

F. No. 11-9/1998-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(F.C. Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110003.
Dated: 4th January, 2011

To

The Chief Secretary/ Administrator,
All State/ UT Governments except Jammu & Kashmir.

Subject: Diversion of large area of forest land for mining and other non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980- Stipulation of additional conditions.

Sir,

I am directed to say that with a view to facilitate employment of the local resident to the maximum extent possible, this Ministry while according prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of large forest areas for mining and other non-forestry purposes, has recently started to stipulate that the user agencies may explore feasibility to set up Vocational Training Institutes at appropriate locations in vicinity of the forest land being diverted. Pending adequate support for the useful & productive livelihoods of the project-affected persons is all the more important as the floating population would tend to settle on forest areas if not provided proper skill, employment and living premises.

Keeping in view the willing acceptance and positive feedback received from various quarters on the said condition, which presently is stipulated on case to case basis, as an advisory, the Central Government has decided that the all the fresh approvals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, to the proposals seeking diversion of more than 500 ha. forest land and the proposals involving displacement of more than 1,000 persons irrespective of the forest land being diverted, in each case, will be subject to the following additional conditions:

- (i) The user agency shall establish and operate a Vocational Training Institute having capacity to impart training in at-least five disciplines, to be decided by the State Government concerned in consultation with the user agency, for the benefits of the eligible unemployed youth in the project affected villages. The user agency should also endeavour to employ such trained manpower in their own industry or any other appropriate industry, preferably located in vicinity of the forest land being diverted; and

- (ii) The user agency shall setup an independent Social Welfare Department/ Division and follow the subsequent condition of the project-affected and the project-displaced persons in such a way as to understand their socio-economic conditions before and after the project and take such corrective measures as are necessary to restore them to their original or better-than-original condition.

Yours faithfully,

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(H.C. Chaudhary)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all States/UTs except Jammu & Kashmir.
2. Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all States/UTs except Jammu & Kashmir.
3. All regional Offices of MoEF located at Bhopal, Shillong, Lucknow, Bangalore and Chandigarh.
4. All Sr. AIGF/ AIGF in Forest Conservation Division in the MoEF, New Delhi.
5. RO (HQ), MoEF, New Delhi.
6. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF, New Delhi, for placing a copy of the letter on website of the Ministry.
7. Guard file.

m 4/11/2017

(H.C. Chaudhary)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests