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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bag Road, New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: December, 2022

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests),

Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 42.608 ha of forest land (16.658 ha in Keonjhar Forest Division and 25.950 ha in Bonai Forest Division) within Kalmang West (Northern Part) Block for Iron Ore Mines in Keonjhar and Sundargarh District of Odisha, allotted to M/s Tata Steel BSL Limited (formerly known as Bhusan Steel Ltd) under section 2 (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. FE-DIV-FLD-0048-2022-10644 dated 17.06.2022, seeking prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and letter no. 22410/ 9F (MG)-66/2021 dated 03.11.2022 forwarding additional information sought by Ministry vide letter dated 08.06.2022. The proposal was examined by the Forest Advisory Committee in its meeting held on 09.12.2022. The Minutes of the FAC meeting may be accessed at www.parivesh.nic.in.

The FAC, after detailed discussion and deliberation, decided that the recommendation made by the Committee in the case of Netrabandha Pahar Iron Ore Block allotted to M/s Bhusan Power and Steel Limited (under agenda item no. 3 in the minutes of meeting of FAC dated 09.12.2022) will apply *mutatis mutandis* to the extant proposal.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,

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(Charan Jeet Singh)

Scientist 'D'

Copy to:-

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar

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- 2. Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhubaneswar
- 3. Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneshwar
- 4. User Agency
- 5. Monitoring Cell of FC Divisions, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
- 6. Guard file.