

Chapter-I

Introduction

1.1. Background of this hand-book

- ✓ The basic purpose of the hand book is to facilitate the public to have access to the desired information in different forms, which is available under the control of this Department on the working of Social Forestry Department.

1.2. Objectives of the Hand Book

The objective of the Hand Book is to provide the users – general public, employees and officers of the entire Department or any person or persons interested to get any information on a broad view of the functioning of the Department in a transparent manner. The primary objective is to bring transparency.

1.3. Intended Users of this handbook

This hand-book is intended for the use of all desirous General Public whosoever is interested in getting any information about Department of Social Forestry, J&K.

1.4. Organization of the information in this hand book

This Hand Book gives a broad overview of the activities carried on by the Department of Social Forestry and the procedures to be followed for obtaining information from the Department as per Section-4 of Right to Information Act, 2005.

1.5. Definitions used in the hand-book

“Act”	means the Right to Information Act 2005
“Public Authority”	means the Director, Department of Social Forestry, J&K
“Government”	means the Government of Jammu & Kashmir.
“UT”	UT of Jammu & Kashmir

1.6. Contact Person

Nodal Officer (Website)

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Khalid Manzoor
Designation	Computer Analyst
Official website	www.jksocialforestry.nic.in
Phone (office)	0191-504398 (Jammu)/ 0194-2313717 (Srinagar)
Mobile No.	9419004431
Email Address	jk.sforestry@jk.gov.in

1.7. Procedure & Fee Structure for getting information not available in the hand book.

A person seeking information from the Department under the Act, may give an application indicating the complete details of information required. The persons seeking information, if so desire, may also inspect the concerned records at a specified time during office hours on a specified working day and also obtain copies of documents upon payment of prescribed fee prescribed for as indicated below.

Schedule of fees

As prescribed by the Government of J&K

Chapter-2

Particulars of Organization, Functions and Duties

2.1. Objective/Purpose

- (a) Extending tree cover outside forests on available waste lands/avenue plantations on railway tracks/ road sides/canal banks & in institutions etc. to reduce pressure on natural forests for supply of forest produce.
- (b) Rehabilitation of degraded forests so as to optimize their productivity and restore their potential to provide ecosystem goods and services on sustainable basis.
- (c) To encourage farmer community to plant trees on farm bunds/agro forestry.
- (d) To mobilize community participation through Joint Forest Management in creating, maintaining, protecting and managing the Social Forestry plantations.
- (e) To help in poverty alleviation by providing livelihood/employment to the rural poor particularly the land less and other weaker sections of society.
- (f) To conserve and improve ecology and environment in the region.
- (g) To increase the productivity of wastelands.

2.2. Mission/Vision Statement

Afforestation on the wastelands is a priority area to meet the aforesaid objectives besides ensuring a sustained income to the poor populace and contributing towards betterment of rural economy and amelioration of the environment. In this backdrop, following measures could be expected in near future:-

- Taking-up the Social Forestry activities at its full capacity as per availability of resources and infrastructure.
- Taking-up cultivation of medicinal plants on Government as well as private lands on commercial models.
- Development of additional nurseries to raise more plants in order to give boost to the farm forestry sector which is an important sector of Rural Development.
- Many of the plantations raised during early years are mature and warrant replacement. These plantations, if harvested, can yield good revenue to local people as well as Govt. At the same time, such harvested areas need to be replanted immediately thus erecting more employment opportunities for labourers.

2.3. Brief History & formation

The Demand-Supply Deficit for forest produce-timber, firewood and fodder had started pinching the state hard by mid seventies. Routine Plan interventions under economic & fuel wood plantations were found inadequate. It was observed that much of the forest areas are degraded beyond repair, was not able to recover at its own. There was a felt need to rehabilitate the degraded forests, besides putting the wastelands available in the form of village common lands, state lands, lands available along roadside, canal side and wet lands into a productive land use system.

As such the state Government with the financial support of the World Bank launched an ambitious Social Forestry Project to overcome Demand-Supply Deficit at a cost of Rs. 2374 lacs for the period 1982-87 vide Govt. Order No. 80-FST of 1982 dated: 16-06-1982. Financial assistance of the World Bank continued until 1990-91 out of savings, and credit availability due to the escalation of the exchange rate of US Dollars.

