

F.No. 4-11/2007 WL-I(pt)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(Wildlife Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi 11 00 03.
Dated: 31.01.2011.

Office Memorandum

Sub: Application for export license to export extracts of Red Sanders by M/s Synthite Industries Ltd -reg.

Reference is invited to the application of M/s Synthite Industries Ltd, O.M. No. 5-2/2001-SU dated 31.12.2010 and O.M. of even number dated 11.01.2011 regarding export of Red Sanders extracts, wherein the applicant was directed to appear before the CITES Management Authority. A hearing was accorded to the representatives of M/s Synthite Industries Ltd in the Chambers of ADG (Wildlife) and CITES Management Authority (CITES-MA), Paryavaran Bhawan, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi on 21.01.2011 at 1400 hrs. The proceedings of the hearing are enclosed for kind information and necessary action.


(Prakriti Srivastava)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (WL)

To
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Copy for information to:

1. PPS to ADG (WL), MoEF
2. PA to IGF (WL), MoEF
3. PA to DIG(SU), MoEF

Proceedings of the hearing of M/s Synthite Industries Ltd. regarding export of red sanders material

A hearing was accorded to the representative of the M/s Synthite Industries Ltd in the Chambers of Additional Director General of Forests (Wildlife) and CITES Management Authority (CITES-MA), Paryavaran Bhawan, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi on 21.01.2011 at 1400 hrs.

Statement of M/s Synthite Industries Ltd.

Mr George Paul, Director, Synthite Industries Ltd presented his case of export of the Red Sanders extract. According to him, the firm had purchased Red Sanders wood legally in an auction during 2006 at Andhra Pradesh and bought 354.98 MTs of Red Sanders wood which was transported to their factory in Kerala. The Government of Andhra Pradesh had also issued the certificate of origin for the material procured and till date the firm M/s Synthite Industries had exported almost all the Red Sanders and are now left with only 24 MTs of Red Sanders. He mentioned that the material from which extract has been prepared for export was purchased in the form of logs. He informed that wood to extract conversion rate is about 16.4%.

He also informed that M/s Synthite has planted 500 seedlings of Red Sanders fifteen years back near the premises of their firm for future use and trees would be felled when they grow heart wood with a girth of 15 cm or 6 inches diameter.

Decision of CITES Management Authority

After hearing the statement, ADG (WL) and CITES Management Authority (MA) informed that the export of extract of Red sanders could not be allowed without a Non-Detriment Findings (NDF) study as per provisions of CITES. The CITES MA, India, pointed out that *Pterocarpus santalinus* is listed in Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and is covered under Annotation #7 of the CITES which regulates trade in logs, wood-chips, powder and extracts. He informed that the Ministry has commissioned a study on Non-Detriment Findings (NDF) as per the requirements for export of this Appendix II species, to be carried out by the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore. The study would be completed in a time period of one year and based on the findings of the study, it would be decided as to how to regulate the export of Red Sanders and its derivatives, i.e. whether export should be allowed or not, and if yes the limits on quantity to be exported. The MA clarified that before the findings of the study are available, the permission for the export of red sanders products and its derivatives cannot be given.

The CITES MA also directed that NDF study by IFGTB, Coimbatore should be regularly and scrupulously reviewed by DIG (WL) so that it is completed in time, and consequently, the Ministry can take informed decisions of long term consequence rather than taking ad-hoc decision on the trade of the Red Sanders wood, derivatives and products.

Further, when requested by Mr George Paul, M/s Synthite Industries Ltd, for export of the Red Sanders extract as a blend with other dyes and colors, it was clarified by CITES-MA that even in such cases the provisions of CITES appendix II would apply and, therefore, cannot be agreed to without mandatory NDF studies.
