

Bill No. 202 of 2019

THE FOREST (CONSERVATION) AMENDMENT BILL, 2019

By

SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE, M.P.

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BILL

further to amend the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2019.

Short title.

69 of 1980.

2. After section 3B of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

Insertion of new section 3C.

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"3C. Notwithstanding anything contained in sections 2 and 3, or any other law for the time being in force, when a forest land or any part thereof, is required for any work relating to irrigation project, the clearance for the deforestation of the forest land may be given by the District Collector in whose jurisdiction the forest area falls."

Clearance for deforestation for irrigation projects by District Collector.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Forest Conservation Act, 1980 was enacted with a view to conserve forests and to protect environment and ecology. It is indeed a laudable initiative. But, the provisions in this Act come in the way of developmental work which are undertaken for the benefit of population at large. Any initiative, although it is very good, should not come in the way of development. Farmers depend upon irrigation for agricultural purposes. But irrigation projects are not being taken up because of the provisions of this Act.

It is, therefore, proposed that irrigation projects shall be exempted from the purview of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

NEW DELHI;
July 8, 2019.

ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE

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further to amend the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

(Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete, M.P.)