

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Raod, Aliganj
New Delhi – 110003

Dated: the 22nd March, 2021

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary (Forest)
All States/UTs Government

Sub: Extension of date of General Approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of less than one hectare of forest land non-forestry purpose-reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Punjab letter No. FOREST-FCA00THERS/53/2020-FCA dated 19.11.2020 regarding extension of the General Approval for diversion of forest land for construction of approach road to road side establishments for Government/private entrepreneurs (not more than 0.1 hectare of forest land in each case). As per para 4.7 of the FCA, 1980 Comprehensive Guideline, the General Approval was valid up to 31.12.2019.

2. It is reported that in compliance to above stated guidelines the Government of Punjab has accorded Stage-I approval to 39 proposals, out of which 21 proposals have been issued Stage-II by the State Government and there are as many as 18 proposals pending for consideration of Stage-II approval at state level.

3. The issue was examined in the Ministry and it has been decided that in all such cases in which the State Government has accorded Stage I approval prior to 31.12.2019 and are pending for Stage II approval, State government can grant final approval under the provisions of FCA 1980 within five years of issue of Stage-I approval.

4. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Sandeep Sharma)
Asst. Inspector General of Forests
E-mail: Sandeep.sharma76@gov.in

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), All State/UT Governments.
2. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the PCCF, All State/UT Governments.
3. The Dy Director General of Forests (Central), All Regional Offices of the MoEF&CC.
4. PPS to Secretary (EF&CC) GoI, PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC, GoI.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF and CC, New Delhi.