

F.No.7-8/2016-FP  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
Forest Policy Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Vayu Wing  
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj  
New Delhi-110003  
Dated 17.03.2016

To  
The Principal Secretary (Forests)  
All States/UTs

Sub: Relaxation of regulatory regime on jiggit –regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to inform that the plight of small scale agarbatti manufacturers mostly in the unorganized sector who are being rendered out of business because of unavailability of essential raw materials like bamboo, jiggit, etc has been brought out in the notice of Ministry for quite some time. Agarbatti industry is labour intensive and has been dominated by small scale manufacturers with people mostly from rural areas. The matter was examined in the Ministry.

2. Because of severe restrictions on trade and transit of bamboo, most of these manufacturers are forced to import bamboo from other countries. The Ministry has issued Advisory vide its letter dated 8-14/2011-FP dated 14.05.2013 for relaxation of regulatory regime in respect of bamboo grown on private lands. Some State have taken the action to this effect for providing an enabling environment for the bamboo grower.

3. Moreover, Ministry is also in receipt of suggestions for encouraging production of Jiggit and supply of raw material such as Jiggit. The jiggit, is an adhesive wood bark powder, and essential ingredient in agarbatti manufacturing, which can be abundantly grown in jungles of north east and south India. The States are requested to explore the possibility of cultivation of jiggit in suitable areas and relaxation of felling and transit rules with reference to this species to encourage cultivation and utilization in private sector. The action taken report may kindly be communicated to the Ministry.

Encl: as above.

*Signature*  
17/3/16

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Copy to: The PCCF's of all States/UTs