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STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS, ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HoFF
PLOT NO. GD-2/12, ARANYA BHAWAN, CHANDRASEKHARPUR
BHUBANESWAR-751023

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No. 23151 /9F (MG) – 11/2022

Dated, Bhubaneswar the 19th November' 2024

To

The Deputy Inspector General of Forests (FC)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (F.C. Division)
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road
New Delhi-110003

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2(ii) of FC Act 1980 in favour of M/s Thriveni Earthmovers Private Limited for non-forestry use of 94.351 ha of forest land including 4.261 ha of 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 for Laserda Pacheri Manganese & Iron Block in Keonjhar district of Odisha– Stage-I compliance regarding.

Ref: Letter No. 8-02/2023-FC dated 21.12.2023 of the Deputy Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.

Sir,

In reference to the above mentioned subject, this is to inform that Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi have accorded Stage-I/In-principle approval vide letter No. 8-02/2023-FC dated 21.12.2023 of the Deputy Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2(ii) of FC Act 1980 in favour of M/s Thriveni Earthmovers Private Limited for non-forestry use of 94.351 ha of forest land including 4.261 ha of 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 for Laserda Pacheri Manganese & Iron Block in Keonjhar district of Odisha subject to fulfilment of 43 nos. of conditions stipulated therein. The point wise compliance based on the report of the DFO, Keonjhar Forest division and RCCF, Rourkela Circle are as follows:-

Condition No.(1):-Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that the legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged which is enclosed at Sl. No. (i) of **Annexure-I.**

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2. Compensatory Afforestation

- a) *The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation as per the approved CA Scheme at the current wage rate in consultation with State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal;;*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that for raising of Compensatory Afforestation, Non-forest Govt. land over 96.00 ha (91.00 + 5.00) has been identified in village Uperbirikala under Banspal Tahasil of Keonjhar Forest Division and allotted by the Collector, Keonjhar in two phases. The CA Schemes over 91.00 ha & 5.00 ha prepared at current wage rate of Rs. 450/- per MD with a maintenance for 10 years have been technically approved by the PCCF (FD&NO, FC Act), O/o- the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar with financial outlay of Rs.4,83,71,400/- & Rs.70,71,800/- respectively and the user agency has deposited the approved amount in Orissa CAMPA Account through RTGS vide UTR No. ICICR22024043003014962 dt.30.04.2024 & ICICR22024072504374175 dt.25.07.2024 respectively. The copy of the demand letter, financial outlay and payment details in this regard are enclosed as **Annexure-II Series**.

- b) *The land identified for raising Compensatory Afforestation shall be notified by the State Government as RF under Section-4 or PF under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act. 1927 or under the relevant Section (s) of the local Forest Act, as the case may be, before the Stage-II approval;*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the Non-forest land over 91.00 ha identified and allotted in village Uperbirikala under Banspal Tahasil has been mutated and transferred in favour of State Forest Department vide order No 681,dt. 14.03.2024 of Tahasildar, Banspal and the same land has been notified as "Protected Forest" under Section 33 of Odisha Forest Act, 1972 vide Notification No. 13674 dt.26.07.2024 of Govt. of Odisha in FE&CC, Dept. Odisha, Bhubaneswar, copy of which is enclosed as **Annexure III**.

Further, non-forest land over 5.00 ha identified and allotted in village Uperbirikala under Banspal Tahasil has been mutated and transferred in favour of State Forest Department vide order No 1818, dt. 27.08.2024 of Tahasildar, Banspal, copy of which is enclosed as **Annexure III (A)**. The proposal for notification as PF of the aforesaid 5.00 ha of the Non-Forest land under Section 33 of Odisha Forest Act, 1972 has been submitted to the Additional Chief Secretary to Govt., Forest, Environment & Climate Change Dept., Bhubaneswar vide letter No.17827 dated 03.09.2024 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act, O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar, copy of which is enclosed as **Annexure-III (B)**.

- c) *The cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars, if required on the identified CA land, shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the user agency. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include afforestation of indigenous species with appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;;*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the Non-Forest Govt. land in two patches over 91.00 ha and 5.00 ha identified in village Uperbirikala under Banspal Tahasil of Keonjhar forest Division and allotted by the Collector, Keonjhar for raising CA have already been demarcated & permanent pillars have been posted. The Schemes have been prepared with a total financial outlay of Rs.5,54,43,200/- (Rs.4,83,71,400/- for 91.0 ha + Rs.70,71,800/- for 5.0 ha). The User Agency has deposited the above amount through RTGS vide UTR No. ICICR22024043003014962 dt.30.04.2024 & ICICR22024072504374175 dt.25.07.2024 and the said Schemes include planting of indigenous species with provision of cost for maintenance of the plantation for ten years. The copy of the payment details are already enclosed as **Annexure-II Series**.

Further, degraded forest land over 104.00 ha has been identified for Additional Compensatory Afforestation in Jyotipur RF under Champua Range of Keonjhar forest Division in order to accommodate the balance 1,52,000 nos. of seedlings. The scheme has been prepared at the current wage rate @Rs.450/-with total Financial outlay of Rs.5,22,95,600/- for 10 year maintenance. The approved cost of Rs.5,22,95,600/- has been deposited by the User Agency vide RTGS No vide UTR No. ICICR22024043003014963 dated 30.04.2024. The copy of the payment details are already enclosed vide **Annexure-II Series**.

- d) *The compensatory afforestation over non-forest land, equal in extent to the forest land being diverted i.e. 94.351 ha, shall be raised by the State Forest Department at the project cost within three years from the date of grant of Stage - II approval. The details of the CA along with the KML will provided by the UA at the time of the submission of compliance of the Stage-II;*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the Non-forest Govt. land over 96.00 ha in two patches (91.00 + 5.00) has been identified and allotted by the Collector, Keonjhar in village Uperbirikala under Banspal Tahasil of Keonjhar forest Division for Compensatory Afforestation against 94.351 ha of forest land proposed for diversion. The CA scheme will be implemented on allotment of funds from CAMPA Account by the PCCF, Odisha. **The KML file of CA land is appended in CD form.**

- e) *Afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone, shall also be done at the project cost under the supervisions of the State Forest Department and afforestation will be done within three years from the date of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department.*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the degraded forest land measuring 1.5 times the area under Safety Zone over 5.787 ha (3.858 ha Safety Zone area x 1.5 times) has been identified in Bansuli RF under Patna Range of Keonjhar forest Division for raising Afforestation. The scheme in this regard has been prepared with the financial outlay of Rs.37,04,000/- (Cost of 1.5 time SZ plantation) at the current wage rate of Rs.450/- per MD with maintenance for 10 years. The said scheme has been approved vide memo No.2299 dated 29.05.2024 of the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle & its cost has been deposited by the User Agency through RTGS

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vide UTR No. ICICR22024060403537960 dated 04.06.2024. The copy of the approved plantation scheme, demand letter and payment details in this regard are enclosed as **Annexure-IV Series**. On receipt of the funds from CAMPA, plantation will be carried out.

f) User agency either himself or through the State Forest Department shall undertake gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests (having crown density less than 0.40), if any, located in the area within 100 meter from outer perimeter of the mining lease. The plan for plantation and SMC activities will be prepared and submitted to MoEF & CC before Stage-II Clearance.

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that a scheme has been prepared over 55.00 ha to undertake gap plantation, soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests located in the area within 100 meters from outer perimeter of the mining lease with a budgetary provision of Rs.1,06,12,600/- at the current wage rate of Rs.450/- per MD with maintenance for 10 years. The scheme has been approved by RCCF, Rourkela Circle, Rourkela vide letter No.3133, dt.19.07.2024. Copy of the approved scheme along with Toposheet No.F45H8 showing the area and Surveyed map are enclosed as **Annexure-V Series**. The user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to implement the approved scheme at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department, enclosed at Sl. No.(ii) of **Annexure-I**.

g) 25% of the CA cost additionally will be spent towards soil and moisture conservation activities in the proposed CA area as per site requirement and deposited in CAF;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that in the CA scheme, there is provision of the SMC activities in the proposed CA land based on the site requirement, the cost of the SMC has been calculated based on the onetime cost norm prepared by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Division and Nodal Officer, FC Act, O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar. The approved cost of both the aforesaid schemes amounting to Rs.5,54,43,200/-includes the cost towards soil moisture conservation activities to be undertaken in the proposed CA lands.

