

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests J&K, Jammu.

May to Oct.: Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh, Lal Chowk-Sgr 190001
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CIRCULAR

Sub: Calculation of District-wise forest area in relation to the geographical area of the District concerned.


In accordance with the Handbook of guidelines for effective and transparent implementation of the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 issued by MOEF & CC vide communication F.No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28-03-2019 (already circulated to all DFOs), one of the most important requirements for prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land for non forestry purpose is Compensatory Afforestation and the purpose of Compensatory Afforestation is to compensate "loss of land by land" and "loss of trees by trees".

As per section 2.3 of the guidelines, non-availability of non-forest land in States/UTs would be accepted by Central Government only on the basis of certificate of the Chief Secretary of the State/UT government to that effect in respect of the State/UT having forest area more than 33% of the geographical area, in the prescribed format. This specific provision is applicable to the UT of J&K as it has more than 33% of geographical area under forests.

However, Special Provision in terms of section 2.5 of the guidelines has been made for certain categories of projects in which Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised on degraded forest land twice in extent of the forest area diverted. It includes construction of link roads, small water works, minor irrigation works, school building, dispensaries, hospital, tiny rural industrial sheds of the Government or any other similar work excluding mining and encroachment cases, which directly benefit the people of the area in hill districts and in other districts having forest area exceeding 50% of the total geographical area, provided diversion of forest area does not exceed 20 Hectares.

In order to utilize the above Special Provision with a view to expedite forest clearance to the development related projects of the UT of J&K, the Conservator of Forests, Working Plan Circle, is requested to compile district-wise forest area in relation to the geographical area of the district concerned and submit to this office

CCF Jammu/Kashmir are requested to provide the requisite information in respect of area under their administrative control to Conservator of Forests, Working Plan Circle for compilation.


(Sarvesh Rai) IFS

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Nodal Officer (FCA).

No. PCCF/FCA/3124/1560-1600

Dated 02-06-2020

Copy to the:

1. Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir.
2. Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu.
3. Chief Conservator of Forests Working Plan Circle Jammu/Srinagar.
4. Conservator of Forests Working Plan Circle Jammu/Srinagar
5. All Conservator of Forests (T) _____.
6. All Divisional Forest Officers (T) _____.
7. Pvt. Secretary to PCCF (HoFF) J&K for kind information of Pr.CCF (HoFF) J&K.