



STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS, ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HoFF
PLOT NO. GD-2/12, ARANYA BHAWAN, CHANDRASEKHARPUR
BHUBANESWAR-751023
E-mail: nodal.pccfhoff@odisha.gov.in
No. 10292 /9F(MG) – 11/2022
Dated, Bhubaneswar the 29 May' 2023
From

Sri Susanta Nanda, IFS
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)
O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

To

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests
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 the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s Thriveni Earthmovers Private Limited for non-forestry use of 94.351 ha of forest land including 4.261ha 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 Ore Block in Keonjhar district of Odisha – reg.

Ref: Letter F.No. 8-02/2023-FC dated 15.02.2023 of Assistant Inspector General of Forests, GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.

Sir,

In inviting reference to above cited correspondence on the captioned subject, it is to inform that the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi vide letter under reference have requested to furnish information/compliance in respect of 4(four) nos. of observations. The point wise compliance basing on the reports of DFO, Keonjhar Forest Division and RCCF, Rourkela Circle are as follows:-

Observation No. (i): Component wise KML files of proposed area including safety zone have not been submitted, which are required to be submitted.

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User agency has submitted the component wise KML files of the proposed area including safety zone in CD form is enclosed as **Annexure-A**.

Observation No. (ii): KML file of the CA land proposed for 1.5 times of the safety zone may be submitted.

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the degraded forest land (DFL) of 5.787 ha (3.858 ha of safety zone x 1.5 times) has been identified in Baunsuli RF under Patna Range of Keonjhar Forest Division for afforestation towards one and half time the area under safety zone. The KML file of the degraded forest land submitted by the DFO, Keonjhar Division in CD form is enclosed as **Annexure-B**.

Observation No. (iii): As per the proposal 3.666 ha (Forest 3.312 ha and Non-forest 0.354 ha) land was disturbed, prior to grant of composite License, out of which 2.491 ha was for the old pits and 1.175 ha for road. Further, SIR of DFO mentions that there are 48 existing small illegal mining pits covering 2.5 ha land at least more than 10 year old. Though it has been mentioned that the present LoI has not violated FCA, 1980 however the state has not stated anything about the above illegal activities or status of violation by other agencies. The same may be clarified.

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the proposed land over 3.666 ha (forest 3.312 ha + non-forest 0.354 ha) was disturbed by 48 old pits over 2.491 ha (2.5 ha) and 1.175 ha for road prior to grant composite license. 2.491 ha is treated as 2.5 ha (round figure). These two figures are not different. The State has also mentioned in Sl. No.20 (Item for Violation) of letter No.381/FE&CC dated 07.01.2023 of State Government which has been forwarded to MoEF & CC, GoI. The copy of the said letter of Govt. of Odisha, FE & CC Department is enclosed as **Annexure-C**. Further, the DFO, Keonjhar Division has reported vide his Memo No.4566 dated 25.05.2023 that from field enquiry, it is ascertain that 48 nos. small illegal pits over 2.491 ha (round to 2.5 ha) were done by the local villagers as the mining lease area is adjoining to human habitation. Hence, it was highly prone for theft. Therefore, theft of surface mineral in small patches were done. However, violation is not continuing on the said land. As per google time series analysis, pits are dug over almost last 20-25 years ago. The violation is not done by any other private agency. It is a fresh composite mining lease granted on 24.01.2019 and violation had committed 20-25 years ago. The copy of the Memo No.4566 dated 25.05.2023 of DFO, Keonjhar Division is enclosed as **Annexure-D**.

Observation No. (iv): The documents uploaded in Part-I of the application form on PARIVESH portal like Mining Plan, Land use plan, Existing land use details, safety zone plan and authenticated Lease Map are not legible. Further the documents uploaded in Part-II of the application form like CA scheme. SoI Toposheet for CA are also not legible. The legible documents may be uploaded on PARIVESH portal so that the complete proposal can be thoroughly examined.

Compliance: In compliance to the observation, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the user agency has uploaded the legible copy of mining plan, land use plan, existing land use details, safety zone plan and authenticated lease map in Part-I of <https://parivesh.nic.in/portal>. Further, the legible copies of above documents are enclosed herewith as reference as **Annexure-E**.

In view of the above, the compliance to the observations of GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi is sent herewith for according Stage-I approval for diversion of 94.351 ha of forest land including 4.261 ha of safety zone in Keonjhar Forest Division of Keonjhar District, Odisha by M/s Thriveni Earthmovers Private Limited.

Encl: Compliance in one set

Yours faithfully

Memo No.

10293

/Dt.

29.05.2023

Copy along with one set of compliance forwarded to the Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), GoI, MoEF & CC, Integrated Regional Office, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023 for information and necessary action with reference to Letter F.No.8-02/2023-FC dated 15.02.2023 of Assistant Inspector General of Forests, GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.

Encl: Compliance in one set

Memo No.

10294

/Dt.

29.05.2023

Copy along with one set of compliance forwarded to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action with reference to Letter F.No.8-02/2023-FC dated 15.02.2023 of Assistant Inspector General of Forests, GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.

Encl: Compliance in one set

Memo No.

10295

/Dt.

29.05.2023

Copy forwarded to the RCCF, Rourkela Circle for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No.1594 dated 12.05.2023.

Memo No.

10296

/Dt.

29.05.2023

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No.4566 dated 25.05.2023 of RCCF, Rourkela Circle.

Memo No.

10297

/Dt.

29.05.2023

Copy forwarded to Authorized Signatory, Laserda Pacheri Manganese & Iron Ore Block of M/s Thriveni Earthmovers Private Limited, At/Po-Barbil, Dist-Keonjhar for information and necessary action.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act