

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,  
New Delhi – 110003

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

To

**The Addl. Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary (Forests)**  
All State Governments/ Union Territory Administration.

**Sub: - Modification in the conditions stipulated in the approval granted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – reg.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to letter no. /DGF-MoEF/2022-23/05 dated 19.12.2022, received from Chhattisgarh Sponge and Steel Manufactures Association, Chhattisgarh seeking clarification on provisions of captive use of mines, stipulated in the approval granted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vis-à-vis provisions of the MMDR Amendment Act, 2021 as amended till date. In this connection, it is to inform that matter was considered by the Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 23.02.2023. Minutes of the meeting of FAC may be accessed at [www.parivesh.nic.in](http://www.parivesh.nic.in).

Based on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee and approval of the same by the competent authority of the MoEF&CC, New Delhi, the Central Government hereby clarifies that in pursuance to the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulations) Amendment Act, 2021 and rules framed, the condition stipulated in the approvals granted by the Ministry under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in the past restraining the user agency from selling their surplus minerals produced from their captive mine lease, may be treated as null and void. The approvals granted by the Ministry under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in the past stipulating such condition stands modified to the aforementioned extent.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully

(Charan Jeet Singh)  
Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all States Govts/UT Administrations.
2. Nodal Officer (FCA), all State Govts/UT Administrations.
3. All Integrated Regional Offices, MoEFCC, Government of India.
4. Chairman, Chhattisgarh Sponge and Steel Manufactures Association, Hira Arcade, Near New Bus Stand, Pandri, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001
5. Guard File