

F. No. 5-3/2007-FC (Pt-I)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex,  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 510  
Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2010

To  
The Principal Secretary / Secretary (Forests),  
All State / UT Governments.

**Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - modification in para 2.5 (ii) - regarding.**


Sir,

This is with reference to the disharmony in terms of delegation of powers noticed in para 2.5 (ii), para 4.1 (ii) and para 4.1 (v) (a) of the guidelines compiled in the Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 Guidelines and Clarifications to the Regional Offices of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. It has been felt that this disharmony has impacted valuable avenue plantations and thus serene ambience along the roads/canals/railway lines, etc. The powers delegated to Regional Offices for dealing/recommending cases of forest diversion under guidelines 4.1 (ii) and 4.1 V (a) is up to 40 ha, whereas under 2.5 is without any restriction.

The above disharmony was examined in the Ministry in light of provisions given under guidelines 2.5 (ii), para 4.1 (ii) & para 4.1(v) (a) and the matter was placed before the FAC which recommended the need to mention the limit of 40 ha under guideline 2.5 (ii) as well.

In view of the above, the approval of the Central Government is hereby conveyed to modify the provisions of the guidelines and replace the words "irrespective of the area" under para 2.5 (ii) with "subject to the provisions under guidelines para 4.1 (ii) and para 4.1 (v) (a)".

Yours faithfully,

  
(Umakant)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, All States / UTs.
2. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCFs, All States / UTs.
3. All Regional Offices of MoEF located at Bhopal, Shillong, Bangalore, Bhubaneshwar, Lucknow and Chandigarh.
4. F.No. 2-1/2003-FC and F.No. 5-5/98-FC.
5. The RO (HQ), MoEF, New Delhi.
6. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF.
7. PS to IGF(FC)
8. Guard File.

  
(Umakant)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests