

Dated Shimla-1, the 19 JUL 2011

From: Principal CCF HP.

To: i) Principal CCF Wildlife, HP.  
ii) All Addl.PCCFs/CCFs in HP.  
iii) All CFs/DFOs in HP.

Subject: Shifting and change of ownership of the existing licensed saw mills.

Memo:

Whereas the CEC (constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in writ petition No.202/95 & 171/96) on the representation filed by Shri Roop Singh Thakur regarding shifting of Saw Mill has passed following directions vide their letter No.2-23/CEC/SC/2007-Pt.III dated 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2011:-

"The CEC hereby authorizes the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Himachal Pradesh Forest to take a decision regarding shifting and /or change of ownership of the existing licensed wood-based industries, including saw mills. He may issue/decide appropriate guidelines for this purpose."

2. In view of the above, following guidelines/instructions are issued for shifting and/or change of ownership of the existing licensed saw mills:-

- i) Where change of location of the existing licensed saw mill is not involved, change of ownership in case of inheritance or purchase of the sawmill shall be allowed by the DFO concerned.
- ii) The cases of shifting of existing licensed sawmills including change of ownership (whether inheritance or through purchase) within the same Forest Division shall be considered and decided by the DFO concerned, from one division to another within the same circle by Conservator of Forests concerned and shifting of sawmill from the jurisdiction on one circle to another shall be allowed with the prior approval of the Principal CCF HP.
- iii) Cases regarding change of ownership and /or shifting of other wood based industries will be decided by the Principal CCF HP.

3. Provided that:-

- (i) The shifting of sawmills shall not be allowed in a routine manner but only after examining the merit of each case.
- (ii) The parameters/conditions applicable for registration of new sawmills shall be fulfilled in case of shifting also.
- (iii) In no case, the capacity of the unit shall be allowed to be enhanced.
- (iv) The cases in which the process for shifting and / or change of ownership of sawmill was started as per the prevalent instructions prior to clarification conveyed by the Law Department vide Principal Secretary (Forests) to the GoHP

letter No. FFE-B-E(3)10/2005 dated 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2005 shall be decided by the competent authority on merits of each case as indicated above in para 2.

- (v) The above instructions regarding shifting of saw mills shall not be applicable on the unlicensed sawmills allowed to be registered by the CEC vide its proceedings dated 31.3.2008 as the same were allowed to be registered on specific conditions.
- (vi) As per proceeding dated 31.3.2008 of the Central Empowered Committee no new license for any saw mill or wood based industry shall be issued till specifically allowed by the CEC.

The above instructions may be followed scrupulously.

  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Himachal Pradesh

