

Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,  
New Delhi-110003

Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020

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

Sub: Prior Approval under Section-2 (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of Central Government for various transmission lines under construction/proposed in the forest areas – reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh's letter no. 1327/14-2-2019-190/G/2018 dated 28.06.2019 on the above mentioned subject requesting this Ministry to revisit the conditions stipulated in the approvals granted for transmission line projects regarding raising of dwarf plants under the Right of Way (RoW) and obtaining NoC by the User Agencies from the various land owning agencies.

The matter regarding passing of RoW of transmission lines through various linear protected forests owned by National Highway Authority of India, State PWD, State Irrigation Departments and Indian Railways, etc were examined in this Ministry and based on the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC), Central Government has decided that:

- i. In order to expedite the proposals related to transmission line projects, NoC from various land owning agencies, whose land falls in the alignment of the proposed project, may not be insisted at the field level and the same can be submitted to the State Government prior to the submission of proposal to Government of India for in principle approval.
- ii. Taking up plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) over small areas (below 0.1 ha) within the RoW under transmission line are neither cost effective nor suitable on forest management point of view. Therefore, in such cases the user agency in consultation with State Forest Department shall identify degraded forest areas of not less than 1 ha for carrying out plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants).

This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

(Brijendra Swaroop)

Dy Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, All State/UT Governments
2. The Dy Director General of Forests (Central), All Regional Offices of the MoEF&CC
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), All State/UT Governments
4. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEFCC, New Delhi
5. Guard File.

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