

I/6113/2021

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi - 110003
Dated: 12th October 2021

To

The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary (Forests)

All State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

Sub:- Guidelines under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for undertaking prospecting/exploration/Seismic survey in forest area; streamlining of procedure -Reg

Madam/Sir

I am directed to refer to the matter related to relaxation in existing norms of guidelines dated 17.11.2020 regarding plantation of 110 trees per bore hole in case of mineral exploration projects.

2. In this regard it is informed that the matter was considered by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 17.09.2021. Based on the recommendation of the FAC and acceptance of those recommendations by the competent authority in the Ministry, it is decided that in respect of proposals involving mineral prospecting/exploration in the forest area, CA scheme shall be prepared @ 110 trees per bore hole (each borehole estimated to have an impact area of 0.1 ha) as conveyed by the Ministry vide its guideline dated 17.11.2020, only if the number of boreholes proposed to be drilled is beyond the specified limit i.e. 25 boreholes per 10 sq km.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully
Sd/-
(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'D'

Copy To:-

1. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Govt of India, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Govt of India, New Delhi.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Govt of India, New Delhi.
4. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Govt of India, New Delhi.
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all States Govts/UT Administrations
6. Nodal Officer (FCA), all State Govts/UT Administrations.
7. All Integrated Regional Offices, MoEFCC, Government of India.
8. PPS to Secretary/ PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

9. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF and CC, New Delhi.