

F.No. 22-76/2014-IA-III
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
Impact Assessment Division

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Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Raod, Aliganj
New Delhi-110 003

Dated the 7th October, 2014


OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Status of land acquisition w.r.t. project site while considering the case for environment clearance under EIA Notification, 2006-regarding

It has been brought to the notice of this Ministry that in the absence of any guidelines, different EACs/SEACs adopt different criteria about the extent to which the land w.r.t. the project site should be acquired before the consideration of the case for environment clearance (EC). Some of the Ministries in the Government of India and some industrial associations have represented that full acquisition of land for the project site should not be insisted upon before consideration of the case for EC and instead initiation of land acquisition process should be sufficient for the consideration of such cases. The argument being that land acquisition process can go on in parallel and that consideration of EC need not await full land acquisition.

2. The matter has been examined in the Ministry. The EC granted for a project or activity under the EIA Notification 2006, as amended, is site specific. While full acquisition of land may not be a pre-requisite for the consideration of the case for EC, there should be some credible document to show the status of land acquisition w.r.t project site when the case is brought before the concerned EAC/SEAC for appraisal. It has been accordingly decided that the following documents relating to acquisition of land w.r.t. the project site may be considered as adequate by EACs/SEACs at the time of appraisal of the case for EC:

- (i) In case the land w.r.t. the project site is proposed to be acquired through Government intervention, a copy of preliminary notification issued by the concerned State Government regarding acquisition of land as per the provisions of Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement, Act, 2013.


2/-

- (ii) In case the land is being acquired through private negotiations with the land owners, credible document showing the intent of the land owners to sell the land for the proposed project.

3. It may, however, be noted that the EC granted for a project on the basis of aforesaid documents shall become invalid in case the actual land for the project site turns out to be different from the land considered at the time of appraisal of project and mentioned in the EC.

4. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.


(Dr. Satish C. Garkoti)
Scientist 'F'

Copy to:

1. All the officers of IA Division
2. Chairperson/ Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs
3. Chairman of all the Expert Appraisal Committees
4. Chairman, CPCB
5. Chairpersons/ Member Secretaries of all SPCBs/ UTPCCs

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