

that any forest land or any portion thereof may be used for any non-forest purpose;
that any forest land or any portion thereof may be assigned by way of lease or otherwise to
any private person or to any authority, corporation agency or any other organisation not
owned, managed or controlled by Government,
that any forest land or any portion thereof may be cleared of trees which have grown
naturally in that land or portion, for the purpose of using it for reforestation

"3. The Central Government may constitute a Committee consisting of such number of
persons as it may deem fit to advise that Government with regard to
the grant of approval under Section 2, and
any other matter concerned with the conservation of forests which may be referred to it by
the Central Government

Forest Conservation Rules 1981

38. Rule 2(a) sets out the composition of the Committee. Rule 4 requires every State
government seeking prior approval under Section 2 to send its proposal to the Central
Government in the form appended. Rule 5 lays down that the Committee is required to
advise on proposals received by the Central government having due regard to whether the
forest land proposed to be used for non-forest purposes forms part of the natural reserve,
a national park, a wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve or forms part of the habitat of any
endangered species. Due regard is also to be had in respect of alternatives. The form
appended to the rules requires details to be sent to the Central Government justifying the
project. Details relate to how the project would affect the environment and the inhabitants
of the forest areas. The form also requires certificates to be submitted from competent
authorities regarding suitability of the area and regarding non-availability of non-forest
land. In the case of mining proposals further details are required. Rule 13 requires
disclosure as to whether any work has taken place in violation of the Act.

~~Article 8 is a part of the~~