F. No. 11-423/2011-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)
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Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi - 110003
Dated: 30 April, 2019

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
All States/UT Governments

Sub: Proposals seeking diversion of forest land for non-foresrty purposes- clarification on selection of land for Compensatory afforestation(CA) – reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry letter of even number dated 8th November, 2017 wherein the Ministry, with a view to curtail delay in the identification of non-forest land/degraded forest and speedy disposal of FC proposals, has issued guidelines with regards to compensatory afforestation. In this connection, it is inform that the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 21st February, 2019 has considered the issue related to suitability of the land identified for raising CA. The FAC noted that the Ministry had received certain proposals wherein the land proposed for CA/penal CA was found to be having medium dense forests (MDF), i.e. having crown density of more than 40 percent. The Ministry, based on the recommendation of FAC regarding suitability of land identified for raising CA, hereby issues following clarifications:

1. Forest lands having crown density below 40 percent, shall only be treated as degraded forest land for the purpose of CA.
2. State government shall prepare a CA scheme with 1000 plants per ha for all such lands. In case it is not possible to raise plantation at the rate of 1000 plants per ha on the selected non-forest land then the balance plants can be allowed to be raised on degraded forest land as per working plan prescriptions.
3. Any non-forest land for the purpose of Compensatory afforestation (CA), selected by the state government, in lieu of forest land to be diverted may be accepted by MoEF&CC irrespective of crown density. All such lands shall be mutated and notified in favour of state forest department and declared as PF/RF prior to stage II approval

This issues with the approval of the competent authority in the Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

(**Sandeep Sharma**)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), All States/UT Governments.
2. The Addl. Director General (Central), All Regional Offices of the MoEF&CC.
3. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), All States/UT Governments
4. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
5. Guard File.

(**Sandeep Sharma**)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests