

Copy of letter No. F.No.11-30/96-FC(Pt.I) dated 16.4.2003 from Shri R.K. Gupta, Asstt. Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment and Forests, F.C. Division, Govt. of India, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110008 to the Secretary (Forests) all States & All PCCFs etc. Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Rajasthan, Jaipur endorsement No. F.16(Circular)2000/FP/ PCCF /5767-5906 date 28.5.2003

Sub.: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the 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 constant review of these guidelines has been done from time to time.

The Ministry vide letter No.11-30/96 –FC dated 10.04.1997 had issued guideline No.3.2 (viii) providing for compensatory afforestation on double the degraded forest land in respect of Central Government projects. Of late, it is being seen that in few cases although the Central PSUs have been undertaking projects on behalf of the State Governments but compensatory afforestation is being proposed over double the degraded forest land. In view of this, The Ministry hereby clarifies that the provisions of guideline 3.2 (viii) would be applicable to only Central Sector projects and not on State Sector projects which are being undertaken by Central PSUs on turn key basis. In such cases, compensatory afforestation on equivalent non-forest land/a certificate of Chief Secretary regarding non-availability of equivalent non-forest land anywhere in the State shall be insisted upon.