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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS
PARYAVARAN BHAVAN, C.G.O. COMPLEX
LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110 003

No. 11-9/98-FC Dated : 4.05.2001

To

The Secretary (Forests),
All States & Union Territories

Sub:- Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act,1980 that are part of National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

Sir,

I am directed to invite your attention to the guidelines circulated by this Ministry vide letter of even no. dated 4-12-98 regarding submission of proposals for diversion of forest land in Sanctuaries/National Park and Tiger Reserve areas. You may be aware that subsequent to the issue of this guidelines, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has passed two important orders relating to National Parks and Sanctuaries- one dt. 13.11.00 in WP No. 337/95, where they have directed that pending further orders, no de-reservation of Sanctuaries and National Parks shall be effected. In the other order dt. 14.02.00, in WP No. 202/95, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has restrained all the States from ordering even the removal of dead, diseased, dying or wind-fallen trees and grasses etc. from any National Park or Sanctuary.

2. In view of the above orders of the Supreme Court, the State Governments are advised not to submit any proposal for diversion of forest land in National Parks and Sanctuaries under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 without seeking prior permission of the Supreme Court. The earlier guideline issued by the Ministry may be considered to this extent.

Yours faithfully

Sd/-

(A.N. Prasad)
Deputy Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. PCCFs/Chief Wildlife Wardens/Nodal Officers of all States & Union Territories
2. Regional CCFs (Central) and CF (Central) for information and necessary action.

Sd/-

(A.N. Prasad)
Deputy Inspector General of Forests