

FROM :

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**F. No. 11-36/2008-IA.III
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(IA-III Division)**

**Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110 003,**

Dated: 1st March, 2011

**To
M/s Indian Rare Earths Ltd.
Plot No. 1206, Veer Savarkar Marg,
Near Sidhivinayak Temple, Prabhadevi,
Mumbai - 28**

**Subject: Environmental and CRZ clearance for Beach Sand Mining at
Chabara, Alappad, Panmana and Ayanivelikulangara villages
of Kollam District, Kerala by M/s Indian Rare Earths Ltd. -
Reg.**

This has reference to your letter No. CH/INMIN/180-ha dated 11.06.2010 seeking CRZ Clearance under CRZ Notification, 1991 and Environmental Clearance under the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006. The proposal has been appraised as per prescribed procedure in the light of provisions under the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and CRZ Notification, 1991 on the basis of the mandatory documents enclosed with the application viz., the Questionnaire, EIA, EMP, and the additional clarifications furnished in response to the observations of the Expert Appraisal Committee constituted by the competent authority in its meetings held on 16th - 18th September, 2008 and 18th - 20th August, 2010.

2. It is interalia, noted that the proposal is for beach sand mining (180 ha.) at Alappad, Panmana and Ayanivelikulangara village in Kollam District, Kerala. Indian Rare Earths (IRE) has been granted mining lease to collect heavy mineral sand in Alappad, Panmana and Ayanivelikulangara village in Kollam district for an area of 180 ha vide G.O (Rt.) No. 746/07/ID dated 08/06/07 by the Government of Kerala. Indian Rare Earths Ltd main plant is at Chavara about 19 kms road distance from the proposed Mining Lease (ML) area

3. The total area 180 ha. will include 132 ha. private agriculture and homestead and 48 ha. Government land including canal and lake. The minable reserve of ilmenite, rutile, zircon, sillimanite, zircon and brown ilmenite is about 249,00,000 tons (24.9 Mt). The average heavy mineral content of the area proposed for mining is about 18.85 %. The dredge will be working in a pond of water and no effluents are generated during its operations. No liquid effluent is generated. Fugitive dust due to material



handling and transportation will be controlled by water spraying. Reject material generated in MRP will be used to refill the mined out area in the back side of the pond. Monazite, a radio active mineral is mined out making the area radiation free which will be stored in earthen trenches for ensuring safety from radiation. The trenches are covered using 1 m. thick sand cover. The total power requirement will be met from KSEB 11 KV line. No other fuels will be required for the energy. The total cost of the project will be Rs.10.00 Crores

4. The proposed ML area does not come under 'forest land'. No existing mangrove areas will be mined; however the project facilitates mangrove afforestation in three pockets enhancing the total mangrove area to 8 ha in lieu of the existing 0.8 ha. The western part of ML area will be converted to sand dunes after mining and offers opportunity to restore sandy expanses and natural vegetation. The natural sand dunes can prevent sea erosion to certain extent and also provides an umbrella to CRZ norms. The TOR for the project was issued vide letter no. 11-36/2008-IA.III dated 29.09.2008

5. The Expert Appraisal Committee, after due consideration of the relevant documents submitted by the project proponent and additional clarifications furnished in response to its observations, have recommended for the grant of Environmental and CRZ Clearance for the project. Accordingly, the Ministry hereby accords necessary Environment Clearance and CRZ Clearance for the above project as per the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and CRZ Notification, 2011, subject to strict compliance of the terms and conditions as follows:

6. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS :

- (i) "Consent Order" shall be obtained from State Pollution Control Board under Air and Water Act and a copy shall be submitted to the Ministry before start of any work at the site.
- (ii) No construction work shall be carried out in Coastal Regulation Zone area.
- (iii) 50 mtr. all along the canal shall be maintained as buffer and shall not be disturb at all.
- (iv) No religious places shall be disturbed without the Consent of locals.
- (v) TCLP analysis of both mined and tail materials can be done to check the presence of Hazardous materials and report shall be submitted along with the six monthly monitoring reports.



- (vi) A green belt shall be developed after mining and refilling block by block. Mangroves as recommended shall be developed in the area contiguous to Vattakayal.
- (vii) Project proponent shall ensure that no disturbance is caused to the mangroves.
- (viii) All the commitments made during the public hearing including the budget for corporate social responsibility shall be earmarked for carrying out the activities.
- (ix) There shall be no waste disposal in to the coastal area.
- (x) The project proponent shall set up separate environmental management cell for effective implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards under the supervision of a Senior Executive.
- (xi) The project proponent shall take up mangrove plantation/green belt in the project area, wherever possible. Adequate budget shall be provided in the Environment Management Plan for such mangrove development.
- (xii) The funds earmarked for environment management plan shall be included in the budget and this shall not be diverted for any other purposes.

7. GENERAL CONDITIONS :

- (i) Full support shall be extended to the officers of this Ministry/Regional Office at Bangaluru by the project proponent during inspection of the project for monitoring purposes by furnishing full details and action plan including action taken reports in respect of mitigation measures and other environmental protection activities.
- (ii) A six-Monthly monitoring report shall need to be submitted by the project proponents to the Regional Office of this Ministry at Bangaluru regarding the implementation of the stipulated conditions.
- (iii) Ministry of Environment & Forests or any other competent authority may stipulate any additional conditions or modify the existing ones, if necessary in the interest of environment and the same shall be complied with.
- (iv) The Ministry reserves the right to revoke this clearance if any of the conditions stipulated are not complied with the satisfaction of the Ministry.

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- (v) In the event of a change in project profile or change in the implementation agency, a fresh reference shall be made to the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- (vi) The project proponents shall inform the Regional Office as well as the Ministry, the date of financial closure and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- (vii) A copy of the clearance letter shall be marked to concerned Panchayat/local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestion/representation has been made received while processing the proposal.
- (viii) State Pollution Control Board shall display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional Office, District Industries Centre and Collector's Office/Tehsildar's office for 30 days.

8. These stipulations would be enforced among others under the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Public Liability (Insurance) Act, 1991 and EIA Notification 1994, including the amendments and rules made thereafter.

9. All other statutory clearances such as the approvals for storage of diesel from Chief Controller of Explosives, Fire Department, Civil Aviation Department, Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 etc. shall be obtained, as applicable by project proponents from the respective competent authorities.

10. The project proponent shall advertise in at least two local Newspapers widely circulated in the region, one of which shall be in the vernacular language informing that the project has been accorded Environmental Clearance and copies of clearance letters are available with the State Pollution Control Board and may also be seen on the website of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at <http://www.envfor.nic.in>. The advertisement should be made within 10 days from the date of receipt of the Clearance letter and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the Regional office of this Ministry at Bangalore.

11. Environmental clearance is subject to final order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of Goa Foundation Vs. Union of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No.460 of 2004 as may be applicable to this project.

12. A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zilla Parishad/Municipal Corporation, Urban Local Body and the Local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/



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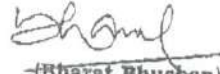
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representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the website of the company by the proponent.

13. The proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated EC conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and shall update the same periodically. It shall simultaneously be sent to the Regional Office of MoEF, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB.


14. The project proponent shall also submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated EC conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the respective Regional Office of MoEF, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB.

15. The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated to be submitted by the project proponent to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of EC conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Offices of MoEF by e-mail.


(Bharat Bhushan)
Director (IA-III)
01.03.2011

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Department of Environment & Forests, Government of Kerala, Kerala State Coastal Zone Management Authority, Sashtra Bhawan, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram - 4.
2. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhavan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.
3. The Chairman, Kerala Coastal Zone Management Authority, Science & Technology (A) Department, Sashtra Bhawan, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram.
4. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Regional Office, Western Region, Kendriya Paryavaran Bhavan, Link Road No. 3, Ravishankar Nagar, Bangalore - 462016 Karnataka.
5. The Chairman, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Plamoodu Junction, Pattom Palace, Trivandrum 695004, Kerala
6. Director (EI), Ministry of Environment and Forests.
7. Guard File.


Bharat Bhushan)
Director (IA-III)