

F. No. 11-125/2014 - FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Alinganj, Jorbagh Raod,
New Delhi - 110003
Date: 4th July, 2014

To
The Principal Secretary (Forests),
All State/UT Governments,

Sub: Diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; Guidelines regarding management of safety zone in the mining lease – regading.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) held on 29th to 30th April, 2014 wherein the FAC reviewed the conditions regarding management of safety zone in the mining lease proposals stipulated by the MoEF while according approval for diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The Committee deliberated the issues related to free movement of wild animals through the reclaimed and unused areas of the mining lease especially the mine leases surrounded by the forest. After detailed discussion on the issue, the Committee recommended that the existing condition which reads as "*Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area (7.5 metre strip all along the outer boundary of the mining lease area), wherever feasible, shall be done at the project cost. Besides this, afforestation on degraded forest land, to be selected elsewhere, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone shall also be done at the project cost*" should be replaced by the following conditions:

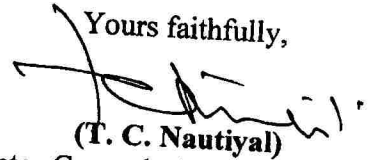
- i. User agency shall ensure demarcation of boundary of safety zone (7.5 meter strip all along the outer boundary of the mining lease area), and its protection by erecting adequate number of 4 feet high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates and deploying adequate number of watchers under the supervision of the State Forest Department.
- ii. In case of the mining leases adjoining the habitation stretch of the boundary of the safety zone of the lease adjacent to the habitation/roads should be properly fenced by the user agency at the project cost to protect the vegetation /regeneration activities in the safety zone.
- iii. Safety zone shall be maintained as green belt around the mining lease and to ensure dense canopy cover in the area, regeneration shall be taken in this area by the user agency at the project cost under the supervision of the State Forest Department.



- iv. Afforestation on degraded forest land, to be selected elsewhere. measuring ~~the~~ and a half times the area under safety zone shall also be done by the user agency at the project cost under the supervision of the State Forest Department.

The conditions regarding the management of safety zone, as given above, will be stipulated in the approvals granted by the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes. All State/UT Governments are requested to ensure compliance of these conditions accordingly.

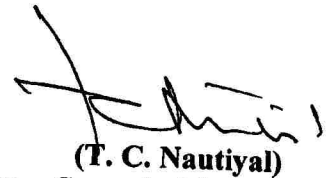
Yours faithfully,



(T. C. Nautiyal)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, All State/UT Governments.
2. The Addl. PCCF (Central), All Regional Offices of the MoEF&CC.
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, All State/UT Governments
4. Directors/AIGFs, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi with a request to ensure stipulation of above conditions in the Stage-I approvals.
5. DS, ROHQ, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
6. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
7. Guard File.



(T. C. Nautiyal)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests