

**1519**  
Government of Jammu and Kashmir  
**J&K Pollution Control Committee**  
Jammu



*Winter office: November-April  
Parivesh Bhawan, Gladni,  
Transport Nagar, Narwal,  
Jammu. (J&K) 180006.  
Ph./Fax. 0191-2476925*

*Summer Office: May-October  
Sheikh-ul-Alam Campus,  
Behind Govt. Silk Factory,  
Rajbagh, Srinagar (J&K) 190008  
Ph./Fax. 0194-2311165.*

email: membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

**Consultant (Judicial),  
Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, (P.B)  
New Delhi.**

No. JKPCC/NGT/147/023/ 311-314

Dt. 25-01-2024.

**Sub: - Hon'ble NGT Order dated 05.12.2023 in Original Application No. 911/2022, I. A. No. 14/2023 and I. A. No. 16/2023, titled Prof. Dr. Sanjeev Bagai & Ors. Versus Department of Environment, GNCTD & Ors.**

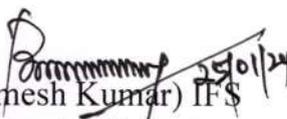
Sir,

In compliance to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Order Dated **05-12-2023 in Original Application No. 911/2022, I. A. No. 14/2023 and I. A. No. 16/2023, titled Prof. Dr. Sanjeev Bagai & Ors. Versus Department of Environment, GNCTD & Ors.**, kindly find enclosed the Reply/Response of Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee, in this regard.

The Reply/Response of J&K Pollution Control Committee may kindly be taken on record and placed before the Hon'ble NGT for consideration please.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: (As above)

  
(K. Ramesh Kumar) IF \$  
Member Secretary  
JKPCC, Jammu.

Copy to the: -

1. Sh. G.M. Kawoosa, Additional Standing Counsel for J&K Govt. in Hon'ble NGT matters in New Delhi, for information and necessary action. This is in reference to Govt. of J&K Order No. 8495-JK(LD) of 2022 Dated 12-10-2022.
2. PS to Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Forest, Ecology and Environment Department Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar for information of the Financial Commissioner (ACS).
3. PS to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/HoFF, J&K Jammu/Srinagar for information of PCCF/HoFF.



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Rajbagh, Srinagar (J&K)- 190008  
Ph./Fax.0194-2311165

mail: membersecretaryjkspcb@gmail.com

**Reply/Response of Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee to the directions of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Order Dt. 05-12-2023 in O.A No. 911/2022, I. A. No. 14/2023 and I. A. No. 16/2023, titled Prof. Dr. Sanjeev Bagai & Ors. Versus Department of Environment, GNCTD & Ors.**

**Background:**

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Order Dt. 05-12-2023 in O.A No. 911/2022 has directed the following: -

*"Union Territories of Chandigarh, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh through the Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Environment, as the case may be, and Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees thereof through their Member Secretaries, in the first instance, to be necessary for just and proper adjudication of the questions involved in the case. Accordingly, they are impleaded as respondents. The Registry is directed to amend memo of parties and issue notices to them requiring them to file their reply/response with respect to the aspects of protection of trees against illegal felling and pruning of trees and all related aspects and framing of guidelines/rules regarding the same".*

**In Compliance to the Hon'ble NGT Order Dated 05-12-2023 in O.A No. 911/2022, I. A. No. 14/2023 and I. A. No. 16/2023, titled Prof. Dr. Sanjeev Bagai & Ors. Versus Department of Environment, GNCTD & Ors, the reply/response w.r.t Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee is submitted as under: -**

1. Regulatory framework for Protection of Trees against illegal felling and pruning and all related aspects in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are governed under the following Acts, rules and guidelines.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

- i) **The Indian Forest Act, 1927.**
  - ii) **The Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Act, 1969 (copy enclosed as Annexure I).**
  - iii) **Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation Act, 2000 (copy enclosed as Annexure II).**
  - iv) **The Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Rules, 1969 (copy enclosed as Annexure – III).**
  - v) **The Jammu and Kashmir Social Forestry (Plantation) Rules 2022 (copy enclosed as Annexure – IV).**
  - vi) **Circular No. 05 of 1998 by J&K Forest Department dated 05-03-1998 read with Circular by J&K Forest Department dated 31-03-2011 (copy enclosed as Annexure – V).**
  - vii) **Guidelines for felling of trees posing threat to life and property issued by J&K Forest Department vide Circular No. 01 of 2019 dt. 28-11-2019 (copy enclosed as Annexure – VI).**
- I. In Forest land, the regulation of felling is dealt under the provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927.
  - II. For trees growing on private land and State land but not on Forest land, the restrictions on felling is applicable only on tree species that have been declared as specified trees and is regulated as per the provisions laid out in J&K Preservation of Specified Trees Act, 1969. As of now, the following species have been declared as specified trees :- Walnut, Willow, Khair, Conifers and Oaks.
  - III. As per the provisions laid out in chapter XX in Section 339 to 355 of J&K Municipal Corporation Act, 2000, the Tree fellings are regulated within the jurisdiction of Municipal Corporations.

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- IV. Felling of trees in village woodlots, strip plantations and community land involving community participation is regulated under the Jammu and Kashmir Social Forestry (Plantation) Rules 2022.
- V
- i) In the jurisdictions of Municipal Corporations as per the provisions laid out in Section 352 penal provisions are provided in respect of illegal felling and illegal pruning of trees. (copy enclosed as **Annexure-VII**).
  - ii) Section 13 of Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Act, 1969 prescribes penalties for violations of the provisions of the said Act.
- VI
- i) In State and Private land, J&K Specified Trees Act, 1969 and J&K Specified Trees Rules, 1969 shall be applicable and particularly with reference to Khair trees it is regulated as per the provisions laid out in SRO-111 of 2016 (copy of SRO 111 is enclosed as **Annexure-VIII**).
  - ii) Tree Officer for the Tree Authorities in Jammu Municipal Corporation and Srinagar Municipal Corporation has been ordered vide Govt. Order no. 110-FST of 2023 dt. 11-05-2023 (copy enclosed as **Annexure-IX**).

Hence, the reply/response of J&K Pollution Control Committee may kindly be taken on record and placed before the Hon'ble NGT for consideration, please.

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**THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
PRESERVATION OF SPECIFIED TREES ACT, 1969  
ACT No. V OF 1969.**

(Received the assent of the Governor on 9th April, 1969 and published in Government Gazette dated 11th April, 1969 (Ext).

An act to make provision for the preservation of certain species of trees and for regulation of felling and export thereof.

Whereas certain species of trees growing in the State are the main sources of raw material for the specialized industry of Kashmir Art, or are otherwise of vital importance for the economy, prosperity and welfare of a large section of citizens of the State; and

Whereas it is necessary in the public interest to make special provision for the growth, preservation and protection of such species of trees and for other matters connected therewith.

It is hereby enacted by the Jammu and Kashmir State legislature in the Twentieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:

1. *Short title, extent and commencement.*-(1) This Act may be called the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Act, 1969.

(2) It shall extend to the whole of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(3) It shall come into force on the date it is published in the Government Gazette.

2. *Definitions.*-In this Act unless the context otherwise requires :-

(a) 'fell' or 'felling' includes topping, lopping, gridling or otherwise damaging a specified tree.

(b) 'goods' of 'Kashmir Art' means articles of wood carving, papier-mache, wood work and such other articles as may be declared by notification by the Government as goods of Kashmir Art for purposes of this Act;

(c) 'prescribed' means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

(d) 'prescribed authority' means the authority notified as such by the Government and different authorities may be notified for different provisions of this Act.

(e) 'specified tree' means walnut and includes such other species of tree whether standing on the State land or private land as may be notified by the Government in the Government Gazette, but does not include such trees growing in a demarcated forest as defined in Jammu and Kashmir Forest Act, 1981;

(f) 'timber' means wood of any specified tree whether in logs or cut up in pieces or in any other form but does not include finished goods of Kashmir Art made of such wood.

**3. Restriction on felling:-** Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, no person shall fell any specified tree except under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a permit granted by the prescribed authority under this Act :

Provided that a permit granted under this section shall not authorise the felling of a specified tree by any person other than the owner thereof.

**4. "Application for permit:-** (1) Every person desiring to obtain a permit under section 3 shall make an application in writing to the prescribed authority, in such form and containing such information, as may be prescribed.

(2) On receipt of such application, the prescribed authority shall, subject to the provision of sections 5 and 6 by order in writing, either:-

- a) grant the permit subject to such conditions, if any, as may be specified in the permit; or
- b) refuse to grant such permit.

**5. Obligation to grant permit:-** Subject to the provisions of section 6, the prescribed authority shall grant permit, if on inquiry, it is established that :

- (a) the timber of a specified tree desired to be felled is required to be used for the manufacture, of finished goods of Kashmir Arts; or
- (b) I[XXX].
- (c) the felling of a specified tree is necessary for the prevention of danger or abatement of nuisance to life or property or for prevention of plant disease; or
- (d) the specified tree desired to be felled is completely dried up.

**6. Obligation to refuse to grant permit:-** The prescribed authority shall refuse to grant permit, if on inquiry, it is satisfied that.-

- (a) the application for permit relates to a specified tree which is green, healthy or if it belongs to fruit-bearing species, is fruit bearing; or
- (b) the felling of the specified tree is likely to extinguish the species of the trees in the local area in which it grows; or
- (c) there is any other sufficient reason which he may recorded in writing to warrant refusal of permit.

**7. Consultation:-** In considering whether to grant or to refuse a permit the prescribed authority may in its decision and if so, required by a general or special order of the Government shall obtain the advice of any department of the Government or any officer thereof regarding any question of technical nature involved therein.

**8. Export:-** [No person shall export or carry on the trade or business of exporting from the territories of the State Timber of any specified tree or any species thereof in respect or when declaration under section 16-A has been made by the Government].

**9. Condition to be reasonable:-** Where the prescribed authority grants a permit for felling a specified tree 1 [XXXXXX] subject to any condition under the provisions of this Act, the condition so imposed shall be such as may be reasonable having regard to the circumstances of each case and the interest of the general public.

**10. No compensation payable for loss or injury:-** No person shall be entitled to claim compensation for any injury, damage or loss caused or alleged to have been caused by the refusal to grant permit or by any condition subject to which permit is granted under this Act.

**11. Appeal:-** Any person aggrieved or affected by an order of the prescribed authority under this Act may, within sixty days from the date of the order, prefer an appeal to the Financial Commissioner.

**12. Power to' revise order's:-** The Government may at any time either On its own motion or on any application made to it in this behalf, call for the record of any case pending before or disposed of by the prescribed authority or the Financial Commissioner, and if in any such case the Government is of the opinion, that any order passed or proceeding taken should be modified, annulled or reversed, it may pass such order in relation thereto as it thinks fit:

Provided that the Government shall not pass any order under this section prejudicial to

any person applying for permit without giving him a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

**2[13. Penalty:-** (1) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder or any term or condition of any permit granted under this Act, shall be punishable by the prescribed authority with a fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, in addition to such compensation for any loss or damage caused to the owner of the specified tree as the prescribed authority may determine, and where the contravention relates to felling of a specified tree, the timber of such tree shall also be liable to be confiscated by the prescribed authority].

(2) Any amount of fine or compensation payable under sub-section (1) shall be recoverable as arrears of land revenue.

**13-A. Disposal of timber fallen due to natural calamities:-** The timber of any specified tree proved to have fallen due to any " natural calamity or disease shall, in the case of private lands, be allowed to be taken by the owner thereof and in the case of State Lands, be disposed of by the prescribed authority in such manner as may be prescribed.

**14. Protection of action's taken in good faith:-** No suit or prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie against any officer or person empowered to exercise powers or to perform duties under this Act for anything done in good faith or intended to be done under this Act or the rules made thereunder.

**15. Effect of Act and rules etc. inconsistent with other enactments:-** The provisions of this Act or any rule or order made thereunder shall have effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any enactment other than this Act or any instrument having effect by virtue of any enactment other than this Act.

**16. Power to make rules:-** (1) The Government may make rules for purposes of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality 'of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely;

- (a) form of application for grant of permit authorising felling of a specified tree 1[xxx].
- (b) form of permit to be granted by the prescribed authority authorising felling of a specified tree 1 [xxxxx] .
- (c) information to be supplied by the applicant under section 4 (1) 2[X x x X x].
- (d) fees chargeable in respect of a permit;
- (e) manner and procedure for holding inquiry under sections 5, 6 3[xxxxxxxxx] and the matters to be considered therein.
- (f) conditions in which permits may be granted for the export of timber from the State.
- (g) period of validity of permits

1 [(gg) Disposal of timber confiscated under section 13, or fallen due to natural calamities or disease];

(h) form and manner in which accounts and registers relating to felling of specified trees 2 [X X X] shall be maintained by the prescribed .authorities;

3[(i) the procedure and the manner regarding the export from the State and the sale outside the State of the timber of the specified trees or any species thereof. in respect of which declaration has been made under section 16-A];

(j) from and manner in which appeals may be preferred against the orders of prescribed authority and the procedure for hearing appeals.

k) the number of specified trees which a permit, may authorise to fell at a time.;

l) procedure and manner'. in which and the conditions subject to which exporters of timber are registered under his Act, and the fees for registration;

m)

any other matter which has to be or may be prescribed.

**16-A. State Trading:-** If the Government is of the opinion that with a view to securing optimum utilisation of timber of any specified trees or any species thereof for its adequate and properly co-ordinated sale outside the State, it is necessary, in the public interest that the State should itself carry on the trade or business of exporting from the territories of the State such timber, to the complete exclusion of other persons, the Govt. shall by notification in the Government Gazette make a declaration to that effect in relation to such specified trees or the species or timber thereof subject to the following modification.

**[16-B. Application of the provisions of the Act to Willow Trees:-** Notwithstanding anything in this Act, as from the date which may be notified by the Government in the Government Gazette, the provision of this Act and the rules made thereunder, so far as they relate to regulation of export of timber, shall apply to timber of willow tree in the same manner as they apply to any timber of a specified tree].

2. Notwithstanding such repeal anything done any action taken or notification issued under the said ordinance shall be deemed to have been respectively done taken or issued under this Act, as if this Act had come, into force on the date when the said ordinance came into force.

17. The Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees (Amendment) Act ordinance 1973 -(IV of -1973) is hereby repealed.

**THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
PRESERVATION OF SPECIFIED TREES RULES, 1969**

1. Title extent and commencement
2. Definitions
3. Application for grant of permits
4. Permits
5. Fees chargeable on permits
6. Enquiry
7. Consideration of special circumstances by and consultation with experts of, the prescribed authority
8. Omitted.
9. Validity of permits.
10. Omitted
11. Omitted
12. Accounts and Registers
13. Submission of report to the Government
14. Form and procedure for Appeals
15. Proceedings under section 13.
16. Disposal of timber fallen due to natural calamity or disease

**THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
PRESERVATION OF SPECIFIED TREES RULES, 1969**

1 [Revenue Department Notification SRO-472, dated 26th Aug., 1969] , -In exercise of the powers conferred by section 16 of the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Act, 1969 (V of 1969), the Government hereby make the following rules, namely:

## CHAPTER XX

## REGULATION OF FELLING AND PLANTING TREES

339. *Prohibiting felling, cutting, damaging, destroying any tree in any urban area.*— No person shall cut, damage, destroy, fell or remove any tree of the prescribed class, whether included in a private holding or not, within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Corporation, except with prior permission obtained from the Government under the provisions made in this Chapter or any rules made thereunder.

*Explanation.*— For the purpose of this section the expression “damage” in relation to a tree shall include—

- (a) grilling, drilling of holes, boring and use of poisonous substance ;
- (b) cutting and exposure of roots or making a tree dangerous ;
- (c) setting fire to a tree or its branches ;
- (d) debarking or stripping of the bark ;
- (e) extraction of resin and gum ;
- (f) lopping of branches ;
- (g) extraction and removal of torchwood ;
- (h) damage to trees by throwing debris or stones but such damage shall not include the damage which is caused—
  - (1) by the bonafide exercise of the rights of the right holders of the area ;
  - (2) by lopping of branches of trees which are grown mainly for fodder, horticultural or ornamental purposes.

340. *Constitution of Tree Authority.* —(1) The State Government shall by notification, constitute the Tree Authority consisting of the following :—

- (i) the Mayor of the Municipal Corporation ;
- (ii) the Commissioner ;

- (iii) the Divisional Forest Officer having jurisdiction over the city ;
- (iv) the District Horticulture Officer having jurisdiction over the city ; and
- (v) one Councillor to be nominated by the Mayor.

(2) The Mayor shall be the Chairman of the Tree Authority.

341. *Meeting of Tree Authority.*—(1) The Tree Authority shall meet at least once in two months at such place and time as the Chairman may decide.

(2) The quorum to constitute a meeting of the Tree Authority shall be one-half of the total number of its members.

342. *Duties of Tree Authority.*— Notwithstanding anything in the Act the Tree Authority shall subject to any general or special order of the Government be responsible for :—

- (a) the preservation of all trees within its jurisdiction ;
- (b) obtaining declaration from all owners or occupants about the number of trees in their lands ;
- (c) specifying the standards regarding the number and kind of trees in each locality, type of land and premises ;
- (d) assisting private and public institutions connected with planting and preservation of trees ; and
- (e) undertaking such schemes or measures as may be directed from time to time for achieving the objectives of these provisions.

343. *Appointment of Tree Officer.*— The State Government shall appoint one or more forest officers not below the rank of an Assistant Conservator of Forests as Tree Officer for the territorial limits of a Municipal Corporation. Every Tree Officer shall exercise jurisdiction over the whole or such part of the areas of the Municipal Corporation as the Government may from time to time determine.

344. *Application for permission for cutting, felling or removal of a tree.*— (1) Any person intending to cut, fell or remove a tree within the territorial jurisdiction of the Corporation shall make an application to the Tree Officer,

in such form and containing such particulars and accompanied by such documents as may be prescribed.

(2) Such application shall be accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed.

345. *Permission for felling of tree.* —(1) On receipt of application from any person to fell any standing tree or to cut, lop, remove or otherwise dispose of a fallen tree, the Tree Authority shall, after making such inquiry as it may think fit, and with prior approval of the Government either permit in whole or in part or refuse the permission applied for :

Provided that no such permission shall be refused if the tree :—

- (i) is dead, diseased or wind-fallen ; or
- (ii) constitutes a danger to life or property ; or
- (iii) is substantially damaged or destroyed by fire, lightning, rain or other natural causes.

(2) Where permission to fell a standing tree or to cut, remove or otherwise dispose of a fallen tree is granted, the Tree Authority may impose condition that the applicant shall plant another tree or trees of the same or other suitable species preferably on the same site within sixty days of the date on which the tree is felled or within such extended time as the Tree Authority may allow.

(3) The permission granted under this section shall be valid for a period of 180 days from the date on which the sanction is conveyed to the applicant. If the applicant fails to cut, fell, lop or remove the tree permitted to be cut, felled, lopped, or removed within the aforesaid period of 180 days, the permission granted shall lapse, unless the applicant obtains from the Commissioner and extension of time on an application for extension and payment of prescribed fee.

346. *Planting of adequate number of trees.* —(1) If in the opinion of the Tree Officer the number of trees in any land is not adequate according to the standards prescribed under clause (c) of section 342 the Tree Officer may, by order, after giving a reasonable opportunity to the owner or occupier of the land of being heard, require him to plant such trees or additional trees and at such places in the land as may be specified in the order.

(2) When an order is made under sub-section (1), the owner or occupier of the land shall comply with such order within thirty days from the receipt thereof or such extended time as the Tree Officer may allow.

347. *Planting in place of fallen/destroyed trees.* —(1) When any tree is fallen or destroyed by wind, fire, lightning, rain or such other natural causes the Tree Officer may *suo moto* or on information given to him after holding such enquiry as he deems fit, by order require such owner or occupier to plant a tree or trees in place of the tree so fallen or destroyed as may be specified in the order.

(2) When an order is made under sub-section (1) the owner or occupier of the land shall comply with such order within thirty days from the receipt thereof or such extended time as the Tree Officer may allow.

348. *Responsibilities for preservation of trees.*— When an order is made by the Tree Officer under section 345, section 346 and section 347 subject to the provisions of section 349, it shall be the duty of owner or occupier of the land who is directed to plant a tree to see that the tree grows properly and is well preserved. It shall also be the duty of such owner or occupier to preserve all other trees existing on the land at the time of commencement of this Act within the area in which the land is situated.

349. *The recovery of expenditure on failure to comply with orders for planting of trees.*— Where the owner or occupier of the land fails to comply with any orders made by the Tree Officer under section 346 or section 347 or section 348, the Tree Officer may, after giving a reasonable opportunity to such owner or occupier of being heard and without prejudice to any other action which may be taken against the defaulter under these provisions, take the necessary action himself and recover the expenditure incurred therefrom from the owner or the occupier, as the case may be.

350. *Appeals.* —(1) When any decision is given or order is made under section 346, section 347 or section 348 by the Tree Officer an appeal shall lie to the Tree Authority.

(2) The appeal shall be made within thirty days from the date the decision is communicated to or the order is received by the owner or occupier of the land.

(3) The Tree Authority shall, as far as possible, decide the appeal within ninety days from the date of its receipt after giving a reasonable opportunity to the appellants of being heard.

(4) The decision of the Tree Authority shall be final and shall not be questioned in any court of law.

351. *Seizure.*— When the Tree Officer has reason to believe that an offence under the provisions of this Chapter has been committed in respect of any tree, he may seize the tools, ropes, chains, boats, vehicles or animals used for the commission of the said offence alongwith tree or part thereof which has been severed from the ground or the trunk, as the case may be.

352. *Penalty.*— Whoever fells or abets the felling of any tree or causes any tree to be felled in contravention of the provisions of this Chapter or any rules made thereunder or without any reasonable excuse fails to comply with any order issued or conditions imposed by the Tree Officer or any other officer subordinate to him in the discharge of their functions under the provisions of this Chapter shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees or with both.

*Explanation.*—For the purposes of this section a breach of the provisions of this Chapter or abetment of breach thereof in respect of cutting or destroying each tree shall be a separate offence.

353. *Compounding of offences.*— No offence or breach of the provisions of this Chapter shall be compounded by any authority empowered to compound without providing for forfeiture of the tree fuel or timber alongwith articles seized under section 351 in favour of the concerned Municipal Corporation.

354. *Operation of other laws not barred.*— Nothing in this Chapter shall be deemed to prevent any person from being prosecuted under any other law for any act or omission which constituted an offence under these provisions or from being liable under such other law to higher punishment or penalty than that provided by these provisions or the rules made thereunder.

355. *Power to make rules.*— The Government may by notification make rules to carry out the purposes of the provisions of this Chapter.

## CHAPTER XXI

### POWERS, PROCEDURE, OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

356. *Signature, conditions, duration, suspension, revocation, etc. of licences and written permissions.*—(1) Whenever it is provided in this Act or any bye-law made thereunder that a licence or a written permission may be

**16-A. State Trading:-** If the Government is of the opinion that with a view to securing optimum utilisation of timber of any specified trees or any species thereof for its adequate and properly co-ordinated sale outside the State, it is necessary, in the public interest that the State should itself carry on the trade or business of exporting from the territories of the State such timber, to the complete exclusion of other persons, the Govt. shall by notification in the Government Gazette make a declaration to that effect in relation to such specified trees or the species or timber thereof subject to the following modification.

**[16-B. Application of the provisions of the Act to Willow Trees:-** Notwithstanding anything in this Act, as from the date which may be notified by the Government in the Government Gazette, the provision of this Act and the rules made thereunder, so far as they relate to regulation of export of timber, shall apply to timber of willow tree in the same manner as they apply to any timber of a specified tree].

2. Notwithstanding such repeal anything done any action taken or notification issued under the said ordinance shall be deemed to have been respectively done taken or issued under this Act, as if this Act had come, into force on the date when the said ordinance came into force.

17. The Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees (Amendment) Act ordinance 1973 -(IV of -1973) is hereby repealed.

**THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
PRESERVATION OF SPECIFIED TREES RULES, 1969**

1. Title extent and commencement
2. Definitions
3. Application for grant of permits
4. Permits
5. Fees chargeable on permits
6. Enquiry
7. Consideration of special circumstances by and consultation with experts of, the prescribed authority
8. Omitted.
9. Validity of permits.
10. Omitted
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12. Accounts and Registers
13. Submission of report to the Government
14. Form and procedure for Appeals
15. Proceedings under section 13.
16. Disposal of timber fallen due to natural calamity or disease

**THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
PRESERVATION OF SPECIFIED TREES RULES, 1969**

1 [Revenue Department Notification SRO-472, dated 26th Aug., 1969] , -In exercise of the powers conferred by section 16 of the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Act, 1969 (V of 1969), the Government hereby make the following rules, namely:

1. *Title, extent and commencement.*-(1) These rules may be called the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Rules, 1969.