3. NPV

a) The User Agency shall transfer the funds towards the cost of Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 06.01.2022 read with 22.03.2022 through online portal of CAMPA account of the State Concerned;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that an amount of Rs.10,53,80,632/- (Rs. 1,53,80,632 +Rs.9,00,00,000) towards Net Present Value (NPV) of the entire forest land over 94.351 ha involved within the granted mining lease area @ Rs.11,16,900/- per ha (Eco Value Class-I, canopy density 0.3) has been deposited in the CAMPA Fund through RTGS mode vide

UTR No. ICICR2202403 2802510397 dt.28.03.2024 & ICICR22024032802510396 dt.28.03.2024 respectively. The copy of the demand letter and payment details are enclosed as **Annexure-VI Series**.

b) At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the present rate, the user agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to pay any additional amount of NPV, if so, determined which is enclosed at Sl. No. (iii) of Annexure-I.

4. The CA area has been provided over 90.493 ha NFL; therefore, the State Govt. shall ensure that the equivalent non-forest land to the extent of the forest land being diverted will be provided;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that in lieu of the forest land over 94.351 ha including Safety zone area 3.358 ha to be diverted, non-forest land over 96.00 ha (91.00 + 5.00) towards Compensatory Afforestation has been identified and allotted by the Collector, Keonjhar in village Uperbirikala under Banspal Tahasil of Keonjhar forest Division. Further, the said land has already been mutated in the name of forest dept. Copy of the same are enclosed as **Annexure-III A and III B**.

5. Transportation of ore shall be as per the recommendation in the report submitted by CSIR-NEERI;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Division that the transportation of ore will be as per the recommendation in the report submitted by CSIR-NEERI. The undertaking in this regard, is enclosed at Sl. No.(iv) of **Annexure-I**.

6. A holistic transportation plan shall be prepared by the State Govt. aiming to have minimum impact in the landscape. The same shall be implemented. Transportation of ore should be as far as possible through common conveyor belt, slurry pipeline, railways, etc. Transportation of ore through road should be minimized in a time bound manner;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the State Govt. will ensure to minimize the transportation of ore through road and should prepare a holistic transportation plan aiming to have minimum impact in the land scape. However, the user agency will be directed to make transportation of ore through conveyor belt, slurry pipeline, railways etc. In this regard, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division which is enclosed at Sl. No. (v) of **Annexure-I**.

7. An Oversight Committee shall be constituted under the Chairmanship of the DDGF (Central) RO Bhubaneswar for 10 years who will monitor and review the compliance of the conditions stipulated in the approval for these five mines [namely 1. Netrabandha Pahar Iron Ore Block (area 112.621 ha), 2. Netrabandha Pahar (West) area 66.242 ha), 3. Laserda Pacheri Manganese & Iron Ore Block (area 94.351 ha), 4. Kalmang West (Northern Part) Block for Iron Ore Mines Iron Ore Block (Area 42.608 ha). 5. Guali Opencast Iron Ore Mines (area 194.683 ha)] twice a year and submit their yearly report to this Ministry in the month of December. This

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Oversight Committee shall consist following members and logistics of this Committee shall be borne by State Government at the cost of UAs:

- a) DDGF (Central) – Regional Office Bhubaneswar- Chairman.*
- b) One Representative from IIFM Bhopal*
- c) One Representative from WII Dehradun*
- d) One Representative from ICFRE. e. One Representative from NEERI. f. One expert in Geology*
- e) Two other experts nominated by MoEF&CC*

The recommendation made by the said committee shall be considered by the Ministry and if agreed the same shall be binding on the UAs;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the user agency would follow the recommendation if any made by the oversight committee constituted under the Chairmanship of the DDGF (Central) RO Bhubaneswar for 10 years who will monitor and review the compliance. In this regard, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division which is enclosed at Sl. No. (vi) of **Annexure-I**.

- 8. *Integrated Regional Wildlife Conservation Plan shall be prepared for 10 years covering the forest Division of Keonjhar, Jharsuguda and Keonjhar Districts at the cost of UA. The works shall be executed as per APO and the regional plan shall have site/species specific wildlife sub plans/prescriptions;***

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that an Integrated Regional Wildlife Conservation Plan shall be prepared for 10 years covering the forest Divisions of Keonjhar, Jharsuguda and Keonjhar Districts by the Forest Department and the approved cost will be borne by the user agencies of the region. The user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to pay the approved cost to be demanded by the forest department which is enclosed at Sl. No. (vii) of **Annexure-I**.

- 9. *A Bio-diversity Conservation Plan for this entire landscape shall also be prepared by the State Govt. at the cost of UA;***

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the State Govt. has entrusted IIFM, Bhopal for preparing scheme for Bio-diversity Conservation Plan with total budgetary of Rs.57,18,924/- in respect of total 5 mining leases. In this regards, total consultancy charge for the above Mine is Rs.10,57,014/-. As demanded 50% of total amount of Rs.5,28,507/- against above Mines have been paid vide demand draft No. 503273 dt. 30.08.2024 in favour of Director, IIFM, Bhopal. Copy of the deposit slip is enclosed as **Annexure-VII**.

The user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to pay the approved cost of **Bio-diversity Conservation Plan** which will be demanded by the Forest Department, which is enclosed at Sl. No. (viii) of **Annexure-I**.

- 10. *Soil and moisture conservation measures shall be undertaken in and around 10 KM radius of the mining lease areas at project cost;***

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Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the Scheme for Soil and moisture conservation measures around 10 KM radius of the mining lease areas has been technically approved with a total financial outlay of Rs.12,10,32,222/- by the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle, Rourkela vide letter No. 3133, dt. 19.07.2024. The user agency will implement the approved scheme at the project cost. The copy of the approved scheme alongwith technical approval of the RCCF, Rourkela Circle is enclosed as **Annexure–VIII Series**. Further, the user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division in this regard which is enclosed at Sl. No. (ix) of **Annexure–I**.

11. The conditions stipulated in EC should be strictly implemented and monitored.

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Division that the conditions stipulated in EC should be strictly implemented and monitored, is enclosed at Sl. No. (x) of **Annexure–I**.

12. Compensatory levies to be realized from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited, through e-challan, in to the account of CAMPA pertaining to the State concerned through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);.

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the Compensatory levies as due pertaining to this project have been deposited by the user agency in Orissa CAMPA Account through RTGS. The details are given below:-

Sl. No.	Details of Funds Deposited	Amount Deposited (in Rs.)	Payment Details
1	NPV over 94.351 ha	10,53,80,632/-	Through RTGS vide URT No. ICICR22024032802510396 dtd. 28.03.2024 & ICICR2202403 2802510397 dtd. 28.03.2024
	Total NPV	10,53,80,632.00	
2	Site Specific Wild Life Management Plan	3,90,40,200/-	Through RTGS URT No. ICICR22024031402284358 dt. 14.03.2024
	Total SSWL Plan	3,90,00,402.00	
3	C.A. over 91.00 ha. of Non-Forest land CA over 5.00 ha of Non-Forest land	4,83,71,400 70,71,800	Through RTGS URT No. ICICR22024043003014962 dt. 30.04.2024 & ICICR2202407 2504374175 dt. 25.07.2024
	Addl. CA in Degraded forest land over 104.00 ha	5,22,95,600	Through RTGS vide URT No. ICICR22024043003014963 dt. 30.04.2024
	Total CA	10,77,38,800.00	
4	Cost of one and half times of the safety zone over 5.787 ha	37,04,000	Through RTGS URT No. ICICR22024060403537960 dt. 04.06.2024
	Total SZ	37,04,000.00	
5	Alternate habitat / home for the avifauna Scheme	1050000.00	Through RTGS URT No. ICICR22024101805795238 dt. 18.10.2024
	Grand Total in Rs.	25,69,13,632.00	

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The statement of funds deposited by the User Agency in CAMPA Account pertaining to the above proposal duly signed by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest division and countersigned by the PCCF (FD & Nodal Officer, FC Act) is **enclosed as Annexure-IX.**

13. The KML files of diverted area, the CA areas, the proposed SMC treatment area and the WLMP area shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details prior to Stage-II approval;;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the KML files of diverted area, the CA areas, the proposed SMC treatment area and the WLMP have been uploaded on the e-Green watch portal. However, the aforesaid KML files furnished in a CD format is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-X.**

14. Following activities, as per approved plan / schemes, shall be undertaken in the lease area by the User Agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department. Approved scheme/plan shall be submitted to the Ministry along with compliance of Stage-I approval;;

a) Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream shall be implemented within a period of three years with effect from the issue of Stage-II clearance in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that a scheme has been prepared towards Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream at the current wage rate of Rs. 450/- per MD with a maintenance for 10 years which has been technically approved by the RCCF, Rourkela Circle, Rourkela with a financial outlay of Rs.4,64,96,715/- vide his memo No.3133 dt. 19.07.2024 (**Annexure-VIII Series**). Copy of the Approved Scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-XI.** The user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to implement the approved scheme at the project cost in consultation with State Forest Department which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xi) of **Annexure-I.**

b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds, in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion in accordance with the approved scheme;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that a scheme has been prepared towards Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds, in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion at the current wage rate of Rs. 450/- per MD with a maintenance for 10 years which has been technically approved with a total financial outlay of Rs. 3,42,160/- by the by the RCCF, Rourkela Circle, Rourkela vide Memo No.3133, dt.19.07.2024 (**Annexure-VIII Series**). Copy of the Approved Scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-XII.** The user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to implement

the approved scheme at the project cost in consultation with State Forest Department which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xii) of **Annexure-I**.

- c) *Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour in accordance with the approved scheme;*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that a scheme has been prepared towards Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour with no budgetary provision as the same has been taken in budgetary provision of the scheme for Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream prepared in compliance with Condition No.14 (a). The same has been approved by RCCF, Rourkela Circle vide letter No. 3133, dt.19.07.2024. Copy of the Approved Scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-XIII**. The user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to implement the approved scheme at the project cost in consultation with State Forest Department which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xiii) of **Annexure-I**.

- d) *Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching, in accordance with the approved scheme, so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28°; and*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that a scheme has been prepared to Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching, in accordance with the approved scheme, so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28° with no budgetary provision as the same has been taken in budgetary provision of the scheme for Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream prepared in compliance with Condition No.14 (a). The same has been approved by RCCF, Rourkela Circle vide letter No.3133, dt.19.07.2024. Copy of the Approved Scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-XIV**. The user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to implement the approved scheme in phased manner at the project cost which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xiv) of **Annexure-I**.

15. *Safety Zone Management: Following activities, at project cost, shall be undertaken by the user agency for the management of safety zone as per relevant guidelines issued by the Ministry's guidelines;;*

- a) *User agency shall ensure demarcation of safety zone (7.5-meter strip all along the inner boundary of the mining lease area), and its fencing, protection and regeneration by erecting adequate number of 6 feet high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates with barbed wire fencing and deploying adequate number of watchers under the supervision of the State Forest Department;*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that a scheme has been prepared towards demarcation of safety zone (7.5-meter strip all along the inner boundary of the mining lease area) and its fencing, protection and regeneration by erecting adequate number of 6 Ft. high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates with barbed wire fencing with a budgetary provision of Rs.2,87,71,000/-. The same has been technically approved by RCCF, Rourkela

