

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
REVENUE & D.M. DEPARTMENT

No. 31312 /R&DM, Bhubaneswar, dated the 24th October, 2014.
GE (GL)-S-31/2014

From

Dr. Taradatt. IAS,
Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

To

All Collectors.

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

Sir,

I am directed to invite reference to this Department's Letter No.22958/R&DM, dated 4th August 2014 on the aforementioned subject and to say that Government have laid down certain guidelines for transfer of non-forest Government land for the purpose of compensatory afforestation in lieu of forest land required for development purposes in general and mining and other industrial projects in particular. In the meanwhile, Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change in their F. No.11-306/2014-FC, dated the 8th August, 2014 have issued guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. Keeping in view the above circular, paragraph-4(iii) of this Department's Letter No.22958/R&DM, dated the 4th August, 2014 is substituted as follows:

"In view of scarcity of non-forest Government land, project proponents other than Government projects requiring forest diversion should go for private purchase of land or acquire land through land acquisition mode for raising compensatory afforestation. As far as possible the private land for compensatory afforestation should be identified contiguous to or in the proximity

of the reserved forest or protected forest to enable the Forest Department effectively manage the newly planted area.

Recently, Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change in their F No.11-306/2014-FC, dated 8th August, 2014 have advised all State Governments to set up a Land Bank of non-forest land or revenue forest land for the purpose of creation of compensatory afforestation in lieu of forest land to be diverted for non-forest purposes in order to minimise the delay in clearance of forest diversion proposal. Hence, the land available in the Land Bank may be provided to User Agencies seeking prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act on realisation of premium/land cost.

The land cost of the non-forest land/revenue forest land available in the Land Bank may be determined on the basis of market value of the land as determined in case of acquisition of private land. The bench mark valuation available for the private land situated in the close vicinity having similar advantages may also be taken into account. The valuation of land which is higher may be taken as premium for the land.”

All concerned may be informed accordingly.

Yours faithfully,


22.10.14

Additional Chief Secretary

Memo No. 31313 /R&DM, Date. 24.10.2014.

Copy forwarded to the Principal Secretary, Forest & Environment Department/ Principal Chief Conservator of Forests for information and necessary action.


22.10.14

Additional Chief Secretary