

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನ ಪರಿಷತ್ತು

ಚುಕ್ಕೆ ಗುರುತಿನ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 96(989)

ಸದಸ್ಯರ ಹೆಸರು : ಶ್ರೀ ಶಾಂತಾರಾಮ್ ಬುಡ್ಕೆ ಸಿದ್ಧಿ
(ನಾಮ ನಿರ್ದೇಶನ ಹೊಂದಿದವರು)

ಉತ್ತರಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 20.09.2021

ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವವರು : ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ, ಆಹಾರ ಮತ್ತು ನಾಗರಿಕ ಸರಬರಾಜು
ಹಾಗೂ ಗ್ರಾಹಕರ ವ್ಯವಹಾರಗಳ ಸಚಿವರು

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ	ಉತ್ತರ
ಅ)	ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣೆಯ ಕಾನೂನುಗಳಿಂದ ಬುಡಕಟ್ಟು ಜನರಿಗೆ ಆಗುತ್ತಿರುವ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿದೆಯೇ;	ಬುಡಕಟ್ಟು ಜನಾಂಗಗಳು ವಾಸಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಸೌಕರ್ಯಗಳಾದ ರಸ್ತೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ, ಅಗಲೀಕರಣ, ಶಾಲೆ, ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ, ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಪ್ರಸರಣ ಮಾರ್ಗ, ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಅರಣ್ಯ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡುವ ಕುರಿತಂತೆ 1 ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣದವರೆಗಿನ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ಗೆ 50 ಮರಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಮರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಡಿಯುವ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ (General Approval) ಅನ್ನು ನೀಡಲು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. (ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪತ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:F.No.5.2/2017-FC dated: 28-03-2019 (Chapter-4, Para 4.1 to 4.3.1) (ಅನುಬಂಧದಲ್ಲಿ ಒದಗಿಸಿದೆ). ಇಂತಹ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಿತ ಉಪಯೋಗಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಪರಿಪೂರ್ಣವಾದ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಬುಡಕಟ್ಟು ಜನರಿಗೆ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಪ್ರಸಂಗಗಳು ಬರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.
ಆ)	ಬಂದಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ, ಬುಡಕಟ್ಟು ಜನರ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿವಾರಿಸಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡ ಕ್ರಮಗಳೇನು; (ವಿವರ ನೀಡುವುದು).	ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯು ನೀಡಿದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯಂತೆ, ಬುಡಕಟ್ಟು ಜನಾಂಗಗಳ ಜನರಿಗೆ ವಾಸಸ್ಥಳದ ಮೇಲಿನ ಹಾಗೂ ಜೀವನೋಪಾಯದ ಅಧಿಭೋಗವನ್ನು ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಹಿತಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಅನುಸೂಚಿತ ಬುಡಕಟ್ಟುಗಳ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಪಾರಂಪರಿಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ವಾಸಿಗಳ (ಅರಣ್ಯ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮಾಡುವ) ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 2006 (2007ರ 2) ಮತ್ತು ನಿಯಮಗಳು - 2008 (ನಿಯಮಗಳ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ-2012) ಅಧಿನಿಯಮವನ್ನು ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಈ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನದ ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ	ಉತ್ತರ															
		<p>ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟ, ಉಪವಿಭಾಗ ಮಟ್ಟ ಹಾಗೂ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಹಕ್ಕು ಸಮಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ರಚಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.</p> <p>ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಅವಕಾಶದಂತೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳನ್ನು ವಿತರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ಕ್ಷೇಮುದಾರರ ವಿವರ</th><th>ವಿತರಿಸಿರುವ ಹಕ್ಕುಪತ್ರಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ</th><th>ಮಂಜೂರು ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಭೂಮಿ ವಿವರ (ಎಕರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ</td><td>12481</td><td>17286.33</td></tr> <tr> <td>ಇತರೆ ಪಾರಂಪರಿಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ವಾಸಿಗಳು</td><td>1976</td><td>2425.44</td></tr> <tr> <td>ಸಮುದಾಯ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳು</td><td>1341</td><td>36343.24</td></tr> <tr> <td>ಒಟ್ಟು</td><td>15798</td><td>56055.01</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>ವಿವಿಧ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬಾಕಿ ಇರುವ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಶೀಘ್ರವಾಗಿ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.</p>	ಕ್ಷೇಮುದಾರರ ವಿವರ	ವಿತರಿಸಿರುವ ಹಕ್ಕುಪತ್ರಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಮಂಜೂರು ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಭೂಮಿ ವಿವರ (ಎಕರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ	12481	17286.33	ಇತರೆ ಪಾರಂಪರಿಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ವಾಸಿಗಳು	1976	2425.44	ಸಮುದಾಯ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳು	1341	36343.24	ಒಟ್ಟು	15798	56055.01
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ಒಟ್ಟು	15798	56055.01															

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: FEE 172 FWL 2021

(ಉಮೇಶ್ ಪಿ.ಕೆ.ತಿ)

ಅರಣ್ಯ, ಆಹಾರ, ನಾಗರಿಕ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಹಕರ ವ್ಯವಹಾರಗಳ ಸಚಿವರು

F. No. 5-2/2017- FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, forests and Climate Change
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 28th March, 2019

To,
The Principal Secretary/Secretary (Forests),
All State/UT Governments.

Sub: Handbook of guidelines for effective and transparent implementation of the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Sir,

In supersession of all guidelines issued in the past, a handbook of guidelines is issued for effective and transparent implementation of the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. All the provisions enshrined in these guidelines will be applicable from 8th March 2019 onwards. The copy of comprehensive guidelines is available on Ministry's website: www.parivesh.nic.in.

This issue with the approval of competent authority.

Yours faithfully,



(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forest (FC)

Copy to:

1. Prime Minister's Office, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Mines/Coal/Steel/MORTH/MoPNG/MHA/MoP/MoTA, Government of India, New Delhi.
3. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all State/UT Governments.
4. Nodal Officer (FCA), all State/ UT Governments.
5. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), GoI, New Delhi.
6. Joint Secretary in-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEF&CC, GoI, New Delhi.
7. All IGF/ DIGF/AIGF in MoEF&CC, GoI, New Delhi.
8. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEF&CC with a request to place a copy of the letter on website of this Ministry.
9. PPS to Secretary (EF&CC)/DGF&SS/ADGF(FC)/ADGF(Wildlife), MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
10. Guard File.



(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forest (FC)

o/c
17/4/19

Chapter 4

General Approval under Section 2(ii) of FCA – Development of Critical Public & Strategic Defence Infrastructure

4.1 The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003, and amendments issued therein, provide the regulatory procedures for prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land for non-forest use required by various User Agencies including the Central/State Government Departments and PSUs. However, the Central Government has granted General Approvals for diversion of forest land for the specified area in each case and for specified public utility services and critical/strategic defence infrastructure as detailed below, subject to the following:

- (a) User Agency shall apply, online, in the "Form A" of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 and amendments issued therein.
- (b) The procedure for processing of the applications as stipulated in the Forest (Conservation) Rules 2003 as amended up to date will be strictly followed. However, in view of General Approval granted by the Central Government the decision for diversion of the forest land or rejection thereof will be taken by the respective State/UT Government and a copy of the decision will be forwarded to the MoEF&CC and the its concerned Regional Office.
- (c) The forest area involved is not within a National Park and/or a Wild Life Sanctuary.
- (d) User Agency (UA) shall explore all feasible alternatives to minimize use of forest land.
- (e) Forest land to be used shall be restricted to the bare minimum and shall be used only when it is unavoidable.
- (f) The UA will submit scheme for Compensatory Afforestation as per extant guidelines in the matter.
- (g) The UA shall pay the applicable NPV in pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
- (h) In addition to monthly report of diversions of forest land under General Approval accorded by MoEF&CC, each State/UT Government shall submit half yearly reports for the period ending June 30 and December 31 containing details of all forest lands diverted under the General Approval along with the actual status of actual utilization of the forest lands so diverted for the stated purpose, to the MoEF&CC and its concerned Regional Office.
- (i) The diversions and compliance to the conditions will be monitored by the concerned Regional Office, MoEF&CC.

4.2 Laying of Under Ground Optical Fiber Cables (OFC), telephone lines, drinking water supply pipelines, electricity cables, CNG/PNG and Slurry pipelines.

General approval is accorded for the above listed projects along the roads within existing RoWs (trench size not more than two meter in depth and one meter in width) not falling in National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries' without felling of trees. Approval, in addition to general conditions mentioned above under para 4.1, is subject to the following specific conditions:

- No tree felling is involved for the proposed work
- After completion of the project the area under RoW should be reclaimed suitably.
- UA agrees to make good any loss to Forest/Environment.
- The UA will seek permission from the local FD for carrying out any maintenance.
- In case, the proposed area falls in the RoW of the road passing through National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, General Approval is subject to requisite permissions from the State Board for Wildlife shall be obtained.
- In case, the proposed area falls in the RoW of the road passing through Tiger Reserves, General Approval is subject to requisite permissions from the National Board for Wildlife/NTCA shall be obtained.

4.3 Critical development initiatives for public

General approval for diversion of forest area for the development of following critical public utility and welfare projects undertaken by the Government:

- a. Schools/Educational Institutes;
- b. Dispensary/hospital;
- c. Electric and telecommunication lines;
- d. Drinking water;
- e. Water/rainwater harvesting structures;
- f. Minor irrigation canal;
- g. Non-conventional sources of energy;
- h. Skill up-gradation /-vocational training center;
- i. Power sub stations;
- j. Communication posts;
- k. Construction/widening of roads including approach road to roadside establishments
- l. Upgradation/strengthening/widening of existing bridges by BRO
- m. Police establishments like police stations /outposts /border outposts /towers in sensitive areas (identified by Ministry of Home Affairs)
- n. Government approved community toilets partly or fully in forest lands involving not more than one-hectare subject to approval by GP in rural areas and urban bodies in urban areas, and
- o. Water mills

4.3.1 This approval, (in addition to general conditions mentioned above in para – 4.1) is subject to following conditions:

- (a) Area not more than one hectare, in each case.
- (b) The area shall not involve felling of more than 50 trees per/ha. In case the area to be diverted is less than 1 ha, then permissible tree felling limit, within the area to be diverted, shall be worked out proportionately. In any case, if the number of trees to be felled is less than 10, irrespective of the area to be diverted, within the limit of 1 ha;

general approval will be applicable.

- (c) Monthly report by the Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation) shall be submitted to the concerned Regional Office by 5th of every month. In the event of failure, the exercise of power by the State/UT Government to grant such permission may be suspended by the Central Government for a specified period of time or till the information is submitted.
- (d) User Agency shall plant and maintain ten times the number of trees felled on the diverted land to maintain the green cover at the project cost. Planting site for the purpose will be identified by the State Forest Department (preferably in the surrounding area of the project). Indigenous forest tree species shall be used for such plantations. Trees, if planted on the diverted area, will not be felled without the permission of the State Forest Department. Trees, planted in surrounding area, will belong to State Forest Department.

4.4 Public infrastructure in LWE districts

4.4.1 Following 14 categories of public infrastructure works undertaken by the State Government in LWE affected districts, as notified by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) from time to time, not falling in PAs, are given general approval in forest land upto 40 ha under Section – 2 (ii) of the FCA, 1980:

- a. Schools/Educational Institutes,
- b. Dispensaries/Hospitals,
- c. Electrical and Telecommunication Lines,
- d. Drinking Water,
- e. Water/Rain Water Harvesting Structures,
- f. Minor Irrigation Canal,
- g. Non-Conventional Sources of Energy,
- h. Skill up Gradation/Vocational Training Center,
- i. Power Sub-stations,
- j. Public roads (including quarrying of materials to be used),
- k. Communication Posts,
- l. Police establishments like Police Stations / Outposts / Border Outposts / Watch Towers in sensitive area (identified by Ministry of Home Affairs); and
- m. Underground optical fiber cables, telephone lines & drinking water supply lines.
- n. Setting up Medical Colleges by Government Departments

4.4.2 This General Approval is also applicable to projects in the LWE districts, identified by the MHA, requiring diversion of forest land not located within Protected Areas for construction of two-lane public roads irrespective of area of the forest land involved.

4.4.3 CA is applicable for all such proposals involving area upto 40 ha except for proposals upto 5 ha with less than 50 tree per ha. (For areas upto 5ha with less than 50 trees the provisions of planting as detailed in Section 3 of Chapter 2 shall be applicable).

4.4.4 However, all such proposals involving more than 5 ha and up to 40 ha and/or having more than 50 trees per ha shall be placed before the following Committee to be constituted by respective State Governments:

- i. Addl. Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary of the State – Chairman
- ii. APCCF Regional Office of MoEF&CC - Member
- iii. Expert Member of the Regional Empowered Committee – Member
- iv. PCCF & HoFF of the State - Member
- v. Nodal Office (FCA) of the State – Member convener

The Committee which will examine and approve the proposal submitted for diversion of forest land as per the provisions of the Forest Conservation Act and FCA Rules made thereof with amendment and guidelines issued by the Ministry from time to time.

- b. The constitution of such committee shall be communicated to the Ministry. The State Government shall send the report of such diversion undertaken under this dispensation to the Regional office every month.
- c. It has been decided that the State Government shall provide in the proforma given below the details of all forest diversion granted by the State Government under the general approval granted vide below referred letters up to December 2017 and in future on monthly basis for review of the general approval granted under Forest Conservation Act and mitigation measures undertaken by the State Government.

Date of approval	Details of proposal including location along with proposal number	Area Diverted (ha.)	Number of trees felled	Compensatory afforestation (ha/number of plants) undertaken with location	NPV & other compensatory levies collected and deposited in CAMPA fund (Rs)	Remarks

- d. The general approval in LWE areas, is in addition to general conditions mentioned above under para 4.1 This general approval is valid till 31st December, 2020.

4.5 General approval is accorded under Section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land required for creation of the following:

4.5.1 Roads in border areas along LAC (with China) and Army

Diversion of forest land (outside PAs) in the area falling within 100 kilometers of aerial distance from the LAC required for:

- (a) Construction and widening of two-lane roads by the BRO and other road construction agencies entrusted with the job by the Ministry of Defence,
- (b) Widening of roads (by BRO, Indo-Tibetan Border Police and other road construction agencies including NHIDCL which are identified by the Ministry of

Defence as link roads, between Border Roads in the area within 100 Km of aerial distance from the LAC and National Highway/State Highways/Other State Roads, and similar roads by ITBP for which funds are provided by MHA, and

(c) Army Infrastructure Development Project(s).

State Govt. to realize funds for creation of CA over equivalent forest area.

4.5.2 Creation of border security related :

Diversion of forest land for creation of Border Security related infrastructure such as, Border Roads, Fencing, Border Outposts, Floodlights, Surveillance Infrastructure, and Power Infrastructure within;

- a. sixteen-kilometer aerial distance from the Indo - Bhutan and Indo-Myanmar International Borders
- b. fifteen-kilometer aerial distance from the Indo-Nepal International Border and
- c. within 100 km aerial distance of Line of Actual Control (LoC) along Eastern and Western Borders only
- d. within five kilometers of all other International Borders

4.5.3 All such proposals to be executed by the paramilitary organizations of the Ministry of Home Affairs, such as Border Security Force (BSF) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), Border Road Organization (BRO) and other Central Government agencies and PSUs such as National Highway & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) involved in the implementation of such infrastructural projects related to national security from funds provided by the Ministry of Home Affairs, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Legal Status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) The user agency shall submit the project proposal to the State Government in the prescribed i.e. Form -A as provided in Rules- 6 of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003;
- (iii) State Government shall accord approval to the proposal duly recommended by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests;
- (iv) Forest land proposed to be diverted shall be located outside the Protected Areas notified under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972;
- (v) User agency shall explore all feasible alternatives to minimize use of forest land. Forestland to be used for creation of border infrastructure shall be restricted to the bare minimum and shall be used only when it is unavoidable. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer shall certify to this effect;
- (vi) Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 shall submit monthly report to the concerned Regional Office by 5th of every month regularly regarding approval of such cases. In the event of failure, the exercise of power by the State Government to grant such permission may be suspended by the Central Government for a specified period of time of till the information is submitted;
- (vii) State Government shall realize from the user agency funds for creation of compensatory afforestation over degraded forest land equal in extent to the area of forest land utilised for construction/ widening of the roads;

