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

Indira ParyavaranBhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi: 110003

Dated: 25th May, 2021

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Chhattisgarh. Mahanadi Bhavan, New Raipur (CG).

Sub: Diversion of 1898.328. ha in two phases of forest land for Parsa East and Kete Basan captive coal block open cast mining project in favour of M/s Rajasthan Rajya Vidut Utpadan Nigam Limited in South Surguja Forest Division in Surguja District of Chhattisgarh -reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government letter no. 5-04/2010/10-2 dated 22.02.2021 on the above subject regarding consideration of the Phase-II mining operations in the balance area of 1136 ha of forest land in Parsa East and Kete Basan Coal Block. In this connection, it is to inform that matter has been examined in the Ministry and it is revealed that biodiversity assessment study of the area is currently under consideration in the State Government and also various issues emanating from mining in the PEKB Coal Block are sub-judice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

In view of the above, I am directed to request the State Government to submit its considered opinion in the matter in light of various orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court to the Ministry for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-(Charan Jeet Singh) Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

- 1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (PCCF) Aranya Bhavan, Sector 19, North Block, New Raipur- 492002 Chhattisgarh.
- 2. Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Naya Raipur
- 3. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Jail Road, Aranya Bhavan, Raipur.
- 4. Guard file