

11-9/98 - FC  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
F.C. Division

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi - 110 003.  
Dated: 16.10.2000

The Secretary (Forests)- (All States/UTs).

**Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.**

Sir,

Detailed guidelines for submission of proposals for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 were finalised and circulated to all the State Government/Union Territories on 25.10.1992. A constant review of these guidelines has been done from time to time. After a recent review the Ministry has observed that in certain proposals of public importance involving laying underground telephone lines/optical fiber cables and drinking water supply pipelines the land requirement is small, the land use is temporary & usually one time affair, is in a form of strip with minimum damage, which is restored after use and are normally laid along the roads.

In view of the above, the Central Government hereby conveys its general approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act., 1980 for diversion of forest land for underground laying of optical fiber cables; underground laying of telephone lines & underground laying of drinking water supply pipelines which involve no tree felling, are outside National Parks or Wildlife sanctuary, are laid along the roads and within the existing right of way and the maximum size of the trench is 2.00 metre depth & 1.00 metre width. Any deviation from the above category/conditions will require separate submission of proposal/permission under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

This approval will be subject to the following conditions:

The user agency will seek permission from the State Forest Deptt. under local Acts/Rules, etc.

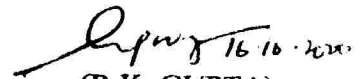
The user agency agrees to make good the land after use/maintenance.

The user agency agrees to make good any loss to forest/environment.

The user agency seeks permission from local Forest Deptt. for carrying out any maintenance.

The State Government/Union Territories will submit a quarterly progress report on the extent of the forest land diverted for each purpose to the Ministry as well as the concerned Regional Offices. This approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is being conveyed initially for a period of two years subject to review thereafter.

Yours faithfully,

  
(R.K. GUPTA)


Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

All PCCF/Nodal Officers (All States/UTs).

All Regional Offices.

DIG(FC), Director(FC), AIG(FC-K, M, G).

  
(R.K. GUPTA)

Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

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

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi - 110 003.  
Dated: 31.10.2001

The Secretary (Forests)- (All States/UTs).

**Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.**

Detailed guidelines for submission of proposals for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 were finalised and circulated to all the State Government/Union Territories on 25.10.1992. A constant review of these guidelines has been done from time to time.

After a recent review the Ministry vide letter of even number dated 16.10.2000 had conveyed its general approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for underground laying of optical fiber cables, underground laying of telephone lines & underground laying of drinking water supply pipelines which involve no tree felling, are outside National Parks or Wildlife Sanctuary, are laid along the roads and within the existing right of way and the maximum size of the trench is 2.00 metre depth & 1.00 metre width. This permission has been granted subject to certain parameters/conditions.

In continuation of the above mentioned letter, it is clarified that this approval would also be applicable in case of laying of underground electricity cables, which shall be subject to all the stated parameters and conditions stipulated in the letter dated 16.10.2000. The State Government/user agency should ensure that the channels dug for underground laying are duly filled up and compacted so that these do not become source of constant soil erosion.

Yours faithfully,

  
(R.K. GUPTA)

Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. All PCCF/Nodal Officers (All States/UTs).
2. All Regional Offices.
3. DIG(FC), Director(FC), AIGs(FC).

  
(R.K. GUPTA)

Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

*Issued  
2/11/01*

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

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi - 110 003.  
Dated: 23.12.2002

To

The Secretary (Forests)- (All States/UTs).


**Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.**

Sir,

Detailed guidelines for submission of proposals for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 were finalised and circulated to all the State Government/Union Territories on 25.10.1992. A constant review of these guidelines has been done from time to time.


After a recent review the Ministry vide letters of even number dated 16.10.2000 and 31.10.2001 had conveyed its general approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for underground laying of optical fiber cables, underground electricity cables, underground laying of telephone lines & underground laying of drinking water supply pipelines subject to certain parameters/conditions and was initially for a period of two years as per 16.10.2000. Now, in continuation of the above mentioned letters, the period of general permission is extended for a period of one year i.e. with effect from 16.10.2002 to 15.10.2003 subject to all the stated parameters and conditions stipulated in the letters dated 16.10.2000 and 31.10.2001.

Yours faithfully,

  
23.12.2002  
(R.K. GUPTA)

Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to -  
All PCCF/Nodal Officers (All States/UTs) for information and with a request to submit the complete details of forest land diverted for the purpose during 16.10.2000 to 15.10.2002 to the respective Regional Offices.  
All Regional Offices with a request to submit a status report on such diversions under their jurisdiction and to review whether the conditions on which this clearance was accorded are being complied with or not.  
AGF(FC), Director(FC), AIGs(FC).

  
23/12/02  
(R.K. GUPTA)  
Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

OK  
Issued  
23/12/02

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

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi - 110 003.  
Dated: 19.09.2003

To

The Secretary (Forests),  
(All States/UTs).

**Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.**

Sir,

Detailed guidelines for submission of proposals for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 were finalised and circulated to all the State Government/Union Territories on 25.10.1992. A constant review of these guidelines has been done from time to time.

After a review, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India vide letters of even number dated 16.10.2000, 31.10.2001 and 23.12.2002, had conveyed its general approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 from time to time, for diversion of forest land for underground laying of optical fiber cables, underground electric cables, underground laying of telephone lines and underground laying of drinking water supply pipelines subject to certain parameters/conditions. Last general approval will expire on 15.10.2003. Considering requirement of infrastructure development in the country and for their expeditious implementation, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India further extends the period of general permission for a period of two years i.e. from 16.10.2003 to 15.10.2005, subject to all the parameters and conditions stipulated in the letters dated 16.10.2000, 31.10.2001 & 23.12.2002.

Yours faithfully,

  
(ANURAG BAJPAI)

Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Govt. of India, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. All PCCF/Nodal Officers (All States/UTs) for information and with a request to submit the complete details of forest land diverted for the purpose during 16.10.2000 to 15.10.2003 to the respective Regional Offices.
3. All Regional Offices with a request to submit a status report on such diversions under jurisdiction and to review whether the conditions on which this clearance was accorded are complied with or not.
4. IGF(FC), Director(FC), AIGs(FC).

  
(ANURAG B.)

Asstt. Inspector General

23/9/03

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

Paryavaran Bhawan, CGC Complex,  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003.  
Dated : 26.12.2007

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

**Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 – guidelines related to general approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for underground laying of optical fibre cables, underground laying of telephone lines and underground laying of drinking water supply pipelines –reg.**

Sir,

In continuation of this Ministry's letter of even number dated 21.11.2005 where by general approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was granted for underground laying of optical fibre cables, underground laying of telephone lines and underground laying of drinking water supply pipelines for a period of two years ending 15.10.2007, has been further extended up to 31.12.2008 subject to the parameters and conditions already stipulated in this Ministry's letter of even number dated 16.10.2000.

All the State / UT Governments are also requested to submit the details of all proposals approved earlier by them under these guidelines.

Yours faithfully

(C.D. Singh)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The PMO, New Delhi (Kind attn. Ms. Kalpana Awasthi, Director).
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.
3. The Secretary, Planning Commission, New Delhi.
4. The Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, New Delhi.
5. The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi.
6. All the PCCFs / Nodal Officers of all States/UTs.
7. All the Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment & Forests.
8. The Director General of Police (All States/UTs).
9. The Director (FC) / AIGs (FC).
10. File No. 2-1/2003-FC
11. Guard File.

(C.D. Singh)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

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 : 08.04.2009

To

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

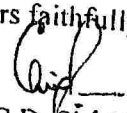
**Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 - guidelines relating to general approval under for underground laying of optical fibre cables, underground laying of telephone lines and underground laying of drinking water supply pipelines -reg.**

Sir,

In continuation of this Ministry's letter of even number dated 27.12.2007 granting general approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for underground laying of optical fibre cables, underground laying of telephone lines and underground laying of drinking water supply pipelines for a period up to 31.12.2008, the guidelines granting general approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 have been further extended till further orders subject to the parameters and conditions already stipulated in this Ministry's letter of even number dated 16.10.2000 and 21.11.2005.

All the State / UT Governments are requested to submit a quarterly progress report on the extent of forest land diverted for each purpose to the Ministry as well as the concerned Regional Offices.


Yours faithfully

  
(C.D. Singh)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The PMO, New Delhi (Kind attn.: Mr. Amit Agrawal, Director).
2. All the PCCFs / Nodal Officers of all States / UTs.
3. All the Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment & Forests.
4. The Director General of Police (All States / UTs).
5. The Director (FC) / AIGs (FC).
6. File No. 2-1/2003-FC
7. Guard File.

  
(C.D. Singh)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests