

F.No. 2-1/2003-FC(Pt.III)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
(F.C. Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi - 110003.  
Dated : 08<sup>th</sup> June 2005.

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Chhattisgarh,  
Raipur.

Sub : Plantation of Jatropha on forest land under National Afforestation Programme (NAP);  
clarification under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - regarding.

Sir,

Kindly refer to your letters No./29/PA dated 15.02.2005 and No.P.C.C.F./73 dated 16.04.2005 on the subject mentioned above seeking clarification under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 regarding plantation of Jatropha on forest land under National Afforestation Programme (NAP).

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that the matter has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee and it is clarified that plantation of oil-bearing plants on forest land is a non-forestry activity as explained under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Since Jatropha is an oil-bearing plant, its plantation on forest land, therefore, shall constitute a non-forestry activity according to the said Act.

3. However, plantation of Jatropha on forest land under National Afforestation Programme (NAP) would not require prior approval of the Central Government where Jatropha is indigenous to the area in question and such plantation activity is a part of an overall afforestation programme for the forest area concerned.

Yours faithfully,

(Sandeep Kumar)  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to -

1. Secretary (Forests), All States/UTs.
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, All States/UTs.
3. Nodal Officers, All States/UTs.
4. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.
5. RO(Hq.), Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.
6. All AIGs(FC)/Director(FC), MoEF, New Delhi.
7. PS to-IGF(NAEB), MoEF, New Delhi.
8. Guard File.

(Sandeep Kumar)  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests