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**Government of Jammu and Kashmir**  
**Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (HoFF) Jammu**

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. Financial Commissioner (Revenue), J&K  | Member                |
| 2. Principal Secretary, Finance Department, J&K   | Member                |
| 3. Principal Secretary, Planning & Development Department, J&K  | Member                |
| 4. Commissioner/ Secretary Forest Department, J&K   | Member                |
| 5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (HoFF) J&K   | Member                |
| 6. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/ Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K<br>Ecology & Remote Sensing J&K | Member                |
| 7. Director, Environment Ecology and Remote Sensing, J&K  | Member                |
| 8. Director, Soil and Water Conservation Department, J&K  | Member                |
| 9. Dr. S. P. Singh Dutta (Environmentalist)   | Member (Non-Official) |
| 10. Dr. G. A. Bhat Environmentalist)  | Member (Non-Official) |

**No:** PCCF/FCA/2577/1408-34

**Dated:** 28/02/2018

**Sub:** 104<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee, the J&K Forest (Conservation) Act.

Sir,

Kindly find enclosed herewith Minutes of the 104<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee held on 21.02.2018 under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, J&K Government.

Yours faithfully,

(Abdul Gani)IFS/28/2/18

Chief Conservator of Forests/Central/  
Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA)  
Member Secretary, Forests Advisory Committee

28/2

**Copy alongwith minutes for information and necessary action to the:**

1. Commissioner/ Secretary to Govt. PWD (R&B) Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu.
2. Secretary to Gov. PHE, Irrigation and Flood Control Department Civil Secretariat, Jammu.
3. Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests/Managing Director, State Forest Corporation, J&K Jammu.
4. Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests/Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir.
5. Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests/Director, Social Forestry Department, Jammu.
6. Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu.
7. Chief Engineer, PMGSY, Jammu.
8. Chief Engineer, PMGSY Kashmir.
9. Chief Engineer, PHE, Jammu.
10. General Manager Pakal Dul H. E. Project Jammu.
11. Assistant General Manager, PGCI.
12. Mr. Uddipto Dhara, Major Officer Commanding 99 RCC (GREF).
13. Bharati Infratel Limited 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 29 GM TRG Building Rail Head Complex Opp. North Block-Bahu Plaza Jammu.
14. PPS to the Chief Secretary, J&K Government for information of the Chief Secretary J&K Government.

**MINUTES OF THE 104<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SH. B. B. VYAS IAS, CHIEF SECRETARY, JAMMU AND KASHMIR, AT CIVIL SECRETARIAT, JAMMU ON 21.02.2018**

The 104<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under the J&K Forest (Conservation) Act, 1997, was held under the Chairmanship of Sh. B. B. Vyas IAS, Chief Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Government, at Civil Secretariat, Jammu on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018.

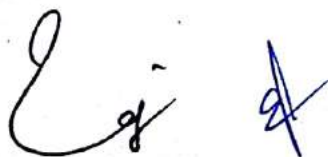
The following members of the Committee and Special Invitees attended the meeting:

**(I) Members (FAC)**

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. Sh. Lokesh Dutt Jha, IAS  | Financial Commissioner (Revenue), J&K  |
| 2. Sh. Saurabh Bhagat, IAS   | Commissioner/ Secretary Forests, J&K   |
| 3. Sh. Ravi Kumar Kesar, IFS | Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, (HoFF) J&K   |
| 4. Sh. Manoj Pant, IFS       | PCCF/Chief Wildlife Warden J&K   |
| 5. Sh. O.P Sharma, IFS       | Director, Environment and Remote Sensing Department, J&K   |
| 6. Sh. Imtiyaz Ahmad Wani    | Director Budget Finance Department Rep. Principal Secretary, Finance Department J&K                                  |
| 7. Sh. Pardeep Kumar, KAS    | Special Secretary Planning Development and Monitoring Rep. Principal Secretary Planning & Development Department J&K |
| 8. Sh. Mashood Ahmad         | Joint Director, Soil and Water Conservation Dept., Rep. Director, Soil and Water Conservation Dept.,                 |
| 9. Prof. S.P. Singh Dutta    | Member (Non-official)  |
| 10. Dr. G. A. Bhat           | Member (Non-official)  |
| 11. Sh. Abdul Gani, IFS      | Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA)/Nodal Officer Member Secretary, Forest Advisory Committee                         |

**(II) Special Invitees**

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Sh. Suresh Kumar Gupta, IFS  | Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests / Managing Director, J&K State Forest Corporation |
| 2. Sh. M. Raju, IAS             | Secretary to Govt. PHE, Irrigation and Flood Control Department, J&K                     |
| 3. Sh. Ashwani Kumar Gupta, IFS | Add. PCCF/Director, Social Forestry Deptt., J&K  |
| 4. Sh. Gh. Mohammad Khan        | Director Finance PWD (R&B) Department.<br>Rep. Commissioner/ Secretary PWD (R&B) Deptt., |





- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 5. Sh. Irfan Rasool Wani, IFS | Conservator of Forests, North Circle.<br>Rep. Addl. PCCF/CCF, Kashmir                   |
| 6. Sh. Kh. Qamar Din          | Conservator of Forests East Circle Rajouri<br>Rep. Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu. |
| 7. Sh. Ghulam Jeelani         | Chief Engineer, PMGSY Kashmir   |
| 8. Sh. A. K. Gandotra         | Superintending of Engineer, PMGSY, Jammu<br>Rep. Chief Engineer, PMGSY, Jammu           |
| 9. Sh. Shabir Zargar          | General Manager, Pakal Dul CVPP   |
| 10. Sh. Unique Sharma         | Bharati Infrante Limited  |
| 11. Sh. A. H. Khan            | Assistant General Manager PGC   |

The item wise agenda of various proposals from the indenting agencies for diversion of forest land for non forest proposes under Forest Conservation Act was presented by Sh. Abdul Gani, IFS, Member Secretary, Forest Advisory Committee in the meeting. Initiating the discussion, the Member Secretary apprised the FAC that the compensation of trees was so far being charged double the standard rates of 1992, which stands now revised pursuant to Cabinet Decision No. 218//13/2017 dated: 21.12.2017, notified vide Govt. Order No. 10-FST of 2018 dated: 09.01.2018. Since the revised standard rates on an average are 3.46 times the previous standard rates of 1992, therefore now one time standard rates has been charged in the current proposal and the same shall continue till revision of these rates again. There-after item wise agenda was discussed and following decisions taken:-

Agenda No	Proposal	Decision
104.01	Proposal to allow use of <b>6.0225 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Mahan to Banjal in Billawar Forest Division by PMGSY.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.02	Proposal to allow use of <b>0.82 Ha</b> of forest land for construction of road from Batote to Chakwa in Batote Forest Division by PMGSY.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.03	Proposal to allow use of <b>6.32 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of Marsoo-Chirota (Part-II) Phase X by PMGSY Division Doda, in Batote Forest Division.	The case was approved with the condition that the User Agency shall provide status of Part-I of the road. The Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Doda vide his letter No. PMGSY /D/Camp/Jmu-01 dated: 22.02.2018 has reported that the part-I of the road which was of 10.00 km length stands completed in 2013.



104.04	Proposal to allow use of <b>1.76 Ha</b> of forest land for construction of road from Shiva to Sharerna 1 <sup>st</sup> in Bhaderwah Forest Division.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.05	Proposal to allow use of <b>4.91 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of Jodhpur to Pershulla Stage-1 <sup>st</sup> Phase X in Doda Forest Division by PMGSY.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.06	Proposal to allow use of <b>3.5304 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from TO1 to Hathan (13.780 km) by PMGSY in Basohli Forest Division	The case was <b>deferred</b> due to involvement of large number of Deodar and Quercus trees; Further the habitations mentioned in the proposal were not visible on Google image.
104.07	Proposal to allow use of <b>3.96 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Barmota to Doulka (10.459 km) by PMGSY in Basohli Forest Division.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.08	Proposal to allow use of <b>1.9352 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Jangalwar to Sarsi to Part-II Stage-I Package No. JK04-269 by PMGSY in Bhaderwah Forest Division.	The case was <b>deferred</b> due to involvement of huge number of Deodar and Quercus tree species. The User Agency was advised to revisit the proposal for realignment to reduce the felling/removal of Deodar trees.
104.09	Proposal to allow use of <b>0.70 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Km 2 <sup>nd</sup> of TO1 to Khankari by PMGSY in Rajouri Forest Division.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.10	Proposal to allow use of <b>4.50 Ha</b> of forest land for construction of road from TO1 to Sodam by PMGSY in Samba Forest Division	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.11	Proposal to allow use of <b>0.40 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Lakhri to Kunoo in Billawar Forest Division by PMGSY	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.12	Proposal to allow use of <b>0.5262 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from LO 48 Khadarian to Kha passing through Co. 91/K and 93/K of Kalakote Range by the Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Rajouri in Rajouri Forest Division.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.





104.13	Proposal to allow use of <b>8.287 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Dubigali to Nalinikka in Udampur Forest Division by PMGSY	The proposal was <b>not agreed</b> due to huge involvement of forest land and trees just to benefit 285 people.
104.14	Proposal to allow use of <b>10.4785 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Backen to Upper Koti (20.685 km) by PMGSY in Basohli Forest Division.	The proposal was <b>not agreed</b> due to huge involvement forest land and Deodar and Quercus trees.
104.15	Proposal to allow use of <b>7.554 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Athwato to Vewan Labkachal by PMGSY in Bandipora Forest Division.	The proposal was <b>not agreed</b> due to huge involvement forest land and trees just to benefit 295 people.
104.16	Proposal to allow use of <b>0.09 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Bansa Morh to Barnike by PMGSY in Udampur Forest Division.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.17	Proposal to allow use of <b>1.44 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Barigarh to Mela in Jindrah Range of Jammu Forest Division by PMGSY.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.18	Proposal to allow use of <b>9.95 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Upper Sarthali to Tappar (30.472 km) by PMGSY in Basohli Forest Division .	The proposal was <b>deferred</b> . The User Agency was asked to revisit the proposal for realignment and avoid felling of huge number of Deodar and Quercus tree species.
104.19	Proposal to allow use of <b>1.4196 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from LO 25 Chak Mithiani to Kotecharwal by PMGSY in Nowshera Forest Division.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.20	Proposal to allow use of <b>9.075 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of road from Radha Padam from Km 0.00 to Km 11.70 Mawar Range in Langate Forest Division by BEACON.	The proposal was <b>deferred</b> . The User Agency was asked to realign the road and avoid involvement of <i>Betula utilis</i> (Bojpatter) and Fir species.
104.21	Forest land diversion proposal in favour of State Forest Corporation (SFC) for diversification of its activities.	The Forest Advisory Committee was informed that the proposals for forest land diversion in favour of State Forest Corporation for diversification of its activities were discussed in 103 <sup>rd</sup> meeting in which 18 proposals were discussed, out of which 12 were approved to the extent of establishment of Sale Depots, for timber and other forest products only

while-as six were deferred. In all these eighteen cases following observations were made by FAC:-

- i. *Legal mandate of SFC to setup Petrol Pumps under the J&K SFC Act.*
- ii. *Economics of the proposal including its green components.*
- iii. *Whether SFC would be in position to run the Petrol Pumps professionally and independently.*

The Managing Director, State Forest Corporation has submitted response to these observations. The J&K State Forest Corporation (J&K SFC) has submitted proposals for diversion of forest land for undertaking diversification activities. The J&K State Forest Corporation proposes to develop various sites along important roads for developing road side amenities for the tourists as well as locals. The proposed activities including non-forestry activities aim at income generation for State Forest Corporation alongwith awareness about forest conservation and environment as well as way side amenities for the commuters to promote eco-tourism. The various activities proposed on the identified sites by the State Forest Corporation are as under:

1. Timber Sale Depot.
2. Sale Counter for Nursery Plants, Seeds and Forest Products.
3. Information Centre with Multi Media and LED Display for Environment awareness and Forest Conservation.
4. Dedicated and Catchy hoardings regarding Forest Conservation and Environment awareness.



5. Purified drinking water.
6. Bio-Toilets – separately for Gents, Ladies and differently abled persons.
7. Baby/Mother Care Room.
8. First Aid facility.
9. Awareness through demonstration regarding Rain water harvesting.
10. Refreshment-cum-view points.
11. Adulteration Free Re-fuelling Facilities (Petrol Pumps) and Free Air for the vehicles of commuters.

The J&K State Forest Corporation has submitted 20 (twenty) proposals for various sites spread throughout Jammu region. 18 (eighteen) proposals were discussed in 103<sup>rd</sup> Forest Advisory Committee Meeting held on 08.01.2018 whereunder proposals were in principal agreed but some observations were raised by the Forest Advisory Committee.

After thread bare discussion on the proposals submitted, it was observed that the Forest Advisory Committee has limited role to the extent to consider the forest land diversion in favour of State Forest Corporation for diversification of its activities to make it profitable, but the mandate to decide the type/extent of activities for diversification, lies with the Board of Directors of SFC and the Government. Accordingly, the proposals placed before the Forest Advisory Committee in its 103<sup>rd</sup> meeting along with two more proposals placed in the present 104<sup>th</sup> meeting figuring at Agenda Item Nos. 104.22 and 104.23 were approved to the extent of forest land diversion only. With regard to the

*Signature* *Initials*

		diversification activities the User Agency viz State Forest Corporation shall seek clearance/approval from Board of Directors of the Corporation and the Government.
104.22	Proposal to allow use of <b>0.85 Ha</b> of forest land in Sahar Khad Closures of Kathua Range in Kathua Forest Division	Same decision as in Agenda Item No: 104.21.
104.23	Proposal to allow use of <b>0.24 Ha.</b> of forest land for establishment of infrastructure including establishment of Petrol Pump and Timber Sale Depot in Billawar Forest Division by SFC.	Same decision as in Agenda Item No: 104.21.
104.24	Proposal to allow use of <b>0.0233 Ha.</b> of forest land for erection of cell site/Ground base Tower at Batholi-Paddar in Kishtwar Forest Division.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.25	Proposal to allow use of <b>0.00825 Ha.</b> of forest land for construction of 10,000 Glns. Service reservoir at Ban for Providing Drinking Water Supply under water supply scheme Mohra ban in Jammu Forest Division by PHE	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.26	Proposal to allow use of <b>0.0125 Ha</b> of forest land for construction of 50,000 Glns. GSR at Khanpur Nagrota under Water Supply Scheme Khanpur in Jammu Forest Division by PHE.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.
104.27	Proposal to allow use of additional forest land of <b>12.125 Ha.</b> of forestland for construction of Gate Platform, Surface Spillway and DT inlet road for Pakal Dul H.E. Project in Marwah Forest Division by CVPP.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda. The Managing Director, State Forest Corporation was advised to get the stocks converted and lifted within one month from the date when the Government Order and sanction for felling of trees is received by him.
104.28	Proposal to allow felling of left out trees/poles coming under Head Race Tunnel road in Comptt. 34a/D (From evation 1710 m to 1760 m) of Pakal Dul H. E. Project in Marwah Forest Division by CVPP	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda. The User Agency requested for lifting /transportation of already converted timber lying at the site of project. Managing Director, State Forest Corporation was directed to get the



		converted timber stocks lifted within three weeks.
104.29	Construction of 220 KV Multi-Circuit Kishanganga to Amargarh Transmission line regarding felling of non-fruit bearing trees coming under the alignment of Transmission line of PGCI at Island Nursery Doabagh Sopore of SF Division Baramulla.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the agenda.

### SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

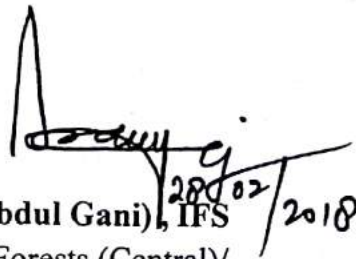
104.01 (S)	Proposal to allow use of <b>1.685 Ha./1.48 Ha. (Revised)</b> of forest land for construction of road from Bhalra to Dige Stage 1 <sup>st</sup> Phase X in Bhaderwah Forest Division by PMGSY	The proposal was approved subject to the condition that the User Agency shall reduce the road width from 6 Mtr. to 5 Mtr. and submit the revised details immediately. The User Agency through Executive Engineer PMGSY Doda Division got the proposal revised and DFO Bhaderwah Forest Division has submitted the revised details given in the <b>Annexure-A</b> to these minutes and reflected here under.																									
<table><tr><th rowspan="2"></th><th rowspan="2">Forest road width</th><th rowspan="2">Forest area (Ha)</th><th colspan="4">No of trees</th></tr><tr><th>Trees</th><th>Poles</th><th>Spp.</th><th>Total</th></tr><tr><td>Previous Proposal of 103<sup>rd</sup> FAC</td><td>6.00</td><td>1.685</td><td>197</td><td>107</td><td>203</td><td>507</td></tr><tr><td>Present Proposal of 104<sup>th</sup> FAC</td><td>5.00</td><td>1.48</td><td>160</td><td>4</td><td>253</td><td>417</td></tr></table>				Forest road width	Forest area (Ha)	No of trees				Trees	Poles	Spp.	Total	Previous Proposal of 103 <sup>rd</sup> FAC	6.00	1.685	197	107	203	507	Present Proposal of 104 <sup>th</sup> FAC	5.00	1.48	160	4	253	417
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104-02 (S)	Proposal to allow use of <b>3.30 Ha/2.85 Ha (Revised)</b> of forest land for construction of road from Km 2 <sup>nd</sup> of Nagar Lanchan to Kansar (Part 2 <sup>nd</sup> ) in Bhaderwah Forest Division by PMGSY	The proposal was approved subject to the condition that the User Agency shall reduce the road width from 6 Mtr. to 5 Mtr. The User Agency through Executive Engineer PMGSY Doda Division got the proposal revised and DFO Bhaderwah Forest Division has submitted the revised details given in the <b>Annexure-B</b> to these minutes and reflected here under.																									
<table><tr><th rowspan="2"></th><th rowspan="2">Forest road width</th><th rowspan="2">Forest area (Ha)</th><th colspan="4">No of trees</th></tr><tr><th>Trees</th><th>Poles</th><th>Spp.</th><th>Total</th></tr><tr><td>Previous Proposal of 103<sup>rd</sup> FAC</td><td>6.00</td><td>3.30</td><td>517</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>518</td></tr><tr><td>Present Proposal of 104<sup>th</sup> FAC</td><td>5.00</td><td>2.85</td><td>466</td><td>46</td><td>0</td><td>512</td></tr></table>				Forest road width	Forest area (Ha)	No of trees				Trees	Poles	Spp.	Total	Previous Proposal of 103 <sup>rd</sup> FAC	6.00	3.30	517	1	0	518	Present Proposal of 104 <sup>th</sup> FAC	5.00	2.85	466	46	0	512
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While clearing the above proposals (except 104.06, 104.08, 104.13, 104.14, 104.15, 104.18 and 104.20), the Chief Secretary (Chairman FAC) issued the following directions:

- 1) The status of land on which the habitation in and around the Forest areas are residing shall be provided alongwith the proposal.
- 2) The population figures to be benefitted should be indicated as per census reports of 2011.

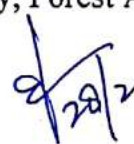
- 3) One of the Private Members raised question of transplanting the poles and saplings which get affected due to the land diversion for non-forestry use. The member was informed that one experimental project on this issue is already in hand with State Forest Research Institute. The progress/results achieved so far shall be placed before the Forest Advisory Committee in its next meeting.
- 4) The User Agencies were advised that the execution of the works where forest land is involved should not be taken up without the prior sanction of the Government for forest land diversion.
- 5) The violation of Forest Conservation Act in case of Narla road by PWD (R&B) authorities was discussed and it was observed that no action has been taken so far by Commissioner/ Secretary to Govt. PWD (R&B). It was decided that the enquiry of the case shall be got done and responsibility fixed through GAD.
- 6) The Monitoring report on different development projects was placed before the FAC; while appreciating these efforts, it was decided that a copy of the same be provided to the private members of FAC for their perusal and comments.
- 7) In order to expedite the sanction from the Government in regard to projects of national importance, the proposals figuring at **Agenda Nos. 104.27, 104.28 of CVPP and 104.29 of PGCI** will be prioritized by the Commissioner/ Secretary Forest Department for seeking approval of the Cabinet.
- 8) While considering the projects/proposals relating to construction of roads by PMGSY, FAC observed that there has been no proper planning in these constructions and that no serious efforts have been made to involve the Forest Department before embarking on such exercises which could have helped to address the issues of protecting the flora and fauna particularly the endangered species in the forest areas in their right perspective. FAC expressed concern over the execution of road projects by PMGSY without proper planning and without involving the Forest Department. FAC directed the PMGSY to hold prior consultation with the Forest Department before piloting the proposals relating to construction of roads involving forest areas.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

  
(Abdul Gani), IFS  
28/02/2018

Chief Conservator of Forests (Central)/  
Nodal Officer (FCA)

Member Secretary, Forest Advisory Committee

  
28/2