Sub.: Guidelines for diversion of Forest land for non-forest purposes under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

Sir,
Detailed guidelines for submission of proposals for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 were finalised and circulated to all the State Government/Union Territories on 25.10.1992. A review of these guidelines is done from time to time.

After a recent review the Ministry has observed that in many proposals, which had been accorded in-principle approvals with conditions, the compliance reports have not been submitted by the State Governments although considerable time has elapsed. Some of the compliance reports are awaited for almost 10 years. The non-submission of compliance report indicates that the State Government/user agency is no longer interested in the project. Therefore, it has been decided that in cases where compliance of conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval is awaited for more than 5 (five) years from the State Governments, the in-principle approvals would summarily be revoked. After revocation of the in-principle approval, if the State Government/user agency is still interested in the project, they would be required to submit a fresh proposal which shall be considered de-novo.