With the rise of human and livestock population, the Demand–Supply gap continued unabated. The State Government continued afforestation under the state plan expenditure through Social Forestry Project until 2000-2001.

After expiry of the Project period, the rising cost influenced the Planning & Development Department to close the Project Organization. The Government vide Order No. 640-GAD of 2001 dated: 14-06-2001 ordered closure of the Project Directorate and the assets created were to be handed over to the Forest, Agriculture and Rural Development Departments while the Project borne employees were declared "surplus".

The abnormal increase in the cost of plantation may however, be ascribed to:-

01. The policy of Government for regularization of daily wagers.
02. The escalation of wage rates/pay scales and
03. Under-utilization of the manpower due to lack of funds for works under Capital.

However, in view of the continued need to increase production of Forest produce, the Department of Social Forestry was created vide Govt. Order No: 481-FST of 2004 dated: 28-10-2004 with reduced manpower with the following major activities:-

01. Raising of Village Wood Lots.
02. Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests.
03. Raising of Strip Plantation.
04. Farm Forestry.
05. Institutional Plantations.

Accordingly, the newly created Department of Social Forestry besides implementing the above sanctioned works under State Plan, has at present to undertake the following tasks urgently.

01. New formation of the organization as per the manpower sanctioned by the Govt. Order No: 481 of 2004 dated: 28-10-2004.
02. Taking over of the Assets created so far under the Social Forestry Project, various CSS and other projects for their continued protection, management, harvest and distribution of benefits as under rules.
03. Implementation of CM package having special emphasis on raising plantation of Medicinal Plants Fodder and Fruit Yielding to create awareness for the public use.
04. Formulation of new projects as per the local needs/demands and to arrange funds sanction thereof to meet the purpose.
05. Distribution of benefits arising out of mature plantations as per SRO-17 of 1999 dated: 12-01-1999 among the local public. However, said SROs stand repealed viz SO-327 of 2022 (J&K Social Forestry Plantation Rules-2022).

2.4. Duties

The primary duty of Department of Social Forestry is to carry afforestation programme under various components which include Raising of Village Wood Lots, Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests, Raising of Strip Plantations, Raising of Institutional Plantations, Wet Lands plantations, Silvi Pasture Works, Intuitional Plantations etc. Besides plants are distributed among farmers under Farm-Forestry scheme. Nurseries are being maintained to raise planting stock for transplanting in the field under the said schemes.

The afforestation works undertaken by the Department helps in rehabilitation of degraded forests, enhancing the sylvan beauty of the State and to meet people's demands of small timber, fuel, fodder in addition to providing livelihood to the rural population involved in plantation activity, thereby relieving pressure on natural forests of the State.

The plants raised by Social Forestry have become a major source of raw-material for the fruit boxes to boost the Horticulture Industry in the State, small timber for construction and furniture

industry, a source of fodder to live-stock, fuel for the poor class and above all reducing the pressure on natural forests this conserving the environment & ecology.

2.5. Main activities/functions

The Department of Social Forestry is entrusted with the assignment of extending Forest and green cover in the State giving thrust to Agro Forestry besides the development of Medicinal Plants, under the Joint Forest Management Programme as per the Guidelines of SRO-61 of 1992 and SRO-17 of 1999. The Department is to maintain all the assets created under the Social Forestry Project and to create nurseries to produce planting stocks, raise plantations, distribution of plant material to the locals, farmers, Govt. agencies for planting in their fields/premises with an ultimate goal of greening the state, improving the environment, generating the employment and conserving the natural forests.

The lucid impact of the activities of the Department of Social Forestry is th4e 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.

