

F. No. 11-9/98-FC  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi-110 510  
Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2013

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

**Sub:** General approval under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure by Government Departments involving not more than 5.00 hectares of forest land in each case in 60 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts-reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letters of even number dated 13.05.2011 and 10.12.2012, read with this Ministry's letter of even number dated 16.06.2011, on the above-mentioned subject, wherein this Ministry accorded general approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure of 13 categories, specified in this Ministry's said letter dated 13.05.2011, by Government departments involving not more than 5.00 hectares of forest land, in each case in 82 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts identified by the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Home Affairs for implementation of the Integration Action Plan (IAP). The 13 categories of infrastructure projects covered by the said general approval include rural roads.

This Ministry has received representation from State Governments and Ministries in the Central Government to extend the said general approval to all categories of roads. This Ministry has also received representations to extend the said general approval to quarrying of materials used in construction of public roads.

The matter has been examined in its entirety in considerable depth by this Ministry and after careful consideration; this Ministry hereby decides to extend the said general approval to all categories of public roads and quarrying of materials used in construction of public roads.

21/02/13

The general approval for roads other than rural roads and quarrying of materials used in construction of public roads shall be subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated by this Ministry in its letters of even number dated 13.05.2011 and 10.12.2012 read with this Ministry's letter of even number dated 16.06.2011.

This issues with approval of the Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests.

Yours faithfully,

(H.C. Chaudhary)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, New Delhi.
3. The Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi.
4. The Member-Secretary, Planning Commission, Government of India New Delhi.
5. The Secretray, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, New Delhi.
6. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all State/UT Governments.
7. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all State/UT Governments.
8. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment & Forests.
9. Joint Secretray in-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEF.
10. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests in Forest Conservation Division, MoEF.
11. Director R.O. (HQ), Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.
12. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEF with a request to place a copy of the letter on website of this Ministry.
13. Sr. PPS to the Secretray, Environment and Forests.
14. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretray, MoEF.
15. Guard File.

(H.C. Chaudhary)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests