

MINUTES OF THE 64TH FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SHRI MADHAV LAL, IAS, CHIEF SECRETARY, JAMMU AND KASHMIR GOVERNMENT, AT CIVIL SECRETARIAT, JAMMU, ON 29-03-2012.

The 64th meeting of Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under the J&K Forest (Conservation) Act, 1997, was held under the chairmanship of **Shri Madhav Lal, IAS, Chief Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Government**, at Civil Secretariat, Jammu, on 29th March, 2012.

The following members of the FAC / Special Invitees participated in the deliberations:-

(A) **Members FAC**

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| 1. | Dr. R. K. Jerath, IAS
Financial Commissioner (Revenue), J&K. | MEMBER |
| 2. | Shri Shantmanu, IAS
Commissioner/Secretary to Govt.
Forest Department | MEMBER |
| 3. | Shri Vinod Ranjan, IFS
Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, J&K | MEMBER |
| 4. | Shri A.K.Singh IFS
Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K | MEMBER |
| 5. | Shri Mukherjit Sharma, IFS
Director, Soil Conservation Department, J&K. | MEMBER |
| 6. | Shri G. R. Bhagat, IAS
Secretary, Planning & Development | Rep. of Principal Secretary,
Planning & Development |
| 7. | Shri Mushtaq Ahmed Siddiqi
Secretary, Finance | Rep. of Principal Secretary, Spl.
Finance |
| 8. | Shri V. K. Raina, IFS
Regional Director,
Environment & Remote Sensing | Rep. of Director, Environment &
Remote Sensing |
| 9. | Prof. S.P.Singh Dutta (Environmentalist) | MEMBER
(Non- Official) |
| 10. | Shri H.S. Salathia, IFS
Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA)
& Nodal Officer | MEMBER SECRETARY, FAC |

(B) **Special Invitees**

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| 1. | Shri K. B. Aggarwal, IAS
Principal Secretary, PWD | Spl. Invitee |
| 2. | Shri S. C. Sharma, IFS
Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu | Spl. Invitee |
| 3. | Shri D. L. Sharma
Chief Engineer, PMGSY, Jammu. | Spl. Invitee |
| 4. | Shri Tehsin Mustafa
Chief Engineer, PWD (R&B), Jammu. | Spl. Invitee |
| 5. | Col M. K. Jain
Project Director, NHAI
PIU, Jammu | Spl. Invitee |

The item-wise agenda of the meeting presented by Shri H.S. Salathia, IFS, Member Secretary, FAC, was discussed and deliberated upon by the participating members and the following decisions were taken:-

Agenda Items No.	Proposal	Forest Division	Indenting Agency	Decision of the Forest Advisory Committee
64.01	Proposal to allow use of 0.50 hectare of Strip Plantation area at Awantipora and Glander Pampore Units coming in the four-laning of NH-1A .	Social Forestry Division, Pulwama	NHAI	The Proposal was approved on the terms and conditions as laid down in the proposal. <i>In addition, the User Agency, at their expenses, shall plant all the small sized Poplar poles in the area under ROW by the mechanized means and ensure their maintenance and watch & ward.</i>
64.02	Proposal to allow use of 0.90 hectare of forest land for construction of Mini Secretariat (Administrative Block) at Mendhar.	Poonch	PWD (R&B)	The Proposal was approved on the terms and conditions as laid down in the proposal. <i>Besides, the Forest Department shall develop the nursery (under CAMPA) at the site proposed to be transferred by the District Administration and shall shift all the nursery plants there before the User Agency is allowed to start the work on forest land.</i>
64.03	Proposal to allow use of 1.51 hectare of forest land coming in four-laning of Jammu-Udhampur section (Km 34.000 to 36.100).	Jammu	NHAI	The Proposal was approved on the terms and conditions as laid down in the proposal. <i>In addition, the User Agency, at their expenses, shall plant all the small sized poles and saplings in the area under ROW by the mechanized means and ensure their maintenance and watch & ward.</i>

