

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE PR. CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS

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CIRCULAR NO: 5 OF 1998

DATED : 05-03-1998

Subject: Procedure for regulating transportation of firewood extracted from private lands in Jammu Province.

Felling and removal of trees standing on private land was governed by the J&K Agrarian Reforms Act, 1976 whereunder Revenue Department officials were issuing the permission for felling of such trees. However, the Act has been amended recently vide J&K Agrarian Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1997, and Section 31 of the earlier Act dealing with regulation of felling and removal of trees on private lands has been deleted. Thus the owners of private land no longer have to seek permission of the Revenue Department for felling of trees. However, permission to transport the firewood extracted from such trees is still required to be taken from the Forest Department. Now, to facilitate quick processing of cases seeking permission to transport the firewood extracted from trees of revenue lands, other than those falling under the category of royal, reserved and specified species, the following procedure is laid down:

01. The concerned land owner(s) shall apply to the concerned DFO for transportation permission giving details of trees to be removed from the proprietary land (specieswise) together with ownership details like Shajra-Khasra of land vis-a-vis proof of ownership. This application will be accompanied by an affidavit in which the owner(s) will have to declare the details of trees specieswise to be felled alongwith Khasra No and proof of ownership. The application should be endorsed by the concerned Patwari and Numberdar of the village and countersigned by the Girdawar of the area.

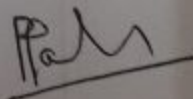
02. On receiving the application accompanied with revenue record of ownership, the DFO will scrutinize the application in his office and forward the same to Range Officer concerned for spot inspection and reporting the facts such as:-

- 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 -01-1998

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.