

F. No. 5-2/2007-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110 003.
Dated : 17.01.2008.

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 - designating an authority to approve the mining plan in respect of minor and major minerals.

Sir,
The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India has been receiving number of representations seeking clarification in respect of competent authority for approval of mining plan for coal - whether it is the Controller of Coal or Ministry of Coal & Mines.

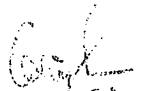
After careful examination of the proposal and in view of the opinion of the Coal Controller, Ministry of Coal & Mines and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee, the Central Government hereby conveys its approval for modification of the existing provision given under 2.1 (7) (2) of the Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Guidelines and Clarifications. The modified provision will read as "*mining plan should be approved by the competent authority for concerned minerals e.g. for coal it should be approved by Ministry of Coal & Mines and for major minerals by IBM and so on*".


(C.D. Singh)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, All States / UTs.
2. The Nodal Officer (FC), O/o the PCCFs, All States / UTs.
3. All Regional Offices of MoEF located at Bhopal, Shillong, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Lucknow and Chandigarh.
4. The RO (HQ), MoEF, New Delhi.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.


(C.D. Singh)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests