

(19) The approvals accorded by Ministry of Environment & Forests under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, shall be reviewed by a Committee consisting of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Director General of Forests and at least one non-official member of the Forest Advisory Committee constituted under the Forest (Conservation) Rules to restrict the approvals to the barest minimum needed to serve emergent public purposes. Felling of trees shall commence only after the process of compensatory afforestation has actually been undertaken on the ground. In future, the proposals shall be considered for approval only after detailed Environmental Impact Assessment has been carried out through an independent agency identified by Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(20) Specific actions shall be undertaken by Ministry of Environment & Forests/Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration on the other recommendations of Shri Shekhar Singh Report which are not specifically dealt with in above orders. Ministry of Environment & forests and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration shall file an affidavit within three months giving details of action taken by them on each of such recommendations.