

Action plan for Reclamation and Rehabilitation of Mining Impact Zone of Bellary, Chitradurga and Tumkur districts of Karnataka

Pursuant to Honorable Supreme Court Order, ICFRE was assigned task for preparation of "Comprehensive Environmental Plans for the Mining Impact Zone" (CPEMIZ) around mining leases in Bellary, Chitradurga and Tumkur. To implement the comprehensive environmental plan for mining impact zone, Hon'ble Supreme Court has suggested constituting a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) by the state of Karnataka.

To carry out the ambitious, but highly essential comprehensive environmental plan for the mining impact zone in order to restore the environmental damage caused in the areas by illegal and reckless mining on a very large scale to ensure that the environment in the area may not suffer from such abuse and destruction in future. A stakeholder meet was organized on 12-12-2012 at Bellary in the chair of Dr. V.K. Bahuguna, Director General, ICFRE to finalize the "Comprehensive Environmental Plans for the Mining Impact Zone" (CPEMIZ) around mining leases in Bellary, Chitradurga and Tumkur to ameliorative and mitigate the adverse impact of mining and to explain the elicited stakeholders.

The plan, with an outlay of Rs. 30, 478 crores is to be spent in a span of 10 years, is almost ready. Stakeholders' suggestions on the plan were invited during the stakeholder meet; the same are required to be incorporated in the plan before it is submitted to the State government. In turn, the State government, after studying and approving it, will submit the plan to the Honorable Supreme Court. After that, the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), as suggested by the Supreme Court, will have to be constituted with the Chief Secretary to the State government as its head, for the implementation of the plan.

Dr. V. K. Bahuguna during the meeting said "The focus of the plan is to ensure economic sustainable development, through scientific mining and to improve the living conditions of people affected by the mining."

Of the Rs. 30, 478 crores, around 62 per cent would be spent in Bellary district, 24.5 per cent in Chitradurga district, 10.17 per cent in Tumkur district and the remaining 3.4 per cent would go to other areas and overheads.

Honorable Mayor of Bellary Shri Ibrahim, Director, Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bangalore Shri S.C. Joshi, ICFRE team along with Shri Pankaj Agrawal, Sudhir Kumar, Deputy Commissioner, Amlan Aditya Biswas, Bellary, Deputy Commissioner V.P. Ikkeri, Chitradurga, and representatives of FIMI, stakeholders and other officials of Karnataka Government were present during the meet.