

PROCESS FOR DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND FOR NON FORESTRY PURPOSE UNDER FOREST (CONSERVATION) ACT,1980

- **The diversion of forest land for any forestry purpose requires prior approval of Govt. of India under Section 2 of the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.**
- **For this purpose, the concerned user agency is required to formulate a proposal for seeking diversion of forest land, which is submitted to concerned DFO on prescribed Form- I.**
- **The site proposed for diversion is inspected by the DFO to assess the bare minimum requirement of the forest land for the project and site inspection report of DFO is invariably placed with the proposal folder along with his specific recommendations.**
- **The proposed site is visited by the Joint Inspection Committee to find out whether the site is specific for the project or not**
- **The complete proposal duly recommended by DFO on Form –II is forwarded to the respective Conservator of Forests, who after examining the same, records his recommendation on Part-III of the proposal and forward the same to the Nodal officer-cum- Addl. Pr. CCF(FCA) O/o Pr. CCF, H.P for getting the recommendation of the State Govt. and then the forwarding the same for obtaining the approval of the GoI under Section 2 of the FCA,1980.**
- **The proposals seeking diversion of forest land up to 5 ha are approved by the Northern Regional office, MoEF, Chandigarh and proposals above 5 ha are approved by Minister In charge, Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests ,New Delhi**
- **The respective State Governments are also empowered to accord approval for diversion of forest land for non- forestry purposes in certain developmental activities where the diversion does not involve an area of more than one ha and the number of trees is to felled is not**

more than 5 ha. The forest land up to 1 ha is diverted for creation of critical development and security related infrastructure of following categories by Govt. Departments:-

- 1. Schools;**
- 2. Dispensaries/hospitals**
- 3. Electric and telecommunication lines;**
- 4. Drinking water projects'**
- 5. Water/rainwater harvesting structures;**
- 6. Minor irrigation canals;**
- 7. Non-conventional sources of energy;**
- 8. Skill up gradation/vocational training centers;**
- 9. Power Sub Stations;**
- 10. Communications posts;**
- 11. Construction/widening of roads including approach roads to road side establishment;**
- 12. Up-gradation/strengthening/widening of existing]bridges by the Borders Roads Organization (BRO);and**
- 13. Police establishments like police stations/outposts/border outposts/ watch towers in sensitive areas identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs**

- **The approval is granted by Govt. of India in two stages. After receiving 'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval , the amount due towards carrying out Compensatory Afforestation (CA) in equivalent private land or double of the degraded forest land and Net present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land is required to be deposited by the concerned user agency Thereafter, the final approval is granted by the**

Govt. of India. The rates of NPV has been fixed in compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 15.3 2008. Rates of CA are Rs.54,000/- per ha + 17.5% departmental charges & 5 % contingency charges.