

F. No.11-63/2012-FC (Pt.)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
JorBagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi-110003,
Dated: 29th September, 2016

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
All States/Union Territory Governments except Jammu and Kashmir.

Sub: Guidelines for felling permission of trees in Eco Sensitive Zone of Protected Areas-regarding.

I am directed to say that the Ministry has reviewed the guidelines issued vide F. No 11-63/2012-FC dated 7th January 2013 for diversion of forest land for non forestry purposes and felling of trees in forest areas and other provisions for regulating the tree cutting in forest areas which *inter alia* provides in para 2 of the said guideline that '*this clarification will not apply to roads located within the Protected Areas and Eco sensitive Zone around Protected Areas where impacts upon wildlife have also to be considered*'.

In order to regulate the felling of trees in the Eco Sensitive Zone of protected areas, it has been decided that:

1. There shall be no felling of trees on the forest, non-forest land or government or revenue or private lands falling within the Eco Sensitive Zone of protected areas without prior permission of the competent authority duly notified by the State Government.
2. In case there is no Competent Authority notified by the State Government in such interim period, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in-charge of the territorial forests shall be the competent authority for this purpose and will grant permission for tree felling on the recommendation of the Divisional Forest Officer in whose jurisdiction the ESZ falls who will recommend in accordance with the existing provisions of Central or State Act and rules made thereunder by the State Government for protection of trees in the state.

This issues with approval of the Competent Authority in this Ministry.

Yours Faithfully,


(Nisheeth Saxena)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, All State/UT Governments.
2. Nodal Officer, under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, All State/UT Governments.
3. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment & Forests.
4. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests in Forest Conservation Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
5. PSO to Cabinet Secretary, for information.
6. Shri Ajit Kumar, Deputy Secretary, PMO.
7. PPS to Principal Secretary to PM, for information.
8. Guard File.


(Nisheeth Saxena)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)