F.No.11-246/2014-FC Government of India Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Aliganj. Jor Bagh Road New Delhi-110003 Dated: 19th April, 2018

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests), All State/UTs

Sub: General approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land required for creation of border security related infrastructure within the International Border and LAC by Paramilitary organizations like BRO, ITBP, BSF, SSB of the Ministry of Defence and Home Affairs-regarding extending the dispensation to NHIDCL.

Sir,

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The Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has requested that NHIDCL is also involved in the construction of roads in the border districts along the International borders and LAC entrusted by the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Home. Accordingly, the dispensation granted to Paramilitary organizations like BRO, ITBP, BSF, SSB of the Ministry of Defence and Home Affairs may also be granted to NHIDCL which is also involved in constructing roads in borders areas on behalf of Ministry of Defence and Home.

The Ministry has accorded general approval under section 2 (ii) of the Forest Conservation Act 1980 to the State Government vide F.No. 11-246/2014-FC dated 04.04.2014 and 29.01.2015 and 21.12.2017 for diversion of forest land for creation of border security related critical securities related infrastructure and roads to be implemented by Border Road Organization (BRO), Indo Tibetan Border Police Force (ITBP), Border security Force (BSF), Border security Force (BSF), Sashatra Seema Bal (SSB) and other road construction agencies entrusted with the job by the Ministry of Defence and home in their respective jurisdictions in the area falling within 100 Km of LAC, 15 km of Indo-Nepal border, 16 km of Indo-Myanmar border and 5 km from all other international borders of India.

The matter has been examined in the Ministry and I am directed to convey that the general approval granted to State Government and other dispensation given for creation of security related infrastructure and roads granted to BRO, ITBP, SSB, BSF and other road construction agencies vide above referred guidelines will be extended to NHIDCL also on same terms and conditions provided these construction activities are entrusted to NHIDCL by the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Home responsible for the management of international Borders.

Yours faithfully,

(Nisheeth Saxena)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

- 1. Prime Minister's Office
- 2. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India New Delhi.
- 3. Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Government of India New Delhi.
- 4. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India.
- 5. The Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
- 6. Member-Secretary, Planning Commission, Government of India New Delhi.
- 7. Director General, Border Roads Organization, New Delhi.
- 8. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, all States/UTs.
- 9. Nodal Officer, the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all States/ UTs.
- 10. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India (GoI).
- 11. Joint Secretary in-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEF&CC, GoI.
- 12. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests/ Directors in the Forest Conservation Division, MoEF&CC, GoI.
- 13. Director, Regional Office Headquarters Division, MoEF&CC, GoI.
- 14. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEFCC, GoI with a request to place a copy of this letter on website of this Ministry.
- 15. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, GoI.
- 16. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEF&CC.
- 17. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEF&CC.
- 18. Guard File.

10.4. 2019

(Nisheeth Saxena)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)