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 read with this Ministry’s letter of even number dated 16th June 2011, 10th December 2012, 1st February 2013 and 17th May 2013 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. This Ministry vide 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 representations to extend the said general approval to setting up of Medical Colleges by government Departments in the 117 LWE affected districts also.

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 setting up of “Medical College” by Government Departments in 117 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts as per details given in this Ministry’s letters of even number dated 13th May 2011, 10th December 2012 and 17th May 2013.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

(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 Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, New Delhi.
7. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all State/UT Governments.
8. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all State/UT Governments.
9. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment & Forests.
10. Joint Secretary in-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEF.
11. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests/ Directors in the Forest Conservation Division, MoEF.
13. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEF with a request to place a copy of the letter on website of this Ministry.
14. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Environment and Forests.
15. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEF.
16. Sr. PPS to the Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEF.
17. PS to the Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEF.
18. Guard File.

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