

F. No. 11-599/2014-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 110 003
Dated: 1st May, 2015

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests)
All State / Union Territory Governments

Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980- Submission of proposals to obtain approval for diversion of entire forest land located within a mining lease.

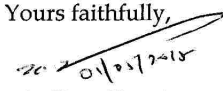
Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry' letter of even number dated 1st April 2015 on the above-mentioned subject, wherein in case of existing mining leases having forest land in part or in full, where approval under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (FC Act) for a part of the forest land has only been obtained, this Ministry accorded general approval under Section 2 (iii) of the FC Act for the remaining area of the forest land falling within such mining leases, subject to conditions stipulated therein.

2. It has been observed that several proposals seeking prior approval of Central Government under the FC Act for forest land located in safety zone of mining leases to which provisions of said general approval extends, are presently under various stages of examination in the Central and State Governments. Such proposals are now not required to be processed, in case the entire forest land for which approval under the FC Act has been sought is located in safety zone of a mining lease and is not required to be utilised for mining or any other non-forest purpose.

3. Accordingly, I am directed to say that proposals seeking prior approval of Central Government under the FC Act for forest land falling in safety zone of mining leases to which provisions of said general approval dated 1st April 2015 extends, shall be closed under intimation to all concerned, in case the entire forest land for which approval under the FC Act has been sought is located in safety zone of such mining lease and is not required to be utilised for mining or any other non-forest purpose.

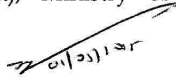
Yours faithfully,


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director

Copy to:-

1. Prime Minister's Office (*Kind attn.:* Shri Santosh D. Vaidya, Director).
2. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India.

4. Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Government of India.
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all States/UTs.
6. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all States/UTs.
7. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) for information and necessary action.
8. Joint Secretary, In-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEF.
9. PS to the Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
10. Chairman, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, all States/UTs.
11. Member-Secretary, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, all States/UTs.
12. All Directors/ Assistant Inspector General of Forests in Forest Conservation Division, MoEFCC for information and necessary action.
13. All Advisors/ Directors/ Dy. Directors in the Impact Assessment Division, MoEFCC.
14. Director, Regional Office (Headquarters), MoEFCC.
15. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEFCC with a request to place a copy of this letter on website of this Ministry.
16. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
17. Sr. PPS to Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
18. Sr. PPS to Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
19. Sr. PPS to Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
20. Guard File.


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director