

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests J&K, Jammu

May to Oct.: Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh, Lal Chowk-Sgr 190001  
Ph: 0194-2484939, 2483937, Fax 0194-2455027

Nov. to Apl.: Van Bhawan Below Gumat 180001  
Ph: 0191-2548397, 2560585, Fax 0191-2547276  
URL Address: [www.jkforest.com](http://www.jkforest.com)

1. Director/PCCF,  
Soil, Water & Conservation Department J&K Jammu.
2. Director/PCCF,  
Social Forestry Department, J&K Jammu.

No: PCCF/FCA/3046/ 2106-16

Dated: 21-07-2020

**Sub: Felling of trees involved in clearance of land for execution of projects.**

Sir,

1. This is about felling of trees from plantation closures (outside forests) established by the Soil & Water Conservation and Social Forestry Departments coming under the alignment of proposed development projects which are submitted on PARIVESH Portal for clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. In this context, kindly refer to the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 12-12-1996 in the case titled "T.N. Godavarman Thirumulkpad V/s Union of India & Ors" in W.P. No. 202 of 1995 (with W.P (Civil) No. 171 of 1996). In the said order, in respect of State of Jammu and Kashmir, the Hon'ble Supreme Court ordered that **"any felling of trees in forest or otherwise or any clearance of land for execution of projects, shall be in strict compliance with the Jammu & Kashmir Forest Conservation Act, 1990 and any other laws applying thereto"**. The J&K Forest Conservation Act, 1997 has been repealed w.e.f. 31-10-2019 and **Forest (Conservation) Act 1980** is applicable to the UT of J&K since then.

3. In view of the aforesaid order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, it is requested that necessary directions may please be issued to the officers under your administrative control to liaise with territorial DFOs concerned for processing of the cases involving felling of trees in plantation closures established by your department under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully

(Sarvesh Rai) IFS

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Nodal Officer (FCA)

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1. CCF Jammu/Kashmir for information.
2. CFs (T) J&K for information.
3. PS to Pr.CCF (HoFF) for kind information of the PCCF (HoFF) J&K.