F. No. 8-21/2015-FC

Government of India Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavarán Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003, Dated: 6th December, 2018

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.

Sub: Diversion of 277.15 ha of forest land in favour of M/s Central Coalfield Limited for Rajrappa Open Cast Mine in Bokaro Forest Division in Bokaro District in the State of Jharkhand.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Jharkhand's letter no. Vanbhumi-21/2013/3305/VP dated 06.08.2018 on the above subject proposal and to say that the said proposal was considered in the meeting of Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) held on 26.10.2018 and FAC after thorough deliberation and discussion with the APCCF Regional Office, Nodal Officer, Jharkhand and user agency decided to defer the matter till the following information on the proposal are furnished to the Ministry:

- i. On perusal of land use plan it is learnt that 102.8 ha forest land is proposed for infrastructure component. User agency/State government shall give detailed break up of this land use. State government shall explore possibility to use non forest land for non site specific activities within the mining lease
- ii. State government shall explore the possibility of taking up CA from the reclaimed non-forest mined out area within total mining lease of 3300.53 ha.
- iii. State government shall provide the detail of NPV amount paid against the forest area within total mining lease.
- iv. State government shall clarify the status of 59.53 ha land which is reported to be part of Block II and which is not part of present Mining plan of Rajrappa OCP block II. It may be clarified whether the patch of 59.53 ha is under management control of forest department and managed under working plan or not. Status of other part of forest area which in not diverted under the provisions of FCA 1980 may also be clarified.
- v. No tree felling and mining work is to be carried out with in 50 meter width along the river banks and area is to be maintained as green belt.
- vi. Soil and moisture conservation plan shall be prepared in consultation with forest department to minimize adverse effect of mining over Damodar River.
- vii. State Government may also explore the possibility of underground mining.

In view of above, the State Government is requested to provide the information/documents as indicated above for further consideration of the proposal in the Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

(Rajesh Kumar)
Technical Officer (FC)

Copy to:

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoFF), Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
- 2. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Central), Eastern Regional Office, Ranchi.
- 3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the PCCF, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi
- 4. User agency
- 5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division
- 6. Guard file.

Technical Officer (FC)