



KARNATAKA MINING ENVIRONMENT RESTORATION CORPORATION

(Govt of Karnataka Undertaking)

kmerc2014@gmail.com

No. KMERC/HO/FOREST/24/2022-23

Date: 31.05.2023

Subject: Administrative approval for *"Treatment Plan for Eco-Restoration of Mining affected Garaga Kaval Reserve Forest Block in Holalkere Taluk, Chitradurga District."*

- Ref:**
- 1 6th Oversight Authority meeting Dated: 16.11.2022
 - 2 KMERC office letter No. KMERC/CEPMIZ/HO/24/2022-23/1627 Dated: 03.12.2022
 - 3 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HOFF) Letter No: KFD/DEV/B1AB (KMERC) /1/2022. C-No-758294 Date: 27.04.2023
 - 4 Additional Chief Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment department, Letter No: ಅಪಜೀ 50 ಎಫ್‌ಎಪಿ 2023 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.05.2023
 - 5 KMERC Project Appraisal Committee Meeting, dated: 20.05.2023
 - 6 KMERC Project Appraisal Committee Meeting proceedings dated: 26.05.2023.
 - 7 GO No: CI 215 MMM 2022 BENGALURU Dated: 13.03.2023

Preamble:

The Karnataka Forest Department Project for *"Eco-Restoration of Mining affected Garaga Kaval Reserve Forest Block"* under Comprehensive Environmental Plan for Mining Impact Zone (CEPMIZ) as ameliorative and mitigative measures to be implemented in the district of Chitradurga was approved by the Oversight Authority appointed by Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated: 21.04.2022, vide ref. (1) and the Proposed Approval was communicated vide ref letter (2) to submit DPR for the Proposed project, as per the guidelines communicated along with.

Brief details of the project is as detailed below.

SINo (as per OA Approved list)	District	Sector	Sub-Sector	Project	Project Cost (In Lakhs)
11	Chitradurga	Eco-restoration	Forestry	<i>"Eco-Restoration of Mining affected Garaga Kaval Reserve Forest Block"</i>	1022.81
Total Rs. in Lakhs					1022.81

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HOFF) after technical scrutiny by Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle, for *"Eco-Restoration of Mining affected Garaga Kaval Reserve Forest Block"* in Holalkere Taluk of Chitradurga District has requested Administrative approval for an amount of Rs 1023.00 Lakhs vide ref letter (3) above. The DPR was forwarded by Additional Chief Secretary to Govt, Forest, Ecology and Environment department vide ref letter (4) above.

The DPR is reviewed by the Appraisal Committee on 20.05.2023 with regard to the output and outcomes for which the project was approved by the Oversight Authority with observation to correct the discrepancy in the summing of project cost mentioned in the DPR. The compliance to the observation was made by the department. Approval is given by appraisal committee to the project as detailed below.

SI No	Name of the project	Cost approved by OA(Rs in Lakhs)	Cost Recommended by HOD ie (Rs in Lakhs)	Amount Recommended by Appraisal Committee of KMERC (Rs in Lakhs)	Cost Recommended by HOD (Rs in Lakhs) on compliance to observations	Amount Approved (Rs in Lakhs)
1	<i>"Eco-Restoration of Mining affected Garaga Kaval Reserve Forest Block"</i>	1022.81	1023.00	1022.81	1023.00	1022.81

ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL ORDER No. CEPMIZ /2023-24/01/KFD/C/ KMERC/00304, Dated: 31.05.2023.

As explained in the preamble, and as per approval of the KMERC Appraisal Committee vide ref. (6), and as per GO vide ref. (7) above, the administrative approval of the below mentioned project, as per enclosed Annexure, is hereby accorded for,

“Eco-Restoration of Mining affected Garaga Kaval Reserve Forest Block”

While implementing/executing the Project, the concerned Implementing Agency should strictly adhere to following conditions:

A. General conditions:-

1. The approved Project should be taken up as per the prevailing norms / rules of the Implementing Department.
2. The Implementing Agency should ensure that the works approved by KMERC are not executed under any other Schemes/ Department including DMF Funds.
3. The funds earmarked and approved for the proposed category/categories/location(s) of works, must be utilized exclusively for the respective category/categories/location(s) of works only, and cannot be diverted for other categories/location(s) of works. Prior approval from KMERC should be taken for the expenditure to be made against the lump sum provisions in the DPR.
4. The concerned Administrative Department/ Implementing Agency may not entrust the implementation of the approved work(s) to another Administrative Department/ Implementing Government Agency without the permission of KMERC.
5. The projects are to be taken up only on undisputed Govt. land/ community land with the prior approval of the concerned revenue authority to avoid any legal complications. The concerned Administrative Department/ Implementing Agency shall be solely responsible for ensuring compliance to all related obligations/legal requirements including but not limited to Environmental/Forest Clearances, queries under RTI, Social Audits or any stakeholder consultations, as may be required for implementation of works approved by KMERC. The activities to be taken up within the forest areas

shall necessarily conform to the Approved Working Plans of the Karnataka Forest Department

6. A Board depicting Project details be erected at a conspicuous place mentioning the details of the scheme / year of execution/ project cost/ Executing Department & Agency/ date of commencement & completion/Defect liability period etc., in both Kannada and English language, as provided in the KMERC Website.
7. The works shall be carried out as per the standard specification of items in the sanctioned estimate. Mandatory quality check(s) should be conducted by designated qualified staff at different levels, as per the approved norms of the concerned Administrative Department/ Implementing Government Agency. Inspection & Quality control register shall invariably be maintained for each work of the project and the quantity of works shall also be duly checked and verified and should be made accessible to KMERC during Inspection and provide copies, whenever sought.
8. Progress report of the project shall be periodically (monthly/ quarterly/annually/project-end) uploaded on the KMERC portal & Digital copies of the same should be sent to KMERC, along with photos with geo-coordinates and small-sized videos at every stage of project-implementation.
9. On completion of the approved project, a consolidated report of the work done, and assets created (if any) shall be submitted to KMERC. Details of completed project should be incorporated in Google Earth and the duly verified Kmz/Kml file be sent to KMERC for record.
10. The department shall maintain Asset register for all the assets created under the CEPMIZ Project.
11. The CEPMIZ asset created shall not be disposed off, encumbered or utilized for purpose other than for which funds have been provided by KMERC.
12. Prior approval from KMERC shall necessarily be taken for any change in the cost, scope or location of the project work approved hereunder.

13. Funds for the project are readily available and will be released based on progress. No additional funds, over and above the amount sanctioned hereby are provided, due to Tender premium, delay in execution or any other reason.
14. Administrative costs including amount required for project implementation, Supervision, Monitoring at District level & HQ level, Documentation Evaluation, and other contingencies shall be limited to 1% of the project cost, which would be as per actuals. The approval of KMERC would be obtained for incurring the expenditure under this Head.
15. The cost of DPR preparation shall be reimbursed /provided as per the actual requirement, which could be based on the guidelines/ norms of the kind of works and arrived as per KTPP Act.
16. The executing agency shall prepare the list of the Villages/beneficiaries (wherever applicable) who are to benefit from the projects and provide to KMERC & upload in the KMERC portal.
17. Success stories of the implemented projects are to be prepared and provided to KMERC by the executing agencies after completion of the projects.
18. Separate account/cash book are to be maintained at the executing agency level for the scheme. The books of Accounts of the Implementing Government Agency may be scrutinized periodically by the Internal Auditor of KMERC, as well as annually by Accountant General.
19. Utilization Certificates should be submitted after utilization of funds released.
20. Concerned department shall ensure internal Audit of the CEP Miz project expenditure, annually and submit the report to the KMERC, along with Action Taken Report.
21. The concerned Administrative Department/ Implementing Government Agency shall ensure the post-project sustainability in terms of the

Operations and Maintenance (O&M) aspects of the project works, as agreed during submission of the proposal.

22. The Department shall prepare a detailed statement of expenditure periodically (monthly/quarterly/annually) and submit hard copy and upload it in the KMERC portal.
23. The Implementing Agency shall also carry out concurrent monitoring and 3rd party evaluation of the project and shall share reports to KMERC and on its portal.
24. Funds will be released based on the monthly/ milestone based physical progress. The Implementing Agency should submit the details of child account, IFSC Code, Bank names etc., for transfer of funds by KMERC.
25. The Implementing Department/Agency shall be responsible for all payments made or recommended by it to be made on account of the project.
26. The prescriptions/directions/instructions given in the financial management guidelines and the project implementation manual prepared and published in the KMERC Website should be followed, where ever applicable. All registers, formats, documents, records should be maintained as said in the guidelines.



B: Project specific conditions:-

27. Works should be carried out in conformity with the prescriptions of Working Plan prescribed for the Forest area and on watershed basis.
28. Works in violation of provisions of Forest Conservation Act 1980, should not be undertaken.
29. Implementing agency should strictly follow the instructions given in the circular of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Development) in his letter No: KFD/DEV/B1AB/KMERC/1/2022 E-758294 Dated: 02.03.2023 as updated from time to time. Works not permitted therein will not be considered for payment.

30. Implementing Agency should lay required Number of demarcated sample plots in the project area for monitoring the changes /Outcomes.
31. Before execution of activities, Site specific plans need to be prepared and approved by concerned officers at circle level.
32. CCF/CF of the concerned forest circle should examine and recommend the work expenditure bills of completed works to KMERC for release of funds.
33. Payments for DPR Preparation cost should be made as per actuals keeping in mind the cost of the project.
34. Activities outside the Forest area may be got done/executed through Social Forestry wing and Survey and Demarcation works through working plan wing of the department and the fund release is only through DCF Territorial as agreed by PCCF (Development) during the Project Appraisal Committee meeting held on 20.05.2023.
35. Suggested to construct all Check dams with RCC structures, keeping in mind the longevity of the structure.
36. Not to take up raising of seedlings for public distribution for farm forestry work in the areas, covered by watershed development project, to avoid the overlapping /duplication of work.
37. Regarding skill development to fringe village community, activities like providing driving licence for unemployed youth, Home appliance trainings like mobiles and electrical repairs, computer skills training etc. which are not the domain of the department may be avoided. Instead forestry based skill development activities like processing, value addition of NTFP Products, timber related works like handicrafts making (Toys, Showpiece etc) using small timbers, could be undertaken. Even skill training on agriculture and allied sector, viz. pickle making, papad making, agarabathi manufacturing, apiculture, arecanut or butea etc plates manufacturing, nursery development, etc. can also be undertaken. If the village is covered under watershed project, such activities need to be verified whether it is planned by the Department under Livelihood component of the Watershed Project or not before implementation.
38. If there are any areas of abandoned mine leases within the project area, mines department to be consulted as to how much area out of the

abandoned leased area is having reserves of ore and will be proposed for future mining and such areas need to be excluded from treatment. If the area is exhausted of the mineral reserve and no more mining are to be granted in future, such areas should be taken up for treatment.

39. The barbed wire fencing or Chain link mesh fencing undertaken newly should not require maintenance for first three years and maintenance expenditure should not be incurred during this period.


Managing Director
KMERC 

To

1. Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, Bengaluru.
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Bengaluru.
3. Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari.
4. Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurga District
5. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chitradurga Division
6. Chief Finance Officer, KMERC. Bengaluru.

Copy for Kind Information:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Mines, Govt. of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
2. PS to Additional Chief Secretary to Government & Development Commissioner & Chairman, KMERC. Bengaluru.
3. PS to Secretary to the Govt. (MSME & Mines) of Karnataka, Bengaluru

Administrative Approval order no: CEPMIZ/2023-24/01/
ICFD/C/ICMER/100304. Dated: 31.05.2023.

CHAPTER-2

EXECUTIVESUMMARY

The GARAGA Reserved Forest with a notified area of 864.32 Ha is located in North Eastren Part of HolallkereTaluk Of Chitradurga district, Karnataka. The mining leases are outside reserved forest namely M/s S.B Mineral Enterprise (M L No 0014, 100.17 Ha), M/s Sesagoa (Holalkere M L No 2236, 164.78 Ha) M/s. R Praveen Chandra mines Ltd (ML No 2294, 49.60 Ha) operates and do opencast iron ore mining activity.

The GARAGA Reserve Forest restoration and reclamation project comprise of Comprehensive Environment restoration plans for Mining Impact Zone (CEPMIZ). In order to overcome the ill effects of iron ore mining and industries in and around GARAGA RF areas, the proposed CEPMIZ project is broadly planned on three following components:

1. To improve the vegetative cover, soil health condition and biodiversity of the forest through afforestation, soil moisture treatment and structures, forest fire prevention measures, effective boundary consolidation, intensive protection and conservation measures.
2. To increase the tree cover outside reserve forest area through institutional planting, roadside planting etc
3. To improve the socio economic and livelihood conditions of the fringe villagers through eco developmental programs and agro forestry models.

1023.00
crores

GARAGA Reserve Forest area in Holalkeretaluk of Chitradurga district, Karnataka with a budget outlay of 1142.52 crores over period of 7 years (2023- 24 to 2029-30) propose to take up forest protection activities like 14 km of forest boundary fencing, creation and annually maintenance of 50 km fire lines. Afforestation activities like 75 hectares with site specific models in degraded areas of Nirthadi reserve forest. Distribution of 10,000 seedlings of timber, fruit yielding and aesthetic valued species for agro forestry.

The Garaga Reserve Forest with an area of 864.32 Ha notified under Madras Forest Act 1882, Dt: 17/08/1903. The area is mostly young promising and diverse crops of most prominent tree species of *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Grewia tiliaefolia*, *Dalbergia peniculata*, *Albizia amara* and *Acacia sundra*. Slightly mature crop of *Boswellia serrata*, *Acacia leucophloea*, *Cassia fistula* and *Wrightia tinctoria* are found at lower reaches. Third lower story includes *Grewia tiliaefolia*, *Santalum album*, *Stereospermum chelonoides* and also the plantation crop of *Eucalyptus citriodora*.

The Project comprises of forest protection and boundary consolidation measures like 14 km of forest boundary fencing, creation and annually maintenance and construction of multipurpose fire watch tower.

Afforestation activities like 350 hectares block plantation with site specific models in degraded areas of GARAGA Reserve Forest, 18 km roadside planting and 15 ha of institutional planting and distribution of seedlings of timber, fruit yielding and aesthetic valued species to fringe villagers and farmers.

The Project also involves ecology and drainage line treatments like construction of check dams, gully plugs, nala bunds, causeways and culverts, excavation of contour trenches, creation & rejuvenation of waterholes and extensive sowing of local species seeds.

The project is also intending to enhance the livelihood of fridge villages through training programs about eco-tourism activities and awareness programs about importance of forest and wildlife.




Sri. T. Rajanna IFS
Deputy Conservator of Forest
Chitradurga Territorial Division.


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Range Forest Officer;
Holalkere Range, Holalkere


Assistant Conservator of Forests,
Chitradurga Sub-Division,
Chitradurga


Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Chitradurga Division, Chitradurga


Chief Conservator of Forests,
Ballari Circle, Ballari

Chitradurga
Principal Chief Conservator of
Forests (Development)
Aranya Bhavan, Bengaluru

Managing Director,
KMERC, Bengaluru

Under Secretary to Government (Forest,
Forest Ecology & Environment Dept.
M.S. Bldg. Bengaluru

Project Outcomes List			
Sl. No	Major Envisaged Outcomes	Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for measuring the Outcome	Assumptions/ Risks in choice of KPI
1	Enhanced forest and boundary preservation Augmented forest productivity and rejuvenation	Incidences of forest fire, illicit felling, trespassing & encroachments	Measuring occurrences of forest fires, illegal logging, unauthorized access, and land encroachment.
2	Improved forest productivity & biodiversity, Increased vegetation cover, biomass	Diversity indices, number of stems/Ha, Basal area/Ha	The sampling plot method is utilized to analyze and quantify the KPIs.
3	Enhanced soil moisture regime and efficient Soil Moisture Conservation (SMC) structures.	Level of ground water table	The groundwater table level is influenced by various factors.
4	Increased trees outside forest areas (TOF)	Length (Km) of plantation in roads and extent (Ha) of plantation in institutions	A minimum of 80% survival rate is required for the seedlings planted along roads and in institutional areas.
5	Improved eco- tourism activities	Number of visitors, revenue.	The number of visitors varies depending on the season and other influencing factors.
6	Improved socio- economic status of the fringe villagers	Per capita income fringe villagers, reduced dependency on forest	The per capita income is influenced by various factors. The level of dependence on the forest can be assessed by quantifying the reduction in activities such as lopping, grazing, and firewood collection.

Table No. 2.2 Project Implementation and Expenditure Schedule

Abstract of budget requirement for Garaga Reserve Forest restoration and reclamation project									
SL No.	Treatments	Budget (In lakhs)							Total Rs. Lakhs
		2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	
1	Forest protection & boundary consolidation	142.14 2	1.400	1.540	1.694	1.863	2.050	1.933	152.622
2	Protection of Forest from Fire (50 kms /year)	21.477	6.639	9.047	8.033	10.9 47	9.720	13.246	79.109
3	Water conservation	43.966	15.950						68.952
4	Afforestation activities	147.51 3	199.08 5	130.47 8	73.25 6	73.30 9	80.63 9	50.681	664.464
5	Other Activities	7.200	2.200	2.420	2.662	2.928	3.221	3.543	31.764
6	Farm Forestry	1.25	1.375	1.40	2.80	2.75	1.375		10.975
	Total Rs. Lakhs	363.55 0	226.65 0	144.890	88.450	91.8 20	97.00 0	69.40	1081.757
7	DPR preparation charges @ 0.33%								5.000
8	Administrative, etc charges @0.5%								5.057
9	Monitoring & Evaluation								5.057
	Grand Total Rs. Lakhs								1023.000

limited to 1022.81 lakhs.

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Chief Conservator of Forests,
Ballari Circle, Ballari

Principal Chief Conservator of
Forests (Development)
AranyaBhavan, Bengaluru

Managing Director
KMERC, Bengaluru

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3	Water conservation	44.202	24.750						68.952
4	Afforestation activities	121.063	180.605	119.195	65.869	65.183	71.701	40.848	664.464
5	Other Activities	8.000	3.080	3.388	3.727	4.099	4.509	4.960	31.764
6	Farm Forestry	1.250	1.375	1.400	2.800	2.775	1.375		10.975
Total Rs. Lakhs		338.13	217.85	134.57	82.12	84.87	89.36	60.99	1007.886
7	DPR preparation charges @ 0.33%								5.000
8	Administrative, etc charges @0.5%								5.057
9	Monitoring & Evaluation								5.057
Grand Total Rs. Lakhs									1023.000

limited to 1022.81 lakhs.

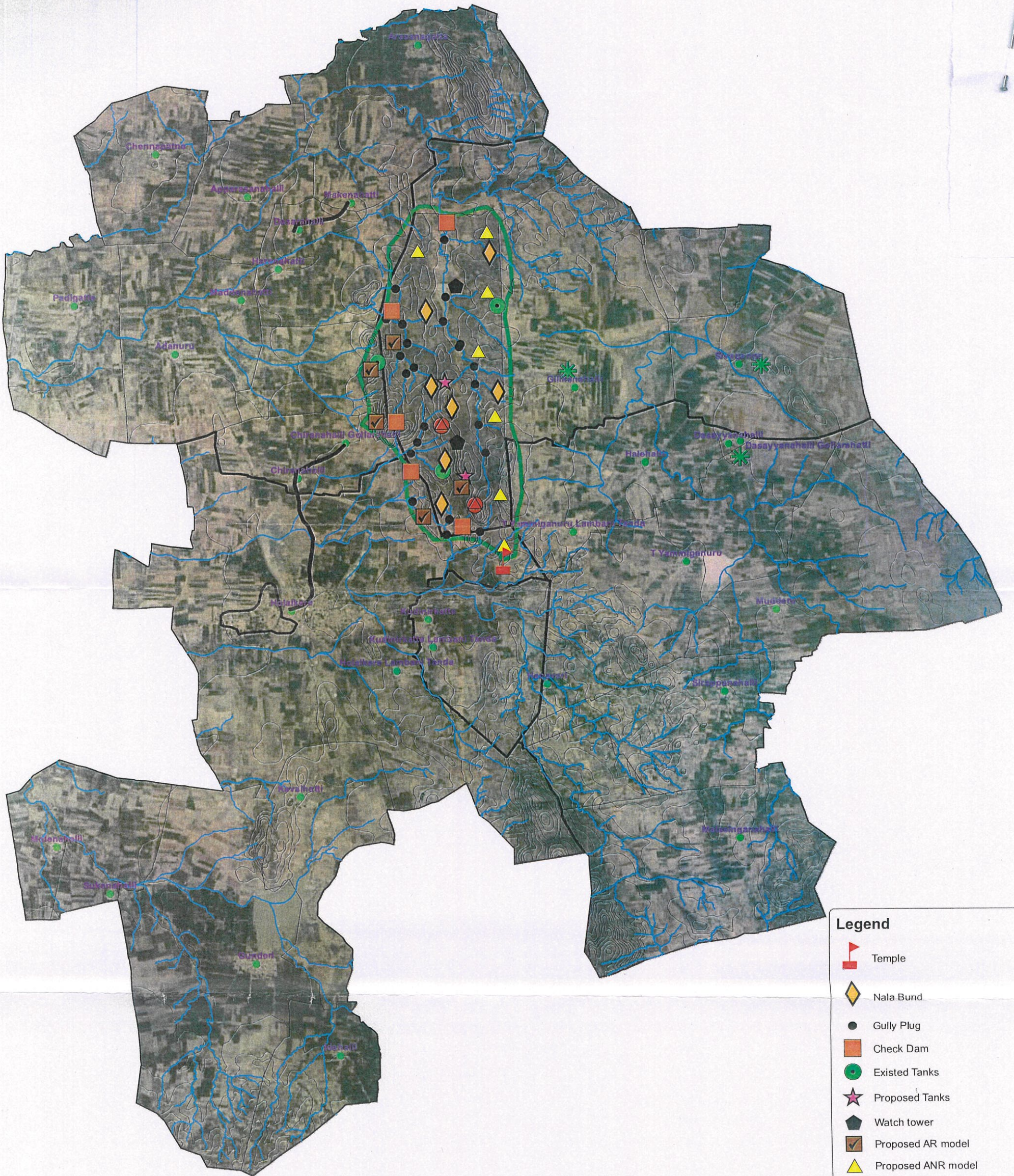

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GENERAL MAP OF GARAGA RESERVED FOREST



Legend

- Temple
- Nala Bund
- Gully Plug
- Check Dam
- Existed Tanks
- Proposed Tanks
- Watch tower
- Proposed AR model
- Proposed ANR model
- Old Existed Plantation
- Road Side plantation
- Proposed Institutional Plantation
- Settlement
- Drainage
- Contour
- Garaga RF
- GP Boundary

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HOLALKERE

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Assistant Conservator of Forests And
Technical Assistant to
Deputy Conservator of Forests
Chitradurga Sub- Division, Chitradurga.

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Deputy Conservator of Forests
Chitradurga Division
CHITRADURGA

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Chief Conservator of Forests,
Ballari.

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