Agenda Items No.	Proposal	Forest Division	Indenting Agency	Decision of the Forest Advisory Committee
64.04	Revised proposal to allow use of 4.98 hectare of forest land for construction of Gandoh-Sinoo-Jai road upto village Rajpura (Km 0 to 18).	Bhaderwah	PWD (R&B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FAC in an attempt to minimize the ecological loss deferred the proposal thrice in the 61st, 62nd and 63rd FAC meetings held on 13.12.2011, 23.01.2012 and 21.02.2012 respectively. Despite having explored all the possibilities, the ecological damage involved could not be brought down to a limit which could be easily reconciled with. Further, out of 18 Km of the total length upto Rajpura, 13 Km road on non-forest land upto Chanwari had already been constructed. • <i>Subsequently, pursuant to the persistent demands of the general public of District Doda and the Hon'ble Legislators, the Hon'ble Minister of Forests vide his D.O letter dated 14.03.2012 approached the Hon'ble Chief Minister, J&K State who desired the FAC to look into this case again for appropriate consideration.</i> • It was observed that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) <i>a population of 9543 souls with 10 number of villages will be benefitted with the construction of this road.</i> ii) <i>at present there is no connectivity to these villages.</i> iii) <i>as per the joint survey, the proposed alignment is the least damaging to ecology.</i> • <i>In view of the above, FAC approved the proposal on the terms and conditions as laid down in the proposal.</i>

Agenda Items No.	Proposal	Forest Division	Indenting Agency	Decision of the Forest Advisory Committee
64.05	Revised proposal to allow use of 7.92 hectare of forest land for construction of road from Jai to Joura .	Bhaderwah	PWD (R&B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FAC in an attempt to minimize the ecological loss deferred the proposal thrice in the 61st, 62nd and 63rd FAC meetings held on 13.12.2011, 23.01.2012 and 21.02.2012 respectively. Despite having explored all the possibilities, the ecological damage involved could not be brought down to a limit which could be easily reconciled with. • <i>Subsequently, pursuant to the persistent demands of the general public of District Doda and the Hon'ble Legislators, the Hon'ble Minister of Forests vide his D.O letter dated 14.03.2012 approached the Hon'ble Chief Minister, J&K State who desired the FAC to look into this case again for appropriate consideration.</i> • It was observed that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i) a population of 3975 souls with 4 number of villages will be benefitted with the construction of this road.</i> <i>ii) at present there is no connectivity to these villages.</i> <i>iii) as per the joint survey, the proposed alignment is the least damaging to ecology.</i> • <i>In view of the above, FAC approved the proposal on the terms and conditions as laid down in the proposal.</i>

Agenda Items No.	Proposal	Forest Division	Indenting Agency	Decision of the Forest Advisory Committee
64.06	Revised proposal to allow use of 11.244 hectare of forest land for construction of road from Parla Chakal to Chigla Balota .	Ramnagar	PMGSY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FAC in an attempt to minimize the ecological loss deferred the proposal thrice in the 56th, 59th and 62nd FAC meetings held on 21.04.2011, 08.08.2011 and 23.01.2012 respectively. But having explored all the possibilities, the ecological damage involved could not be brought down to a limit which could be easily reconciled with. • However, in pursuance to the directions of the Hon'ble Speaker to re-examine the case (<i>which was as a follow-up to the meeting of the Ho'ble Speaker with the Hon'ble MLA Ramnagar, worthy Chief Secretary and the Commissioner/Secretary, Forests with regard to the Breach of Privilege Notice moved by the Hon'ble MLA Ramnagar</i>), the proposal was again discussed at length in the FAC meeting to explore the possibility of reducing the ecological damage. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was observed that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) <i>a population of 1761 souls with 6 number of villages will be benefitted with the construction of this road.</i> ii) <i>at present there is no connectivity to these villages.</i> iii) <i>as per the joint survey, the proposed alignment is the least damaging to ecology.</i> • <i>In view of the above, FAC approved the proposal on the terms and conditions as laid down in the proposal.</i>

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

H. S. Salathia, IFS
 Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA)
 & Nodal Officer
 Member Secretary, Forest Advisory Committee