Circle vide memo No.3133, dt.19.07.2024 (**Annexure-VIII Series**). Copy of the Approved Scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-XV**. The user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to implement the approved scheme at the project cost in consultation with State Forest Department which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xv) of **Annexure-I**.

b) Boundary of the safety zone of the mining lease, adjacent to habitation/roads, should be properly fenced by the user agency;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that the boundary of the safety zone of the mining lease, adjacent to habitation/roads will be properly fenced by them which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xvi) of **Annexure-I**.

c) Safety zone shall be maintained as green belt around mining lease and to ensure dense canopy in the area, regeneration shall be taken up in this area by the user agency at project cost under the supervision of the State Forest Department;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that a scheme has been prepared towards demarcation of safety zone (7.5-meter strip all along the inner boundary of the mining lease area), and its fencing, protection and regeneration by erecting adequate number of 6 Ft. high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates with barbed wire fencing with a budgetary provision of Rs. 2,87,71,000/-(**Annexure-VIII Series**). The same has been technically approved by RCCF, Rourkela Circle vide memo No. 3133, dt. 19.07.2024. Copy of the Approved Scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-XV**. The user agency has submitted an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to implement the approved scheme at the project cost in consultation with State Forest Department, is enclosed at Sl. No. (xv) of **Annexure-I**.

d) The State Government and the user agency shall ensure that safety zone is maintained as per the prescribed norms;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that the user agency shall ensure to maintain Safety Zone as per the prescribed norms which is enclosed at Sl. No. xvii of **Annexure-I**.

16. No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that a scheme for top soil management has been technically approved with a financial outlay of Rs.1,28,10,180/-by RCCF, Rourkela Circle, Rourkela vide memo No. 3133, dt.19.07.2024 (**Annexure-VIII Series**). The approved scheme will be implemented by the user agency at the project cost. Copy of the approved scheme is enclosed as **Annexure -XVI**. Further, an undertaking furnished by the User Agency to this

effect duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division, is enclosed at Sl. No. (xviii) of Annexure-I.

- 17. The User Agency shall prepare a list of existing village tanks and other water bodies with GPS co-ordinates located within five km from the mine lease boundary. This list is to be duly verified by the concerned Divisional Forest officer. The User Agency shall regularly undertake desilting of these village tanks and other water bodies so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies. A detailed approved plan for desilting of identified ponds and water bodies to be prepared in consultation with forest department and shall be submitted to MoEF & CC before Stage-II approval;**

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that a scheme towards desilting of existing village tanks and other water bodies with GPS co-ordinates located within 5 km from the mine lease boundary has been technically approved with a total financial outlay of Rs.1,26,36,800/-by the RCCF, Rourkela Circle vide memo No.3133, dt.19.07.2024 (Annexure-VIII Series). The UA has identified 8 Nos. of pond in 5 villages and the scheme has been prepared. The approved scheme will be implemented by the user agency at the project cost. Copy of the same is enclosed as Annexure-XVII. Further, an undertaking furnished by the User Agency to this effect duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division, is enclosed at Sl. No. (xix) of Annexure-I.

- 18. The cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;**

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that they will pay the cost of felling of trees to the State Forest Department which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xx) of Annexure-I.

- 19. Trees should be felled in phased manner as per the requirement in the approved Mining Plan with prior permission of concerned DFO;**

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that the trees shall be felled in phased manner as per the requirement in the approved Mining Plan with prior permission of concerned DFO which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxi) of Annexure-I.

- 20. The User Agency shall undertake that afforestation of the non-mineralized virgin forest land within the mining area shall be taken up at project cost;**

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that afforestation of the non-mineralized virgin forest land within the mining area shall be taken up at project cost, is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxii) of Annexure-I.

- 21. The user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.**

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Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that they shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxiii) of Annexure-I.

22. A site-specific Wildlife Management Plan shall be prepared by the State Government in consultation with the PCCF (Wildlife) for the protection and conservation of wildlife of the area. A copy of approved Plan shall be submitted to the Ministry along with the compliance of Stage-I approval. Entire cost of implementation of the provisions of the Wildlife Management Plan shall be deposited into the account of CAMPA of the State;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that a site-specific Wildlife Management Plan has been prepared and technically approved by PCCF (Wildlife), Odisha, Bhubaneswar with financial outlay of Rs. 3,90,40,200/-. The user agency has deposited the approved amount in Orissa CAMPA Account through RTGS vide UTR No.ICICR22024031402284358 dt.14.03.2024. The copy of the approved site-specific Wildlife Management Plan, demand letter of the DFO and payment receipt are enclosed as **Annexure-XVIII Series**. Further, the activities specified for project proponent in the core zone in the approved site-specific Wildlife conservation Plan, will be executed by user agency under the guidance of DFO, Keonjhar division and they will bear the additional cost, if any (Enhancement of wage rate and escalation of price of materials) at the time of implementation of SSWLCP. In this regard, the user agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxiv) of Annexure-I.

23. State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in term of the Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted and submit the documentary evidence, along with compliance of Stage-I approval, as prescribed by this Ministry's letter No. 11-9/1998-FC (Pt.) dated 03.08.2009 read with 05.07.2013, in support thereof;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the certificate regarding Complete settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 over 94.351 ha of forest land has been obtained by the user agency from the Collector, Keonjhar vide his letter No.2824 dt.12.08.2022. Copy of the FRA certificate along with Gram Sabha Resolution are enclosed as **Annexure-XIX Series**.

24. The User Agency shall undertake that, user agency and the State Forest Department shall create and maintain from funds to be provided by the user agency alternate habitat/ home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project as per the plan duly approved by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) and the Chief Wildlife Warden Odisha. Bird nests artificially made out of eco-friendly materials shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the scheme for creation and maintenance of alternative habitat / home for avifauna whose nesting trees are to be cleared in

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respect of aforementioned project, has been technically approved with a total financial outlay of Rs.10.50 Lakh by the PCCF(WL) & CWLW, Odisha vide his Memo No.12142 Dt.09.10.2024. The User Agency has deposited the approved amount in Orissa CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR No. ICICR220241 01805795238 dated 18.10.2024. The copy of the approved scheme and payment details are enclosed as **Annexure-XX.**

25. The User Agency shall undertake that the project authority needs to take up works for construction and cleaning of garland drains, stabilizing retaining walls, proper terracing of OB dumps and checking gully formation resulting in soil erosion;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that the project authority shall take up works for construction and cleaning of garland drains, stabilizing retaining walls, proper terracing of OB dumps and checking gully formation resulting in soil erosion which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxvi) of **Annexure-I.**

26. The User Agency shall undertake that plants which are having lowest translocation factor can be preferred under afforestation on the OB dumps and fruit trees to be avoided in planting during biological stabilization of OB dumps;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that the plants which are having lowest translocation factor can be preferred by the User Agency under afforestation on the OB dumps and fruit trees to be avoided in planting during biological stabilization of OB dumps which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxvii) of **Annexure-I.**

27. The User Agency shall undertake that prevention of fall of wild animals into mining pit by fencing the open pit area;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to ensure prevention of fall of wild animals into mining pit by fencing the open pit area which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxviii) of **Annexure-I.**

28. The User Agency shall undertake that the angle of repose in OB dumps to be maintained to ensure stability and safety;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that the angle of repose in OB dumps will be maintained to ensure stability and safety which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxix) of **Annexure-I.**

29. The User Agency shall undertake that vetiver grass can be planted at the lower reaches of the dump to bind the soil and prevent soil erosion giving better stability to the dump;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that

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vetiver grass can be planted at the lower reaches of the dump to bind the soil and prevent soil erosion giving better stability to the dump which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxx) of Annexure-I.

