Government of Manipur
Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force
Forest Department: Manipur

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM Imphal, the 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2019

No. 5/2/2017/Forests) In order to regulate the extraction of sand/stones and other minor minerals from the river quarries and other lands including patta lands falling within forest areas including Un-classed Forests and monitor their transit, all the Territorial DFOs are directed to comply with following guidelines immediately:

- 1. Prepare a list of quarries operational in the entire Forest Division and check if any of them is falling within the forest areas. Mining operations, if any, inside forest areas without forest and environmental clearances shall be closed immediately.
- 2. Any quarry falling within forest area mandatorily requires:
  - (a) Provisional mining lease from State Mining Department.
  - (b) Approved Mining Plan prepared by a recognized agency and approved by the Mining Department.
  - (c) Prior Forest Clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. No mining shall take place before the forestry clearance (Stage-II final clearance) is obtained. For the purpose of Forestry clearance, the User Agency has to apply Online on the Portal namely "PARIVESH" of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India.
  - (d) Prior Environment Clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 from Directorate of Environment.
  - (e) Mining lease will be granted by the State Mining Department only after Forestry Clearance and Environment Clearance is obtained.
  - (f) As per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated: 13-11-2000, no mining activity is permissible within 1 (one) km of the boundary of a Protected Area (National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries).
  - (g) No permission for extraction of minor minerals from river bed shall be granted if the river falls within National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Wildlife Protected Areas/ Biosphere Reserves / Eco-sensitive zones.

Prepare a list of all Mining Companies/Mining Contractors involved in the mining activities in the District including the Non-forest areas. The list may be obtained from the State Mining Department/General Manager, Industries in the District. Maintain their data along with records/documents in the Division as follows:

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- I. Name and Address of Lessee in whose favour the Mining Permit has been issued.
- II. His/her Mining Permit number, Permit Issue Date and Validity Period.
- III. Status of land and Area on which the permit has been issued.
- IV. Whether the land belongs to the Lessee or on lease (if so period of lease with documents).
- Quantity of Extraction Allowed during the Permit Period and quantum of Annual Extraction.
- Please share the data with all Range Offices and Beat Offices under your control to monitor the quantity extracted and transported.
- 4. Please don't charge Royalty on the sand/stones etc. coming from the Non-forest areas or Patta lands, as it is being charged by the State Mining Department. Only, Transit Pass fees as prescribed under Schedule Rate of Royalty shall be charged on the sand/stones etc. coming from the Non-forest areas or Patta lands with legal and valid documents. All movements without legal and valid documents shall be seized and reported to the Hon'ble High Court till further directions.
  - 5. Identify the forest areas, where mining could be considered in your Division. While doing so, follow the provisions under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Rules/guidelines issued therein. The areas may be identified in such a manner that the mining activity may be rotated among various areas after 5 years to get the mined out area reclaimed/recovered.

6. All Range Officers and Beat Officers shall be instructed by the concerned DFOs to follow these directions without fail.

(Kereilhouvi Angami)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force

Government of Manipur

To

All Territorial and Wildlife Divisional Forest Officers.....

## Copy for information to:

- 1. Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests & Environment), Govt. of Manipur.
- 2. PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Govt. of Manipur.
- 3. PCCF (CC & FCA), Govt. of Manipur.
- 4. Principal Secretary (Commerce & Industries), Govt. of Manipur.
- 5. All APCCFs.....
- 6. All CCFs.....
- 7. All CFs.....
- 8. All DCFs.....
- 9. All ACFs.....