Copy of letter No. F.No.5-5/98-FC dated 15.01.03 from Shri R.K. Gupta Asstt. Inspector General of Forests, Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, F.C. Division, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (All States) etc.

Sub.: The Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 1981 have been superseded by the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 vide Gazette of India, Extraordinary notification No. G.S.R. 23(E) dated 10.01.2003. A copy of the notification is enclosed for reference. The major changes in the new Rules are as follows:-

- 1. Two forms instead of the earlier one Form Clear demarcation in Forms for processing at various levels.
- 2. User agency to submit complete proposal to the Nodal Officer of the State.
- 3. Specific time-limits for disposal of the proposals at the State Government / Central Government have been specified.
- 4. Reginal Offices of the Ministry to process proposals involving diversion of forest land upto forty hectares.
- 5. च्तवबमकनतम वित जांपदह बवहदप्रंदबम हंपदेज चमतेवदे हनपसजल वविामिदबमे नदकमत जीम ।बजण