

F. No. 11- 317/ 2014-FC (pt.)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 110 001
Dated: 7th November, 2014

To

The Chief Secretaries
All State / Union Territory Governments

APCCB
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Ms. Suresha
for the needful pl

Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980- Non-availability of non-forest land for creation of compensatory afforestation- reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter No. 11-423/ 2011-FC dated 13th February 2012 on the above mentioned subject, wherein it has *inter-alia* been stipulated that no certificate regarding non-availability of non-forest land for compensatory afforestation in the entire State/UT may be issued by the Chief Secretary, unless he/she obtains joint certificate to this effect from each district collector and Divisional Forest Officer in respect of area under their jurisdiction. It has also been stipulated in this Ministry's said letter dated 13th February 2012 that certificate regarding non-availability of non-forest land for creation of compensatory afforestation shall be accepted only from States having area of forest land more than 50 % of their geographical area.

In partial modification of this Ministry's said letter No. 11-423/ 2011-FC dated 13th February 2012, this Ministry in consideration of requests received from various States and Ministries in the Central Government decided that certificate of non-availability of non-forest land for Compensatory afforestation may be accepted from Chief Secretaries of States and Union Territories having area of forest land more than 33 % of their geographical area, and communicated the same to States/ Union Territories vide letter of even number dated 25th August 2014. With a view to ensuring that certificate regarding non-availability of non-forest land/ revenue forest land in a State/ Union Territory is issued by the Chief Secretary in an informed and objective manner, this Ministry in the said letter of even number dated 25th August 2014 ~~also communicated a format of certificate in this regard to be issued by the Chief Secretaries on their personal Stationary.~~

300/APCCB
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Am
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20/11/2014

Sh. Gaurav

Pl-get these two documents uploaded on our website

20/11

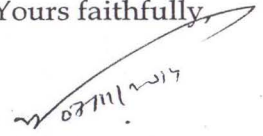
This Ministry has received requests to amend the said format of the Certificate to be issued by the Chief Secretaries regarding non-availability of non-forest land or revenue forest land for compensatory afforestation.

After careful examination of the matter, I am directed to say that in further modification of this Ministry's said letter No. 11-423/2012-FC dated 13th February, 2014, and in partial modification of this Ministry's said letter of even number dated 25th August 2014, this Ministry has formulated a revised format of certificate regarding non-availability of non-forest land or revenue forest land for compensatory afforestation, to be issued by the Chief Secretaries. A copy of the same is enclosed.

I am further directed to say that as provided in the said format, such certificates may be issued by the Chief Secretaries after careful examination of all relevant records and after obtaining requisite reports from concerned officers in the State/ UT.

This issues with approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director

Encl.: As above.

Copy to:-

1. Prime Minister's Office (*Kind attn.:* Shri Santosh D. Vaidya, Director), North Block, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
4. Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
5. Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Government of India Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. Secretary, Ministry of Power, Government of India, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
7. Chairman, Railways Board, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
8. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, Transport Bhawan, New Delhi.
9. The Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
10. Director General, Border Roads Organization, New Delhi.
11. Principal Secretary (Forests), all State/UT Governments.

12. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all State/UT Governments.
13. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all State/UT Governments.
14. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India (GoI).
15. Joint Secretary in-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
16. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests/ Directors in the Forest Conservation Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
17. Director, Regional Offices Headquarters Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
18. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEFCC, GoI with a request to place a copy of this letter on website of this Ministry.
19. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, GoI.
20. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEFCC, GoI.
21. Sr. PPS to the Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEFCC, GoI.
22. PS to the Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEFCC, GoI.
23. Guard File.

2-07/11/2017
(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director

Format of certificate of non-availability of land for compensatory afforestation in the State/ Union Territory to be issued by the Chief Secretary on his/her official letter head

No.....

Dated

Certificate of Non-availability of Land for Compensatory Afforestation

I, Chief Secretary (name of State/ Union Territory) do hereby certify that:

- (i) Relevant records pertaining to non-forest land, revenue lands, *zudpi jungle*, *chhote jhar ka jungle*, *bade jhar ka jungle*, *jungle-jhari land*, *civil-soyam* lands and all other such categories of forest lands (except the forest land under management and administrative control of the Forest Department) on which the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are applicable, available in each district of (name of State/ UT) have been examined; and
- (ii) I have also conducted such further enquiry as is required to satisfy myself for issue of this certificate.

On the basis of examination of all relevant records and such further enquiry, as was required for issue of this Certificate, I do hereby certify that non-forest land, revenue lands, *zudpi jungle*, *chhote jhar ka jungle*, *bade jhar ka jungle*, *jungle-jhari land*, *civil-soyam* lands and all other such categories of forest lands (except the forest land under management and administrative control of the Forest Department) on which the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are applicable, which as per the extant guidelines of the Central Government may be utilised for creation of compensatory afforestation in lieu of forest land diverted for non-forest purpose, is not available in the entire (name of State/ UT)

Issued under my hand and seal on this day of

Signature
Official seal