



The proposals involving Forest Land of more than 5 hectares

User Agency to submit their proposal to e-PARIVESH (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)



The user agency shall make an application to the State Government for approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Act for de-reservation of forest land, use of forest land for non-forest purposes or for assignment of lease, in the specified online Forms, to be notified by the Central Government from time to time.



The copy of the proposal shall be simultaneously forwarded to the concerned Divisional Forest Officers, District Collectors, Conservator of Forests, Chief Conservator of Forests and the Nodal Officer of the State Government or Union territory Administration each of whom shall independently and separately undertake preliminary examination of the completeness of documentation of the proposal for the purpose of examination by the Project Screening Committee.

Proposal Examination

- The Project Screening Committee shall examine the proposal for its completeness and correctness and ensure that deficiencies, if any are identified and shall be informed to the User Agency (U.A.) by Member Secretary.
- A unique identity number, Proposal Identity Number (PIN) is generated by the committee for proposals found complete in all respects.
- Complete proposals are then forwarded to concerned DFOs, DCs, CFs, CCFs for Field Verification.
- Such proposals are forwarded by the Nodal Officer, FCA with approval of the PCCF to the State Government along with recommendations of the Screening committee and a copy to the Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Government of India, Chandigarh.

(Para 9 (4) of Forest Conservation Rules, 2022)

Project Screening Committee

- Nodal Officer, FCA- Chairperson
- Concerned CF/ CCF- Member
- Concerned DFO- Member
- Concerned District Collector or representative- Member
- DFO in the office of Nodal Officer- Member Secretary

*Shall meet at least twice every month and the quorum of the meeting of the Project Screening Committee shall be three.

*Shall, after examination of the proposals, make recommendation to the State Government or Union territory Administration, as the case be.

Approval has following two stages

Stage 1: In-principle Approval

- If the Central Government finds a proposal to be incomplete, it is sent to the State Govt., upon receipt of which the State Govt. administration may furnish the complete information to obtain in-Principle approval.

Stage 2: Final Approval

Granted in-principle approval, including identification of CA site. The proposal moves forward for Final Approval to the Central Government.



After receiving the final approval, the State Government will issue an order that shall issue order for diversion, assignment of lease or dereservation, as the case may be.

The proposals involving Forest Land of less than 5 hectares

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Such proposals are to be examined at DFO level



All complete proposals will be forwarded to the Nodal Officer, FCA by the DFO



Nodal Officer, FCA will send it to the State Government along with recommendations and copy to the Integrated Regional Office, MoEFCC, Government of India, Chandigarh.

Proposal Examination

All proposals involving forest land up to five hectares, shall be examined by the Integrated Regional Office for its completeness and after enquiry as deemed necessary and giving due regard to the aspects listed under sub-clause (ii) of clause (e), 'In-Principle' may be granted by the Integrated Regional Office or may be rejected after the reasons to be recorded in writing.

(Para 9 (5) of Forest Conservation Rules, 2022)

Approval has following two stages

Stage 1: In-principle Approval

- If the Central Government finds a proposal to be incomplete, it is sent to the State Govt., upon receipt of which the State Govt. administration may furnish the complete information to obtain in-Principle approval.

Stage 2: Final Approval

- Granted in-principle approval, including identification of CA site. The proposal moves forward for Final Approval to the Central Government.



After receiving the final approval, the State Government will issue an order that shall issue order for diversion, assignment of lease or dereservation, as the case may be.

NOTE:

*Only proposals more than 5 hectares are examined by the project screening committee. Proposals less than 5 hectares, are forwarded by the nodal officer, FCA on receipt of complete proposals by the DFO.

Creation of Compensatory Afforestation

1. Emphasising on increase in extent of notified Forest Land through Compensatory Afforestation (CA).

- If CA land identified in recorded forests then the requirement for CA land is 2x.
- If CA land is not suitable for normal density tree planting, User Agency to provide additional CA fund for 2x of unsuitable portion of CA land.
- **CA must initiate within one year from date of final approval of the proposal.**

2. Land Bank (Responsibility of the State Government/ Forest Department)

- State Govt. to notify Land Bank on land not attracting FC Act.
- Minimum size 25 Ha (or any size if in contiguity of existing notified forest land).

3. Accredited Compensatory Afforestation (ACA).

1. A system of proactive afforestation to be utilized for obtaining prior approval under section 2 (ii) of the Act.
- In lieu of CA Land and cost of CA.
 - Over a non-forest land free of encumbrance
 - One ACA equals afforestation of 1 Ha with 0.4 or more canopy density.
 - Minimum 5 years old plantation.
 - Minimum size 25 Ha.

General Instructions

- Tree Felling to be restricted to bare minimum & unavoidable number shall be done under supervision of Local Forest Department.
- Forest Land diverted for Non forest purpose shall be appropriately surveyed jointly by User Agency (U.A) and Forest department, proper demarcation marks on ground using appropriate permanent boundary marks at the cost of U.A
- For the purpose of Forest Cover, the figures and description as per latest Indian State Forest Report (ISFR) published by FSI, India to be referred.
- Central Govt. may cancel the approval accorded in respect of a proposal, with or without request of the State Govt. and may decide to refund the Compensatory Levies
- The conditions imposed by Central Government for diversion of forest land for the non-forest purpose shall not be changed or modified after a period of two years from the date of grant of final approval unless some exceptional circumstances arise or the Central Government considers it necessary to impose any additional clause of compliance.

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