- (viii) User Agency shall be responsible for any loss to the flora/fauna in the surroundings and therefore, shall take all possible measures to conserve the same;
- (ix) User Agency shall pay the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land at the rates stipulated by this Ministry from time to time;
- (x) Permission accorded by the State Government shall be subject to the monitoring by the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry;
- (xi) Forest land utilized for creation of the border infrastructure projects shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the approval accorded by the State Government. Any change in the land use without prior permission of the Central Government shall amount to violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Request of such changes shall be made to this Ministry by the Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation) of the concerned State;
- (xii) State Forest Department/ State Government or the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may impose from time to time any other condition in the interest of conservation protection and / or development of forests; and
- (xiii) This general approval shall be valid till 31st December 2020.

4.6 Underground optical fiber cables by the Ministry of Defence along the roads

For underground optical fiber cables by the Ministry of Defence along the roads within existing Right of Way not falling in National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, without felling of trees, where maximum size of the trench is not more than 2.0 -meter depth and 1.0 meter wide.

The concerned representative of the Ministry of Defence to submit an application in the letter form (in hard copy) along with a duly certified map indicating layout of the OFC, proposed to be laid by them along the roads within existing RoW, directly to the officers authorized by the State Government in this regard. The Government/UT Governments may authorize Officers, not below the rank of Divisional Forest Officer having jurisdiction over the forest land proposed to be utilised for laying of underground optical fiber cables.

In view of the fact that proposal of the Ministry of Defence involves secret data of Defence network and is very confidential in nature, details of approval granted by the concerned officer for this optical fiber cable may not be uploaded on web-portal for online submission and monitoring of forest clearance proposals. Details of approvals accorded for laying of this OFC may however, be provided to the MoEF&CC and its concerned Regional Office for information and records.

4.7 General Approval for diversion of forest land for approach road to road side establishments for private entrepreneurs.

Central Government has agreed to accord general approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **not more than 0.1 hectare of forest land** in each case to government departments/private establishment. This general approval is applicable for approach/access passing through the strip plantation along the linear projects, which has been declared as protected forest under the provisions of IFA, 1927 and not owned by the Forest Department. The general approval shall be subject to fulfillment of following conditions:

- (i) The forest land to be diverted for approach/access should not be more than 0.1 ha in each case.
- (ii) The clearance of such approach/access to development of project shall be subject to the condition that the project is need based.
- (iii) The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged.
- (iv) The user agency shall submit the project proposal to the State/UT Governments in the prescribed format online on Ministry's web portal <https://parivesh.nic.in> under the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 as amended from time to time.
- (v) The project site should be outside Protected Area Network and eco-sensitive zones (ESZ).
- (vi) The concerned Divisional Forest Officer shall assess the bare minimum requirement of the forest land for the project which shall not exceed 0.1 ha in each case and will also certify to this effect.
- (vii) The user agency will seek permission for diversion of forest land duly recommended by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and from State/UT Government.
- (viii) The Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation) shall submit monthly report to the concerned Regional Office by 5th of every month regularly regarding approval of such cases.
- (ix) The User Agency shall plant minimum 50 plants or 10 times the no. of trees/plants to be felled whichever is more on Government land to be identified and certified by DFO.
- (x) The User Agency shall pay the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land at the rates approved by the Ministry.
- (xi) The User Agency shall be responsible for any loss to flora/fauna in the surroundings and therefore, shall take all possible measures in this regard.
- (xii) The permission granted by the State/UT Government shall be subject to the monitoring by the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- (xiii) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the proposal.
- (xiv) Entire process for settlement of rights in accordance with the provisions of FRA, 2006 shall be completed before grant of approval for diversion of such forest land.
- (xv) The State/UT Forest Department or State/UT Government or the concerned Regional Office, may impose any other condition from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and/or development of forests.
- (xvi) This general approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is valid for a period of one year ending **31.12.2019** and will be subject to review thereafter.