

CITIZEN'S CHARTER

Organization

The Social Forestry Project was started in Jammu & Kashmir as a World Bank aided Project in 1981-82, initially for a period of five years. The Project was extended up-to 1990-91. Since then the Project works continued as an activity under the State funding with the main objective of raising plantations outside the conventional forests with active involvement of society to meet the requirement of fuel-wood in the shortest possible time, to provide, small timber, fodder, fruits and other minor forest products for basic requirements of the rural poor. The Government vide order No: 481-FST of 2004 dated: 28-10-2004 converted the Social Forestry Project into a full-fledged Department & assigned the department the job of taking up plantations on a massive scale.

Mandate

The Department Social Forestry is mandated to promote tree cultivation outside forests on farm lands, VWL and in Institutional complexes to enhance green cover of J&K and providing livelihood opportunities to people and enhance income from farm lands. The Department also take up strip plantations along roads, canal banks, railway lines etc. for providing ecosystem services, besides taking up fringe forest areas under RDF.

Objectives

- ✓ To carry out a need based and time bound programme of afforestation with special emphasis on fuel wood and fodder development.

- ✓ To provide plants to people to increase tree cover outside the forests.
- ✓ To provide specialized technical know-how in the field of the farm forestry and tree planting.
- ✓ To provide livelihood/employment opportunities to locals by involving/engaging them in plantation initiatives.
- ✓ Reducing pressure on natural forests for wood/ timber/ grazing etc by promoting TOF.
- ✓ Awareness about importance of trees/plantations.
- ✓ People's participation working with panchayats, women and young people in Social Forestry activities.

Roadmap to achieve vision and mission.

- ✓ Taking-up the afforestation activities at its full capacity with upgraded infrastructure & active participation of people at large.
- ✓ Taking-up cultivation of medicinal plants/Bamboos in a scientific manner.
- ✓ Development of high-tech modern nurseries to raise more plants in order to give boost to the farm forestry sector.
- ✓ Taking up abandoned blank areas, dumping sites etc. of Govt. lands for the development of nature grooves in cities, urban areas and towns as well.
- ✓ Harvesting of mature plantations, preserving of different treatments to different plantations depending upon the silvicultural and physical requirement of the crop/plantations vis-à-vis replanting the same.

Inputs and outcomes.

The Social Forestry has so far covered an area of 1.73 lac hectare under afforestation with around 13.10 crore plants and also distributed about 16.10 crore plants under farm forestry component since its creation in J&K during the year 1982. The Department of Social Forestry helps to induce community and individual participation in creating, maintaining and protecting the plantation programme launched for such purpose, so as to share benefits in the contemplated Joint Management Programme. It also helps to provide livelihood opportunities to unemployed and under employed people, particularly the landless agricultural labourers and other traditionally weaker sections of rural community. The Department of Social Forestry creates desired level of awareness among the people about the significance of planting trees. The lucid impact of the activities of the Department of Social Forestry is the creation of 8.65 crore plants outside the Forests which bears a volume of 3.02 crore cubic meter with an annual cut of 10 % on a rotation of 12 years fetches about Rs 1200-1500 crores annually in the private sector besides many other tangible and intangible environmental, social and economic benefits.

To following schemes in vogue at present:-

01. **Raising of Nurseries** where improved and better-quality planting material is raised in abundance to meet the requirement;
02. **Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests:** Degraded Forest areas are closed with fencing and natural regeneration is supplemented by artificial planting. Some times nurse

crops are raised first to provide shade (function of Nursing), before the main crop is planted.

03. **Village Wood Lots:** These are raised over unproductive revenue/ the Village common lands through Village Panchayat (Plantation) Committees. VWL are raised to make villages self sufficient with regard to fuel-wood, fodder and small timber besides earning money for their involvement in forestry works, which adds to the rural economy.
04. **Strip Plantations:** Strip plantations are raised along side roads, railway line and canals to provide aesthetic beauty, shade to travelers besides acting as a source of revenue to the Government.
05. **Institutional Plantation:** Tree planting is done on marginal/ Institutional lands of Government offices, Institutional premises etc. to add the beauty of the institutions and develop micro-climate. In addition such plantations supplement the production of timber.

List of services being provided

Service/Benefits	Mode/Timeline
Distribution of Plants under Farm Forestry	The Department provides plants to various sections of society including communities, farmers, paramilitary and educational institutions at subsidized rates as prescribed by the Government for raising at their own mainly during Monsoon and Winter Plantation Season.
Specialized technical know-how.	The farmers and other desirous persons are given technical knowhow regarding tree plantation, through awareness camps, seminars, training programmes, workshops, publications etc.

Livelihood Opportunities	The Department provides livelihood opportunities to locals by engaging them in plantation initiatives taken up under various Schemes/ Components mainly through Village Panchayat (Plantation) Committees
Benefits from Planation Units	The Department provides fire wood, small timber, fodder, grasses and other NTF Produce to locals to meet their requirement. The interim and final harvest is shared with the locals through VPPCs/ VFCs in cash or kind as per norms.

Besides above, the following general benefits are provided to public through systematic afforestation activities carried-out by the Department.

- a. *Support to communities through benefits such as fodder and firewood from plantation units.*
- b. *Environmental improvement*
- c. *Improving the aesthetics in rural and urban scenario.*
- d. *Soil and water conservation.*
- e. *Reducing the pressure on natural forests for wood/ timber/ grazing etc.*
- f. *Awareness about importance of trees/plantations.*

The Divisional Heads are wholly responsible for execution of all afforestation & other works of the department in their jurisdiction under the control & technical guidance of Regional Heads in a grand supervision & command of Director of the Department (HoD), however the issues/cases which lie beyond the competence of the Director are referred/guided to/by the Administrative Department (Forests).

The Department expects from public

Massive tree plantation is the only option to mitigate environmental hazards confronting the mankind and the society at present. Life on this planet is possible as long as trees exist. It is our moral obligation to preserve greenery, protect tree belts and go for large scale plantations on all wastelands, farm lands and areas available around our houses, road sides and canal banks. **The Department expects full support & active participation of public of the J&K in this regard.**

Grievance Redressal Mechanism

The respective Divisional Forest Officers / Range Officers & Block Officers of the Department can be visited/ approached for getting any technical guidance & services.

The public grievances are redressed through IGRAMS portal and various Internal Committees constituted in the Department for the purpose. The public can also register their grievances on official website (jksocialforestry.nic.in) / email (jksforestry@gmail.com) or/and could put their grievances in the complaint box installed in main offices and can also visit the offices in person during office hours at any time.

Under Right to Information Act, 2005 the following PIOs/Appellate Authority can be contacted/approached for any information under RTI norms:-

Name of the Public Authority: - **Department of Social Forestry**

Details of Public Information Officers/
Appellate Authorities in Department of Social Forestry

Public Information Officers

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Tanveer Ahmad Parea</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Srinagar
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Srinagar/Budgam/Ganderbal & RD, DSF, Kashmir's Office
Phone/FAX (O)	0194-2472776
Mobile No.	9682177189
Email Address	dfosocialforestrysgr@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Arshad Ahmad Lala</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Baramulla
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Baramulla/Bandipora
Phone/FAX (O)	01952-237986
Mobile No.	9419062033
Email Address	-

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Fayaz Ahmad Bhat</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Kupwara
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Kupwara
Phone/FAX (O)	01955-253350
Mobile No.	9797434243
Email Address	-

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Shamma Roohi</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Anantnag
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Anantnag/Kulgam
Phone/FAX(O)	01932-224228
Mobile No.	9419317206
Email Address	sfdanantnag@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Manzoor Ahmad</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Pulwama
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Pulwama/Shopian
Phone/FAX (O)	01933-240167
Mobile No.	9797796068
Email Address	dfosfdpulwama@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Hitashi Sharma</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Jammu
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Jammu/Samba/RD, DSF, Jammu's Office
Phone/FAX (O)	0191-2502942
Mobile No.	9469864047
Email Address	dfosfjammu@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Munish Bardwaj</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Kathua
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Kathua/Samba
Phone/FAX (O)	01922-234687
Mobile No.	8717076624
Email Address	dfosfkathua@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Abhinav Rahmotra
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Udhampur
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Udhampur/Reasi
Phone/FAX (O)	01992-270997
Mobile No.	9419145986
Email Address	dfosfu@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Safeer Hussain Shah</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Doda
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Doda/Kishtwar
Phone/FAX (O)	01996-233408
Mobile No.	8492011136
Email Address	dfosfdoda@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Mahesh Kumar</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Ramban
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Ramban
Phone/FAX (O)	01998-266620
Mobile No.	9906358543
Email Address	dfosframban@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Rakesh Saraf</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Rajouri
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Rajouri
Phone/FAX (O)	01962-263210
Mobile No.	9419118091
Email Address	dfosfdraj@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Naveed Iqbal</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Poonch
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Poonch
Phone (office)	01965-220365
Mobile No.	9492941711
Email Address	dfosfpoonch@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Shewta Deonia</i>
Designation	Dy. Conservator of Forests, M&E
Jurisdiction	Direction Office
Phone/FAX (O)	0191-2554624 (Jammu)/ 0194-2313717
Mobile No.	8713803186
Email Address	jksforestry@rediffmail.com

1st Appellate Authorities

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Mohinder Gupta</i>
Designation Jurisdiction (Districts) Phone/FAX (O) Mobile No. Email Address	Regional Director, DSF, Jammu Jammu Province 0191-2505742 9469159382 rdsjdjmu@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Mehrajudin Malik</i>
Designation Jurisdiction (Districts) Phone/FAX (O) Mobile No. Email Address	Regional Director, DSF, Kashmir Kashmir Province 0194-2461186 9697071292 rdkdsf@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Zuhaib Chowdary</i>
Designation Jurisdiction (Districts) Phone (office) Mobile No. Email Address	Dy. Conservator of Forests, C&E Direction Office 0191-2554624 (Jammu)/ 0194-2313717 (Srinagar) 9419168855 jksforestry@rediffmail.com

CITIZEN'S CHARTER



**DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL FORESTRY**

(Updated June-2021)