

F.No.5-1/98-FC (Pt II)
Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhavan,
C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi - 110 003.

Dated the 27th April, 2009

Subject: Time Bound issuance of Environmental and Forest clearances - Guidelines regarding.

The proposals received from State/UT Governments for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are processed in accordance with the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003. These Rules provide *inter alia* the time frame for processing these proposals at the State and the Central Government level.

The Central Government is required to take a decision on the project within 60 days from the date of its receipt from the State/UT Government provided the proposal is complete in all respects and does not go into correspondence seeking additional details from the State/UT Government.

In order to comply with the above provision of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 it is required that:

- (1) The concerned division scrutinises the project either to request the Regional Office for site inspection (cases involving 100 ha. and above forest area) or to obtain the decision for placing in the forthcoming meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee if the proposal was complete in all respects.
- (2) In case of shortcomings in essential details, the officer concerned shall issue the letter seeking details from the concerned State Government expeditiously keeping in view the time line indicated in the above Rules.
- (3) The members of the Forest Advisory Committee shall dispose of the minutes of the meeting within a period of two days from the date of

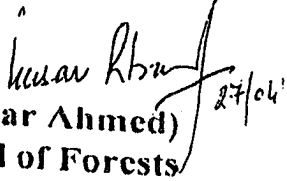
receipt of the draft minutes from the concerned officer and indicate their approval/corrections if any by e-mail.

(4) All efforts should be made to finalise the minutes of the meeting within a period of 5 days from the date of convening of the meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee.

(5) The minutes should be processed on the individual case files by the processing officer within 2 days from the date of receipt of confirmed minutes.

(6) The approval of the competent authority on the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee should be communicated to the concerned State/UT Government within 15 days from the date of convening of the Forest Advisory Committee meeting.

All officers concerned are required to adhere to above time frame. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.


(Ansar Ahmed)

Inspector General of Forests

To

1. All the members of the Forest Advisory Committee
2. PS to DGF&SS and Chairman of the Forest Advisory Committee for kind information of the DGF&SS
3. PS to MOS(F&WI.) for kind information of the MoS.
- ✓ 4. The Sr. AIGF(CDS)/Sr. AIGF(BKS)
5. The Regional Offices