

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, J&K Srinagar

1. Principal Secretary, Finance Department, J&K	Member
2. Financial Commissioner (Revenue), J&K	Member
3. Principal Secretary, Planning & Development Department, J&K	Member
4. Commissioner/ Secretary Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, J&K	Member
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (HoFF)/Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K	Member
6. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, J&K.	Member
7. PCCF/ Director, Soil and Water Conservation Department, J&K Srinagar	Member
8. Addl. PCCF/Director, Environment Ecology & Remote Sensing, 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/2775/ 5145-65 Dated: 29/09/2018
Sub: 110th meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee, the J&K Forest (Conservation) Act, 1997.

Sir,

Kindly find enclosed herewith Minutes of the 110th meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee held on 18.09.2018 under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, J&K Government.

Yours faith fully,

(Abdul Gani), IFS

Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA)

Member Secretary

Forest Advisory Committee

Copy alongwith minutes for information and necessary action to the:

1. Commissioner/ Secretary to Govt. PW (R&B) Department J&K Civil Secretariat Srinagar.
2. Addl. PCCF/Director, Social Forestry Department J&K Srinagar.
3. Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir.
4. Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu.
5. Chief Engineer, PMGSY Jammu.
6. Chief Engineer, PMGSY Kashmir.
7. Chief Engineer, PW (R&B) Jammu.
8. General Manger, National Highway and Infrastructure Dev. Corporation Ltd Jammu
9. Project Director, National Highway Authority of India, PIU Srinagar.
10. Commanding Officer, Station HQ Tangdhar C/o 56 APO
11. PPS to the Chief Secretary, J&K Government for information of the Chief Secretary J&K Government.

MINUTES OF THE 110th MEETING OF THE FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SH. B. V. R. SUBRAHMANYAM, IAS, CHIEF SECRETARY, JAMMU AND KASHMIR, AT CIVIL SECRETARIAT, SRINAGAR ON 18.09.2018.

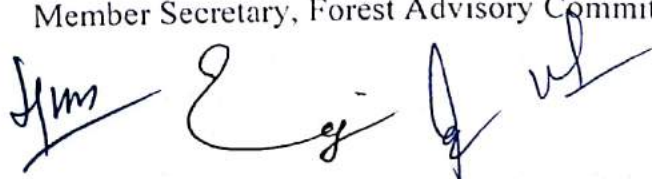
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1. The 110th meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under Jammu and Kashmir Forest (Conservation) Act, 1997, was held under the Chairmanship of Sh. B. V. R. Subrahmanyam, IAS, Chief Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Government, at Civil Secretariat, Srinagar on 18th September 2018.

2. Following members of the Committee and Special Invitees attended the meeting:

(I) Members

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| 1. Dr. Pawan Kotwal, IAS | Financial Commissioner (Revenue), J&K |
| 2. Sh. Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, IAS | Commissioner/ Secretary to Government, Forest Ecology, Environment Department, J&K |
| 3. Sh. Ravi Kumar Kesar, IFS | Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF)/ Chief Wildlife Warden J&K |
| 4. Sh. Suresh Chugh, IFS | Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, J&K |
| 5. Sh. P. K. Singh, IFS | Pr. CCF/ Director, Soil & Water Conservation, J&K |
| 6. S. Satvir Kour Sudan | Director General Planning (Rep. Principal Secretary, Planning & Dev. Deptt., J&K) |
| 7. Sh. Imtayaz Ahmad Wani | Director Budget, Finance Department (Rep. Principal Secretary, Finance Deptt., J&K) |
| 8. Sh. G. H. Mir | Environment Engineer, Department of Env'n. Ecology & Remote Sensing (Rep. Addl. PCCF/ Director, Env'n. Ecology & Remote Sensing Department J&K). |
| 9. Dr. G. A. Bhat | Member (Non-official) |
| 10. Dr. S. P. Singh, Dutta | Member (Non-Official) |
| 11. Sh. Abdul Gani, IFS | Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA)
Member Secretary, Forest Advisory Committee |