2. These shall extend to the whole of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

3. These shall come into force with effect from the date these are published in the Government Gazette.

2. *Definitions.*-In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires :

- (a) 'Section' means the section of the Act.,  
 (b) 'Form' means the form appended to these rules; and  
 (c) Words and expressions used but not defined shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Act.

**3. Application for grant of permits:-** 1[(1) An application for grant of permit for felling of a specified tree under section 4 shall be made in form A on stamp paper of Re. 1/-].

2. Every application on form A made under sub-rule (1) shall be accompanied by the following documents, namely:

- (a) an attested copy of or an extract from Jamabandi Darakhtan (trees) or, if that is not available, from Jamabandi (Arazi land) of the holding containing the khasra number/numbers in which the specified tree/trees is / are situate;  
 (b) where the felling of the tree/trees is/are for the purpose laid down in item (i) or (ii) of clause (3) of the application, a certificate, if the applicant is himself the owner of the tree/trees, that he is a bona fide manufacturer of, or dealer in finished goods of Kashmir Art regarding item (i) 2[X x X x] and if the applicant is 'not himself' the owner, a declaration in affirmation of the said purpose made by him before; and attested by, the Director of Industries and -Commerce, Jammu and Kashmir Government.  
 (c) where the felling of the tree/trees is/are for the purpose indicated in item (iii) of clause (3) of the application, a certificate, in case of prevention of danger or abatement of nuisance, from the local Tehsildar and in case of prevention of plant disease, from the local Assistant Director, Horticulture, in charge of the area in which the tree/trees is/are situate; and  
 (d) where the felling is covered by item (iv) of clause (3) of the application, a certificate from the local Tehsildar of the Tehsil, in which the tree is situate, that the tree/trees is/are completely dried up.

**(3)1 [Omitted].**

**4. Permits:-** The permits granted under sections 4 and 5 shall be issued in forms C&D respectively and maintained in a foil and counterfoil, the later for delivery to the applicant and the former to be retained in the office of the issuing authority 'Each' permit shall bear the issue number at the top with the alphabets PST/PA-suffixed to it.

**5. Fee chargeable on permits:-** (1) (i) The fee chargeable on a permit issued, under 'section 4 shall be 2[Rs. 10/-].

**(ii) 3[Omitted].**

2. The fee charged under sub-rule (1) for permits issued under Section 4 shall be realised in court fee stamps, which shall be cancelled 'under the signatures of the prescribed authority or his nominee' [x x X x].

**6. Enquiry:-** (1) On receipt of an application for felling of a specified tree made under rule 3 the prescribed authority may call for a report from the Deputy Commissioner of the district in which the specified tree/trees desired to be felled is/are situate on any of the following points as he may specify namely;

- a) whether the applicant is himself a dealer in or manufacturer of finished goods of Kashmir Art 'or wants to sell the timber to such dealer or manufacture. In the second case, the particulars of the deal will require to be ascertained and verified;  
 b) 1 [if the applicant wants to sell the timber to any Government agency set up for purposes of exporting the timber outside the State].

- c) the circumstances in which the tree/trees 'sought to be felled endanger or cause nuisance to -life or property :
- d) whether the-tree/trees bear any fruit or are dried up completely or partially? If dried up completely, since when?

2 [(2) The- Deputy Commissioner, from whom a report is called under sub-rule (1) he shall enquire himself or in special circumstances refer the matter for enquiry to the Assistant Commissioner (hereinafter referred to as "the enquiry officer") and on receipt of his report forward it, after such further enquiry as may be deemed necessary with his remarks to the prescribed authority].

(3) The enquiry officer may in case of points dealt within clauses" (a) and (b) of sub-rule (1) refer to the authorised lists of dealers in and manufacturers of finished goods of Kashmir Art 3 [(x) maintained and issued by the State Departments of Tourism or Industries and shall, in case of points referred to' in clause (c) and (d) of the same rule himself inspect the tree/trees and its/their location and condition].

(4) The enquiry officer shall submit his report through the Deputy Commissioner, unless otherwise directed by the competent authority.

(5) 4[Omitted].

(7) Consideration of special circumstances by and consultation with experts of the prescribed authority..-(1) The prescribed authority may require the Deputy Commissioner Or an enquiry officer, from whom a report has been called for under rule 6 to explain the grounds which in his opinion justify the grant of permit being refused and consider such grounds at the time of making an order under section 6.

(2) Before making any order under section 5 or 6, the prescribed authority may, if he has any reason to believe that due to any cause the specified trees, for the felling of which an application for grant of permit is pending before him, are dwindling in number and it is likely that the species of such trees may, in course of time, get extinguished, in writing consult an officer of the Forest Department not below the rank of a Conservator of Forests and consider the advice so obtained at the time of making an order in the matter.

3. I[Where an applicant seeks permission to fell a specified tree/trees on the ground that it/they had been effected by any. plant disease and the felling thereof would save other trees from getting contaminated by the same or any other disease or where the tree/trees sought to be felled is/are not fruit bearing, the prescribed authority may in writing consult an officer of the Horticulture Department not below the rank of District Horticulture Officer and consider the advice so obtained at the time of making an order in the matter].

4. The prescribed authority may, in any matter arising out of the proceedings taken on applications under section 4, which involve any question of technical nature directly consult the Chief Conservator of Forests and make such order as he may consider proper.

8. <sup>2</sup>[Omitted].

**9. Validity of permits:-** (1) Every permit for felling of a specified tree/trees granted under section 4 shall remain in force for sixty days from the date of its issue.

(2) 3[Omitted].

(3) 3[Omitted].

4. There shall be no renewal of permits covered by sub-rule (1) where a specified tree/trees has/have not been felled during the period prescribed in the permit, a fresh application for grant of permit in accordance with these rules shall be made

(5) <sup>1</sup>[Omitted].

10. <sup>2</sup>[Omitted].

11. <sup>3</sup>[Omitted].

12. <sup>4</sup>[Accounts and Registers:- (1) A proper account of the fee recovered under rule 5 shall be maintained in a register for this purpose in form 'E' in the office of the prescribed authority.

(2) The register maintained under sub-rule (1) shall be checked and signed every month by the prescribed authority or a Gazetted officer to see that the sum realized has been correctly charged and remitted without delay into the Treasury and adjusted in the account book].

13. **Submission of report to the Government.**-(1) A report on the lines indicated in form G shall, with ten spare copies, be submitted to the Revenue Department by each prescribed authority through proper channel to reach not later than 15th April annually for the year ending the month of March.

(2) One copy of the report referred to 'in sub-rule (1) shall be sent by each prescribed authority to the Financial Commissioner, Jammu and Kashmir Government, for his review of which one copy each shall be forwarded by him to the Revenue Department and to the reporting authority. The Revenue Department shall submit the report along with a copy of the review and its own' comments to the Council of Ministers for information.

14. **Form and Procedure for Appeals:-** (1) An appeal against an order of the prescribed authority shall be preferred in the form of a memorandum stamped in accordance with the law in force relating to court fees and shall be accompanied by an attested copy of the order appealed against and shall state concisely the facts relied upon by the appellant.

(2) As soon as the appeal is filled, the Financial Commissioner shall inform the person appealing of the date of hearing and pass such orders on it as he decides.

15. **5[Proceedings under section 13:-** (1) The prescribed authority may suo mota or on the complaint of any person take action under section 13 of the Act.

2. The timber confiscated under section 13 shall be delivered by the prescribed authority to the Forest Department against payment of its value by book credit to the Revenue Department, such value to be determined according to such rates as may be prescribed by the Forest Department from time to time. A register in Form J shall be maintained by the prescribed authority for this purpose.

16. **Disposal of timber fallen due to natural calamity or disease.-** (1) The timber under section 14-A shall

(a) In the case of private lands be allowed to be removed by the owner thereof under a permit granted by the prescribed authority to whom an application may be made in this behalf:

Provided that no permit shall be necessary where such timber is covered by an export permit granted under section 8; and

(b) In the case of State lands, be disposed of in the same manner as prescribed in sub-rule (2) of rule, 15.

(2) The permit referred to in sub-clause (a) shall be in Form H and maintained in foil and counterfoil, the foil to be delivered to the applicant and the counterfoil to be retained by the prescribed authority it shall bear the issue number on the top and remain valid for 60 days, on expiry whereof a fresh permit may be applied for, if the timber has not been removed for any sufficient reason by then.

(3) A fee of Rs. 2 shall be charged on every permit issued under this rule and realise in court fee stamps, which shall be affixed to the foil of the permit and cancelled under the signature of the prescribed authority.

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4. A register in form K shall be maintained by the prescribed authority in his office to show the quantity of the timber disposed of and the fee recovered under this rule].

## FORM "A" APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 4

To

The Divisional Commissioner,  
Jammu/Kashmir.

Application for grant of permit to fell.....(state number) tree/trees  
of.....(state kind of specified tree.)

Sir,

I beg to apply for the grant of a permit to fell... .. (state number) tree/ trees  
of... .. (state kind of specified tree) about which the following particulars are  
submitted for your consideration:-

1. Name of the applicant/with his father's name, caste and residence.
2. The number location and kind of the specified tree/trees desired to be  
felled... ..
  - a) kind
  - b) number
  - c) girth
  - d) khasra number/numbers and the village/villages in which situated;
3. The tree/trees is/are desired to be felled... ..
  - (i) for providing timber for the manufacture of finished goods of Kashmir Art.
  - (ii) for providing timber for export outside the State;
  - (iii) for prevention of danger or abatement of nuisance to life or property or  
prevention of plant disease.
  - (iv) because it/they is/are completely dried up.

Note:-Of the above grounds, those not applicable should be crossed.

Date... ..(State place)

Yours faithfully,

Signature of the applicant  
or his left hand thumb  
impression in case he is illiterate

the... ..' ... ..19  
(State date month & year)

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1[FORM  
'B' OMITTED]  
FORM 'C'

(PERMIT UNDER SECTION 4)  
GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONER  
JAMMU/KASHMIR.

In pursuance of the provisions of section 5 of the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Act, 1969 the applicant... ..(State name, parentage, caste and residence) is hereby permitted to fell... .. specified tree) (State number of... ..State kind of tree/trees situate in Khasra Nos... ..in village/villages... .. in Tehsil.....district... ..

The permit shall remain in force for a period of sixty days, issued under my hand and seal at Srinagar/Jammu this..... day of... ..19

Divisional Commissioner  
Kashmir/Jammu

**1 [FORM 'D'  
OMITTED]  
FORM 'E'  
[See rule 12 (i)]**

Register giving details of permits granted for felling of specified trees and fees realised for permits in the Kashmir/Jammu province for the year.....

Name of the District	Tehsil	Village	Number of granted	Permits refused
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Purpose for which permits were granted</b>				
Manufacture of finished goods of Kashmir Art.	Export of timber	Prevention of danger and nuisance to life and property.	Other	Amount of fees recovered on permits Rs.
6	7	8	9	10
<b>Remarks</b>				
<b>11</b>				

**11 [FORM 'F'  
OMITTED]  
FORM 'G'  
[See Rule 13]**

The report may deal chronologically with the following matters: -

1. A review of the working of the- Act during- the last year.
2. How far the Act had served the purpose, which it was designed to fulfil, with particular reference to.
  - (a) Preservation and protection of specified trees; and
  - (b) Promotion ,of the specialised Industry of Kashmir Art;
3. Permits, Number of permits granted and refused; purpose for which permits were required; and grounds generally for refusal of permits.
4. 1 [Omitted.]
5. Contraventions.
6. Suggestions for Improvements.

**2[FORM 'H']  
(PERMIT UNDER RULE 16)**

**Government of Jammu and Kashmir**

Office of the prescribed Authority (Deputy Commissioner)

No..... of 19.....

In pursuance of rule 16 of tile Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Rules, 1969, Shri..... S/o ..... R/o..... .Caste/is hereby allowed to remove ..... (State kind) timber consisting of .....(State Number) weighing .....fallen due to natural calamity/disease on the land under Khasra No .....village ..... Tehsil... .. belonging to the said Shri.....

This permit shall remain valid for a period of 60 days.

Issued under my hand and seal at.....

This..... Day of ..... 19.....

Deputy Commissioner

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[FORM I  
OMITTED]

1 [FORM J]

[See rule 15]

Register showing the disposal of the timber confiscated under Section 13.

## Timber confiscated under section 13

S:No.	Name of persons	Address	Date	Quantity
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Timber delivered to the Forest Department</b>				
Quantity	Ref to No and date of the letter of delivery,	Place of delivery.	Ref to letter of acknowledgement No. & Date	Value of Timber
6	7	8	9	10
Ref to book credit adjustment letter No.... dated				
11				

2[FORM K]

[See rule 16]

Register showing disposal of timber of tree fallen/felled due to disease and natural calamities and also of fees realised for permits issued in this behalf.

