MINUTES OF THE 83rd FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SH IQBAL KHANDEY IAS, CHIEF SECRETARY, JAMMU AND KAHMIR, AT CIVIL SECRETARIAT, JAMMU, ON 07/02/2014.

The 83rd meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under the J&K Forest (Conservation) Act, 1997, was held under the chairmanship of Shri Iqbal Khandey, IAS, Chief Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Government, at Civil Secretariat, Jammu, on 7th February, 2014.

The following members of the FAC and special invitees attended the meeting;

(I) Members (FAC)

1.	Dr. Arun Kumar, IAS	Financial Commissioner (Revenue)
2.	Shri B.R. Sharma, IAS	Principal Secretary, Planning & Development Deptt.
3.	Shri B.B. Vyas, IAS	Principal Secretary, Finance Department
4.	Mohammad Afzal, IAS	Secretary, Forest Department.
5.	Shri Abhai Kumar, IFS	Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, J&K
6.	Shri M.J.Sharma, IFS	Director, Soil Conservation Department.
7.	Shri Om Prakash, IFS	Chief Conservator of Forests (Ecotourism)
		(Representative of the Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K)
8.	Shri C.D. Chalotra, IFS	Conservator of Forests.
		(Representative of the Director, Env. & RS)
9.	Prof. S.P.S. Dutta	Member (Non-official).

(II) Special Invitees

1.	Shri Shailendra Kumar, IAS	Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir		
		(through Video Conference).		
2.	Shri Roshan Jaggi, IFS	Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu.		
3.	Shri Farooq Gillani, IFS	Conservator of Forests, Srinagar Circle.		
4.	Brig. R.K. Sharma	Chief Engineer, Project BEACON, BRO		
5.	Col. Murlidharan	CO, 32 BRTF, Project BEACON, BRO.		
6.	Col. V. K. Badola	Representative of the Chief Enginner, Project SAMPARK.		

A. The item–wise agenda for the approval of following proposals was presented by Sh. Rajeev
 Kumar Tiwari IFS, Member Secretary, FAC. Proposals were discussed and following decisions
 were taken;

Agenda Item No.	Proposal	Forest Division	Indenting Agency	Decision of FAC
83.01	Proposal to allow use of 27.825 Ha of forest land for construction of road from Shahsitar to K.G. Top.	Poonch	Project Sampark, BRO	Project was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the Agenda. User Agency will transplant the saplings falling in the alignment of the proposed road in adjacent forest area as suggested by Sh. S.P.S. Dutta, Member (FAC).
83.02	Proposal to allow the use of 197 Ha of forest land for construction of Zojila Tunnel between Kashmir and Ladakh.	Sindh Forest Division and Kargil Forest Division	Project Beacon, BRO	 Project was discussed and following observations were made in the meeting; i. In Machoi–Minamarg area, course of the river changes frequently and area is also avalanche prone therefore "River Training Works" and "Avalanche Mitigation Measures" are required for the protection of muck disposal sites. ii. Muck disposal sites should not interfere with the normal flow of the river. iii. (a) In Baltal area, service road should be planned to the south of the proposed road for connecting tunnel so as to keep it farthest from avalanche area (b) River bank should be provided with firm protection wall and bund all along the service road. (c) Both Muck Disposal Sites (MDS) should be to the south of main road connecting tunnel portal, so that due to avalanche north side MDS do not effect severe damage to road and other facilities. (d) MDS should have appropriate protection measures, retaining walls and perforated aqua-fire system to avoid any seepage to the river water. (e) Service road should be taken up suitably away from the river bank. iv. The user agency will obtain the Environmental clearance from MoEF in the case, before the execution of the project, as well as in case of Z-Morh, for which forest clearance has already been given by the Government.

		conditions laid down in the Agenda in addition to the condition of compliance of the observations mentioned above.
83.03	Summary report of the committee regarding site visit to Mubarak Mandi- Maha Maya Ropeway Project by Cable Car Corporation Ltd.	Chairman desired that the detail report should be sent to him on file.

B. The Forest Advisory Committee reiterated that henceforth no new case of BRO should be put up before the committee unless outstanding is cleared.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Rajeev Kumar Tiwari IFS (Member Secretary) Forest Advisory Committee.