

**SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF THE REGIONAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR  
OF FORESTS, ROURKELA CIRCLE, ROURKELA**

1.	Name of the Project.	Proposal for diversion of 94.351 ha of forest land under Sec. 2(iii) and 2(ii) of FC Act, 1980 including 4.261 ha of forest land earmarked for Safety Zone(3.858 ha along the ML boundary and 0.403 ha along the PWD road) within the granted LoI for ML over 131.800 ha in Laserda Pacheri Manganese & Iron Ore block of M/s Thriveni Earth Movers Private Limited. <b>(Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/149499/2021, State Sl.No.OR-094/2021 dtd.23.11.2021)</b>					
2.	Name of District/ Division.	Keonjhar/ Keonjhar Forest Division.					
3.	Date of inspection.	05.03.2022					
4.	Name and designation of Inspecting Officer.	Dr Arun Kumar Mishra, IFS, Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle, Rourkela.					
5.	Name and designation of the Officers who attended the inspection including representatives of the User Agency.	1. Sri Dhanraj H. D., I.F.S. DFO, Keonjhar Division. 2. Sri Sanjeeb Kumar Rout, Dy. Ranger I/C Range Officer, Champua Range. <u>Representatives of the User Agency.</u> 1. Sri Dhananjaya Sutar, Sr. General Manager, M/s Thriveni Earth Movers Ltd. 2. Sri B.N. Samal, DGM Survey 3. Sri N.K.Tripathy, Sr. Manager M/s Thriveni Earth Movers Ltd.					
6.	Legal Status of the Forest land with area Proposed for diversion	Revenue Forest – 53.467 ha Non-Forest land recorded as forest as on 25.10.1980 – 40.884 ha <b>Total :- 94.351 Ha</b>					
7.	If area required for diversion has been demarcated on the ground.	Yes					
8.	<b><u>Item-wise break-up of forest land proposed for diversion.</u></b>						
	<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Category wise Forest Land (in ha)</b>		<b>Total Forest in ha</b>	<b>Non-Forest Land in ha</b>	<b>Grant Total in ha</b>
			<b>Revenue Forest</b>	<b>Sabik Forest</b>			
	1	Mining along with Mines Road	34.413	29.955	<b>64.368</b>	12.580	<b>76.948</b>
	2	Waste Dump with environmental Safeguard like Retaining wall, Garland Drain & Settling Pond	8.05	3.562	<b>11.612</b>	7.06	<b>18.672</b>

3	Screening & Crushing Plant with premises	1.066	0	<b>1.066</b>	1.204	<b>2.27</b>
4	Sorting & Sizing of Mn ore	6.189	2.585	<b>8.774</b>	10.968	<b>19.742</b>
5	Mineral Stacking Yard	1.021	0.663	<b>1.684</b>	0.076	<b>1.76</b>
6	Office, Site service & Admin. Building, Camp, Work shop	0	0.612	<b>0.612</b>	1.339	<b>1.951</b>
7	Parking area	0.649	0.321	<b>0.97</b>	0.971	<b>1.941</b>
8	Internal Road for Transporting	0.187	0.362	<b>0.549</b>	1.366	<b>1.915</b>
9	Road for In & Out in SZ along the ML boundary	0.004	0.035	<b>0.039</b>	0.007	<b>0.046</b>
10	Road for In & Out in SZ along the PWD road	0.044	0.118	<b>0.162</b>	0	<b>0.162</b>
11	Road for In & Out in SZ along the River	0.001	0.253	<b>0.254</b>	0.025	<b>0.279</b>
<b>X</b>	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>51.624</b>	<b>38.466</b>	<b>90.090</b>	<b>35.596</b>	<b>125.686</b>
12	Safety Zone along the Lease boundary	1.843	2.015	<b>3.858</b>	1.69	<b>5.548</b>
13	Safety Zone along the PWD Road	0	0.403	<b>0.403</b>	0.163	<b>0.566</b>
<b>Y</b>	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1.843</b>	<b>2.418</b>	<b>4.261</b>	<b>1.853</b>	<b>6.114</b>
	<b>Grant Total (X + Y)</b>	<b>53.467</b>	<b>40.884</b>	<b>94.351</b>	<b>37.449</b>	<b>131.800</b>

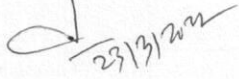
9. Condition of vegetation and type of forest in the applied area.
- The prevailing vegetation in the forest land located within the granted LoI block includes Sal and its associates. The principal associates of sal includes Terminalia alata, Lagerstroemia perviflora, Anogeissus latifolia, Terminalia belerica, Syzygium cumini, Mangifera indica, Schleicheria oleosa. Adina cordifolia, Pterocarpus marsupium, Bombax ceiba, Bridelia retusa, Madhuca indica. The middle story is represented by Syzygium cumini, Ougeinia ougenensis, Careya arborea, Trema orientalis, Emblica officinalis, Cassia fistula etc. The shrubs and undergrowth are characterized by Indigofera pulchella, Ardisia solenacea, Flemingia chhappar, Helicteres ixora and Clerodendron viscosum etc. The prevailing climbers include Bauhinia vahlii, Combretum decandrum and Beutia parviflora. The grasses over the forest floor include Chrysopogon aciculatus, Imperata cylindrica, Dicanthium carricosum, Cynodon dactylon etc.

		The DFO, Keonjhar Division has reported that the canopy of the prevailing forest growth varies from 0.2 to 0.8 in Karo RF, which is very near to the Mining Block. The said Mining Block involves Revenue and sabik forest predominantly characterised with scattered growth of Sal, Mahua, Kendu with an average canopy density of 0.3, Eco Value Class-I. The prevailing vegetation comes under the forest type 3C/C2e Moist Peninsular Valley Sal.
10	Position of Wildlife	The wildlife present in and around applied forest land are Sambar, Spotted deer, Barking deer, Jackal, Hyena, Elephant, Sloth Bear, Leopard, Mongoose, Peacock, Cuckoo, Grey Jungle Fowl, Blue jay, Owl, Bluelegged bustard, Golden-backed Woodpecker, Python, Krait, Cobra, Russell's Viper, Blind snake, Monitor, Chamelion etc. Movement of wild elephants is often noticed
11	Whether the applied area involves any Eco-Sensitive Zone / National Park / Sanctuary.	The applied area does not involve any Eco-Sensitive Zone / National Park / Sanctuary.
12	No. of trees to be felled and its impact on the eco-system.	As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, there are 1698 nos. of sound, 998 Nos. of unsound trees and 4399 Nos. of poles below 30 cm girth enumerated in 23 nos. of sample plots (each 1 ha) forest area located within the granted LoI area proposed for Mining and ancillaries activities. The probability of soil erosion is likely to increase following felling of trees on the undulating topography of the applied area. The species wise and diameter class wise abstract of enumerated trees in respect of the applied forest land in separate sheets is enclosed as <b>Annexure-XX</b> .
13	Details of broken up land and reclamation done if any.	This is a fresh LoI granted for mining and ancillary activities. The LoI holder has prepared a phased reclamation and afforestation plan.
14	Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation, if any.	As reported by the DFO, Keonjhar Division, in total 25 numbers of families will be displaced within the granted LoI area for Mining Lease; out of that 23 families are Schedule Tribe. LoI holder has applied rehabilitation application to Department of Steel & Mines. The affected families will be displaced as per the Right to Fair Compensation & Transparency of Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement

		Act, 2013 and the Odisha Right to Fair Compensation & Transparency of Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2016.
15	Position of rare and endangered species available and importance of the applied area from archeological point of view.	No rare or endangered species is available in the applied area, but seasonal elephant movement is seen. There is no archaeologically important monument situated in the area as per the report of the DFO, Keonjhar Division.
16	Non-Forest land used in the project and Non-Forest land selected for Compensatory Afforestation has been included in the D.L.C. report or not.	Non-forest land selected for Compensatory Afforestation has not been included in the D.L.C. report.
17	Suitability of the identified non-forest land/ degraded Forestland for Compensatory afforestation.	The suitability certificate is enclosed in the Compensatory Afforestation Scheme.
18	Violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 if any and action taken thereon.	<p>The DFO, Keonjhar Division has reported that, this is a fresh lease granted through e-auction to M/s Thriveni Earthmovers Pvt. Ltd by the department of Steel &amp; Mines, Govt. of Odisha vide No.IV (B)SM-100/2007-433/SM, dated 19.01.2019 as a Composite License. LoI holder had carried out exploration through putting bore holes and 1 nos of trial pit of size 17m x 10 m for which LoI holders was obtained Stage II forest clearance vide F. No. 8-62/2017-FC dt. 08.10.2018 of MoEF &amp; CC, Govt. of India. However, 3.666 ha (Forest - 3.312 ha and Non-Forest - 0.354 ha) of land was disturbed by old pits over 2.491 ha and 1.175 ha for road prior to grant of Composite License. Hence, the LoI holder has not violated under FC Act, 1980.</p> <p>Further, the DFO, Keonjhar has observed the followings during his Site Inspection</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There are 48 nos. existing small illegal mining pits covering 2.5 ha land at least more than 10 year old.</li> <li>2. There are 25 nos houses exists within sabik forest land inside lease area, needs to be rehabilitated, for which RR work is going on.</li> <li>3. Plenty of old Bara trees exists inside lease area not to be felled as a keystone species.</li> <li>4. Dry seasonal first order stream in Pacheri block(Dhanurjaypur-Kanarda village) draining into Karo river</li> </ol>

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|  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>5. Seasonal Elephant movement is seen at 3 km distance from the project site</li><li>6. Complete retaining wall and catch drain should be erected along Karo river side boundary of lease area including two dump site along river.</li><li>7. All snag trees are to be kept as such for conservation of wildlife.</li><li>8. Lease area and safety zone pillars are at place as per norm including demarcation of Revenue and sabik forest land.</li><li>9. Tree felling as per approved mining plan must be gradual and must satisfy the criteria of Bare minimum requirement.</li></ol> |
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Except old pits, no fresh violation were detected during my site inspection.

  
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Rourkela Circle