## Timber permitted to be removed by the owner

S:No.	Name of owner	No. and date	Permit	Fee realised
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Timber delivered to the Forest Department</b>				
Quantity	Ref to No and date of the letter of delivery,	Place of delivery.	Ref to letter of acknowledgement No. & Date	Value of Timber
6	7	8	9	10
Ref to book credit adjustment letter No.... dated				
11				

**'Sporting rifle butt' certified by Director Handicrafts to be the goods of Kashmir Art.**

**1 [Revenue Department Notification SRO-177 dated 16 April, 1975] .-**In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (b) of section 2 of the Jammu and Kashmir reservation of Specified Trees Act, 1969; the Government hereby declare such of the 'sporting rifle butts' as may be certified by the Director of Handicrafts, to be the goods of Kashmir Art for the purposes of the said Act.

Prescribed authorities notified

**2[Revenue Department Notification SRO-317 dated 17th May, 1972]:-** In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (d) of section 2 of the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Act, 1969 (V of 1969) and in super session of Notification SRO: 597 dated 24th Dec, 1970, the Government hereby notify every officer mentioned in column 2 below to be the prescribed authority under the said Act for purposes of the sections mentioned in column 1 within the jurisdiction specified against each in column 3.

Section	Officers	Jurisdiction
	Divisional Commissioner Kashmir	Within his jurisdiction
	Divisional Commissioner Jammu	Within his jurisdiction
<b>13 and 13-A</b>	Deputy Commissioner	Within their respective jurisdiction
<b>8</b>	Chief Conservator of Forests	Whole of the State

Trade and business of exporting timber of Walnut trees from the State taken over exclusively by the State.

**3[Revenue Department Notification SRO-292 dated 18th June, 1973]:-** Whereas the Government is of the opinion that with a view to securing optimum utilization of timber of Walnut trees for its adequate and properly coordinated sale outside the State, it is necessary in the public interest, to do so.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 16-A of the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Act, 1969, as amended by '1 [Ordinance NO. IV of 1973] the Government hereby declare that with effect from the date of publication of this notification in the Government Gazette, the State shall itself carry on the trade and business of exporting from the territories of the State, timber of walnut trees to the complete exclusion of other persons.

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR  
REVENUE DEPARTMENT**

**NOTIFICATION**

Srinagar, the 10th June, 1978

SRO-320.-In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (e) of section 2 of the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of specified Trees Act, 1969 (V of 1969), the Government hereby notify the 'Khair tree' for purposes of the said clause.

By order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
CIVIL SECTT. INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE DEPARTMENT**

**NOTIFICATION**

Jammu, the 9th January, 1981.

SRO-16.-In pursuance of section 16-B of the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of specified Trees Act, 1969, the Government hereby notify 1st August, 1980 as the date from which the provisions of the said Act and the rules made thereunder so far as they relate to regulation of export of timber, shall apply to timber of willow tree in the same manner as they apply to any timber of a specified tree.

By order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
CIVIL SECTT. INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE DEPARTMENT**

**NOTIFICATION**

Jammu, the 9th January, 1981.

SRO-15.- In pursuance of clause's (d) of section 2 of the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Act 1969 the Government hereby notify, General Manager District Industries Centres as prescribed authority for purpose of export of timber of willow trees in the finished form of bats.

By order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

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Annexure-IV

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department  
Civil Secretariat, J&K.

**NOTIFICATION**

Srinagar, the 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2022

**S.O 327** .-- In exercise of the power conferred by Section 28 of the Indian Forest Act (Section 16 of Act, 1927), the Lieutenant Governor, hereby make the following rules; namely:-

1. **Short title, extent and commencement:-** (1) These rules shall be called the Jammu and Kashmir Social Forestry (Plantation) Rules, 2022.
  - (2) These rules shall apply to the whole of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
  - (3) These rules shall come into force from the date of their publication in Official Gazette.
2. **Definitions: -** In these rules unless the context otherwise requires, -

- a) "Act" means the Indian Forest Act, 1927(Section 16 of 1927).
- b) "Administrative Secretary" means the officer holding the Administrative charge of Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, J&K.
- c) "Block Officer" means officer incharge of the concerned block of the Social Forestry Department.
- d) "Chairperson" means Ex-officio Head of the Executive Committee (VPPC).
- e) "Director" means an officer holding the charge as Director in the Department of Social Forestry, J&K.
- f) "Divisional Forest Officer" means an officer holding the charge of the Social Forestry Division concerned.
- g) "Executive Committee" means committee constituted under these rules.
- h) "Farm Forestry" means practice of growing trees on Farm lands for commercial/ non-commercial purposes.
- i) "General Body" means Gram Sabha of concerned Panchayat.
- j) "Government" means the Government of Union Territory of the Jammu & Kashmir.
- k) "Range Officer" means Officer incharge of the range of the Social Forestry Range concerned.
- l) "Register" means the document used to record the proceedings of Executive Committee or General Body or any other detail connected to the functioning of VPPC.
- m) "Regional Director" means an officer holding the charge as Regional Director, Jammu or Kashmir of Department of Social Forestry.
- n) "Village Woodlot(VWL)" means plantation unit raised by the VPPC/SFD on non forest lands as a common property resource of Gram Panchayat.
- o) "VPPC", means Village Panchayat (Plantation) Committee constituted at Panchayat level under these rules.
- p) "Union Territory" means Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
- q) "Rules & norms", means rules within the ambit of this Act and norms as prescribed by Govt. from time to time.

r) "Terms" means terms of VPPC, EC, GB/Gram Sabha (it shall be in consonance with Panchayat body of the concerned Halqa Panchayat).

(2) Words and expressions used herein and not defined shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them under Section 16 of Indian Forest Act, 1927.

(3) **Composition of Committees:** - (1) There shall be constituted Village Panchayat (Plantation) Committee (hereinafter called as VPPC) for each Panchayat for the purpose of creation, protection and management of plantations on all types of non-forest lands within the jurisdiction of concerned Panchayat excluding farm forestry on private lands established under these rules.

(2) The VPPC will function with a two-tier system, consisting of an "Executive Committee" (EC) and the "General Body (GB)".

(3) The Gram Sabha of the concerned Panchayat shall be General Body of the VPPC with representation of one adult male/ female member of each independent household of Panchayat, within which plantation units is located.

(4) Executive Committee, VPPC shall have 11 members, headed by concerned Sarpanch as its Chairperson (**Ex-officio**) as per Annexure "A" to these rules.

S.No.	Category	Nos.	Designation
1	Chairperson (Ex-officio)	1	Sarpanch
2	Women Member	2	Member
3	SC/ST/OSC/OBC Member (Maximum three)	3	Member (at least one female member)
4	Members of Panchayat	2	Members (to be nominated by Gram Sabha).
5	Ex-officio Member	1	Concerned Patwari
6	Member Secretary	1	Officer in-charge S.F. Block
7	Treasurer (Ex-officio)	1	Concerned Panchayat Secretary (RDD)
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>11</b>	

(5) The members of Executive Committee shall be nominated/elected simultaneously with the election of Gram Panchayat.

(6) The 50% presence of General Body (Gram Sabha) members including Chairperson shall be minimum quorum to take any decision with adequate presence of female members.

(7) The Gram Sabha will elect Executive Committee of VPPC as per the composition given at Rule 3 (iv). A resolution to this effect be placed on record register.

(8) The Block Officer (Social Forestry) concerned shall act as Member-Secretary and shall be responsible for assisting the VPPC to co-ordinate its activities with other Government Departments and shall also be responsible for the maintenance of records in close liaison with Panchayat Secretary.

(9) If any inclusion or change in the member constituent of VPPC (EC) is necessitated after its initial constitution, the VPPC (EC) through Member Secretary shall make the recommendations to the concerned VPPC (GB) viz. Gram Sabha whose decision shall be final and binding.

4. **Meetings and Procedure:** - (1), The VPPC (EC) shall meet at such a place as may be convenient to members or in such villages where such plantations are to be raised or have been raised, on the dates that may be notified by the Chairperson, at least seven (7) days in advance.

(2) At-least four meetings of the VPPC (EC) and two meetings of the VPPC (GB), shall be held in a calendar year.

(3) The VPPC (EC) shall maintain record of the proceedings of the meetings held from time to time under the signature of the Chairperson of the committee in the record register and a copy of the same /minutes of such meetings duly attested shall be sent to the concerned Range Officer for record by the Member Secretary.

(4) The VPPC (EC) within its Jurisdiction shall make decisions / resolutions on the following aspects:-

- a) Description of boundaries of the area to be covered/ already covered under plantation/afforestation programmes.
- b) The produce to be removed by the villagers and method of sharing.
- c) Actions that are prohibited.
- d) Regulation on allowing or closing of grazing.
- e) Any other matter specific to the village/ plantation unit.

(5) In case of any point of disagreement between villagers, the objections, claims and rights thereof will be heard by the VPPC (EC) and proceedings thereof shall be recorded. The decision by the majority vote of the Members of the Committee, shall be binding upon and final.

5. **Village woodlots (VWL ).---** (1) Village woodlots should be established as plantation units on available village common Lands/State/Revenue Lands etc. The sites for afforestation works to establish a village woodlot within its Gram Panchayat shall be identified by VPPC (EC) in consultation with Social Forestry Department. The concerned Range Officer Social Forestry Department shall, participate in the Gram Panchayat Development Plan formulation process and inform the Gram Sabha about number of plantation units (along with financial implications) to be taken up during next financial year in the said Panchayat as per the recommendations of VPPC (EC) and the guidelines of the scheme.

(2) The afforestation and management plan of each plantation unit shall be approved by the VPPC (GB) viz. Gram Sabha concerned as part of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan and shall be technically vetted by the DFO/Regional Director concerned and accepted by the Director, Social Forestry for implementation in the next financial year within the permissible ceiling under the relevant scheme.

(3) The VPPC (EC) shall carry out execution of approved works through e- tenders in accordance with directions/guidelines of Finance Department in vogue. The process shall be carried out by the Divisional Forest Officer in consultation with VPPC, in accordance with the laid down procedure. The VPPC (EC) may also get the work done through MGNREGA or through convergence under MGNREGS (if permissible under Scheme guidelines).

(4) The Village Wood Lot(s) (VWL) shall be handed-over to concerned VPPC (EC) for future management with proper handover/ takeover to be made between the concerned Divisional Forest Officer & Chairperson, VPPC within 3 to 5 years of establishment. The VPPC (GB) shall be solely responsible for maintenance of plantations of such units thereafter. However

services of Social Forestry Department shall remain available to VPPC (EC) for technical guidance whenever or wherever required under norms.

(5) In case of any damage reported, the VPPC (EC) shall recover the cost of damage (as per the latest rates issued by the Forest Department) from the offender. The amount recovered from the offenders should be deposited in the account of VPPC (EC) and the proceedings shall be recorded in the record register.

(6) In case of failure of the VPPC (EC) in recovering the damage, the department shall have the right to proceed against the defaulter for legal action as warranted under rules.

(7) Technical Sanctions/ Administrative Approval of works to be executed under these rules shall be accorded in terms of delegation /extent of powers to these officers of Forest Department under relevant rules in this regard.

(8) The VPPC (GB/EC) should encourage establishment of wood lots and their sustainable management. The Panchayat may take up plantation units utilizing its own financial resources also. The Department of Social Forestry will regularly inspect and monitor the establishment and impact of Village Woodlots. The Panchayats who are found to develop and manage best woodlots shall be conferred with the recognition and honour by the department to generate healthy competition amongst Gram Panchayats.

(9) The agreement for raising the Village Wood Lot shall be signed between the VPPC (EC) and the concerned Range Officer and duly countersigned by the Divisional Forest Officer as per the schedule appended at **Annexure "B"** and agreement there under.

(10) The VPPC (GB/EC) shall enforce the rules framed for the protection of the village woodlots, regulation of concessions, benefits and grazing as approved in the resolution.

**6. Execution of Works.**---(1) After the approval of the annual plan by the VPPC (GB), and its acceptance by Director (SF), the VPPC shall be informed by the Block Officer (Member Secretary, VPPC (EC) accordingly. The Department of Social Forestry shall issue the administrative approval/ technical sanctions and place the funds for raising the plantations as per the technical sanction so issued at the disposal of concerned VPPC (EC). The VPPC (EC) shall take up the execution of work by engaging the local labour from within the concerned Gram Panchayat. In case sufficient labours are not available, it shall be managed from adjoining Gram Panchayat. The procedure for execution of work is given at clause 5 (3).

(2) Once the execution of work is completed, the joint inspection shall be carried out by VPPC (EC) and representative of Department of Social Forestry not below the rank of Range Officer. In case the works are executed, the representative of contractor shall also be present. On receipt of satisfactory work done certificate, the Divisional Forest Officer (SF) shall release the payment in favour of the bonafide labour or contractor as the case may be.

(3) When the VPPC takes up the execution of work out of fund from Village Panchayat Fund, these funds shall be released by Joint Account Holders of VPPC (EC) i.e Chairperson, Member Secretary and the Treasurer on receipt of satisfactory work done certificate.

(4) The department shall follow GFR-2017 in execution of works under these rules.

(5) The works shall be allotted through e-tendering.

**7. Monitoring.-** (1) The Director, Department of Social Forestry shall monitor implementation of rules and other connected issues and submit comprehensive reports to Government on the implementation/progress made as & when required by the Government and shall establish a comprehensive monitoring mechanism for regular monitoring of the execution of works.

(2) The Administrative Secretary, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment shall make overall review of the implementation of the rules especially with respect to devolution of powers to the panchayats and the issues connected thereto.

**8. Interim usufructs:-** The plantation assets normally start yielding interim benefits from 2<sup>nd</sup> year onwards in the form of grass/leaf fodder, which gets enhanced in the form as fuel-wood, small timber, other MFPs once planting gets established. Each plantation unit shall be managed as per prescriptions of its Management Plan.

**9. Sharing of Interim Usufructs ---** (1) The interim benefits like grass/leaf fodder, fuel wood, small timber and other MFPs shall be shared with households of the VPPC (GB) on equitable basis. The distribution process shall be regulated by VPPC (EC) & officials of Department of Social Forestry and the proceedings thereof shall be recorded in the record register..

(2) VPPC (EC) may take decisions to auction/dispose of the surplus interim produce, if any, as per the descriptions given in Annexure B-Schedule-II).

(3). The VPPC members shall be duty bound to assist in protecting the plantations and to become eligible for availing usufructs free of cost from such plantations units.

(4). The usufructs shall be removed in cut and carry method & area shall remain closed for grazing till it gets fully established. Any decision to open up the closures for grazing would be taken up by VPPC on the advice of Department of Social Forestry and keeping in view the status of plantation and natural regeneration.

(5). Any individual/household whose membership stands terminated by VPPC (GB) for any of the reason, which may include damage to plantations and non-adherence to rules and regulations on protection of plantations, shall be debarred to avail benefits/usufructs sharing which shall be in addition to any other action/penalties imposed on such defaulters/offenders.

**10. Final Harvest of Plantations.-** (1)The decision on final harvest of plants in plantation units (VWL) shall be taken by VPPC (EC) in accordance with the Management Plan & on advice of the Department of Social Forestry. The sanction to fell the trees shall be accorded by the competent authority following the laid down procedure as per the existing rules/guidelines of Government in this regard.

(2). The produce shall be disposed of in open auction/e-auction after completing the procedure & financial proceeds (75% of the total revenue realized) shall be deposited in the joint account which would constitute the Village Panchayat Fund. 25% of the proceeds shall be deposited by Department of Social Forestry in Treasury as part of Govt. revenue.

(3). The plantations raised on road sides/canal banks/wetlands and within the Govt. Institutions shall also be raised/managed by VPPC with the assistance of Department of Social Forestry and concerned Department/Institution. These plantations shall be managed as per the prescriptions of Management Plan and final harvest shall be shared in the ratio of 1:3 between the Department of Social Forestry and VPPC respectively. However, the 50% of VPPC share realized from the institutes like schools shall be earmarked for taking up developmental activities within the same institute.

(4) The Village Panchyat Fund shall be established by each VPPC for proper management of funds earned from such plantation assets. Each joint account shall be maintained in interest generating mode in Nationalized Bank/ J&K Bank in the name of Chairperson, Member Secretary & Treasurer of the VPPC.

**11. Operationalisation of Village Panchyat Fund.--** The Village Panchayat Fund shall receive funds (75%) from sale of interim usufructs, the final harvest and from other sources, if any, which VPPC may manage to earn. The utilization of funds shall be proposed by VPPC (EC) by formulating action plan for the financial year, which may include fresh plantations, re-forestation on felled units, minor public utility works as per needs of the inhabitants of Gram Panchayat. It would be as per procedure prescribed in Clause-8 of Annexure B. The account shall be operated jointly by Chairperson, Member Secretary and Treasurer of VPP (EC).

**12. Termination & Appeal :-** (1) The VPPC (GB) may take action including termination of the membership of any member, who fails to perform his functions under these rules.

(2) Any person aggrieved by the order of termination, may prefer an appeal within a period of 15 days to the Gram Sabha concerned.

(3) Any person causing damage to the plantation assets and violating rules may be treated as offender/ defaulter and shall be booked under law with the consent of VPPC(EC).

**13. Maintenance of Records: -** The record of the proceedings of the VPPC shall be maintained in three registers as follows:-

- a) **Register No. 1** shall contain the proceedings of the Executive Committee under section (A) constitution of the Committee and section (B) Record of resolutions and meetings held by the committee.
- b) **Register No. 2** will record the business / proceedings of the General Body & shall record resolution and meetings held by General Body(Gram Sabha).
- c) **Register No.3** shall contain the information about usufruct sharing details and its records such as grass, fuel wood, fodder, fruits, fallen/ dry trees etc. given to members of VPPC and revenue realized thereof alongwith expenditure if any.

(the formats for these registers shall be notified by the Director, Social Forestry).

**14. Village Woodlots on Private lands/Birathari Land/Trust Land or of similar type of land .-** (1) The existing cases regarding claims of proprietorship on Village Woodlots established by the Department on private or on similar nature of lands which may

belong to other departments/organizations, trusts etc. shall be looked into/disposed off on case to case basis on grounds of their merit in light of authentic Land Revenue Records at District level in a Coordination Committee, consisting of following which will meet once in two months:-

1)	Deputy Commissioner Concerned	Chairman/Chairperson
2)	Divisional Forest Officer(Social Forestry) Concerned	Member Secretary
3)	Tehsildar Concerned	Member
4)	Representative of VPPC Concerned	Member

(2) Provided that plantation raised on such land/area will vest with Social Forestry Department till the crop attains maturity and thereafter the benefits of final harvest shall be shared in the ratio of 3:1 between land owner/trust/birathari, and Department of Social Forestry respectively. However, the land owners shall have liberty for deciding future land use of the areas.

**15. Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests (RDF) .-(1)** Under the component of Rehabilitation of degraded forest areas (RDF), the area shall be taken up as per the provisions of the working plan & with the consent of Territorial Forest Department. The plantation in given area will be done through the Department of Social Forestry following the standard norms and procedures under the existing and new schemes of the Department of SF. However, the VPPC (EC) will be involved for protection of plantation & would be allowed to cut and carry grasses/ leaf fodder from such RDF units under supervision of concerned Range Officer (SF) and subject to working plan prescriptions and guidelines of the scheme(s). The VPPCs shall be duty bound to offer their services for protection of such plantations including protection from fire.

(2) The Social Forestry plantations raised over degraded areas in demarcated forests shall remain free from all encumbrances excepting as laid down under rules and the Territorial Forest Department shall assume charge/management of such plantations within 5 to 11 years of their raising/plantation as per norms.

(3) The RDF units raised by the Department of Social Forestry shall be handed over to the Forest (Territorial Department) with proper handover/takeover alongwith record/inventories to be made between the concerned DFOs with the approval of concerned Regional Director (SF) & Conservator of Forests (T).

**16. Strip Plantation:-** The plantations raised on road sides/canal banks/wetlands under strip plantation component shall be raised/managed by VPPC with the assistance of Department of Social Forestry and concerned Department/Organization owning the land. These plantations shall be managed as per the prescriptions of Management Plan.

**17. Institutional Plantation:-** (1) Under this component, the areas available with Government Institutions like Schools, Colleges, Universities, Government Offices, Army, PRIs and Police Camps shall be used for plantations of suitable ornamental and other useful species.

(2) Village Panchayat (Plantation) Committee (EC) will render help to identify the Institutions for plantation under this component. The plantation in the institutions will be done by involving the members of VPPC/Members of Institutions/Students and representatives of civil society. The plantations shall be managed by concerned institution, and Department of Social Forestry shall render technical guidance/ assistance required if any in this regard. In case of any

damage to such plantation works VPPC may take appropriate action in consultation with concerned institution.

(3). Whenever such plantations are required to be felled for use of land by the concerned institute/or removal due to threat to life and property, the Department of Social Forestry shall dispose of plantations as per laid down standard procedure of e-auction/open auction on the recommendations of VPPC (EC). The revenue realized on this account shall be shared between VPPC and Department in the ratio of 3:1. The VPPC may earmark 50% of such share for taking up Developmental works/ activities in the said institution on the request of the head of the said institute.

**18. Farm Forestry.**-(1) It would primarily include farmers interested to take up plantations on their farm lands, the saplings may also be made available to NGOs/VA (Volunteer Associations), Trust(s), individual households and other interested groups of society by Department of Social Forestry in consultation with VPPCs of concerned Gram Panchyats. The VPPC (EC), however, shall assess the viability & potential of successful raising & managing plantations before distribution of saplings.

(2) The distribution of plants under Farm Forestry shall be made as per prevailing rates sanctioned by the Department of Social Forestry under the farm forestry component and render their services in generating awareness to raise & protect plantations.

(3) The VPPC (EC) shall be involved to ensure that plants taken under farm forestry component are planted by the beneficiaries at right time and proper maintenance thereof is ensured.

**19. Outreach & Capacity Building Programme .**-(1) The plantation drives shall be carried out by the Department of Social Forestry by involving VPPCs and the general public/institutions through outreach programmes. The distribution of pamphlets, booklets and success stories of field work shall be shared with the VPPC members to increase outreach & acceptability of the plantation initiatives.

(2) The Department shall organize capacity building measures to enhance the knowledge and skills of the VPPC (EC) to strengthen their role & effectiveness in afforestation programmes.

(3) Best performing VPPC at Province Level/District Level would be identified in an objective manner and incentivized with awards to sustain their interest.

**20. Corporate Social Responsibility Scheme (CSR) :-** The VPPC/Department of Social Forestry would be authorized to receive the funding under corporate social responsibility component or other sources adopting the procedure laid down by the Government in this regard, so that financial resources under Village Panchayat Fund could be augmented. These funds shall be properly budgeted utilized and audited in consultation with VPPC (EC) under existing norms.

**21. Grievance Cell:** - A grievance cell shall be established in the office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Regional Director and Director Social Forestry to address the genuine grievances of the public, if any received, pertaining to the implementation of these rules.

22. **Repeal and Saving.-** (1) All previous rules and orders corresponding to Jammu and Kashmir (Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests and Village Plantation) rules, are hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the aforesaid rules so repealed, any action taken or done or orders issued shall be deemed to have been issued under the corresponding provisions of these rules.

**By order of the Lieutenant Governor.**

*Sd/-*

**(Sanjeev Verma), IAS**

Commissioner/Secretary to Government  
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department

Dated:- 07.07.2022

No. FST-Gen/52/2021

Copy to the:-

1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India.
2. Additional Chief Secretary (Financial Commissioner), Finance Department
3. Principal Secretary to the Government, Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor.
4. Principal Secretary to the Government, General Administration Department.
5. Joint Secretary ( J&K), Ministry of Home Affairs, Gol.
6. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),J&K
7. Secretary to the Government, Department of Law, Justice and PA.
8. Director, Social Forestry Department, J&K.
9. Director, Archives, Archaeology and Museums, J&K
10. Pvt. Secretary to Chief Secretary.
11. Pvt. Secretary to Commissioner/Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment Department.
12. Incharge website/e-office file/stock file (w.2.s.c).

*Suhail ul Islam*  
**(Suhail ul Islam)JKAS**

*07/07/22*  
Deputy Secretary to the Government

Rule 3(iv)  
Annexure - "A"

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL FORESTRY, J&K

UID

Constitution of Village Panchayat (Plantation) Committee (VPPC)

Name of Halqa Panchayat

District

ID of Halqa Panchayat

Police Station

Unit/Closure

Village

Name of Sarpanch

Block \_\_\_\_\_

S. No.	Name with particulars	Designation VPPC (EC)	Signature
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			

Date of Constitution: \_\_\_\_\_

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made and executed at \_\_\_\_\_ today on \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_ by and between:-

Chairperson of Village Panchayat Plantation Committee (VPPC), \_\_\_\_\_ hereinafter referred to as the party of first part which expression shall be deemed to include its successors.

AND

The Range Officer, \_\_\_\_\_ (S.F. Range \_\_\_\_\_) Social Forestry Division \_\_\_\_\_ hereinafter referred to as the party of second part which expression shall include its successors in office and assigns.

WHEREAS the inhabitants of Mouza \_\_\_\_\_ under Village Panchayat \_\_\_\_\_ Police Station \_\_\_\_\_ and District \_\_\_\_\_ hereinafter referred to as "The beneficiaries, have requested the VPPC (EC) to approach to the Range Officer to establish a plantation on wastelands/ khalsa sarkar/village common land /community land etc. more particularly described in **Schedule-I** hereto; hereinafter referred to as "the said lands' and whereas the VPPC (EC) and the Range Officer have satisfied themselves, after making such enquiries as are deemed adequate and proper, that the beneficiaries are well and truly entitled and have complete right to the said lands, and whereas the Forest Officer (SF) and the VPPC (for and on behalf of the beneficiaries) have agreed, upon the mutual assurances and undertaking hereunder contained, to enter into the contract. **The papers pertaining to the title of said land are part of this agreement.**

**NOW THIS AGREEMENT SHALL HAVE FOLLOWING TERMS & CONDITIONS WHICH SHALL BE BINDING ON BOTH THE PARTIES:-**

1. VPPC (EC) shall establish and manage plantation on the said land under the supervision of the Range Officer and in accordance with the Management plan described in clause (2) below;
2. After identification of sites for afforestation of Village Wood Lot(s)(VWL) in the area by the VPPC (EC), the DFO concerned shall prepare a management plan as per guidelines of the Department of Social Forestry and place the same for approval before the VPPC (GB) viz. Gram Sabha and submit the same to Director (SF) duly vetted by Regional Director (SF) for acceptance by the Director (SF).
3. For a period of 5-10 years, or such length of time as may be mutually agreed upon between two parties, the VPPC shall arrange to manage and protect the plantation unit and shall assume full responsibility thereafter for management, maintenance and protection on its own and bear the necessary expenditure in this regard out of its own resources/ government funding or any other sources available with the VPPC.
4. The VPPC (EC) shall agree and undertake that the beneficiaries will ensure protection to the said plantation with brush wood fencing or other means till the time it is fully established as per assessment arrived at by the joint inspection of two parties.

5. For execution of plantation and other allied works , the VPPC (EC) shall, preferably utilize the services of the local residents, giving preference to landless agricultural labour and persons belonging to the traditionally backward segments of the population.
6. To enhance employability of locals, concerned Social Forestry Officer will provide regular training to the willing villagers nominated by the VPPC (GB) in order to develop skills enhance their capacity so that local people and VPPC members jointly manage the plantation assets on long term basis.
7. The concerned Social Forestry Officer (Block Officer Incharge) shall maintain a plantation journal, as per approved **Format** (to be appended with these rules), reflecting details of plants by species, survival, man days of labour generated and expenditures incurred. The plantation journal shall be presented during inspections so that proper record of the unit right from planting to its future management is maintained.
8. Before the commencement of this agreement the parties hereto have prepared a scheme more particularly set out in **Schedule II** here under which envisages inter-alia as under;
  - a. Harvesting of the interim minor Forest Produce such as firewood, fodder, grass, fruits, small timber for agriculture tools, harvested medicinal plant parts, However, it will be the prerogative of the VPPC (EC) to prohibit such collection (in part or entirely) after discussion with the Range Officer (SF)/beneficiaries if such prohibition is found necessary for improvement and proper management of the plantation.
  - b. The forest produce accruing at each thinning, cutting or interim harvesting of minor forest produce shall be distributed or sold to the beneficiaries or persons other than the beneficiaries, as per the decision of the VPCC (EC). All such interim proceeds shall be deposited in the Village Panchayat Fund Account and shall be utilized as per clause 8(c) of this agreement. The VPPC shall maintain objectivity & transparency for equitable & judicious distribution/use of interim usufructs by all members of Gram Sabha who are beneficiaries of the plantation asset.
  - c. In consonance with Management Plan of unit, at each major harvest, Department of Social Forestry will retain 25% share from the total receipts as Government revenue and 75% of cash balance will be transferred to Village Panchayat Fund as per provisions of the Agreement. The Village Panchayat Fund shall be maintained in a joint account of Chairperson of VPPC, Member Secretary (Block Office of Social Forestry) & Treasurer. The account shall be maintained in a Nationalized Bank like J&K Bank in interest generating mode. The funds from Village Panchayat fund shall be utilized for taking up works within the jurisdiction of Gram Panchayat like plantations, reafforestation of felled Village Woodlots and to take up other common utility works. The VPPC (EC) shall propose the annual plan of works which shall be placed in VPPC (GB) for deliberations and final approval as part of the general Gram Panchayt Development Plan. The works plan (for afforestation works) after its approval from VPPC (GB) shall be sent to Director, Department of Social Forestry for technical approval. Works shall be taken up as per technical approval after meeting necessary codal procedure.
  - d. The VPPC shall abide by rules and regulations of Department of Social Forestry/guidelines of the Government regarding utilization of financial resources, maintenance of accounts and following the rules and procedures while executing the works & during future management thereof.
  - e. VPPC shall follow the rules and regulations in letter and spirit while taking up execution, management and harvesting of plantation assets.
  - f. During the operation of this agreement the Range Officer or his authorized representative shall be entitled to enter upon the said lands for inspection, supervision and other works connected with or incidental to the creation, maintenance and

harvesting of the said plantation and for such scientific and technical studies as may be considered by the concerned Forest Officer appropriate and relevant.

- g. This agreement shall remain in force for a period of thirty (30) days after distribution and/or receipt of net income from the sale of forest produce from final felling unless earlier determined by mutual consent of the parties after consultation with the beneficiaries.
- h. After approval from concerned Regional Director (SF), the concerned DFO (SF) shall handover the plantation units (VW Lots) to the concerned VPPC (GB) after three to five years of its establishment with proper inventory and agreement for record and reference. The VPPC will take all necessary measures to safeguard & protect the plantation & ensure its judicious sustained use for the benefits of the inhabitants of the Gram Panchayat in fair & equitable manner. VPPC will take appropriate action against any person found violating/non-adhering the rules & regulations concerning the protection & management of plantation asset.
- i. In the event of any disagreement between the parties hereto about the interpretation of the agreement or of any of its term, either party may refer the matter to the Director, Department of Social Forestry, J&K whose decision shall be final and binding on the parties.

IN THE WITNESSES WHEREOF, the parties to this Agreement have put their respective signatures on the day and date mentioned above.

WITNESSES

EXECUTANTS

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 VPPC \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parentage \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Name  
 Chairperson, VPPC, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Party of 1<sup>st</sup> Part

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parentage \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Range officer  
 Party of 2<sup>ND</sup> Part

SCHEDULE - IParticular of Land to be used for raising plantation units

S.No.	Particulars	Detail
1	District	
2	NES Block	
3	Gram Panchayat	
4	Ward No.	
5	Geo Coordinates of piece of land to be used	
6	Title of Land as per Revenue Record	
7	Khasra No.	
8	Total area of the Land (in Ha.)	

SCHEDULE - II

This schedule mentions the procedure to be followed for distribution of the interim forest produce/ usufruct from the plantation units and the disposal of final mature plantation crop.

S.No.	Particulars / produce	Supervisory Body
<b>A.</b>	<b>Distribution of the interim Forest produce</b>	
1.	Leaf Fodder	1. Block Officer (SF) as Member Secretary of VPPC 2. Two (2) representatives of the VPPC(EC) including one female member.
2	Grasses	
3	Small timber for Agricultural tools for bona-fide personal use by the beneficiaries (dry/fallen/poles only)	
4	Fruits/ Medicinal plants/ plants to be harvested	
<b>B.</b>	<b>Disposal of the final harvest from the plantation units</b>	
1	Timber in the form of Pole, Ballies, Logs etc.	1. Chairperson of VPPC 2. Range Officer submit inventory of produce for joint inspection along with the representative of VPPC. DFO shall invite the process of e-auction. 3. The e-action committee shall include 2 representatives of VPPC to be nominated by the Chairperson.
2	Standing mature trees	



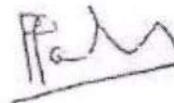
On receiving the application accompanied with revenue record of ownership, the DFO will scrutinize the application in his office and forward the same to Range Officer concerned for spot inspection and reporting the facts such as:-

- i) Species, number of trees with diameter at breast height.
- iii) Estimated quantity of firewood which could be extracted from the trees.

03. The Range Officer should verify the facts either himself or through a Forester after spot inspection, and report back to the DFO with his recommendation or otherwise within one week. Immediately on receipt of the verification report from the Range Officer, the DFO may sanction issue of Form 25, if so recommended by the Range Officer.

Following instructions will also be followed:-

- a) Form 25 will be issued personally on spot by the Block Forester concerned observing all rules and formalities.
- b) DFO will monitor operation of sanctions from time to time by deputing ACF or special parties.
- c) DFO will also reflect the sanctions issued by him and the quantity of firewood extracted from private lands in his monthly progress reports submitted to CF who in turn will submit a consolidated return to CCF on 10th of every month. This will ensure due check in the Circle office as well.



(P. Patnaik)

Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests

No. PCCF-Lease/90-125

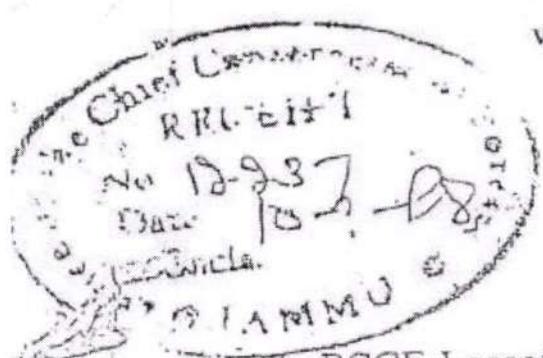
Dated 01-01-1998

Copy for information and necessary action to the:-

Divisional Commissioner, Jammu.

All CCFs/CFs/DFOs J&K Forest Department.

Managing Director, J&K SFC, Jammu.

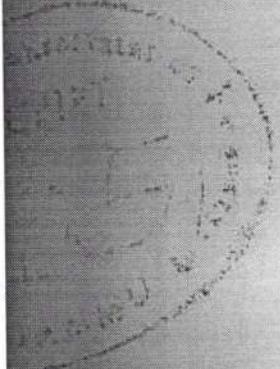


CIRCULAR NO :- 2 OF 1998  
DATED :- 15 - 6 - 1998

Subject - Addendum to circular No:- 5 of 1998 dated:-05-03-98 relating procedure for regulating transportation of firewood extraction from private lands in Jammu province.

\*\*\*\*\*

The words " and timber " be added after the word " Firewood " where-ever it exists in the circular No: 5 of 1998 dated: 05-03-1998 issued by this office under endorsement No: PCCF/Lease/90-125 dated: 05-03-1998.



( P . Patnaik )  
Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests.

*P.P.*  
14.6

PCCF/Lease/ 370-4/0

Dated: 15 -06-98

Copy for information and n/ action to the :-

- Divisional Commissioner, Jammu.
- All CCF's / CF's / DFO's J&K Forest Department:
- Managing Director, J&K S.F.C. Srinagar.

*[Handwritten signature]*

*H.A.S.*  
*PCCF*  
*15/6/98*

1560

Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir  
Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu

<<<<<<>>>>>>

## CIRCULAR

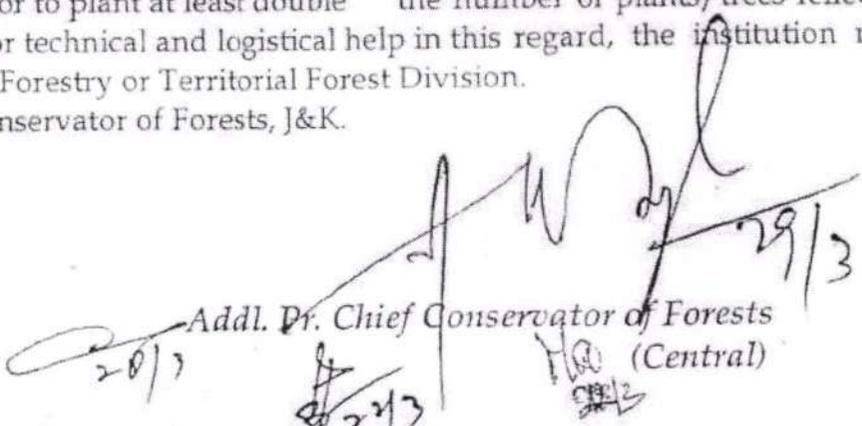
Subject: Procedure/guidelines for regulating felling of plantation and trees growing on institution lands including Defence lands.

\* \* \*

The various institutions including Defence establishment grow trees and plantations on the non-forest lands under their occupation. At times, these institutions require felling of these plantations in full or in part comprising a few trees, for various reasons including operational requirement and exigencies like developing existing infrastructure or removal of leaning and overgrown trees likely to fall, causing danger to the human life and property. Therefore, it was felt necessary;

To adopt uniform guidelines for dealing with such cases so that any confusion or any embarrassing situations are avoided. The following guide lines/procedure for regulating felling of plantations and trees on institutions lands including defence lands, the following procedure/guidelines are laid down:-

- In case the institution land is forest land diverted under the Jammu and Kashmir Forest (Conservation) Act-1997, the felling of plantation trees shall be allowed and regulated strictly under the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Forest (Conservation) Act-1997.
  - In case of the institution land being non-forest land, the felling of plantation trees shall be governed and regulated under the provisions of the Circular No. 5 of 1998 dated 5.3.1998 issued by the Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu and Kashmir.
  - In case of felling of plantation trees as per the provisions of Circular No. 5 of 1998 dated 5.3.1998, the issuance of transportation permission/Form-25 for the transportation of the out-turn shall be required as per the standing law/orders/instructions of the Competent Authority.
  - Felling of Royal, Reserved, Specified trees, and also those <sup>trees</sup> with restrictions under any order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court or the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, will not be allowed except under the specific permission as provided under law.
  - The institution shall endeavor to plant at least double the number of plants/trees felled in or around the Campus. For technical and logistical help in this regard, the institution may approach the nearest Social Forestry or Territorial Forest Division.
- By order of the Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, J&K.

  
Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests  
HO (Central)  
20/3  
29/3

No.PCCF/Lease/Felling/trees/2011/1094-1144  
Copy for information and n/action to the:-

dated: 31/3/2011

- Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu
- Chief Conservator of Forests, FCA
- Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir
- All Conservator of Forests
- All DFOs

52

Government of Jammu and Kashmir  
Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
Van Bhavan, Jammu

Circular 01 of 2019

Dated 28 /11/2019

**Subject:** Felling of trees posing threat to life and property

Proposals are received from time to time for removal of trees that pose threat to life and property. In this context, the following guidelines are hereby issued:-

1. In forest areas, removal of trees posing threat to life and property shall be governed strictly in accordance with the Qualitative and Quantitative norms formulated pursuant to the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12.12.1996 in the case titled T.N. Godavarman V/s UOI & others.
2. If removal of trees raised by Forest Department on other State lands outside demarcated forests is required:
  - i. The application for felling of trees should be submitted by the concerned government department along with a certificate issued by a revenue officer not below the rank of Tehsildar having jurisdiction of the area that the trees pose threat to life and property.
  - ii. The DFO shall inspect the site and submit a report to the Conservator. The Conservator of Forests concerned shall accord the approval on the recommendation of the DFO concerned.
  - iii. The CF shall satisfy himself that the area in question is not a "Forest" as defined in the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12.12.1996 in case titled T.N. Godavarman V/s UOI & others.
3. The procedure to be adopted for felling and transportation of trees grown on private lands shall continue to be regulated in accordance with Circular No. 5 of 1998 dated 05.03.1998, issued under endorsement No.

100 1005 1000 05 03 1998

4. In case of removal of trees from the premises of institutions, the J&K SFC may be requested by the concerned institutions for felling of such trees after obtaining the approval of the competent authority of the institution for felling of the trees. However, in case the institute intends to transport the felled timber, the same shall be governed by the Circular 5 of 1998 dated 05-03-1998.
5. The trees removed shall be replaced with ornamental shrubs or trees that do not grow very tall under appropriate scheme. Any attempt to encroach upon the land in question shall be reported to the appropriate authorities by staff concerned for necessary action under law.

Sd/  
(Dr Mohit Gera IFS)  
Pr Chief Conservator of Forests

NO: PCCF/Coord/SFC/2019/783-806

Dated: 28 /11/2019

Copy to

- ✓ 1. The Commissioner Secretary, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Civil Secretariat, Jammu
2. The Director, Department of Soil and Water Conservation, Jammu
3. The Director, Department of Social Forestry, Jammu
4. The Director, State Forest Research Institute, Jammu
5. The Director, Department of Environment, Ecology and Remote Sensing, Jammu
6. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Jammu
7. The Director, Forest Protection Force, Jammu
8. The Managing Director, J&K State Forest Corporation, Jammu
9. The Chief Conservator of Forests (WP, R & T)
10. The Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA)
11. The Chief Conservator of Forests (P&P)
12. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Kashmir/Jammu)
13. All Conservators of Forests (Territorial)
14. The Conservator of Forests, Agrostology
15. The Conservator of Forests, Central Circle
16. The Conservator of Forests, Working Plan Circle
17. Circular File

(T Rabi Kumar)  
Chief Conservator of Forests (Central)

(4) The decision of the Tree Authority shall be final and shall not be questioned in any court of law.

351. *Seizure.*— When the Tree Officer has reason to believe that an offence under the provisions of this Chapter has been committed in respect of any tree, he may seize the tools, ropes, chains, boats, vehicles or animals used for the commission of the said offence alongwith tree or part thereof which has been severed from the ground or the trunk, as the case may be.

352. *Penalty.*— Whoever fells or abets the felling of any tree or causes any tree to be felled in contravention of the provisions of this Chapter or any rules made thereunder or without any reasonable excuse fails to comply with any order issued or conditions imposed by the Tree Officer or any other officer subordinate to him in the discharge of their functions under the provisions of this Chapter shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees or with both.

*Explanation.*—For the purposes of this section a breach of the provisions of this Chapter or abetment of breach thereof in respect of cutting or destroying each tree shall be a separate offence.

353. *Compounding of offences.*— No offence or breach of the provisions of this Chapter shall be compounded by any authority empowered to compound without providing for forfeiture of the tree fuel or timber alongwith articles seized under section 351 in favour of the concerned Municipal Corporation.

354. *Operation of other laws not barred.*— Nothing in this Chapter shall be deemed to prevent any person from being prosecuted under any other law for any act or omission which constituted an offence under these provisions or from being liable under such other law to higher punishment or penalty than that provided by these provisions or the rules made thereunder.

355. *Power to make rules.*— The Government may by notification make rules to carry out the purposes of the provisions of this Chapter.

## CHAPTER XXI

### POWERS, PROCEDURE, OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

356. *Signature, conditions, duration, suspension, revocation, etc. of licences and written permissions.*—(1) Whenever it is provided in this Act or any bye-law made thereunder that a licence or a written permission may be

Government of Jammu and Kashmir  
Civil Secretariat, Revenue Department

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Notification

Jammu, the ~~31st~~ March, 2016



**SRO III** .- In pursuance of powers conferred by section 137 read with sub-section (2) of section 37 of Jammu and Kashmir Land Revenue Act, Samvat 1996 (XII of 1996), the Government hereby makes the following rules, namely:-

### 1. Title, commencement and application

- (1) These rules may be called "*The Jammu and Kashmir Non-Forest Land Khair Trees 'Acacia catechu' (Management Plan) Rules, 2016*".
- (2) These rules shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Government Gazette.
- (3) These rules shall apply to the Khair trees standing on non-forest land including private (Milkiyat) lands, and shall not apply on Khair Trees standing on forest lands.

### 2. Definition

- (1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:-

- a. "Assessment Year" means last year of the eleven year felling cycle;
- b. "Divisional Forest Officer" means the Divisional Forest Officer of the Territorial Division including the Divisional Forest Officer, Urban Forestry Division, Jammu;
- c. "Empowered Officer" means the Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu;
- d. "Forest Lands" mean demarcated and un-demarcated forests under the control of J&K Forest Department and shall have the same meaning as assigned in the Jammu and Kashmir Forest Act, 1987 (A.D. 1930);

- e. "Form" means the form appended to these rules;
- f. "Khair Tree" means tree having, the botanical name 'Acacia catechu' and shall include its roots, stumps, stem and branches whether standing or fallen and shall also include seedlings, saplings and pole of the species;
- g. "Management Plan" means the plan prepared under these rules for scientific management of Khair trees covering all management units;
- h. "Management Unit" means the aggregate of areas of non-forest land Khair trees falling within the jurisdiction of a Territorial Division;
- i. "Outturn" means a quantity of produce obtained from any unit of an area;

(2) Words and expressions used but not defined in these rules shall have the same meaning as assigned to them in the Jammu and Kashmir Land Revenue Act, Samvat 1996, and in the Jammu and Kashmir Forest Act, Samvat 1987 (A.D. 1930).

### 3. Restriction on felling, conversion and utilization of trees

- (1) No Khair tree shall be felled or converted for any purpose without permission granted under these rules.
- # (2) No Khair tree/wood shall be used for any purpose except in accordance with the provisions made under these rules.

### 4. Preparation and approval of management plan

- (1) The identification of Khair tree bearing areas and assessment of growing stock in all management units including the working out of the silvicultural availability of Khair trees in each management unit shall be made by the Forest Department directly or through a credible agency, as may be deemed necessary, appointed for the purpose following a transparent process, in the assessment year. During the assessment year, no felling of Khair trees shall be permitted.
- (2) On the basis of assessment report prepared after survey as in sub-rule (1), a management plan shall be prepared by the Forest Department covering all management units, and the

same shall be submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of forests for approval by the end of the assessment year.

(3) The management plan shall be prepared by a committee comprising the following:-

- i. Chief Conservator of Forests, Working Plan (Chairman).
- ii. Conservator of Forests, West Circle (Member).
- iii. Conservator of Forests, East Circle (Member Secretary).

(4) On the basis of approved management plan, the concerned Divisional Forest Officer shall prepare year-wise felling programme/block for the management unit under his jurisdiction, for ten years as per FORM-'A'.

(5) No Deviation from eleven year felling programme fixed as in above mentioned FORM- 'A', shall be permissible.

**5. Accord of sanction to the felling programme in Milkiyat land.**

**a) In Proprietary Land**

- (1) The Divisional Forest Officer shall submit the ten year felling programme as drawn by him for the management unit under sub-rule (4) of rule 4 for sanction by the Empowered Officer.
- (2) The Empowered Officer shall accord sanction to the adoption of the felling programme for each management unit after obtaining a report from the concerned Territorial Conservator of Forests, in accordance with rule 4.
- (3) The concerned territorial Conservator of Forests shall publish the same for information of all concerned within a period of one month from the date of accord of approval by the Empowered Officer.

**b) In Non-Forest Land**

No felling of Khair trees shall be permitted on non-forest land excluding private (Milkiyat) land, except dead and dry trees, till next assessment survey. The revenue realised from disposal of these Khair wood, Khair firewood and other remnants shall be remitted into the State Treasury immediately.

#### 6. Notification of felling block, invitation and processing of application for grant of felling permission

- (1) The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, on receipt of the sanction to the adoption of the ten year felling programme for management unit under his jurisdiction, shall notify the village (s) having trees sanctioned for being felled during a particular year and shall invite application in Form -'B' from the owners of Khair trees or any person authorized by him in this behalf.
- (2) The applications received in this behalf shall be referred to the concerned Tehsildar and territorial Range Officer for Nishandehi/demarcation and enumeration of trees with reference to the relevant revenue records. The Nishandehi/ Demarcation report alongwith enumerated trees shall be made in presence of the Block Forest Officer concerned and the same shall be countersigned by the Naib Tehsildar concerned and attested by the Tehsildar concerned. A certificate shall be made by the Naib Tehsildar certifying:
  - a) that the identified private land is neither encroached land/Government land nor under any dispute/ mortgage and that the trees have been enumerated after following the prescribed procedure for demarcation/enumeration.
  - b) that all the enumerated trees fall within the demarcated private land of the applicant.
  - c) that the connected papers, applications and an affidavit of the land owners etc have been duly scrutinized and found in order.
- (3) The territorial Range Officer shall direct the concerned Block Forest Officer for verification and enumeration of the silviculturally available trees. The Block Forest Officer shall make an inspection report in Form-'C' after verification and enumeration of the silviculturally available trees and submit the same to the territorial Range Officer.
- (4) On receipt of the verification report alongwith enumeration list from the concerned Range Officer and Nishandehi/ Demarcation report alongwith the prescribed certificate from the concerned Tehsildar, the Divisional Forest Officer may invite objections, if required, from the residents of the 'felling blocks' which shall be submitted to him within a period of 10 days. Such objections, if

any received, shall be disposed off by the concerned Divisional Forest Officer in such manner as may be necessary under rules within 15 days from the date of receipt.

- (5) Thereafter, the DFO may accord permission or reject the application giving reasons in writing for marking, felling and conversion of particular tree (s) in favour of applicant (owner) or the authorized person in Form-'D' within 15 days.

### 7. Conditions for felling

- (1) The owner of the Khair trees or any person authorized by him for the purpose of these rules shall be required to pay a fee of Rs 10/- per tree or such amount as may be fixed by the Government from time to time, for grant of permission for felling of the tree.
- (2) The felling shall be done only after adhering to conditions regarding payment of fees for each Khair tree, prescribed felling conditions, compensatory plantation as mentioned in management plan approved under rule 4.

### 8. Marking, felling, conversion, transportation and disposal

- (1) After the accord of marking and felling permission, the marking shall be conducted by the *Block Forest Officer concerned*. The felling, conversion and transportation shall be done under the strict supervision of the Block Forest Officer/ Forest Guard Incharge of the area and shall submit an outturn report to the Range Officer. After receipt of the outturn report from Range Officer, the Divisional Forest Officer/Empowered Officer, as the case may be, may accord transportation permission.
- (2) The owner shall be free to sell their Khair wood to anybody, for utilization within or outside the State, on the price acceptable to him.
- (3) The registered co-operative societies/institutions formed by owners and registered under the Societies Registration Act VI 1998 Samvat (1941 AD) shall be eligible to deal with sale/purchase/disposal of Khair wood.
- (4) The transportation permission may be issued within the State by the Divisional Forest Officer concerned and outside the State by the Empowered Officer, for a specified purpose under these rules in favour of the Khair Tree owner or any other agency to

whom the owner may have sold the Khair wood, Khair firewood and other remnants of the felled Khair trees.

- (5) The fee of Rs 20/- per quintal within State and Rs 120/- per quintal for export outside State or such sum as may be fixed by the Government from time to time, shall be payable for transportation permission.
- (6) Marking, felling, conversion, transportation and disposal of the Khair wood from the non-forest land excluding private (Milkiyat) land shall be done by the Divisional Forest Officer after receiving approval from the Empowered Officer.
- (7) The Divisional Forest Officer shall submit a monthly return to Empowered Officer with regard to the felling, conversion, transportation in Form-'E' and a consolidated report at the end of financial year in Form-'F'.

#### **9. Validity of felling permission and timeframe for various operations.**

- (1) The felling permission granted shall be valid for a period of two months from the date of its issuance.
- (2) Any Extension in the validity period of the felling permission upto the maximum of two months may be granted by the Conservator of Forests concerned upon the recommendations of the Divisional Forest Officer concerned in the same financial year.
- (3) Time frame for various operations shall be followed as per approved management plan/felling programme.

#### **10. Control over Katha manufacturing units**

The Katha manufacturing units in the State, utilizing Khair wood, shall be governed by the J&K Wood Based Industries (Registration and Regulation) Rules, 2012 as a Primary Wood Based Industry.

#### **11. Remittance of the Fees/Revenue**

The revenue generated as a result of felling permission fee, transportation permission fee and revenue realized from disposal of Khair wood shall be remitted into the State Treasuries immediately on its being realized, as revenue receipts of Forest Department. These

charges shall be realized by the authorities who are empowered to grant such permissions.

## 12. Appeal

(a) Any person or agency aggrieved of any order of the Empowered Officer may prefer appeal against that order before the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, J&K, within a period of 30 days from the date of issue of such order.

(b) Any person or agency aggrieved of any order of the Divisional Forest Officer under sub-rule (5) of rule 6 or sub-rule (1) of rule 8 may prefer an appeal against that order before the concerned Conservator of Forests, within a period of 10 days from the date of issue of such order.

## 13. Penalty

Any person, who contravenes any of the provisions of these rules, shall be liable to penalties provided under section 38 of the Jammu and Kashmir Land Revenue Act, Samvat 1996 (1939 A.D.) and the Jammu and Kashmir Forest Act, 1987 (A.D. 1930).

## 14. Application of other laws not barred

The provisions of these rules shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of, any other law for the time being in force, save as otherwise expressly provided under the Jammu and Kashmir Land Revenue Act, Samvat 1996 (1939 A.D.).

## 15. Repeal and Savings

The Jammu and Kashmir Khair Trees 'Acacia catechu' (Regeneration and Utilization) Rules, 1995 are hereby repealed. However, any actions taken under the rules so repealed shall be deemed to have taken under the provisions of these rules.

By order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sd/-

(Muhammad Afzal) IAS  
Secretary to the Government  
Revenue Department

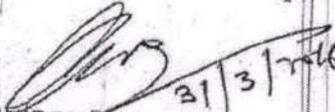
Dated:- 31-03-2016

No:- Rev/Lit/14/2014

Copy to the:-

1. Financial Commissioner, Revenue, J&K, Jammu.
2. Principal Secretary to the Government, Forest Department.

3. Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor.
4. Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir.
5. Commissioner/Secretary to Government, General Administration Department.
6. Commr/Secretary to Government, Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs (with 07 spare copies)
7. All Deputy Commissioners
8. Director General Information, J&K, Jammu.
9. Pvt. Secretary to Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
10. Manager Government Press Jammu/Srinagar, for publication in the Government Gazette.
11. Notification file/Stock file.

  
(Ghulam Rasool) KAS  
Deputy Secretary to the Government  
Revenue Department



FORM-'B'

## Application for Grant of Permission for Felling Khair tree

(Refer sub-rule (1) of Rule 6)

To  
The D.F.O.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Forest Division,  
\_\_\_\_\_

Photo attested  
by Notary

Sir,

Kindly grant permission for felling of Khair Tree in my favour as per following detail:-

- I) Name with parentage:
- II) Address:
- III) Number of Khair trees intended to nbe felled, converted and sold:
- IV) Location of the tree:
  - a) Village:
  - b) Khasra No:
- V) Purpose of felling:
- VI) Name/names of the Co-shares with parentage and complete address(s)

2. The following documents are enclosed:-

- I) Affidavit of the applicant to the effect that above particulars are correct.
- II) Khasra Girdawari signed by the Patwari of the Halqa.
- III) Attorney of Co-shares if any.
- IV) Identity proof.

3. Certified that Khair saplings have been planted by me in lieu of the intended felling which are alive as on date.

Date and Place

Signature

FORM-'C'

## Verification Report of the R. O.

(Refer sub-rule (3) of Rule 6)

- I Reference to DFO's letter No. and date on which verification is based.  
 II Name/names of the tree growers.  
 III Khasra No./Nos.  
 IV Area of the Khasra No./Nos.  
 V Enumeration list of the silviculturally available trees

VI Tree Number	Girth of the tree At breast Height (CM)	Remarks
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**TOTAL:**

Under remarks column the details regarding dry, green, health, growth etc should be shown.

Certified that:-

a) As under sub-rule (2) of rule 6, the Naib Tehsildar has certified:

- i) That the identified private land is not neither encroached land/ Government land nor under any dispute/mortgage and that the trees have been enumerated after following the prescribed procedure for demarcation/enumeration.
- ii) That all the enumerated trees fall within the demarcated private land of the applicant.
- iii) The connected papers, applications and an affidavit of the land owners etc have been duly scrutinized and found in order.

- 1) The enumeration of silviculturally available trees have been carried out by the Block Forest Officer in the Demarcated land and trees only per sub-rule (2) and (3) of rule 6.
- 2) The identification of land by the land owner and the Patwari of the Halqa with reference to the relevant revenue records have been done and signed this statement in authentication of this fact.
- 3) The felling of the tree enumerated above will not cause any major ecological problem like soil erosion, water availability.
- 4) The land owner has already planted \_\_\_\_\_ khair saplings in \_\_\_\_\_ of the proposed felling.
- 5) The enumeration have been made on private lands only and does not include any forest and State land, Nautor or village common lands.

FORM-'D'

## Format for felling permission

(Ref. sub-rule (5) of Rule 6)

- 1) Reference to the PCCF's sanction to the adoption of the felling block:-
- 2) Name of the felling village/block with full description:-
- 3) Khasra No. where from felling has to be made:-
- 4) Reference to the ROs proposal of felling:-
- 5) Details of the trees allowed to be felled:-
- 6) Amount recovered on account of felling permission with reference TR No. & dates:-

Tree number as per enumeration list	Girth (CM)	Remarks
-------------------------------------	------------	---------

TOTAL:-

The above permission for felling as per column 5 is subject to the following conditions:-

- I The applicant (tree grown) will plant, protect and maintain at least three Khair seedlings in lieu of each tree permitted to be felled.
- II The tree is cut and felled at 6" height above the ground level in a slanting manner so as to ensure emergence of coppice and preservation of marking number and hammer facsimile for future verifications.
- III No grubbing of stumps is made except where specifically permitted by the competent authority.
- IV Felling permission fee is deposited with the DFO concerned.
- V Marking of the trees sanctioned to be felled is done by the concerned RO only.
- VI RO will maintain a felling diary as per the prescribed procedure.
- VII The Khair wood is converted into billets of standard size of one meter length and the mid girth of each billet is measured under bark and records.
- VIII Any other condition is considered to be necessary by the departments.

FORM-'E'

Monthly return of Khair felling, Conversion, Sales and Transportation

(Refer sub-rule (7) of rule 8)

1. Name of the Division/Range/Block/beat.
2. Name of the felling block (village).
3. Name of the owner/owners.
4. Number of trees marked with volume in Cms.
5. Number of trees felled.
6. Outturn obtained (M3)
  - a) Khair wood.
  - b) Khair Firewood.
7. Name(s) of the agency in whose favour transportation permission has issued.
8. Details of transportation permission.
  - a) Form 25 No. and date.
  - b) Quarterly for which form 25 issued.
9. Accounts recovered on account of Transportation fees with reference to TR No. and date.

FORM-'F'

Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, Reports of availability Extraction etc. of  
the Khair tree to the Government

(Refer Sub-rule (7) of rule 8)

1. Year of Report.
2. Total area of the felling blocks operated during the year with name.
3. Agregate gross growing stick available in the felling block as.
4. Agregate silviculturally available stocks in the felling blocks as at (2) above (in Cms).
5. Agregate volume marked for felling during the year (in Cms).
6. Agregate volume of the Khair wood actually felled during the year (in Cms).
7. Agregate volume of the Khair wood purchased by the Katha manufacturing unit during the year (in Cms).
8. Agregate value of the Khair wood purchased by the Katha manufacturing unit during the year (in Rs per cum)
9. Agregate sale rate of the Khair wood purchased by the Katha manufacturing units during the year (in Rs per cum)
10. Felling charges recovered from the tree owners (in Rs).
11. Permission charges recovered from the Katha manufacturing units (in Rs).

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Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department  
Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar

**Subject: Nomination of Tree officer for the Tree Authorities in Jammu Municipal Corporation and Srinagar Municipal Corporation.**

**Government Order No:- 110 - JK(FST) of 2023**  
**Dated: - 11 . 05.2023**

In terms of Section 343 of Municipal Corporation Act, 2000, sanction is hereby accorded to the nomination of Divisional Forest Officer, Social Forestry, Jammu; and Divisional Forest Officer, Social Forestry, Srinagar as Tree Officers for the purpose of Tree Authorities of Jammu Municipal Corporation and Srinagar Municipal Corporation respectively, within their territorial jurisdictions.

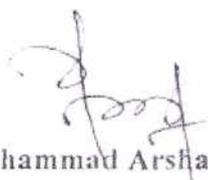
**By Order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.**

Sd/-  
**(Dheeraj Gupta), IAS**  
Principal Secretary to the Government  
Dated: 11. 05.2023

No: FST-Adm/30/2022-02

**Copy to the:-**

1. Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor.
2. Principal Secretary to the Government, Housing & Urban Development Department. *This is in reference to his OM NO. HUD-LSG0JMC/23/2022 dated 13.04.2023.*
3. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, J&K.
4. Joint Secretary, (J&K), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
5. Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, General Administration Department.
6. PCCF/Director, Social Forestry Department, J&K.
7. Director, Archives, Archaeology and Museums, J&K.
8. Private Secretary to the Chief Secretary, J&K.
9. PS to Principal Secretary to Government, Forests, Ecology & Environment Department.
10. I/c Website/Government Order file (w.3s.c)/Stock file.

  
**(Mohammad Arshad Jan)**  
Under Secretary to Government  
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department