

Annexure VII (25), (Vide Article - 7.03)

No.8-66/82-PRY (CONS),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment & Forests,
(Department of Forest and Wildlife.)
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi,
17th March 1985.

To

The Secretary,
Revenue & Forests Department,
Govt. of Maharashtra, Nandlalaya,
Bombay-400032.

Subject: - Release/dereserve 2915.7581 ha. of deemed
reserve forest acquired under the Maharashtra
Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975
in Thane and Raigad District.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your d.o. letter No.FLD.1082/
2457/II/F-3, dt.28.6.84 on the abovementioned subject seeking
prior approval of the Central Govt. in accordance with Section 2
of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. The proposal has been examined by the Advisory Committee
constituted by the Central Govt. under section 3 of the aforesaid
Act.

3. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State
Govt. and on the basis of the recommendations of the abovementio-
ned Advisory Committee, the Central Govt. hereby conveys its
approval under section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
for release of 2915.7581 ha. of reserve forest acquired under the
Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975 in Thane and
Raigad Districts subject to the following conditions :-

- i) Land adjacent to the area cultivated by the holders
to be restored in preference to other lands;
- ii) As far as possible the restoration should avoid honey
combing of forest land acquired by the Forest Department
for scientific management purposes.
- iii) The land so restored should continue as a forest and not
to be brought under village or to be put to other uses and
felling of trees thereon regulated strictly under the provisions
of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 relating to private forests and
Maharashtra (Felling of Trees) Act. Such land will continue
to be recorded as forest area in the revenue records. However,
the portion of such restored lands, having huts, cattle sheds,
yards should not be treated as forest and be recorded as such
on revenue records and details reported to this Ministry. Any
diversion of such restored land (recorded as forest) for non-
forestry use will require prior approval of GOI under Forest
(Conservation) Act, 1980,
- iv) Land restored to original owners will retain its
forest cover; and
- v) Whenever the land restored is barren/deficient in tree
cover, the land holders should be required to plant sufficient
number of trees thereon under the directions of the Forest
Department.

Yours faithfully,

Ski/-

(Saroj Kapoor)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.