

**MINUTES OF THE 90th FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD UNDER
THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SH. B.R.SHARMA IAS, CHIEF SECRETARY, JAMMU AND
KASHMIR, AT CIVIL SECRETARIAT, SRINAGAR ON 03/10/2015.**

The 90th meeting of the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under the J&K Forest (Conservation) Act, 1997, was held under the chairmanship of Sh. B.R.Sharma IAS, Chief Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Government, at Civil Secretariat, Srinagar on 3rd October, 2015.

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

(I) Members (FAC)

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| 1. Sh. R.K. Gupta, IAS | Principal Secretary (Forests) |
| 2. Sh. A.K. Singh, IFS | Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, J&K |
| 3. Sh. Navin Kr. Chowdhary, IAS | Commissioner/ Secretary (Finance) |
| 4. Sh. Deepak Khanna IFS | Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K |
| 5. Sh. Ravi Kesar, IFS | Director, Soil and Water Conservation Department |
| 6. Prof. S. P. Singh Dutta | Member (Non-official) |
| 7. Prof. G.A. Bhatt | Member (Non-official) |
| 8. Dr. Rajeev Kr. Tiwari, IFS | Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA) (Member Secretary) |

(II) Special Invitees

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| 1. Sh. Sandeep Nayak, IAS | Principal Secretary, Power development Department |
| 2. Sh. Suresh Chugh, IFS | Director, Social Forestry Department J&K. |
| 3. Sh. Satish Nehru, IAS | Secretary, Science & Technology Department. |
| 4. Sh. Nisar Ahmad Darzi, IFS | Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir. |
| 5. Sh. Ajeet Kumar Sahu, IAS | Chief Ex. Officer, SMVDSB, Katra. |
| 6. Sh. Syed Nayeem | Chief Engineer (PMGSY) Jammu. |
| 7. Sh. D.D.Gorka | Chief Engineer (PMGSY) Kashmir. |
| 8. Sh. P.B. Jain | General Manager, CVPP Jammu. |
| 9. Sh. Majid Drabu | Spl. Secretary, PW (R&B) Department. |
| 10. Sh. Des Raj | Superintending Engineer (R&B) Doda. |

The itemówise agenda for the approval of following proposals was presented by Sh. Rajeev Kumar Tiwari IFS, Member Secretary, Forest Advisory Committee. Proposals were discussed and following decisions were taken;

Agenda Item No.	Proposal	Division	Indenting Agency	Decision of FAC
90.01	Proposal to allow use of 0.45 Ha. of forest land for construction of road from Hallaran to Joura Khurd.	Bhaderwah	PMGSY	Proposal was not approved as the proposed road is passing through a thick forest, which is full of regeneration and large number of trees/poles are involved in only 0.45 Ha of forest area. The committee felt that construction of road will lead to degradation of forest. The proposed alignment was also very steep as verified with the kmz map, furnished by PMGSY. It was suggested that the Department may resubmit the proposal after examining the possibility of re-aligning the road with a change in gradient.
90.02	Proposal to allow use of 1.4855 Ha. of forest land for construction of 2.0 MW mini hydel power project at Butakulan ó Kangan.	Sindh	JAKEDA	Proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the Agenda.
90.03	Proposal for felling of 65 trees for widening of road from Dak Bungalow Kishtwar to Ziyarat Sharif Astan Pain and Circular road Chowgam, Kishtwar.	Social Forestry Division, Doda	PW (R&B) Deptt.	Proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the Agenda.
90.04	Proposal for forest clearance and felling of 220 trees for the construction of Material Ropeway from Siar Dabri to Bhawan.	Reasi	SMVDSB	Proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the Agenda. Amount mentioned under para A(12) for 5% project cost is revised to Rs.5911250/- and total amount mentioned under para (B) is revised to Rs 9393486/-.
90.05	Proposal to allow use of 2.67 Ha. of forest land for construction of road from Maidnan to Chotali.	J.V.	PMGSY	Proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the Agenda.
90.06	Proposal to allow use of 195.9621 Ha of forest land (188.7621 Ha of former	Marwah	CVPP	Proposal was approved on the terms and conditions laid down in the Agenda.

	KHANP Land in Marwah Forest Division and 7.2 Ha of Forest land in Kishtwar Forest Division) for the construction of Pakal Dul Hydro Electric Project.			
90.07	Cancellation of Government Sanction Orders issued in favour of different User Agencies for use of forest land for non-forestry purpose u/s (2) (ii) of the J&K Forest (Conservation) Act.	Shopian/ Reasi/ Batote/ Anantnag/ Kulgam/ Udhampur/ Mahore	PDC/ NHPC / BHEP/ IRR&FC/ ARMY/ NORTHERN RAILWAY	Proposal was approved.

While discussing the aforementioned proposals, the Committee issued following directions;

- I. The Committee directed that State Forest Research Institute should initiate a scientific study to assess the possibility of transplanted saplings from construction site to the nearby forest. The study should focus on the possibility of development of this technique for different species under different climatic and altitudinal conditions.
- II. The Chairman showed his concern on the lack of adequate monitoring of the terms and conditions on the basis of which clearances are being accorded in general and provision of protection work on the forest land and disposal of muck on the project site in particular. The committee directed that the forest department will make a presentation before the committee on monitoring of few projects for which forest clearances have been accorded during the year 2012-13 and 2013-14.
- III. The Committee directed that Indents given by Army may be processed and in the meanwhile Army authorities may be requested to start reconciliation and make the payment of outstanding amount due in previously sanctioned cases. The sanction of the proposal shall be decided by the Forest Advisory Committee.
- IV. The Committee desired that all cases, in which the respective Dy. Commissioners have proposed State lands for Compensatory Afforestation and based on their proposals Government Sanction Orders have been issued but the same have not yet been handed over to the Forest Department. A list of such cases should be put up before the Forest Advisory Committee in its next meeting.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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