File No. 8-67/2002 – FC (Pt.) Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division)

> Indira ParyavaranBhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bag Road, New Delhi - 110003. Dated C^HDecember, 2019

То

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Department of Forest and Environment, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

Sub: Renewal of the approval accorded under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 100 hectares of forest land for Jayant Project of the Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL)-regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Land Management) and Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Madhya Pradesh vide their letter No.F-1/201/1989/10-11/3076 Bhopal dated 24th September, 2019 on the above subject forwarding a report on the compliance of conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval dated 12.12.2018 and to say that examination of the said report in the Ministry revealed following shortcomings:-

- (i) The User Agency has not submitted the undertakings of the conditions No. (i), (v), (x), (xi), (xiii), (xiv), (xvii), (xxii), (xxii), (xxiii), (xxvi), (xxvi), (xxxi) and (xxxii) of the Stage –I approval letter dated 12.12.2018.
- (ii) The State Govt. /user agency has not submitted a copy of the approved mine closure plan and reclamation plan.
- (iii) The user agency has not complied the condition No.(iii) of the Stage-I approval letter dated 12.12.2018 i.e. *"the Status of Compensatory Afforestation over an area of 220.278 ha. Carried out in lieu of the forest land admeasuring 100 ha. diverted vide letter dated 20.03.1992 shall be ascertained by Regional Office, Bhopal after making field inspection and intimated to this Ministry."* However, field inspection of the Regional Office, Bhopal of status of the CA sites has not been submitted.

(iv) The condition No.(ix) of the Stage-I approval letter dated 12.12.2018 i.e. "Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area [7.5 meters strip shall be kept within the mining lease boundary and area of the safety zone shall be part of the total area of mining lease as per the Ministry's guidelines dated 27.05.2015] shall be done within three year at the project cost from the issue of Stage II Clearance" has not been complied by the user agency.

- (v) The plan for plantation and SMC activities has not been submitted by the State Government/user agency.
- (vi) The Complete compliance of FRA, 2006 with the gram sabha resolution has not submitted by the State Government.
- (vii) The details of list of water bodies in the nearby villages within the radius of 5 km from mine lease boundary, is not duly verified by the concerned Divisional Forests Officer. Further, the details of plan for desilting of identified ponds of water bodies prepared in consultation with State Forest Department is not submitted by the State Government / user agency.

In view of the above, the State Government of Madhya Pradesh is requested to furnish the above mentioned information to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal for grant of Stage-II approval.

Yours faithfully,

(Brijendra Swaroop) Dy. Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservation of Forests & HoFF Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
- 2. The Dy. Director General (Central), Regional Office (Western Zone), Bhopal: with a request to take the necessary action on the observation in point No.(iii) and submit the comments to the Ministry at the earliest.
- 3. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
- 4. User Agency.
- 5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
- 6. Guard File.

6.12.19

(Brijendra Swaroop) Dy. Inspector General of Forests (FC)