

F. No. 11-306/ 2014-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 110 003
Dated: 7th October, 2014

To

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


Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980- Simplified procedure to obtain approval under the Act for re-diversion or change in land use of forest land diverted for non-forest purpose- *reg.*

Sir,

I am directed to draw attention to para 2.1 (iv) of guidelines issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (FC Act) which provides that wherever re-diversion of forest land becomes essential, State Government should seek the prior permission of the Central Government giving details of the earlier approval and the proposed activity details in letter form rather than initiating a fresh proposal. It has however, been observed that this Ministry is receiving fresh proposals seeking prior approval of Central Government for re-diversion or change in land use of the forest land diverted for non-forest purpose.

After careful examination of the matter, I am directed to say that wherever re-diversion or change in approved land use of the forest land for the same project becomes essential, State Government should seek the prior permission of the Central Government giving details of the earlier approval and the proposed activity details in letter form rather than initiating a fresh proposal, as is provided in para 2.1 (iv) of guidelines issued under the FC Act. It is however, clarified that in case re-diversion of whole or a part of the forest land diverted for non-forest purpose for execution of a project, becomes essential for execution of a project other than the project for which such forest land was originally diverted, State Government should seek prior permission of the Central Government under the FC Act by initiating a fresh proposal.

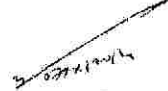
Yours faithfully,


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director

Copy to:-

1. Prime Minister's Office (*Kind attn:* Shri Santosh D. Vaidya, Director), North Block, New Delhi.

2. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India, New Delhi.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, New Delhi.
4. Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Government of India, New Delhi
5. The Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, 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 and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India (GoI).
9. Joint Secretary, Impact Assessment Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
10. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests/ Directors in the Forest Conservation Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
11. Director, Regional Offices Headquarters Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
12. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEFCC, GoI with a request to place a copy of this letter on website of this Ministry.
13. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, GoI.
14. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEFCC, GoI.
15. Sr. PPS to the Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEFCC, GoI.
16. PS to the Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEFCC, GoI.
17. Guard File.


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director