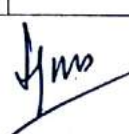



(II) Special Invitees

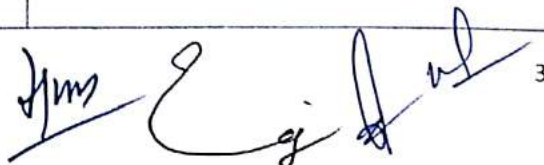
1. Sh. Khurshid Ahmad Shah, IAS Commissioner/Secretary to Govt. PWD (R&B) Department, J&K
2. Syed F. A. Gillani, IFS Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir
3. Sh. S. P. Manhas Chief Engineer (PMGSY), Jammu
4. Sh. Ghulam Jeelani Chief Engineer (PMGSY) Kashmir
5. Sh. Zubair Ahmad Regional Director, Social Forestry Kashmir (Rep. Director, Social Forestry Deptt.. J&K)
6. Sh. N. D. Khawaja, Superintendent Engineer PW (R&B) Jammu {Rep. Chief Engineer, PW (R&B) Jammu}.
7. Sh. Gulam Qadir Manager (Tech) NHAI (Rep. Project Director NHAI Srinagar)
8. Sh. Tajumul Aziz Project In-charge Jammu- Akhnoor (Rep. General Manager, NHIDCL)
9. Lt Colonel Bikash Mukhia 281 AT/28 MTN DOU/ 28 Inf. Div (Army)

3. At the outset, Commissioner/ Secretary Forest, Ecology and Environment Department welcomed the Chief Secretary, members and special invitees. Thereafter, Member Secretary FAC presented the following proposals received from different indenting agencies for consideration of the FAC:

Agenda No	Proposal	Decision
110.01	Proposal for felling of Additional 137 trees coming under upgradation to 4 lane with paved shoulder of Jammu-Akhnoor Section of NH-144A in Social Forestry Division Jammu by National Highway and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL).	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions as laid down in the agenda.
110.02	Rehabilitation strengthening and four laning of Srinagar to Banihal Section from Km 187.00 to 189.350 (Banihal bypass and Km 220.700 to Km	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions as laid down in the agenda.

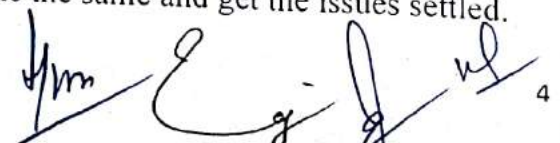
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	286.110 of NH-1A in the State of Jammu and Kashmir package No. NHDP phase II BOT/1/J&K. Approved estimate of Social Forestry trees coming under alignment at Village Lasjan (Trumpet portion) Srinagar-Reg	
110.03	Proposal to allow felling of 39 trees/poles for construction of Igloos (Two Nos) 02XLCR Igloo 75 MT at 281 Ammunition Platoon in Kehmil Forest Division by ARMY.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions as laid down in the agenda.
110.04	Proposal to allow use of 5.915 Ha of forest land (2.379 Ha in Batote Forest Division and 3.536 Ha in Bhaderwah Forest Division) for construction of road from Warni to Sarsi via Shree upto village Kelaya Km 1 st to Km. 10 th in Batote and Bhaderwah Forest Divisions by PWD (R&B) Department.	The portion of the road proposed to be constructed through Batote Forest Division was approved on the terms and condition as laid down in the agenda. However, with regard to stretch of road passing through Bhaderwah Forest Division, it was decided that same shall be examined for realignment after site survey in consultation with Environmental Expert (Dr. G. A. Bhat private member FAC) to avoid felling of Deodar (<i>Cedrus deodara</i>) and rare; high value tree species viz Kahu (<i>Olea cuspidate</i>) and Parrotia (<i>Parrotiopsis jacquemontiana</i>).
110.05	Proposal to allow use of 1.175 Ha. of forest land for construction of road from Basantgarh to Khaned under Package No JK 14-105 Phase VII Stage-I in Ramnagar Forest Division by PMGSY.	The proposal was deferred . It was advised to bring KMZ file (Google map) showing both the previous and the new alignment of the road to justify the additional requirement of forest land which got increased from 0.32 Ha to 1.175 Ha.
110.06	Proposal to allow use of 6.956 Ha. of forest land for construction of road from Athwatoo to Vewan Labkachal in Bandipora Forest Division by PMGSY.	The proposal was approved on the terms and conditions as laid down in the agenda.

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4. The *Compliance Report* on instructions issued in 109th FAC meeting was placed before the Committee. The Committee perused the report with further instructions as under:

- i) With regard to proposal of special dispensation in certain matters, as has been done in LWE (Left Wing Extremism) areas by Union Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Commissioner/ Secretary Forest Ecology and Environment will examine the same, in light of the report submitted by Principal Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests vide No. PCCF/FCA/2731/4328-29 dated: 04.08.2018.
- ii) The instructions with regard to depicting main road to which the proposed road shall get connected stands issued vide No. PCCF/FCA/2718/4511-22 dated: 13.08.2018 and compliance is being reported by the User Agencies. It was advised that the proposals which are deferred either on account of realignment or change in forest land, the KMZ file for both the previous and the realigned roads should be placed before the FAC, for comparison and better appreciation of the decision made.
- iii) With regard to the user agencies consulting the officers of Forest Department at the project conceptualization stage, so as to work out proposals with such an alignment that would entail minimum felling of trees and maximum preservation of flora and fauna, instructions have been circulated to all the CCFs concerned. CCF, Kashmir will place in the next FAC meeting, the correspondence by which such instructions have been circulated.
- iv) It was observed that expenditure incurred on roadside plantation is negligible. Further, there is no such restriction that plantation should be taken up only on those roads for which forest land has been diverted. Any road side strip can be taken up for plantation to increase the tree cover. Accordingly, the Forest Department will prepare a comprehensive plan for undertaking roadside plantation, funds for which are available with the department. This will be done by 10.10.2018. Commissioner/ Secretary, Forest Ecology and Environment will undertake a review of the total fund availability under various components of CAMPA and also supervise the roadside plantation efforts.
- v) With regard to monitoring of cases from January 2010, the FAC was informed that 564 proposal were sanctioned, out of which 339 have been completed. Violation of laid down terms and conditions was reported in 18 cases, which is 3% of the total number of sanctioned forest land diversion proposals. It was advised that a list of these 18 cases shall be submitted to Commissioner/ Secretary Forests, Ecology and Environment Department, who shall examine the same and get the issues settled.

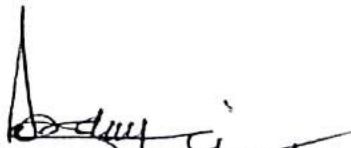




Further, Commissioner/ Secretary Forests, Ecology and Environment shall issue instructions to all the Deputy Commissioners and Administrative Secretaries, to the effect that if there are any illegal settlements in the forest areas (i.e habitations without any proprietary rights/ land ownership), the physical and infrastructure in the form of roads, electric lines etc should not be extended to these habitations. Also, unless the project is cleared by the Forest Advisory Committee, no infrastructure project shall be undertaken for such habitations. Any violation in this regard shall be considered as violation of the J&K Forest Conservation Act.

- vi) For effective and robust monitoring of works/ projects to be undertaken in Forest areas, right from the conceptual to the implementation stage on the laid down terms and conditions, the FAC approved the proposal to constitute Committees at circle level with composition as under:

i)	Conservator of Forests (Concerned)	Chairman
ii)	DFO Concerned	Member
iii)	Representative from User Agency	Member
iv)	Representative from Revenue Department to be nominated by Dy. Commissioner concerned	Member

5. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


 (Abdul Gani), F.S. 29/9/2018
 Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA)
 Member Secretary,
 Forest Advisory Committee

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