To
All Principal Secretary (Forests),
All States.

Sub: Clarification on payment towards cutting, felling, logging and transportation charges of project affected trees in addition to Compensatory Afforestation (CA) and Net Present Value (NPV) under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to various communications received from different State / UT Governments and different User / Project Implementing Agencies on the subject cited above seeking clarification on payment towards cutting, felling, logging and transportation charges of trees to the State Forest Departments in addition to Compensatory Afforestation (CA) and Net Present Value (NPV).

In this connection, I am directed to say that the matter has been examined in the Ministry in terms of various orders of Hon’ble Supreme Court of India and other relevant Acts / Rules / Guidelines on the subject including the Hon’ble Supreme Court’s judgment dated 28.03.2008, and to inform that the User / Project Implementing Agencies are not required to pay the cost of trees to the State Forest Departments but are required to make payment towards cutting, felling, logging and transportation charges of project affected trees to the State Forest Departments in addition to Compensatory Afforestation (CA) and Net Present Value (NPV). The guidelines issued vide our letter no.5-1/98-FC (Pt-II) dated 29.03.2005 (copy enclosed) are relevant and in force. These contain detailed procedure in this regard.

It is also requested to bring this to the knowledge of all concerned.

Yours faithfully,

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:
1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, All States.
2. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, All States.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, All Regions.
5. Monitoring Cell

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests