

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

Paryavaran Bhawan  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road  
New Delhi-110 003

Dated : 24<sup>th</sup> May 2006

To

The Secretary (Forests),  
All States/UTs.

**Sub: General approval dated 03.01.2005 under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes.**

Sir,

Please refer to the general approval dated 03.01.2005 issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of forest land, not more than 1.00 ha in each case, for taking up various developmental activities to be implemented by the Government Departments. This general approval is subject to various conditions including, in addition to others, payment of NPV and plantation of twice the number of trees to be felled. The general approval also stipulates that the Nodal Officer (FC) of the State would submit a monthly report to the concerned Regional Office (RO) of the Ministry about the details of projects approved under this dispensation.

It is noted that many State/UT Governments are not submitting monthly reports regarding details of projects approved under this dispensation as well as information about compliance of stipulations attached to each project. It may also be pointed out that the provisions of this general approval prescribe that in the event of failure on the part of the State/UT Government to furnish requisite report, the general approval in respect of that State will remain suspended till the time information is furnished by the State and received in the RO. As you are aware, the general approval is valid till 31.12.2006, and its further extension will depend upon submission of report by the State/UT Government about the projects approved and the status of compliance of conditions stipulated in the general approval.

You are, therefore, requested to provide detailed information about the projects approved under the dispensation of general approval to the concerned

Regional Office of the Ministry, as on 31.03.2006, latest by 30.06.2006. If the requisite information is not received within the stipulated period, the Ministry may consider suspending the application of general approval by the defaulting State/UT Government, till detailed report is received.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Pankaj Asthana)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to :-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, All States/UTs.
2. The Nodal Officer (FC), All States/UTs.
3. All Regional Offices. They are requested to take up the matter with the State/UT Governments under their jurisdiction and ensure that the information sought above is received in time. Detailed report in the matter may be sent to this office. Failure on the part of any State/UT Government may also be reported to this office.

  
(Pankaj Asthana)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests