

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Integrated Steel Plants and Sponge Iron Plants, which are linked to Iron ore as raw material from mining operations in the Districts of Bellary, Tumkur and Chitradurga in Karnataka -regarding

The Hon'ble Supreme Court, vide its order dated 29.7.2011 and 26.8.2011 in W.P. (C) No.562 of 2009 had banned iron ore mining operations in the districts of Bellary, Tumkur and Chitradurga in the State of Karnataka. Consequently, this Ministry vide OM No.J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dated 5th October, 2011 had decided that the Ministry / SEIAAs will not consider any proposal relating to Environment Clearance (EC) to integrated steel plants / sponge iron plants, which are linked to iron ore as a raw material to be obtained from these three districts till the Hon'ble Supreme Court lifts the ban on mining in these districts.

2. Now, since the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 18.04.2013 in the aforesaid writ petition has allowed resumption of mining operations in aforesaid three districts in all Category 'A' mines and 63 Category 'B' mines subject to certain conditions, it is hereby decided to lift the moratorium for consideration of proposals for EC for integrated steel plants / sponge iron plants, as imposed earlier vide OM of 5th October, 2011. However, while considering such proposals, the EAC / SEACs will look into and satisfy themselves about availability of requisite iron ore, transportation requirements and other parameters of Environment law and rules for such projects.

3. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.


(Dr. Saroj)
Director

To

1. All the Officers of IA Division
2. Chairpersons/Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs
3. Chairman, CPCB
4. Chairpersons / Member Secretaries of all SPCBs / UTPCCs

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