

F.No. 8-84/2002-FC  
 Government of India  
 Ministry of Environment and Forests  
 F.C. Division

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
 CGO Complex  
 Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

Dated: - 3rd February, 2004

To,

The Secretary ( Forestry)  
 All State and Union Territories.

**Subject: - Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980- modification in Para 4.2 (i) regarding.**

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that detailed specific guidelines for submission of proposals for diversion of forest land for developmental projects under the Forest ( Conservation) Act, 1980 were finalised and circulated to all the State Government/Union territories by the Ministry of Environment & Forests vide letter number No. 2-1/2003-FC dated 20.10.2003. Para 4.2 (i) of the guidelines Environment & Forest vide letter No. 2-1/2003-FC dated 20.10.2003. Para 4.2 (i) of the guidelines stipulated that "That non-forest land which is transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for the purpose of compensatory afforestation, should be declared as RF/Pf under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 prior to State-II approval".

In this regard, the Central Government has received representations from various State Governments/ User Agencies, more specifically from karnataka Renewal Energy Development Limited ( KREDL), an undertaking of Government of Karnataka, as the process of declaration of the non-forest land as RF/PF is a time taking process. This long duration may cause the unnecessary delay in implementation/execution of the development projects.

"The non-forest land which is transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for the purpose of compensatory afforestation, should be declared as RF/PF under the Indian Forest Act, 1927. The land shall be handed over to the User Agency after the same has been mutated in favour of Forest Department. Stage-II clearance shall be given after the land is mutated in favour of the Forest Department but the Nodal Officer must report compliance within a period of 6 months and send a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, as the case may be, to the Central Government for information and record."

These issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully

Sd/-

(ANURAG BAJPAI)

Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

**Copy to:-**

1. All PCCFs/Nodal Officers ( All States/UTs)
2. All Regional Offices
3. Director ( FC)/AIGs ( FC)
4. Karnataka Renewal Energy Development Limited ( KREDL), Bangalore
5. PS to IGF (FC)
6. F. No. 2-1/2003-FC
7. Guard File.