

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi: 110003

Dated: November, 2024

To

The Addl. Chief Secretaries of Forests/Principal Secretary (Forests),
All States Governments and Union territory Administrations

Sub: Streamlining of the approval process as envisaged in guidelines notified by the Central Government on 29.11.2023 under sub-section (2) of section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 – reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Ministry of Mines, Government of India's DO No. DO No. M.I-403/2020-Mines I dated 3.09.2024 and Secretary General, Federation of Indian Mineral Industry's letter No. A/MOEFCC/24/301 dated 28.10.2024 on the above subject requesting this Ministry to streamline the approval process of proposals pertaining to surveys and exploratory drilling in forest area. In this connection, it is to inform that the matter has been examined in the Ministry and after due deliberations, the Central Government, in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 amends clause (6) of Guidelines notified on 29.11.2023, incorporated at para 6.1 (6) of the Consolidated Guidelines dated 29.12.2023 and issues further additional guidelines as under:

- i. The State Government or Union territory Administration, as the case may be, may authorize the Nodal Officer, dealing with the matters related to land transfer under the Adhiniyam, to grant permissions to proposals of survey and exploratory drilling in the forest area involving drilling of 25 bore hole of 4 inch diameter per 10 sq km, 80 shot hole of 6.5 inch diameter per sq km and/or felling of 100 trees in the entire prospecting/survey area.
- ii. The Divisional Forest Officer, within a period of one month, after receiving of the proposal, shall record his observations and recommendations and directly forward the online application to Nodal Officer along with demand for making the payment of Net Present Value (NPV) and other compensatory levies, as applicable.
- iii. The Nodal Officer, after receipt and examination of the proposal from the Divisional Forest Officer, within a period of fifteen days, shall give permission, through online portal (PARIVESH) along with demand for making the payment of Net Present Value (NPV) and other compensatory levies, as applicable.
- iv. The user agency, after receiving the approval from the Nodal Officer, within a period of fifteen days, shall deposit the compensatory levies into the account of State CAMPA, managed by the National Authority, CAMPA.
- v. In case, the user agency fails to make payment against the demand raised as above within the stipulated time, 12% interest per month shall be levied on the amount not paid in time.
- vi. The Divisional Forest Officer, in pursuance of the approval granted by the Nodal Officer and after deposition of the compensatory levies, will allow the user agency to undertake survey or exploration drilling in the proposed forest

land.

In view of the above, the State Government and Union territory Administrations are requested to take into consideration the guidelines mentioned hereinabove while considering the proposals exempted under subsection (2) of section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'E'

Copy to:

1. Secretary, M/o Mines/Coal/Steel/Power/Railways/MoRT&H/Defence
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, All States Governments and Union territory Administrations
3. Dy Director General of Forests (Central) All Regional Offices of the MoEF&CC
4. Nodal Officers, dealing with the matters related to the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, All States Governments and Union territory Administrations
5. Head, NIC, MoEFCC for aligning the PARIVESH 2.0 as per above