

**F. No. 8-31/2016-FC**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**  
**(FC Division)**

5th Floor, Agni Wing,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aligang, Jor Bag Road,  
New Delhi-110003.  
Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2016

**Sub: Operational Guidelines for filling online form for seeking permission for getting forest land on lease under section 2(iii) of FC act 1980**

Section 2 of Forest Conservation Act 1980 provides that:

Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force in a State, no State Government or other authority shall make, except with the prior approval of the Central Government, any order directing –

- i. That any reserved forest (within the meaning of the expression “reserved forest” in any law for the time being in force in that State) or any portion thereof, shall cease to be reserved;
- ii. That any forest land or any portion thereof may be used for any non-forest purpose;
- iii. that any forest land or any portion thereof may be assigned by way of lease or otherwise to an private person or to any authority, corporation, agency or any other organisation not owned, managed or controlled by Government;
- iv. That any forest land or any portion thereof may be cleared of trees which have grown naturally in that land or portion, or the purpose of using for re-afforestation.

For granting forest land by way of lease to the user agency or project proponents, the state government must seek prior approval of the Central Government (MoEF & CC) under section 2(iii) of Forest Conservation Act 1980 in the manner prescribed below:

**A. In the cases where proposal for diversion under Section 2 (ii) of FC Act has not been considered in MoEF & CC**

**(a) Procedure adopted by the User Agency (UA)**

1. The User Agency must apply online to the nodal officer (FCA) of the concerned state for obtaining forest land under section 2(iii) of Forest Conservation Act 1980 by way of lease. The form is available on <http://forestsclearance.nic.in/> website of the ministry.
2. The user agency will provide all documents in PDF format and the KML /shape files as required.
3. User Agency must ‘Agree’ with the terms and conditions as it appears in the web application.

  
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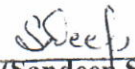
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4. The User Agency will take a print out of the complete application and will submit a signed hard copy of the application/ proposal to the Nodal Officer after receiving the acknowledgment letter generated by the system.

**(b) Procedure adopted by the Nodal officer**

1. The online application will be considered by the Nodal officer. The Nodal officer may return the application form online by raising queries. Nodal officer shall try to raise all queries in one go. The complete application form shall be considered by the Nodal officer. After satisfying himself, the Nodal Officer will fill online all details in part -II and put his recommendation at prescribed place. The Nodal officer may collect information from the concerned forest division/ Circle and approval of competent authority, if so desired, and then fill the information online at desired place in the application form and submit his recommendations on portal within 20 days of receipt of the complete form from the user agency. Concerned State Government will scrutinise and submit the application with recommendation to the Ministry for consideration within 10 days after receiving from the nodal officer.
2. The Ministry will place the matter to Forest Advisory Committee for consideration and its recommendation.
3. The recommendation of FAC will be placed before competent authority for approval and the decision of the competent authority will be communicated to the State Government.

**B. In the cases where proposal for diversion under Section 2 (ii) of FC Act has been considered in MoEF & CC and in-principle (Stage-I) has been granted**

1. In above stated cases the project proponent will apply online under Section 2 (iii) of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 to Nodal Officer of the State giving detail of the application, detail of proposal no. (File number of the proposal) for which Stage-I approval has been granted.
2. The Nodal Officer will forward the application under 2 (iii) to the State Government with its recommendation as prescribed in above para A (b).

  
(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forest (FC)

**Application for approval under section 2 (iii) of Forest conservation Act 1980 for  
signing of lease agreement**

**PART-I**

**A. General Details**

**A-1. Project Details**

1. Have Your proposal accorded Stage-I Clearance Under Section 2(iii) ? (Yes/No)
  - a. If Yes, then
    - i. Search Your Proposal
2. Name of Project
3. State
4. Category of the Project
5. Shape of forest land proposed to be leased (*Linear, Non-linear & Hybrid*)
6. Forest Area involved in proposed Leased
7. Non-Forest Area involved in proposed Leased
8. Whether mining in non-forest area is in progress? (Yes/No)
  - a. If Yes, then
    - i. Upload File
9. Whether mining in part forest area is in progress? (Yes/No)
  - a. If Yes, then
    - i. Area Under Mining
    - ii. Upload a copy of FC Approvals

**A-2. Details of User Agency**

1. Name (*Auto Fill*)
2. Address1 (*Auto Fill*)
3. Address2 (*Auto Fill*)
4. State (*Auto Fill*)
5. District (*Auto Fill*)
6. Pin (*Auto Fill*)
7. Landmarks (*Auto Fill*)
8. Email Address (*Auto Fill*)
9. Landline Telephone No (*Auto Fill*)
10. Fax No (*Auto Fill*)
11. Mobile No (*Auto Fill*)
12. Website (if any) (*Auto Fill*)
13. Legal status of User Agency (*Auto Fill*)

**A-3. Details of Person Making Application**

1. First Name (*Auto Fill*)
2. Middle Name (*Auto Fill*)
3. Last Name (*Auto Fill*)