

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jorbagh Road,  
New Delhi - 110 001  
Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2014

To

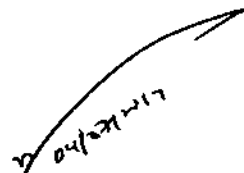
**The Principal Secretary (Forests),**  
Government of Arunachal Pradesh,  
Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim

**Sub:** Guidelines issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose- Special provision for creation of compensatory afforestation in lieu of forest land diverted for creation of strategic defence projects (including infra-structure and road projects) being taken up in the area located within 100 km aerial distance from of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) by any user agency identified by the Ministry of Defence.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter No 11-156/2008-FC dated 27<sup>th</sup> April 2011 wherein in partial relaxation of guidelines governing creation of compensatory afforestation in lieu of the forest land diverted in favour of the Central Government Departments and Central Government undertaking which provides that compensatory afforestation in lieu of the forest land diverted for Central Government/Central Government Undertaking Projects, compensatory afforestation may be raised on degraded forest land twice in extent of forest area being diverted, without insisting of certificate of Chief Secretary regarding non-availability of non-forest land for compensatory afforestation, *inter-alia* it was informed that the compensatory afforestation will be raised and maintained at the cost of the user agency over degraded forest land equal in extent to the area of forest land diverted for construction of Border Roads by the Border Roads Organization (BRO). The Ministry of Defence has requested this Ministry to extend the said relaxation to all strategic defence projects (including infra-structure and road projects) being taken up in the area located within 100 km aerial distance from the Line of Actual Control (LAC) by any user agency identified by the Ministry of Defence.

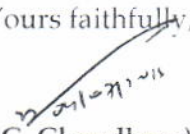
The matter has been examined in this Ministry and after careful consideration, with a view to expedite creation of strategic defence projects, this Ministry hereby decides to extend the said relaxation to all strategic defence projects (including infra-structure and road projects)

  
20/07/14

being taken up in the area falling within 100 km aerial distance from the LAC by any user agency identified by the Ministry of Defence.

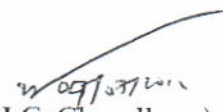
This issue with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,

  
(H.C. Chaudhary)  
Director

Copy to:-

1. Prime Minister's Office (*Kind attn.:* Shri Santosh D. Vaidya, Director).
2. Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Government of India, New Delhi.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, 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. The Member-Secretary, Planning Commission, Government of India New Delhi.
7. Director General, Border Roads Organization, New Delhi
8. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim
9. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim.
10. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India (GoI).
11. Joint Secretary in-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
12. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests/ Directors in the Forest Conservation Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
13. Director, Regional Offices Headquarters Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
- ✓ 14. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEFCC, GoI with a request to place a copy of the letter on website of this Ministry.
15. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, GoI.
16. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEFCC, GoI.
- ✗ 17. Sr. PPS to the Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEFCC, GoI.
18. PS to the Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEFCC, GoI.
- ✗ 19. Guard File.

  
(H.C. Chaudhary)  
Director