F. No. 8-84/2013-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110 003
Dated: 20th February, 2014

To

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

Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980- Raising of plantations along stretches of roads proposed to be widened.

Sir,

I am directed to say that after examination of proposals seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for widening of roads it has been observed that along with matured trees, a number of small plants are also marked for felling. This situation has arisen when even after decision to widen such roads is taken, State Governments continues to raise plantations along these stretches. As these plantations are required to be felled during widening of road, expenditure incurred in raising these plantations becomes infructuous.

Accordingly, I am directed to say that once a decision to widen a road is taken by the concerned authority/ department, same shall immediately be intimated to the concerned State Forest Department so as to avoid raising of new plantations along such stretches, till their widening is completed.

Yours faithfully,

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

Copy to-
1. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, New Delhi.
2. Chairman, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).
3. Director General, Border Roads Organization, New Delhi.
4. Principal Secretary, Public Works Departments, all State/UT Governments.
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all State/UT Governments.