

**F. No. 11-362/ 2012-FC**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road  
New Delhi - 110 003  
Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2015

To

1. **The Principal Secretary (Forests)**  
All State / Union Territory Governments
2. **The Principal Secretary (Environment),**  
All State/ Union Territory Governments

**Sub:** Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980- Submission of proposals to obtain approval for diversion of entire forest land located within the mining lease and grant of environment clearance to mining projects.

Sir,

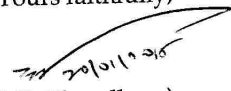
I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2013 on the above-mentioned subject, wherein this Ministry informed *inter-alia* that in case of mines where approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of only a part of forest land located within the mining leases has been obtained, after two years from the issue of the said letter mining will be allowed only if the user agency either obtains approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the entire forest land located within the mining lease or surrenders such forest land for which approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has not been obtained and execute a revised mining lease for the reduced lease area.

This Ministry received representations to increase the period of two years stipulated in the said letter for obtaining prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of the entire forest land located within the mining lease.

After careful examination of the matter in this Ministry, I am directed to say that the phrase '**two years**', wherever appearing in the said letter, shall be read as '**three years**'.

This issues with approval of the Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

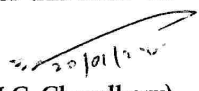
Yours faithfully,

  
(H.C. Chaudhary)  
Director

**Copy to:-**

1. Prime Minister's Office (*Kind attn.:* Shri Santosh D. Vaidya, Director).
2. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India.

3. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India.
4. Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Government of India.
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all States/UTs.
6. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all States/UTs.
7. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
8. Joint Secretary, In-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEF.
9. Chairman, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, all States/UTs.
10. Member-Secretary, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, all States/UTs.
11. All Advisors/ Directors/ Dy. Directors in the Impact Assessment Division, MoEFCC.
12. All Directors/ Assistant Inspector General of Forests in Forest Conservation Division, MoEFCC.
13. Director, Regional Office (Headquarters), MoEFCC. .
14. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEFCC with a request to place a copy of this letter on website of the Ministry.
15. Guard File.

  
(H.C. Chaudhary)  
Director