

F. No. 11-306/ 2014-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 110 001
Dated: 15th January, 2015

To

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

Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980- Simplified procedure for grant of permission for felling of trees standing on forest land to be diverted for execution of linear projects: *reg.*

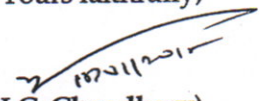
Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 8th August 2014 on the above-mentioned subject wherein this Ministry communicated a simplified procedure for grant of permission for felling of trees standing on forest land to be diverted for execution of linear projects, and to say that it has been brought to notice of this Ministry that in the said letter, it is not clear as whether the project authorities can *suo-moto* start the works after depositing the statutory funds, or some authority has to issue permission in this regard.

After careful examination of the matter, for the sake of clarity, I am directed to say that State Governments may authorize an officer not below the Rank of the Divisional Forest Officer having jurisdiction over the forest land proposed to be diverted to issue permission for felling of trees once, amount in compliance to conditions stipulated in the Stage-I FC are realized from the user agency and where necessary, for compensatory afforestation, transfer and mutation of non-forest/revenue forest land in favour of State Forest Department is affected.

This issues with approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director

Copy to:-

1. Prime Minister's Office (*Kind attn.:* Shri Santosh D. Vaidya, Director), North Block, New Delhi.

2. Secretary, Ministry of Power, Government of India, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Chairman, Railways Board, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, Transport Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. The Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
7. Director General, Border Roads Organization, New Delhi.
8. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all State/UT Governments.
9. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all State/UT Governments.
10. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India (GoI).
11. Joint Secretary in-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
12. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests/ Directors in the Forest Conservation Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
13. Director, Regional Offices Headquarters Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
- ✓14. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEFCC, GoI with a request to place a copy of this letter on website of this Ministry.
15. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, GoI.
16. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEFCC, GoI.
17. Sr. PPS to the Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEFCC, GoI.
18. PS to the Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEFCC, GoI.
19. Guard File.


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director