To

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, All States/Union Territories.
2. Principal Secretary/Secretary (Forests), All State/Union Territory Governments.

Sub: Plantation of Jatropha on forest land; clarification under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the subject mentioned above and to say that the matter of applicability of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in respect of plantation of Jatropha (*Jatropha curcas*) on forest land has been recently reviewed in the Ministry. On the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee constituted under Section-3 of the said Act, following guidelines are hereby issued with the approval of the Competent Authority:

"1. Plantation of Jatropha (*Jatropha curcas*) on forest land would require prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, except when:

   (i) the species to be planted are indigenous or naturalised to the area in question; and
   (ii) such plantation activity is part of an overall afforestation programme for the forest area in question.

2. Plantation of Jatropha on forest land shall be subject to the condition that such plantation shall be done on degraded forest land and no clearance of forest growth shall be done for the same."

This issues in supersession of this Ministry’s letters of even number dated 08th June 2005 and 05th September 2005 on the above subject.

Yours faithfully,

(Sandeep Kumar)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. Nodal Officers (FC), All States/Union Territories.
2. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.
3. RO (HQ), MoEF, New Delhi.
4. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF, New Delhi.
5. AIGs(FC)/Director(FC)/DIG(FP), MoEF, New Delhi.

(Sandeep Kumar)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests