourth Respondent in Annexure-E, clearly reflect the unanimous opinion of the Forest officers to reject the impugned project due the immense irreparable ecological loss and damage that will be caused to the pristine and fragile eco system of Sandur Taluk. Over riding this overwhelmingly unanimous of the forest department, the Third Respondent has recommended the impugned project without assigning substantial reason for so over riding the opinion of the forest department. This *prima facie* shows a clear bias on the part of the Third Respondent in favour of the Sixth Respondent and is violative of the Principles of Natural Justice for bias and non-application of mind and the impugned project is liable to be rejected on this ground.
28. Going by the tenor of Annexures-P4 and P6 and the general rule followed in allotment of mining areas, The requirement of **virgin** forest land proposed by the user agency is avoidable as there are 67 different categories of existing mines (all broken up area) available for

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auctioning or allotment or resumption (this is in addition to 32 currently working mines). Any of the existing but non-working mining area can be allotted to KIOCL through necessary change in the guidelines or rules, after following due process of law. Further, this project necessitates felling/cutting of about 99,330 trees, which is a real and imminent threat to the fragile ecology of the region and ultimately leading to eco-system imbalance and will also endanger the livelihood security of the local people. Hence, *prima facie*, allotment of 484.0733 ha fresh/virgin forest area for mining before expiry of all the broken-up forest area (existing mines in the forest area) is *ab initio* against the prescribed mandate. Hence, the Annexures A, A1 and A2 have to be quashed/rejected on this ground.

29. Approval of the impugned project is *prima facie* against the spirit and mandate of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 as also the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972 as it involves the mindless and irreparable destruction of virgin forest land and wildlife habitat.
30. The most crucial opinion is that of the Forest Department and yet the impugned project has been approved contrary to the opinion of the said department. Even the queries raised by the Second Respondent have not been clarified or ascertained by the Forest Department but quite surprisingly

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by the Sixth Respondent. It *prima facie* shows a clear intention of the second and Third Respondents to keep the Fourth and Fifth Respondents completely out of the clearing process. This *prima facie* is a violation of the procedure that ought to be followed and clearly shows bias of the Second and Third Respondent in favour of the Sixth Respondent. The First Respondent constituted a sub-committee that has not considered the glaring ecological impacts as pointed out by the Forest Department. The entire procedure followed is overwhelmingly biased to aid the Sixth Respondent to get the impugned project approved and is hence fraught with procedural illegalities for which annexures- A, A1 and A2 have to be set aside/quashed.

31. The fact that inspite of the Integrated Regional Office (IRO), Bangalore making several serious observations about the project in its report, the impugned project has been approved also speaks loudly of the clear bias of the First, Second and Third Respondent in favour of the Sixth Respondent.

32. The deliberation and decision of First Respondent is a combination of misrepresentation of material facts. As obvious in Annexure-A, With regard to the issue of opening of new mines and production capacity, it was clarified by the representatives of Mines Department, Government of Karnataka and Ministry of Mines, Government of India that

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there is no restriction on opening up of new mines and production capacity in the district. However, in the same meeting it is again mentioned that "The Ministry of Steel, KOICL Division vide letter no. S-25016/1/2021-KIOCL dt 13.05.2021 in response to this Ministry's letters dt 10.03.2021 and 26.04.2021 informed that it is not in possession of the requisite information and further stated that MoEF&CC may take into consideration the view of Govt. of Karnataka for finalizing the proposal. The Ministry of Mines has also furnished the comments vide their letter no 16/57/2021-M.VI on 31.5.2021. It was informed that Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 18.04.2013 and further in its order dated 14.12.2017 has dealt with these issues. Further it was conveyed that MoEF&CC might take up the matter with the State Government to get the queries resolved". However, despite this clear cut suggestion to seek clarification from the State Government, the impugned project has been approved without seeking such clarification. Hence, First Respondent has not followed the mandate suggested in its own meeting and has hurriedly approved the impugned project without applying its mind or seeking clarification from the State Government. Hence, the decision of the First Respondent in Annexure-A has to be set aside for non-application of mind and Annexure-A1 also has to be quashed on the same ground.

33. The impugned project is also contrary to the objectives of

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the National Forest Policy of 1988, the National Wildlife Action Plan, National Mineral Policy and the Working Plan of Ballari Forest Division as in Annexures-P1, P2 and P6.

34. The impugned project is a direct violation of the "precautionary principle" and the principles of "inter generation equity" and "sustainable development" upheld by the Honorable Supreme Court through a catena of cases.
35. In view of all the above-mentioned facts and grounds, this Honorable Court may be pleased to grant the Prayers as sought for hereunder.

GROUND FOR INTERIM PRAYER

The Impugned project involves clear felling of over 99,000 trees (revised to around 70,000 trees) in the pristine eco sensitive Sandur hills in Ballari district and is a threat to the ecological stability of this biodiversity hotspot. The impugned project will *prima facie* to cause irreversible and irreparable damage to the said pristine ecology, leading to cascading ecological consequences. Hence, as per the mandate of the precautionary principle and the mandate of the Honourable Supreme Court that it is always better to err on the side of caution in ecological concerns, this Honourable Court may be pleased to stay the operation of the decision/recommendation of the First Respondent as recorded in Annexure-A and also the Phase-1 clearance accorded as in Annexure-A1, in the interests of justice.

Petitioner

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, it is prayed that this Honorable Court be pleased to:

- a. quash the recommendation/decision of the First Respondent pertaining to the impugned project in its meeting held on 31.05.2021 recorded as Agenda-4, F.No.8-24/2020-FC produced as Annexure-A.
- b. quash the Phase-1 clearance dated 24-06-2021 in File No. 8-24/2020-FC, accorded to the impugned project by the Second Respondent, produced as Annexure-A1.
- c. quash the Notification dated 23-01-2017, bearing No. CI 294 MMM 2015 issued by the Third Respondent, produced as Annexure-A3.
- d. direct the First Respondent to reject the application of the Sixth Respondent as in Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/32568/2018, produced as Annexure-A2.
- e. direct the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Seventh Respondents not to consider fresh forest areas for mining purpose till a detailed survey is undertaken in the State of Karnataka for mapping and recording the mineral resources within and outside forest area and a decision is taken to prioritize exploitation of minerals available outside forest area.

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- f. direct the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Seventh Respondents to constitute a committee to examine the capacity of all the existing mines and to report the extraction that is taking place in excess of the cap imposed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Annexure-P.
- g. pass any other such orders or directions that this Honorable Court deems fit to pass in the interests of justice and equity.

INTERIM PRAYER

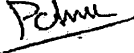
For the reasons mentioned in the Grounds for Interim Prayer, this Honorable Court may be pleased to stay the operation of the decision/recommendation of the First Respondent as recorded in Annexure-A and also the Phase-1 clearance granted as in Annexure-A1, in the interests of justice and equity.

Bengaluru

Date: 20-07-2021

ADDRESS FOR SERVICE:

P. ANU CHENGAPPA,
'Sainekethan,' No. 400,
5th Main, 6th Block,
Banashankari-III Stage, II Phase,
Bengaluru- 560085


Advocate for Petitioner
(P. ANU CHENGAPPA)

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT
BENGALURU**

W.P.NO. 13311/2021 (PIL)

(ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)

BETWEEN

Giridhar Kulkarni,

.....Petitioner

AND

Forest Advisory Committee and Others

.....Respondents

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT

NO.6 TO THE INSTANT WRIT PETITION

The Respondent No.6 most respectfully submits as under:

The contents of the Writ Petition having been read and understood, the Respondent No.6 seeks leave of this Hon'ble Court to file statement of objections as set out hereunder:

1. The present petition is filed seeking quashing of the decision of the First Respondent in respect of Agenda-4, F. No. 8-24/2020-FC in its meeting dated 31-05-2021 in respect of the impugned project of the Respondent No.6,

the said decision is produced as Annexure- A. The Petitioner is also seeking the quashing of the Stage-I/In-Principle approval dated 24.06.2021 issued by the Second Respondent for the impugned project of the Respondent No.6 the said approval is produced as Annexure- A1. The Petitioner is also seeking a direction to the First and Second respondents to reject the Form- A application of the Respondent No.6 pertaining to the impugned project. The said application is produced as Annexure- A2. The Petitioner is also seeking the quashing of the Notification dated 23.01.2017 issued by the Third Respondent, reserving 470.40 ha. of forest area for the impugned project produced as Annexure-A3, in the best interests of ecology and economy of the state. The present petition is allegedly filed as a Public Interest Litigation.

2. It is submitted that the Respondent No.6 is a Public Sector Undertaking ("PSU") which is basically a mining Company that provided huge employment and revenue to both State and Central Government. Pursuant to the judgement of the Supreme Court of India dated 30-10-2002, the said Respondent has stopped its mining operations at

Kudremukh Chikmagalur District Karnataka State with effect from 01-01-2006. Consequently, the Respondent No.6 does not have a mine of its own to feed raw material (Iron Ore) to its large size Pellet Plant and Blast Furnace Unit at Mangalore.

3. It is submitted that subsequent to the closure of captive mines, the said Respondent faced difficulty to operate pellet plant and blast furnace unit at Mangalore. In order to overcome these hurdles, the said Respondent has been requesting Government of Karnataka to allocate Iron Ore Mine in Ballari District in its favour in order to sustain the operation of its Pellet Plant and Blast Furnace Unit. The said Respondent has made several applications for grant of Mining Lease in that regard. Consequently, a meeting was held on 07-07-2015 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka in the presence of Hon'ble Minister of Steel & Mines, Government of India wherein it was decided to reserve one iron ore block in favour of Respondent No.6 under Section 17A (2) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 ("MMDR Act"). Copy of the proceedings dated 07-07-2015 of the

Government of Karnataka is herewith produced as **ANNEXURE 'R-1'**.

4. A proposal dated 25-07-2015 was made by Respondent No. 6 for reservation of mining area for its proposed project (Devadari Iron Ore Mine) in Swamimalai Forest Block under Section 17A(2) of the MMDR Act. On the direction of Director of Mines and Geology, GoK, Joint survey was conducted at site by DDMG, Hospet and officials of Forest Department, Ballari District and submitted DGPS Survey map to DMG, GoK for further action. Subsequently, on the recommendation of Government of Karnataka, approval of the Central Government was accorded vide letter dated 05-12-2016 for reserving an area of 470.40 Hectares in Devadari range, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District, Karnataka in favour of Respondent No. 6. Copies of the letter dated 05-12-2016 conveying the approval of the Central Government is herewith produced as **ANNEXURE - 'R-2'**. In pursuance of the approval of the Central Government, notification bearing No. CI 294 MMM 2015 dated 23-01-2017 (ANNEXURE "A3") was issued by Government of Karnataka,

reserving the above stated area in favour of the Respondent No.6.

5. Upon request made by the Department of Mines and Geology ("DMG") by its letter dated 13.02.2017, the Respondent No.6 took steps to obtain all the necessary approvals and clearances including approval of mining plan from the Indian Bureau of Mines dated 08-03-2018 and Environmental clearance from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, dated 13-08-2021. Copies of the mining plan approved by the Indian Bureau of Mines dated 08-03-2018 and Environmental Clearance dated 13-08-2021 are herewith produced as **ANNEXURES – 'R-3' & 'R-4'** respectively.

6. In furtherance of obtaining Forest Clearance, Respondent No. 6 submitted a proposal dated 16-03-2018 seeking Diversion of 484.0733 Hectares of reserved forest area which falls in Swamimalai Block, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 ("FC Act") through online application to Nodal Officer, (FC),GoK Forest

Department and a hardcopy of the same was submitted on 28-11-2018 (Annexure "A2"). On thorough examination, the said application was forwarded to the Deputy Conservator of Forest ("DCF"), Ballari, for field verification and further processing under FC Act.

7. Pursuant to the proposal seeking Forest Clearance was made, joint survey and demarcation of the area, Identification of Degraded forest land as a compensatory forest land was done by the concerned authorities in the proposed area and the DCF, Ballari vide its letter dated 10-10-2019 (Annexure "B") opined that the said proposal should not be considered for forest clearance under FC Act 1980 citing reasons there under. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari by its letter dated 07-12-2019 submitted a report to the Nodal Officer, Government of Karnataka with a specific recommendation for rejecting the Forest Clearance proposal of Respondent No.6.
8. It is submitted vide its letter dated 13-02-2020 (Annexure "E"), the Respondent No.4 recommended not to consider

the proposal of the Respondent No.6 for in-principal (Stage -I) Forest Clearance

9. Meanwhile, Respondent No.6 has made representations to all the concerned authorities expressing their current status, importance of commencement of the proposed project and hence necessity for Forest Clearance for execution of mining lease in their favour. In respect of the same, the said Respondent even proposed to exclude certain portion of the forest land to an extent of 82 Hectares out of notified mining lease area of 470.70 Hectares and further assured that they will pay towards Compensatory Afforestation Charges double the extent for the purpose of regeneration of forest in addition to the payment of Net Present Value ("NPV") as applicable. Copy of the Respondent's letter dated 04-03-2020 proposing the reduction of area is herewith produced as **ANNEXURE - 'R-5'**.

10. It is submitted that the Respondent No.3 by its letter dated 09-10-2020 (Annexure "F") over ruled the opinions of other Respondent Officials of Forest Department and

recommended the proposal of Respondent No.6 for Forest Clearance. Respondent No.3 cited relevant reasons for its recommendation that included the agreement of Respondent No.6 in its commitment to spend Rs. 50 Crores (Rupees Fifty Crores Only) over a period of 10 years to develop forest corridor, to implement planting of saplings, to pay towards Compensatory Afforestation Charges, NPV, *etcetra* as applicable to Central PSUs, to invest around Rs.3,500 Crores (Rupees Three Thousand Five Hundred Crores Only) in the state and provide employment to 1500 persons. Moreover, the Respondent is even ready to exclude 82 Hectares from the notified forest land. In the light of these facts, the proposal of the Respondent was recommended for in-principle (Stage I) approval under FC Act.

11. Pursuant to the above noted recommendation of the Respondent No.3, Respondent No.6 gave detailed clarification on various aspects as requested by the Respondent No.2 by its letter dated 10-12-2020 (Annexure "H1"). Clarity on major issues such as maximum permissible annual production limit, grant of mining lease

in fresh forest area, reasoning as to why "C" Category mines cannot be allotted to them, Compensatory Afforestation charges, NPV, *etcetera* were provided by the Respondent. The clarifications so provided covered all the major points that were cited by the Respondent Officials of Forest Department for not considering the proposal of the said Respondent.

12. It is submitted that Respondent No.1 in its meeting dated 17.02.2021 on discussion and deliberation of the proposal it is recommended to make field visit by sub-committee of FAC to ascertain the factual position on the ground and in furtherance of the same, a sub-committee was formed who furnished a report in favour of Respondent No.6. Respondent No.1 on its meeting dated 31-05-2021 (Annexure "A") recommended for grant of in-principle (Stage I) Forest Clearance in respect of 401.5761 Hectares (388.00 Ha for mining + 13.5761 Ha for approach road) of Forest land in favour of Respondent No.6. On the basis of the recommendation of Respondent No.1 as well as the report of the sub-committee, the Central Government accorded Stage I (In-principle) approval under the FC Act

for diversion of the above stated forest land in favour of Respondent No.6 on 24-06-2021 (Annexure "A1") subject to conditions there under.

13. While the situation was thus, the instant Petition was filed by the Petitioner to quash Annexure "A", Annexure "A1", Annexure "A2" and Annexure "A4" respectively.

14. Notwithstanding what is said above, Petitioner hereby traverses the contents of the application *in seriatemas* under:

15. **As regards Paragraph No.1:** It is submitted that the contents of this paragraph sets out the prayer of the Petitioner and the same requires no comments as they have been traversed in subsequent paragraphs hereunder.

16. **As regards Paragraph No.2:** It is submitted that the contents of these paragraphs are not within the knowledge of the Respondent No.6 and therefore the same are not admitted and the Petitioner is put to strict proof of the same.

17. **As regards Paragraph No.3:** It is submitted that the contents of this paragraph are hereby denied as false. As per the submissions of the DCF, Ballari in his report dated 10-10-2019, the proposed area is not a part of National Park, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve, tiger reserve, elephant corridor, *etcetera*. It is a Notified area under Section 4 and as per forest classification it is dry deciduous medium dense forest and in the proposed area, the density of vegetation is only 0.3. The proposed area is at a distance of 14.04 km from the nearest Wildlife Sanctuary Bear Sanctuary i.e., Gudekote bear Sanctuary. However, the said land is not located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of any protected area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Further as per DSS analysis report No Protected Area/Tiger Reserve/ Tiger Corridor is located within distance of 10 km from the proposed land for diversion. Visible impression of the proposed area through DSS clarifies that the proposed area does not have dense vegetation except for on certain slopes and other portions. This was endorsed by the regional officer of MoEF& CC, Bengaluru who had inspected the area. Regional officer also confirmed that the majority of trees

enumerated around 80% are of less than 60 cm girth class. It is submitted that the proposed area falls in Sandur Schist Belt which is one of the green stone belt situated in the eastern Dharwar craton and has rich accumulation of Manganese and Iron ore concentration in this area. The said area is also identified as one of the major mining zones in the country. It is important to note that mining industry plays an important role in the socio-economic and technological development of the nation and therefore, contributes positively to fiscal revenues, economic growth, employment, development of infrastructure *etcetera*. It is submitted that there are no rivers in the said proposed area and that the said area is above the water table. Moreover, as a compliance to conditions of Stage I Forest Clearance and Environmental Clearance, a site specific wild life management plan and Catchment Area Treatment [CAT] Plan, which was a site specific condition placed by the Respondent No.1, which is being prepared by a team of experts in consultation with the DCF, Ballari which will be placed before the 4th Respondent by November, 2021 and

will be implemented by the Respondent No.6 with approval of Respondent officials.

18. As regards Paragraph No.4: It is submitted that the contents of this Paragraph are denied as misconceived. Pursuant to the Respondent No.6 making an online application for Forest Clearance and on scrutiny and issue of multiple EDS/clarifications by Respondent No.4, the application of the Respondent was found complete in all aspects and therefore forwarded the said application to DCF, Ballari for further processing. The said Forest Clearance proposal was processed as per FC Act, Forest Rules, 1981 and Forest Guidelines that are issued from time to time by Government of India.

19. As regards Paragraph No.5: It is submitted that the contents of this paragraph are false and thereby denied.

- It is the contention of the Petitioner and observation of the DCF, Ballari that 99330 trees will be felled for the proposed project. However, it is pertinent to note that the entire forest land proposed for diversion will not be utilized in one go for mining by

Respondent No. 6. It is submitted that the entire mining area will be restored with backfilling on completion of mining activities and about 32 Hectares of greenbelt will be developed by Respondent within the Mining Lease area. As already stated, the Respondent has given up nearly 82 Hectares from the notified 470.40 Hectares which includes valley portion and hill slope. Moreover, with reduction of mining area, the total tree count may reduce to 70,000 and out of which trees less than 60 cm girth size is about 82%.

- As per the submissions of the DCF, Ballari in his report dated 10-10-2019, the proposed area is not a part of National Park, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve, tiger reserve, elephant corridor, *etcetera*. It is a Notified Area under Section 4 and as per forest classification it is dry deciduous medium dense forest and in the proposed area, the density of vegetation is only 0.3. The proposed area is at a distance of 14.04 Km from the nearest Wildlife Sanctuary i.e., Gudekote Bear Sanctuary. However, the said land

is not located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of any protected area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

- It is the contention of the Petitioner that the requirement of forest land proposed by Respondent No.6 is avoidable, as there are 67 different categories of existing mines available for auctioning or allotment or resumption. It is submitted that as per the orders of the Supreme Court dated 18-04-2013 in Samaj Parivartana Samudaya and others v State of Karnataka and others, "C" Category mines have to be auctioned through transparent bidding process and therefore "C" category mines cannot be allotted directly to Government Organization through reservation route. Moreover, Government of Karnataka by its notification dated 12-09-2013 cancelled the Mining Leases of 51 "C" category Mines and the in respect of the remaining 37 Mining Leases – the Government proposed for amalgamation of certain mines and some mines for closure due to their non-feasibility. All other category of mines are

either in operation or closure stage due to exhaust of minerals. As such, allocation of the notified area in favour of Respondent No.6 has become inevitable.

- It is the contention of the Petitioner that the production capacity of all the existing mines is calculated as 53.588 MMT, which far exceeds the 28 MMT Maximum Permissible Annual Production ("MPAP") limit fixed for the "A" and "B" category mines of Ballari district as stipulated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 14-12-2017, in the matter of Samaj Parivartana Samudaya and others Vs. State of Karnataka and others. It is submitted that the MPAP of 28 MMT was fixed for "A" and "B" category mines. The production limit for new Mining Leases is not specified in the Supreme Court Order.
- It is the contention of the Petitioner that as per the meeting held under the Chairmanship of PCCF (HoFF) dated 28-03-2016, it was decided not to grant approvals for new Mining Leases in fresh forest areas. It is submitted that the above decision may

be pertaining to fresh applications/pending applications for mining leases approved under section 5 of the MMDR Act. Whereas in the instant case, the mining lease is notified under section 17A(2) of the MMDR Act under reservation route to Government Companies seeking Forest Clearance under section 2(ii) of the FC Act.

- All the other contentions under this paragraph are dealt hereinabove in detail and therefore not repeated for the sake for brevity.

20. As regards Paragraph No.6: It is submitted that the contention in this paragraph have been dealt hereinabove in detail and are therefore not repeated for the sake of brevity.

21. As regards Paragraph No.7: It is submitted that the contention in this paragraph have been dealt hereinabove in detail and are therefore not repeated for the sake of brevity.

22.As regards Paragraph No.8: It is submitted that the contents of this Paragraph are incomplete because the actual position is that subsequently, the recommendation of the Respondent No.4 was overruled by Respondent No.3 while assigning sufficient reasons in doing so.

23.As regards Paragraph No.9: It is submitted that the contents of this paragraph are incomplete and does not reflect the entire position. It is submitted that the Respondent No.3 by its letter dated 09-10-2020 (Annexure "F") over ruled the opinions of other Respondent Officials of Forest Department and recommended the proposal of Respondent No.6 for Forest Clearance. The Respondent No.3 has cited reasons to justify its recommendation that has been discussed in detail hereinabove and therefore not repeated for the sake of brevity. It is further submitted that as per the hierarchy of the officials in the Forest Department, not only is Respondent No.3 the highest officer who overruled and opined that it was a fit case for seeking approval; even the Forest Rules, as amended in 2014 categorically says that in respect of projects of the

Central Government, the proposal along with all the reports of various offices in State Forest Department be submitted to Ministry of Environment and Forest which is the ultimate authority to take decision on grant or otherwise of Forest Clearance in respect of all Central Government projects as mentioned earlier. An extract of the said rules is hereunder:

Rule 3(k): In case the State Government or the Union Territory Administration, as the case may be, decides not to, de-reserve or divert for non-forest purpose or assign on lease the forest land indicated in the proposal, as the case may be, the same shall be intimated to the User Agency within thirty days of receipt of proposal from the Nodal Officer.

Provided, all proposals involving diversion of forest land for projects of the Central Government or Central Government Undertakings where the State Government or the Union Territory Administration as the case may be, does not agree in-principle to de-reserve or divert for non-forest purpose, or assign on lease the forest land indicated in the proposal, as the case may be, shall be forwarded to the Central Government along with comments of the State Government or the Union Territory Administration, as the case may be."

24. As regards Paragraph No.10: It is submitted that the contents of this paragraph are partly denied as false and misleading. It is respectfully submitted that the Respondent No.2 sought some clarifications from Respondent No.3 by

its letter dated 26-11-2020 and a copy was also marked to Respondent No.6. Due to reduction of the proposed area, all the revised maps like boundary map, safety zone map, 10 Kms buffer zone map, land use map *etcetera* had to be submitted by the Respondent No.6 being the user agency at the request of Respondent No.3.

25. As regards Paragraph No.11: It is submitted that the contents of this paragraph are denied as false. It is submitted that the communication of Respondent No.2 dated 29-01-2021 seeking further clarifications from Respondent No.3 was also marked as copy to Respondent No.6 (User Agency) and the clarifications sought were pertaining to the proposed area of the said Respondent. Therefore, it is only fair that the said Respondent provide inputs for clarifying the major issues pertaining to its proposed area. Moreover, the detailed letter dated 10-12-2020 (Annexure "H1") by the Respondent No.6 clarifies major issues which has been dealt hereinabove and the same is not repeated for the sake of brevity.

✓ 26. **As regards Paragraph No.12, 13 and 14:** It is submitted that the contents of these paragraphs are incomplete and does not reflect the actual position. Among other findings of the Integrated Regional Officer ("IRO") in the Fact Sheet (Annexure 'K'), it has categorically been admitted that there are other mines operating on the same hill. It is surprising to note that the Petitioner has not challenged those mines and has only targeted the Respondent No.6 by pick and choose method, which is wholly unconstitutional and therefore, makes it abundantly clear that the Petitioner has approached this Court with *mala fide* intention and not with *bona fide* intention to conserve the environment as claimed by the Petitioner. That apart, the findings of the IRO and the inspection report (Annexure 'K1') were consequently submitted to Respondent No.1 on 15-02-2021 (Annexure 'L'), Respondent No.1 in its meeting dated 17.02.2021 on discussion and deliberation of the proposal it is recommended to make field visit by subcommittee of FAC to ascertain the factual position on the ground and in

furtherance of the same, a sub-committee was formed who furnished a report in favour of Respondent No.6.

27. As regards Paragraph No.15 and 16: It is submitted that the contents of these paragraphs are incomplete and doesn't give clear picture. Pursuant to letter dated 10-03-2021 wherein the Forest Conservation Division of the Respondent No.2 sought information from the Respondent No.7 regarding embargo on allowing new iron ore mines on virgin forest areas and the production cap for iron ore mining in Bellary, it was clarified by Respondent No.7 there were no restrictions as such and the same has even been furnished in the final proceedings of the Respondent No.1 in Annexure 'A'. It has been stated that *"Regarding embargo on granting permission for opening of new mines and production capacity, it was clarified by the representatives of Mines Department, Government of Karnataka and Ministry of Mines, Government of India that there is no restriction on opening up of new mines and production capacity in the district. The restrictions are related to Category 'A' and 'B' mines. Further the members of sub-committee informed that it is clear that the area is a*

mineralized zone. The sub-committee also highlighted the issue that the zone is having 33 number of mines within a radius of 10km from the proposed mine area in question". Moreover, this issue was dealt by the Supreme Court in its order dated 18-04-2013 wherein upheld that the order of the court dated 02-11-2012 placing an embargo on grant of fresh mining leases need not be continued any further. Further, by its order dated 14-12-2017, the Supreme Court fixed production cap of 28 MMT for Category 'A' and 'B' mines in Ballari District, and in respect of Category 'C' mines, no production cap was fixed as such. Copies of the orders of Supreme Court dated 18-04-2013 and 14-12-2017 are herewith produced as **ANNEXURES 'R-6' and 'R-7' respectively.**

28. As regards Paragraph No.17: It is submitted that the contents of this paragraph are false and frivolous and thereby denied. It is respectfully submitted that the sub-committee had set out terms of reference (ToR) and on visiting the site, the sub-committee ascertained the factual position and only then submitted its report. It is submitted that from the day the gazette notification dated 23-01-

2017 has been issued in respect of reserving forest area under section 17A(2) of the MMDR Act in favour of Respondent No.6, the Forest Department has been very supportive regarding the coming up of the proposed project and all the officials have been very co-operative and have undertaken joint survey and demarcation of the said area with a very positive outlook. Even during the Public Hearing for issue of Environmental Clearance that was held in June, 2019 at the project site, the public opined that the said project should come up at the earliest so as to get the benefits of employment, implementing welfare measures for overall economic development of the surrounding area.

29.As regards Paragraph No.18: It is submitted that the contents of this paragraph are vehemently denied as false and frivolous. It is submitted that the Respondent No.1 being the Forest Advisory Committee is a statutory body and it recommended the said proposal for grant of in-principle (Stage I) approval only after detailed discussions and deliberations of all related facts in a holistic way with certain conditions which the Respondent is willing to oblige.

The proposal of the Respondent No.6 for forest clearance has been processed as per the statutory guidelines.

30. As regards Paragraph No.19: It is submitted that the contents of this paragraph are denied as false misleading with great respect.

- It is the contention of the Petitioner that the conditions laid down by the First Respondent in the above stated recommendation are contrary to the Supreme Court Order dated 14-12-2017. It is submitted that the Hon'ble Supreme Court has fixed a ceiling on maximum amount of iron ore that can be extracted from three districts namely Ballari, Chitradurga and Tumkur. The Hon'ble Supreme Court by its order dated 14-12-2017 has fixed annual production capacities in respect of "A" and "B" category mines. However, in respect of grant of fresh leases and pending applications for grant of mining leases, the report of the Central Empowering Committee ("CEC") dated 03-02-2012 were not accepted and it was ordered that that the Court's

order dated 18-04-2013 placing an embargo on grant of fresh mining leases need not be continued any further. It was further ordered that grant of fresh mining leases and consideration of pending applications be dealt with in accordance with law.

- The contention of the Petitioner that the conditions laid down by the First Respondent in the above stated recommendation are contrary to the mandate of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, National Forest Policy, 1988 ("Annexure P1"), National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-21) ("Annexure P2") and the National Mineral Policy ("Annexure "P3"), are denied and the Petitioner is put to strict proof of the same.
- The contention of the Petitioner that the conditions are also contrary to the recommendations of the DCF and CCF, Ballari Circle, APCCF (Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA) and the Respondent No.4 as in Annexures-B, B1, C, C1, D and E are vehemently denied as misleading. It is submitted that the Respondent No.1 took note of all aspects and recommendations provided by the Forest Officials

before granting Forest Clearance to Respondent No.6. It is to note that APCCF/ Nodal officer is also a part of the meeting of Respondent No.1 wherein the decision was made to grant Forest Clearance in favour of Respondent 6 which clearly establishes that the Forest Officials also were a part of the said decision making process .

- It is the averment of the Petitioner that the said conditions are contrary to the decision of Karnataka Forest Department dated 28-03-2016 (Annexure P4") stating that *"no fresh applications/ pending applications/ general approval...approved under Section 5 of the MMDR Act by Central Government in forest shall be considered under FC Act, 1980. However, the same may be considered only after auctioning of "C" category mines, resumption of mining in already broken up areas (Category "A" and "B" Mines) and grant of new mines if any in revenue areas."* It is submitted that the decision dated 28-03-2016 is merely an opinion of the department and there is no government policy on this issue as such.

Moreover, the above decision may be pertaining to fresh applications/pending applications for mining leases approved under section 5 of the MMDR Act. Whereas in the instant case, the mining lease is notified under section 17A(2) of the MMDR Act under reservation route to Government Companies seeking Forest Clearance under section 2(ii) of the FC Act.

- Annexure P6 also pertains merely to a decision and not a policy.

31. As regards Paragraph 20: It is submitted that the contents of this paragraph are denied as incorrect and false. It is the averment of the Petitioner that "the conditions stipulated in "Annexure A1" to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the state Forest Department prior to Stage II approval, are unrealistic and non-implementable on ground". It is submitted that these are the general conditions for all the forest clearance proposal and they are imposed to avoid adverse effects of project activities on environment during the course of its operation. Para-wise reply to each contention is hereunder:

- (a) It is submitted that a plan to secure vegetation on the slopes of the proposed area under Catchment Area Treatment plan (CAT) will be prepared by team of experts in consultation with the DCF, Ballari and implemented during the course of mining.
- (b) It is submitted that the forest land proposed for diversion does not form part of any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor, Wildlife Migration Corridor *etcetera*. The proposed land is not located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of any protected area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Moreover, a site-specific Wild Life Management Plan will be prepared by an expert team in consultation with the DCF and on approval of the same, it will be implemented by the Respondent No.6 at the project cost.
- (c) It is submitted that no streams or water body of any sort are present in the notified area.

Moreover, the Respondent No.6 will undertake water harvesting activities and rejuvenation of water bodies in the nearby areas to improve the ground water table as a compliance to the conditions under Environmental Clearance. It is further submitted that the proposed project area mainly being a shrubs and thorny forest, in order to mitigate the conversion of 401.5761 Hectares of forest land, double the area of Compensatory Afforestation is proposed. It is reiterated that the mining shall take place in different phases and not in one go in the entire area. The Respondent No.6 has assured that afforestation will be done with local indigenous species under the guidance of the forest department which will have a positive impact on the ecology and the meteorology in the long run. It is pertinent to note that the said Respondent being a Central Public Sector Undertaking, will provide social security to the locals in terms of jobs and social security, new

business opportunities in terms of ancillary units. Moreover, as reiterated earlier, the public has a very positive and supportive opinion with regard to the proposed project.

- (d)** It is submitted that Catchment area treatment plan will be prepared by an expert team in consultation with the DCF, Ballari to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream as suggested and the same will be implemented within a period of three years with effect from the issue of Stage II clearance. Also, as it has been reiterated earlier, afforestation will be undertaken by the said Respondent resulting in a positive impact on the environment in the long run.
- (e)** It is submitted that the demarcation of safety zone as suggested in fencing, protection and regeneration by erecting adequate boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS co-ordinates with barbed wire fencing and deploying adequate number of watchers *etcetera* are the general

conditions imposed for all the proposals and this condition is as per the provisions of Hand Book of Guidelines for effective implementation of the FC Act.

- (f) It is submitted that the said Respondent is following the guidelines of the Forest Department in undertaking Compensatory Afforestation activities.
- (g) It is submitted that the study to understand the cumulative impact of mining on forest, wildlife and ecology in order to promote green mining is proposed for regional study for co-management plan for mining and forest and wildlife conservation and development, including for green mining infrastructure development. The said study may give rise to many initiatives promoting responsible mining including standards on environmental and social performance *etcetera*.
- (h) As stated earlier, the decisions of the Karnataka Forest Department in 2016 and

2019 ("Annexures P3 and P5") are merely opinions of the Department and therefore do not carry the force of law and there is no Government Policy on this issue as such.

- (i) It is submitted that green belt along the road side will reduce air pollution and also acts as noise attenuation. Further, as per the provisions of the FC Act, Compensatory Afforestation will be undertaken in double the degraded forest land in accordance with law.
- (j) It is submitted that it is a general condition that the User Agency has to deposit the cost of felling of trees with the State Forest Department. Moreover, as per the mine plan and land use map of the said proposal, the mining is proposed in total 250 to 285 Hectares lease area and shall be excavated in phased manner over a period of 25-30 years. It is further submitted that, in order to mitigate the diversion of 401.5761 Hectares of forest land, double the area of Compensatory Afforestation

is proposed. It is reiterated that the mining shall take place in different phases and not in one go in the entire area. The Respondent No.6 has assured that afforestation will be done with local indigenous species under the guidance of the forest department which will have a positive impact on the ecology and the meteorology in the long run.

- (k)** It is a general condition that Forest land needs to be used bare minimum and forest lands not to be used for setting up of labor camps and also to avoid dependency on forest for fire wood. The said Respondent shall provide and arrange for alternate source of fuel for the labors.
- (l)** It is submitted that translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled is a general condition imposed by the Forest Department. It is pertinent to note that tree translocation is not a new process by any means and the practice can reportedly be dated

to as far back as 2000 BC in Egypt. But, with growing environmental awareness in the past few years, the process has gained more acceptance even amongst Governments.

- (m) It is a general condition that no damage should be caused to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area. It is submitted that as per this condition, the Respondent shall take utmost care during mining operation and ensure that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining areas is caused by scientific and sustainable mining practice.
- (n) It is submitted that the Divisional Forest Officer will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures as per law.

32. As regards Paragraph No. 21: The contentions relating to ecological consequences has already been dealt in detail hereinabove and the same is not repeated for the sake of brevity.

33. **As regards Paragraph No. 22:** It is submitted that the averments made in this paragraph are denied as false, frivolous and thereby denied.

34. **As regards Paragraph No.23:** It is submitted that the contents of this paragraph are not within the knowledge of the Respondent No. 6 and thereby denied.

35. **As regards Paragraph Nos. 24 to 35 (Grounds):** It is submitted that the Petitioner has not made out any legal grounds in respect of contentions in the Petition and are therefore vehemently denied.

36. Any other averments not specifically admitted are hereby denied by the Respondent No.6.

37. The contents of the Prayer Column and the interim prayer column are devoid of any merit and are liable to be rejected.

WHEREFORE under these circumstances it is respectfully submitted that this Hon'ble Court be pleased to dismiss the

above Writ Petition with exemplary costs, in the interest of justice.

BENGALURU

DATE

ADVOCATE FOR RESPONDENT No. 6

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

W.P.NO. 13311/2021 (PIL)

(ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)

BETWEEN

Giridhar Kulkarni,

.....Petitioner

AND

Forest Advisory Committee and Others

.....Respondents

*********ADDITIONAL STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS ON BEHALF OF****RESPONDENT NO.6 :**

The Respondent No.6 begs to submit the following:

1. The present petition is filed seeking quashing of the decision of the First Respondent in respect of Agenda-4, F. No. 8-24/2020-FC in its meeting dated 31-05-2021 in respect of the impugned project of the Respondent No.6, the said decision is produced as Annexure- A. The Petitioner is also seeking the quashing of the Stage-I/In-Principle approval dated 24.06.2021 issued by the Second Respondent for the impugned project of the Respondent No.6 the said approval is produced as Annexure- A1. The Petitioner is also seeking a direction to the First and Second respondents to reject the Form- A application of the Respondent No.6 pertaining to the impugned project. The said application is produced as Annexure-

A2. The Petitioner is also seeking the quashing of the Notification dated 23.01.2017 issued by the Third Respondent, reserving 470.40 ha. of forest area for the impugned project produced as Annexure-A3, in the best interests of ecology and economy of the state. The present petition is allegedly filed as a Public Interest Litigation.

2. Objections to the instant petition were filed by the above Respondent on 18.10.2021. Subsequent to filing of the said objections, there have been various recommendations and approvals in favour of the Respondent that they want to bring to the notice of this Hon'ble Court and which are relevant to decide the instant petition. Hence, the additional Statement of Objections.

3. While the petition was pending before this Hon'ble Court, the Respondent received a Demand Notice bearing No. MI/MNG/KIOCL/BLY/CR/2017-18/2023 dated 27.10.2021 from Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bellary demanding the above Respondent to pay Rs. 174,14,21,958.00/- (One Hundred And Seventy Four Crores Fourteen Lakhs Twenty One Lakhs Nine Hundred And Fifty Eight Only) towards Net Present Value, Compensatory Afforestation, Safety Zone Plantation, Fencing of Safety Zone Area, Afforestation in degraded forest. Copy of the Demand Notice bearing No. MI/MNG/KIOCL/BLY/CR/2017-18/2023 dated 27.10.2021 from Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bellary is herewith produced and marked as **ANNEXURE – "R-8"**.

4. The Respondent made the said payment on 29.10.2021 through RTGS. Copy of the Challan and letter confirming the transfer of funds from the Respondent's Account are herewith produced and marked as **ANNEXURE – "R-9" and "R-9a" respectively.**

5. Thereafter, by letter bearing No. DMG/MLS/RES_KIOCL/2021-22/10746 dated 03.02.2022, Director, Department of Mines and Geology("DMG") intimated the above Respondent that the State Government has accorded approval for relaxation of period for grant of Mining Lease for a further period of one year up to 22.01.2023 under the provisions of section 17A(4) amended MMDR Act 2021. Copy of the letter of the Director, DMG bearing No. DMG/MCS/RES_KIOCL/2021-22/10746 dated 03.02.2022 is herewith produced and marked as **ANNEXURE – "R-10"**.

6. In pursuance of the consideration for grant of Mining Lease, the Respondent's Mining lease area was approved with Wildlife Management Plan and Catchment Area Treatment Plan in compliance of Stage I Forest Clearance conditions by letters of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Karnataka and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) bearing No. PCCF/WL/D/CR-34/2021-22 and KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/17/2019-FC dated 21.02.2022 and

28.02.2022 respectively. Copies of the letters of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Karnataka and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) bearing No. PCCF/WL/D/CR-34/2021-22 and KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/17/2019-FC dated 21.02.2022 and 28.02.2022 are herewith produced and marked as **ANNEXURES – "R-11" and "R-12" respectively**. As compliance of Stage -I FC condition, Deputy Commissioner Ballari has issued Form-I and Form -II under Forest Rights Act 2006 and same was submitted to PCCF(HoFF),Govt. of Karnataka vide letter dated 11.03.2022. Copies of the Deputy Commissioner Ballari letter dated 11.03.2022 along with the Form I & Form II are produced herewith as **Annexure-R13** series.

7. Pursuant to compliance of the conditions under Stage I Forest Clearance, by communication bearing No. MI/MNG/KIOCL/BLY/CR/2017-18 dated 09.05.2022 of Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ballari("DCF") to Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari ("CCF") with a copy to the Respondent, the DCF, Ballari submitted a compliance report of all the stipulated conditions as enlisted in Stage I in principle approval and recommended for according Stage II forest clearance approval to the Respondent. Copy of the communication of the DCF, Ballari bearing No. MI/MNG/KIOCL/BLY/CR/2017-18 dated 09.05.2022 is herewith produced and marked as **ANNEXURE – "R-14"**.

Thereafter, CCF, Ballari wrote a letter bearing No. MI:MNG:CR:11/2016-17/257 dated 24.05.2022 to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests("PCCF") with a copy to the Respondent submitting a compliance report of all the stipulated conditions as enlisted in Stage I in principle approval and recommended for according Stage II forest clearance approval to the Respondent. Copy of the letter of CCF, Ballari to PCCF bearing No. MI:MNG:CR:11/2016-17/257 dated 24.05.2022 is herewith produced and marked as **ANNEXURE - "R-15"**. Similarly, PCCF communicated the same to Additional Chief Secretary, (Forest, Environment, Ecology), Government of Karnataka and recommended for Stage II Forest clearance approval in favour of Respondent No. 6 by letter bearing No. KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/17/2019-FC dated 09.06.2022. Copy of the letter bearing No.KFD/HOFF/A5-1(MNG)/17/2019-FC dated 09.06.2022 of PCCF to Additional Chief Secretary to Government is herewith produced and marked as **ANNEXURE - "R-16"**.

Further, Additional Chief Secretary, (Forest, Environment, Ecology), Government of Karnataka forwarded Stage-I Forest clearance compliance report to MOEF&CC, Govt of India and recommended for grant of Stage II Forest clearance approval in favour of Respondent No. 6 by letter bearing No. FFE19 FFM 2020(e) dtd 18.08.2022. Copy of the letter bearing No. FFE19 FFM 2020(e) dtd 18.08.2022 of Additional Chief Secretary (FEE), Government of

Karnataka to MoEF&CC,GoI is herewith produced and marked as **ANNEXURE - "R-17"**.

8. On 27.07.2022, the Respondent was even accorded with Consent for Establishment from Karnataka State pollution Control Board(KSPCB) in pursuance to environmental clearance granted by MOEF &CC,GOI on 13.08.2021. Copy of Consent for Establishment from KSPCB in favour of Respondent's mining lease area is herewith produced and marked as **ANNEXURE - "R-18"**.

9. Therefore, from the above noted submissions, it is evidently clear that the Respondent has complied the conditions as per stage-I Forest clearance in pursuance of consideration of grant of mining lease and that this respondent is eligible for execution of mining lease deed on grant of Stage II final Forest clearance by MOEF &CC, GoI.

WHEREFORE under these circumstances it is respectfully submitted that this Hon'ble Court be pleased to dismiss the above Petition with exemplary costs, in the interest of justice.

BENGALURU

DATE:

ADVOCATE FOR PETITIONER

(ANIRUDH ANAND)

Daily Order

x

Judge Name	Case No/Year	Date of Order	Daily Order
CHIEF JUSTICE AND N S SANJAY GOWDA	WP 13311/2021	29/07/2021	Heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner. Issue notice to the respondents returnable on 7th September 2021.

The learned Additional Government Advocate takes notice for the third, fourth and fifth respondents. In addition, it will be open for the petitioner to serve notice to the Standing Counsel for the seventh respondent.

We make it clear that further steps taken on the basis of Annexures-A and A1 shall be subject to further orders passed in this petition.

Close Print



ಜಿ.ವಿ. ಕಿರಣ್
ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ-ಹಾಗೂ-ಆಡಳಿತ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ

जी.वी. किरण
अध्यक्ष-सह-प्रबंध निदेशक

G.V. KIRAN
Chairman-cum-Managing Director

279

ಕೆಐಒಸಿಎಲ್ ಅಮಿಟೆಡ್

(ಭಾರತ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಉದ್ಯಮ)
೨ನೇ ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಕೋರಮಂಗಲ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-೫೬೦ ೦೩೪.

केआईओसीएल लिमिटेड

(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)
II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बंगलूरु-560 034.

KIOCL LIMITED

(A Government of India Enterprise)
II Block, Koramangala, BENGALURU-560 034.

Date:08.01.2025

AUTHORISATION LETTER

We hereby authorise Shri. S.C Basavaraju, General Manager I/c (Mining) working at KIOCL Ltd, Bangalore to sign the Counter statement/Reply, applications, affidavit and all other pleadings and to represent, appear, in OA 252/2024 before National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone Bench, Chennai on behalf KIOCL Limited.

G V Kiran

Chairman cum Managing Director

Specimen Signature of;

(S C Basavaraju)

General Manager I/c (Mining)

Attested By;

G V Kiran

Chairman cum Managing Director

जी.वी. किरण / G.V. KIRAN

अध्यक्ष-सह-प्रबंध निदेशक

Chairman-cum-Managing Director

केआईओसीएल लिमिटेड / KIOCL LIMITED

(भारत सरकार का उद्यम) (A Govt. of India Enterprise)

II ब्लॉक, कोरमंगला, बंगलूरु-560034

II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560034

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आईएसओ 9001, 14001 तथा 45001 कम्पनी

ISO 9001, 14001 & 45001 COMPANY

कार्यालय Office : 080 - 2553 1322 / 2553 1272

ई-मेल E-mail : cmd@kioclltd.in

वेबसाइट Website : www.kioclltd.in

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/kioclltd>

X <https://www.x.com/cmdkiocl>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/kioclltd>

Kooapp <https://www.kooapp.com/profile/KIOCLLIMITED>

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
(SOUTHERN ZONE), CHENNAI.**

O.A.No. 252 of 2024

IN THE MATTER OF

Tribunal on its own motion- Suo
Moto in respect of the news item
appearing in Deccan Herald dated
17.06.2024 titled "*99000 trees in
Sandur forest to face axe*"

Principal Chief Conservator of Forest,
Karnataka Forest Department and 4 others

...Respondents

**COUNTER STATEMENT AND TYPEDSET FILED ON BEHALF OF 5TH
RESPONDENT**

**M/s.KING & PARTRIDGE
ADVOCATES FOR
5TH RESPONDENT**

Catholic Centre, 2nd Floor,
No.108, Armenian Street,
Chennai- 600 001.