F. No. 11-599/2014-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: 10th November, 2015

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests)

All State Governments / Union territory Administrations

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 a mining lease.

Sir,

In continuation of this Ministry's letter of even number dated 19th October, 2015 on the above-mentioned subject, I am directed to say that in case of the existing mining leases having forest land in part or in full for which though the mining lease has already been executed at least once before 1st April 2015 but approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for even a part of forest land falling in such mining lease has not been obtained, in case the State Government of Union territory Administration fails to obtain approval under Section 2 (iii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the forest land falling in such mining lease by giving details (*viz.* date of execution of the mining lease deed and area of forest and non-forest land falling in such mining lease) of such mining leases in letter form to this Ministry as stipulated in this Ministry's said letter of even number dated 19th October, 2015, no mining shall be allowed in such mining leases after expiry of a period of one year from the date of issue of guidelines of even number dated 1st April 2015 till approval under section 2 (iii) of the Forest (conservation) Act, 1980 for the entire forest land falling in such mining leases as stipulated in such approval is realised from the user agency.

Yours faithfully,

(H.C. Chaudhary)

Director

Copy to:-

- 1. The Prime Minister's Office (Kind attn.: Shri Santosh D. Vaidya, Director).
- 2. Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat.
- 3. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India.
- Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India.

- 5. Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Government of India.
- 6. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all States/UTs.
- 7. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all States/UTs.
- 8. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- 9. Joint Secretary, In-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEF.
- 10. PS to the Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- 11. Chairman, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, all States/UTs.
- 12. Member-Secretary, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, all States/UTs.
- 13. All Directors/ Assistant Inspector General of Forests in Forest Conservation Division, MoEFCC.
- 14. All Advisors/ Directors/ Dy. Directors in the Impact Assessment Division, MoEFCC.
- 15. Director, Regional Office (Headquarters), MoEFCC. .
- 16. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEFCC with a request to place a copy of this letter on website of this Ministry.
- 17. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- 18. Sr. PPS to Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- 19. Sr. PPS to Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- 20. Sr. PPS to Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

21. Guard File.

(H.C. Chaudhary)

Director