30. *The User Agency shall undertake mining in a phased manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the User Agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Government and the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the concern Addl. Principle Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities area satisfactorily executed;*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division for mining in a phased manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the User Agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Government and the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the concern Addl. Principle Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities area satisfactorily executed which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxxii) of Annexure -I.

31. *The User Agency shall comply with the Hon'ble Supreme Court order on re- grassing, and re-grass the mining area and any other areas which may have been disturbed due to mining to restore them to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna, etc. in a timely manner;*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that they shall comply with the Hon'ble Supreme Court order on re- grassing, and re-grass the mining area and any other areas which may have been disturbed due to mining to restore them to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna, etc. in a timely manner which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxxiii) of Annexure-I.

32. *Period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;*

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that the period of forest diversion will be co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxxiiii) of Annexure-I.

33. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the user agency has obtained the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 from the competent authority i.e. Member Secretary, MoEF & CC, Govt. of India vide F. No.J-11015/113/2021-II (NCM) dated 02.07.2024. Copy of the EC is enclosed as **Annexure-XXI**.

34. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that they will not establish labour camp inside the forest area and provide alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxxiv) of **Annexure-I**.

35. The boundary of the diverted forest land, mining lease and safety zone, as applicable, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS coordinates;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the boundary of the diverted forest land, mining lease and safety zone, as applicable, has already been demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS coordinates etc. The undertaking in this regard duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division is enclosed as **Annexure-XXII**.

36. The layout plan of the mining plan/proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that the layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxxv) of **Annexure-I**.

37. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that the forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxxvi) of **Annexure-I**.

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38. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused by the User Agency which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxxvii) of Annexure-I.

39. Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate with the approval of competent authority in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife; and

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division to abide by any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate with the approval of competent authority in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife that is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxxviii) of Annexure-I.

40. The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that they shall comply with all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxxix) of Annexure-I.

41. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest(Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest(Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019 which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxxx) of Annexure-I.

42. The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has furnished an undertaking duly countersigned by the DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division that they shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly which is enclosed at Sl. No. (xxxxi) of Annexure-I.

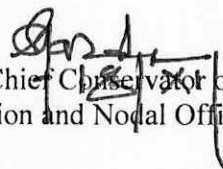
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43. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

Compliance: In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the compliance report shall be uploaded by the User Agency on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

In view of the above, the compliance to the conditions imposed by the Government of India, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi is sent herewith for according final approval of the Central Government under Section-2 (ii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s Thriveni Earthmovers Private Limited for non-forestry use of 94.351 ha of forest land including 4.261 ha of 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 for Laserda Pacheri Manganese & Iron Block in Keonjhar district of Odisha.

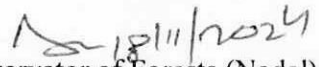
Encl: Compliance in one set

Yours faithfully


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)

Memo No. 23152 / Dt. 19.11.2024

Copy forwarded to the Dy. Director General of Forests (Central), MoEF & CC, Regional Office, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to letter No. 8-02/2023-FC dated 21.12.2023 of the Deputy Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.


Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Memo No. 23153 / Dt. 19.11.2024

Copy alongwith the compliance report forwarded to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to letter No. 8-02/2023-FC dated 21.12.2023 of the Deputy Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.

Encl: Compliance in one set


Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Memo No. 23154 / Dt. 19.11.2024

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No. 5680 dated 13.11.2024.


Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

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Memo No. 23155

/Dt. 19.11.2024

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 5681 dated 13.11.2024 of RCCF, Rourkela Circle.

18/11/2024
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)

Memo No. 23156

/Dt. 19.11.2024

Copy forwarded to the Authorised Signatory, Laserda Pacheri Manganese and Iron Ore Block of M/s Thriveni Earth Movers Pvt. Ltd., At/Po-Barbil, Dist-Keonjhar, Odisha, Pin-758086 for information and necessary action with reference to letter No. 8-02/2023-FC dated 21.12.2023 of the Deputy Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.

18/11/2024
Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal)