

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 723
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2017

Extension of Scheme

723.SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to State:

- (a) whether the Government has extended a scheme granting default forests approval for public utility projects in Naxal affected regions upto December, 2018;
- (a) if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the areas covered under the said scheme, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

- (a) to (c): The Central Government has accorded general approval under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure by Government Departments involving not more than 5.00 hectares of forest land in each case in Left Extremism (LWE) affected districts upto 31st December, 2018. The guidelines dated 25th February, 2016 are Annexed at 'A'. The list of 117 LWE affected districts which are covered under the above mentioned guidelines is Annexed at 'B'.

F. No. 11-09/98-EC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 110 001
Dated: 25th February, 2016

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests)
All States / Union Territories

Sub: General approval under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure by Government Departments involving not more than 5.00 hectares of forest land in each case in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts-reg.

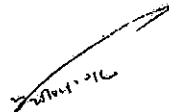
Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letters of even number dated 13th May, 2011, 10th December 2012, 1st February, 2013, 17th May 2013 and 5th March 2014 read with this Ministry's letter of even number dated 16th June 2011, on the above-mentioned subject, wherein this Ministry accorded general approval under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure of certain categories, as specified in these letters by Government Departments involving not more than 5.00 hectares of forest land in each case in 117 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts, as specified in these letters, subject to conditions specified in these letters read with this Ministry's letter of even number dated 16th June 2011, for a period ending on 31st December 2015.

2. I am also directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 4th July 2014 on the above-mentioned subject wherein this Ministry extended the said general approval to projects involving diversion of forest land, not located within the protected areas, for construction of two lane public roads by Government Departments in the said 117 LWE affected districts, irrespective of the area of forest land involved in such projects, for a period ending on 31st December 2015.

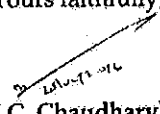
3. This Ministry has received representations to extend the period of validity of these general approvals.

4. Accordingly, after careful examination of the matter in this Ministry, I am directed to say that period of validity of the afore-mentioned general approvals has been extended till the period ending on 31st December, 2018,



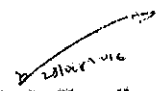
This issues with approval of the Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Yours faithfully,


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director

Copy to:-

1. Prime Minister's Office (*Kind attn.:* Shri Santosh D. Vaidya, Director), New Delhi.
2. The Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi.
3. The Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.
4. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, New Delhi.
5. The Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, New Delhi.
6. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all States/Union territories.
7. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all States/Union territories.
8. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
9. Joint Secretary in-charge, Impact Assessment Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
10. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests/ Director in the Forest Conservation Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
11. Director, Regional Offices Headquarters Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
12. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEF with a request to place a copy of the letter on website of this Ministry.
13. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
14. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
15. Sr. PPS to the Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
16. PS to the Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
17. Guard File.


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director

F. No. 11-9/98-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110 510.
Dated: 13th May, 2011

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
All States / Union Territory Governments except Jammu and Kashmir

Sub: General approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure by Government Departments involving not more than 5.00 ha of forest land in each case in 60 Left Wing Extremism affected districts -reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 03.11.2010, wherein this Ministry accorded General approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for certain activities to be carried out by the Government Departments involving not more than 2.00 ha of forest land, and to say that this Ministry has received requests from various State Governments to increase the threshold limit for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure by Government Department in 60 (sixty) Left Wing Extremism affected districts identified by the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Home Affairs from 2.00 ha. of forest land in each case to 5.00 ha. of forest land in each case. The Ministry of Home Affairs and the Planning Commission have also supported the said demand.

Accordingly, I am directed to say that in partial modification of this Ministry's said letter of even number dated 03.11.2010, to facilitate expeditious creation of the critical public utility infrastructure in 60 (sixty) Left Wing Extremism affected districts, the existing general approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure by Government Department is further relaxed to diversion of not more than 5.00 ha of forest land in each case, in these districts. The activities covered under the General approval are as below:

1. Schools,
2. Dispensaries/Hospitals,
3. Electrical and Telecommunication Lines,
4. Drinking Water,
5. Water/Rain Water Harvesting Structures,
6. Minor Irrigation Canal,
7. Non Conventional Sources of Energy,
8. Skill up Gradation/Vocational Training Center,
9. Power Sub-stations,

13/05/2011

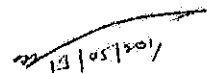
10. Rural roads
11. Communication Posts;
12. Police establishments like Police Stations / Outposts / Border Outposts / Watch Towers in sensitive area (identified by Ministry of Home Affairs); and
13. Underground laying of optical fibre cables, telephone lines & drinking water supply lines.

The General Approval shall be subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

- (i) It shall be applicable to only 60 Left Wing Extremism affected districts identified by the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Home Affairs (List enclosed);
- (ii) All the terms and conditions stipulated by this Ministry in its letters of even number dated 03.01.2005 and 11.09.2009, wherein this Ministry accorded general approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for creation of the public utility infrastructure by Government Departments;
- (iii) All the terms and conditions stipulated by this Ministry in its letters of even number dated 16.10.2000 and 08.04.2009, wherein this Ministry accorded general approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for underground laying of optical fiber cables, telephone lines and drinking water supply lines;
- (iv) The State Government shall realize cost of cost to raise compensatory afforestation and NPV at the rates as applicable in each case as per the guidelines issued by this Ministry and transfer the same to the Ad-hoc CAMPA;
- (v) A copy of the each approval accorded by the State/UT Government under the general approval shall be endorsed to the concerned Regional office of the Ministry and the CEO, Ad-hoc CAMPA for their information and record;
- (vi) The State/Government shall follow the procedure for processing such cases stipulated in the Forest (Conservation) Rule, 2003;
- (vii) The instant general approval is not applicable to the diversion of forest land in protected areas;
- (viii) The each State/UT Government shall submit the six monthly reports for the period ending on 30th June and 31st December containing details of all forest land diverted under the general approval accorded by this Ministry along with the status of the actual utilization of the forest land so diverted for the stated purpose ; and
- (ix) The general approval shall be valid till 31.12.2015.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,



(H.C. Chaudhary)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Director, Prime Minister's Office, New Delhi for kind information.
2. The Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi.
3. The Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.
4. The Member-Secretary, Planning Commission, New Delhi.
5. The Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, New Delhi.
6. The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi.
7. All PCCFs / Nodal Officers, all State/UT Governments except Jammu and Kashmir.
8. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment & Forests.
9. Director General of Police, All State/UT Governments except Jammu and Kashmir.
10. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests in Forest Conservation Division, MoEF.
11. Dy. Secretary, R.O. (HQ), Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.
12. File No. 2-1/2003-FC.
13. Guard File.

10/5/2003
(H.C. Chaudhary)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

**State-Wise List of Sixty Left Wing Extremism Affected Districts Identified by the
Planning Commission and the Ministry of Home Affairs**

Sl. No.	State	District
1	Andhra Pradesh	Khammam
2		Adilabad
3	Bihar	Aurangabad
4		Arwal
5		Nawada
6		Jehanabad
7		Gaya
8		Rohtas
9		Jamui
10	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
11		Bijapur
12		Jashpur
13		Kawardha
14		Koriya
15		Dantewada
16		Kanker
17		Narayanpur
18		Rajnandgaon
19		Surguja
20	Jharkhand	Garhwa
21		Gumla
22		Hazaribagh
23		Koderma
24		Latehar (N)
25		Ramgarh
26		Saraikela (n)
27		Simdega (n)
28		Pachim Singhbhum
29		Purbi Singhbhum
30		Bokaro
31		Chatra
32		Lohardaga
33		Palamu
34	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat
35		Anuppur
36		Dindori
37		Mandla
38		Seoni
39		Shahdol
40		Sidhi
41		Umariya

1/10/15/151

Sl. No.	State	District
42	Maharashtra	Gadchiroli
43		Gondiya
44	Orissa	Deogarh
45		Gajapati
46		Rayagada
47		Sambalpur
48		Malkangiri
49		Balangir
50		Kalahandi
51		Kandhamal
52		Kendujhar
53		Koraput
54		Mayurbhanj
55		Nabarangapur
56		Nuapada
57		Sonapur
58		Sundargarh
59	Uttar Pradesh	Sonbhadra
60	West Bengal	Medinipur West

12/05/2011

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F. No. 11-9/98-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-110510
Dated 10th December, 2012

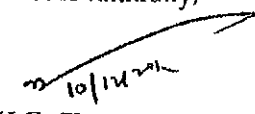
To,
The Principal Secretary (Forests)
All State/Union Territory Governments except Jammu and Kashmir.

Sub.: General approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure by Government Departments involving not more than 5.00 hectares of forest land in each case in 60 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts- reg.

Sir,
I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 13.05.2011 read with this Ministry's letter of even number dated 16.06.2011, on the above mentioned subject, wherein this Ministry accorded general approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure of 13 categories, specified in this Ministry's said letter dated 13.05.2011, by Government Departments involving not more than 5.00 hectares of forest land in each case in 60 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts identified by the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Home Affairs for implementation of the Integrated Action Plan (IAP), and to say that the said general approval is extended to the additional 22 districts identified by the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Home Affairs for implementation of the IAP. Details of the said 22 districts is annexed.

The general approval to the above-indicated 22 districts shall be subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated by this Ministry in its letters of even number dated 13.05.2011 read with this Ministry's letter of even number dated 16.06.2011.

Yours faithfully,


(H.C. Chaudhary)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Director, Prime Minister's Office, New Delhi for kind information.
2. The Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi.
3. The Secretary, Ministry of Home affairs, New Delhi.
4. The Member Secretary, Planning Commission, Government of India, New Delhi.
5. The Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, New Delhi
6. The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.

7. The PCCFs / Nodal Officers all State/ UT Governments except Jammu and Kashmir.
8. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment and Forests.
9. Director General of Police, all State/ UT Governments except Jammu and Kashmir.
10. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests in Forest Conservation Division, MoEF.
11. Director, Regional Office (Headquarters), Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.
12. File No. 2-1/2003-FC
13. Guard File.

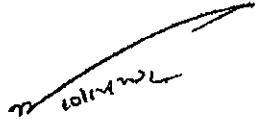
H.C. Chaudhary
(H.C. Chaudhary)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

*Issued
11/12*

Annexure

Details of Additional 22 Left Wing Extremism Affected Districts Identified By the Ministry of Home Affairs and Planning Commission for Implementation of Integrated Action Plan (IAP)

Sl. No.	State	District
IAP-II		
1	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam
2	Andhra Pradesh	East Godavari
3	Andhra Pradesh	Warangal
4	Andhra Pradesh	Karimnagar
5	Andhra Pradesh	Srikakulam
6	Andhra Pradesh	Vizianagaram
7	Bihar	Munger
8	Bihar	Kaimur
9	Jharkhand	Khunti
10	Jharkhand	Ranchi (Rural)
11	Jharkhand	Giridih
12	Odisha	Ganjam
13	Odisha	Nayagarh
14	Odisha	Jajpur
15	Uttar Pradesh	Chandauli
16	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur
17	West Bengal	Bankura
18	West Bengal	Purulia
IAP-III		
1	Bihar	Sitamarhi
2	Bihar	West Champaran
3	Madhya Pradesh	Chindwara
4	Madhya Pradesh	Singrauli



F. No. 11-9/98-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110 510
Dated: 17th May, 2013

To
The Principal Secretary (Forests),
All State / Union Territory Governments

Sub: General approval under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure by Government Departments involving not more than 5.00 hectares of forest land in each case in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts-reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letters of even number dated 13th May 2011 and 10th December 2012 read with this Ministry's letter of even number dated 16th June 2011, on the above-mentioned subject, wherein this Ministry accorded general approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure of 13 categories, specified in this Ministry's said letter dated 13th May 2011, by Government departments involving not more than 5.00 hectares of forest land, in each case in 82 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts identified by the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Home Affairs for implementation of the Integrated Action Plan (IAP). This Ministry vide its letter of even number dated 1st February 2013 extended the said general approval to all category of public roads and quarrying of materials used in construction of public roads.

This Ministry has received representation from the Ministry of Home Affairs to extend the said general approval to the remaining 35 LWE affected districts, from among the 106 districts selected under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme being implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs, which have so far not been selected for implementation of the IAP.

The matter has been examined in this Ministry and after careful consideration, this Ministry hereby decides to extend the general approval under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure of 13 categories, specified in this Ministry's said letter dated 13th May 2011 and all the categories of public roads and quarrying of materials used in construction of public roads, as provided in this Ministry's letter of even number dated 1st February 2013, to the said 35 districts. Details of these 35 districts are annexed.

(Signature)

17/05/2013

The general approval to the above-indicated 35 districts shall be subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated by this Ministry in its letters of even number dated 13th May 2011 read with this Ministry's letter of even number dated 16th June 2011.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

H.C. Chaudhary
(H.C. Chaudhary)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

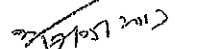
1. The Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, New Delhi.
3. The Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi.
4. The Member-Secretary, Planning Commission, Government of India New Delhi.
5. The Secretray, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, New Delhi.
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7. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all State/UT Governments.
8. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment & Forests.
9. Joint Secretray in-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEF.
10. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests/ Director in the Forest Conservation Division, MoEF.
11. Director R.O. (HQ), Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.
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14. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretray, MoEF.
15. Sr. PPS to the Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEF.
16. PS to the Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEF.
17. Guard File.

H.C. Chaudhary
(H.C. Chaudhary)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Details of 35 LWE Affected Districts From Among the 106 Districts Selected Under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme Being Implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Which Have So Far Not Been Selected For Implementation of the IAP

<u>Andhra Pradesh</u>	<u>Chhattisgarh</u>	<u>Maharashtra</u>
1. Anantapur	20. Dhamtari	31. Chandrapur
2. Guntur	21. Mahasamund	32. Aheri
3. Kurnool	22. Gariyaband	
4. Medak	23. Balod	<u>Orissa</u>
5. Mehboobnagar	24. Sukma	33. Dhenkanal
6. Nalgonda	25. Kondagaon	34. Bargarh
7. Prakasam	26. Balrapur	
8. Nizamabad		<u>West Bengal</u>
<u>Bihar</u>	<u>Jharkhand</u>	35. Birbhum
9. Bhojpur	27. Dhanbad	
10. East Champaran	28. Dumka	
11. Nalanda	29. Deoghar	
12. Patna	30. Pakur	
13. Muzaffarpur		
14. Sheohar		
15. Vashali		
16. Banka		
17. Lakhisarai		
18. Begusarai		
19. Khagaria		


 (H.C. Chaudhary)
 Assistant Inspector General of Forests