To meet the above objective following schemes are in vogue at present:-

01. **Establishment of Nurseries:-** The Department has established nurseries in all the Tehsil/Districts of the State excepting Kargil & Leh. In Nurseries improved and better quality planting material is raised in abundance to meet the requirement. From these nurseries apart from meeting the requirement of various plantation schemes undertaken by the Department, the plants are also supplied to the farmers, Govt. agencies on nominal rates. Technical know how is also imparted to the desirous farmers/public about raising, planting and maintenance.
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 first to provide shade, before the main crop is planted. Thrust remains on natural and indigenous species.
03. **Village Wood Lots:** Village Woodlots are planted over unproductive state/revenue/the village common lands. Village Woodlots are raised to make villages self sufficient to fuel-wood, fodder and small timber besides earning money for their involvement in forestry in respect of works. Mainly fodder yielding species, plants of medicinal value and grasses are planted in Village Wood Lots. Soil & Water conservation works wherever necessary are also executed in the Village Wood Lots.
04. **Strip Plantations:** Strip plantations are raised along side roads, railway line and canals to provide aesthetic beauty, shade to travelers, pollution control etc.
05. **Silvi-Pasture Development:** Forest lands/revenue lands/other Government lands in the fodder scarce regions are brought under this scheme. Fodder trees and high yielding grasses like Legumes of Napier, Red clover etc. are given priority under this scheme to improve the grazing capacity of the pasture lands.
06. **Institutional Plantation:** Tree planting is done on marginal/ Institutional lands of Government offices, Institutional premises, Schools, Colleges etc. to add to the beauty of the institutions.

This way the Department of Social Forestry is creating the desired level of awareness among the people about the significance and importance of planting trees.

Department of Social Forestry helps to induce community for creating, maintaining and protecting the plantations in the contemplated Joint Management Programme. The community participation under JFM had been the central theme for the Social Forestry.

2.6. List of services being provided

1. Department provides plants to people at subsidized rates.
2. Providing specialized technical know-how in the field of the agro forestry and tree planting.
3. Providing employment to locals by engaging them in plantation initiatives taken up under various Schemes/Components, feeding & meeting the requirement of fruit industry, plywood/Board industry and sports industry,
4. Providing of fire wood, small timber, fodder, grasses and other NTF Produce to locals.
As per provisions of SO-327 of 2022, the interim and final harvest is being shared with the locals through Village Forest Committees in cash or kind.
5. Upliftment of socio-economic conditions of farmers.
6. Environmental improvement.
7. Adding to the aesthetic scenario.
8. Soil and water conservation.
9. Reducing the thrust on natural forests for wood/timber/grazing etc.
10. Awareness about importance of trees/plantations.

2.7. Organizational Structure

<i>ORGINIZATIONAL CHART OF SOCIAL FORESTRY DEPARTMENT, J&K.</i>			
DIRECTOR			
DCF, (C&E)/DDO	DCF, (M&E)	-	DD, (P&S)
REGIONAL DIRECTOR, JAMMU		REGIONAL DIRECTOR, KASHMIR	
DIVISIONS	RANGES	DIVISIONS	RANGES
Jammu	Jammu	Srinagar	Srinagar
	Akhnoor		Budgam
	Vijaypur		Ganderbal
Kathua	Kathua	Anantnag	Anantnag
	Basholi		Kokernag
	Hiranagar		Qazigund
Udhampur	Udhampur	Pulwama	Pulwama
	Reasi		Awantipora
	Ramnagar	Baramulla	Baramulla
Doda	Doda		Sopore
	Kishtwar		Pattan
Ramban	Ramban	Kupwara	Kupwara
	Batote		Handwara
Poonch	Poonch		
	Surankote		
Rajouri	Rajouri		
	Lamberi		
	Jammu Region	Kashmir Region	Total
Divisions	7	5	12
Ranges	17	13	30

.8. 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 and areas available around our houses, road sides and canal banks. **The Department expects full support & active participation of J&K public in this regard.**

.9. Public Participation/Contribution

- During the year 2019, the Government issued orders for devolution of Powers to Panchayats as per the Panchayat Raj Act-1989 in respect of Department of Social Forestry with comprehensive engagement of Gram Panchayats through Constitution of Village Panchayat (Plantation) Committees (VPPCs).
- Accordingly, the Government notified the Social Forestry (Plantation) Rules-2022 to have a comprehensive institutional mechanism for effective & active participation of Village Panchayat (Plantation) Committees (VPPCs) at the level of Gram Panchayats to take up works of Afforestation & their protection, equitable distribution of plantation-based benefits and management of Village Panchayat Fund.

.8. Mechanism available for monitoring the service delivery and public grievance resolution

Field tours are being conducted regularly by the Social Forestry Officers at all levels to improve the quality of public expenditure. The Department has a monitory & evaluation cell to assess the quantity and quality of works executed. The training to the staff and to the labour engaged in plantation works is also imparted to obtain better output against the expenditure incurred.

.9. Addresses/Contacts

Direction Office

1. Sheikhalalm Complex, IWDP building, Rajbagh - (summer session– May to October).
2. Opposite Nitco Lane, Talab Tiloo, Jammu- (winter session– November to April)

Regional Offices

1. Rajbagh, Srinagar- (Kashmir)
2. Opposite Nitco Lane, Talab Tiloo, Jammu-(Jammu)

Divisional Offices

Name of the Division	Office Address
Srinagar	Near Boys High School, Sonawar, Srinagar
Pulwama	Near Sub-Office, S.B. of School Education, Pulwama
Anantnag	Near D.C. Office, Anantnag
Baramulla	Ahata, Baramulla
Kupwara	Zangli, Kupwara
Jammu	Opposite Nitco Lane, Talab Tiloo, Jammu
Kathua	Near BDO Office, Forest Complex, Kathua
Rajouri	Opp. Distt. P.L. Panja Chawk, J. Nagar, Rajouri
Poonch	Near S. Stadium, Forest Complex, Poonch
Udhampur	Jail Road, Udhampur
Doda	Near Forest Complex, Doda
Ramban	Maitra, Ramban

.10. Working Hours

Srinagar

Summer: - 10:00 A.M Opening 4:30 P.M. Closing

Winter: - 10:00 A.M Opening 4:30 P.M Closing

Jammu

Summer: - 8 A.M Opening 2 P.M. Closing

Winter: - 10 A.M Opening 4:30 P.M. Closing

(Six Days Week)

Chapter-3

Powers and Duties of Officers and Employees

Designation	Director (HoD)	
Powers	Administrative	As envisaged in UT Govt. Rulings for Head of the Department.
	Financial	As envisaged in UT Govt. Rulings for Head of the Department.
Duties	Others	
	1. As envisaged in State Govt. Rulings.	

Designation	Regional Director(s)	
Powers	Administrative	As envisaged in UT Govt. Rulings for Regional Heads.
	Financial	As envisaged in UT Govt. Rulings for Regional Heads. (DDO for regional office)
Duties	Others	
	As envisaged in UT Govt. Rulings for Regional Heads.	

Designation	DCF (C&E)/DDO	
Powers	Administrative	Nil
	Financial	DDO for Directorate.
	Others	
Duties	Responsible for communication & extension works of the Department. Member Secretary, SLDPC. Nodal Officer (Citizen's Charter/QD/RFD/PM Gatishakti Staff Officer (Direction Office)	

Designation	DCF (M&E)	
Powers	Administrative	Nil
	Financial	Nil
	Others	
Duties	Monitoring & Evaluation of Social Forestry assets, Member Secretary, Auction Committee, CPIO (RTI), J&K. OIC (Court Cases)	

<i>Designation</i>	Divisional Forest Officers	
Powers	Administrative	Divisional Head and Controlling Officer for Division.
	Financial	DDO for concerned Division
	Others	
Duties	Incharge and responsible for all executions in concerned Division. Custodian of all the assets of the Department within his jurisdiction.	
<i>Designation</i>	All other Executive Staff including ROs, SFWs, FGDs, Malies & Helpers	
Powers	Administrative	Nil
	Financial	Nil
	Others	Nil
Duties	Responsible for execution of afforestation works & its watch & ward	
<i>Designation</i>	All other Ministerial staff including SO, Head Assistant, PA, Senior Asstt, Jr. Asstt & Orderlies	
Powers	Administrative	Nil
	Financial	Nil
	Others	Nil
Duties	Office work/Safe custody of the office record of their sections.	

Chapter-4

Rules, Regulations, Instructions, Manual and Records for Discharging Functions

<p>Name/title of the document with brief Write-Up on the Document</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">01. <i>J&K Civil Service Rules (deal with Service conditions and control of the employees)</i>02. <i>J&K Financial Code (deals with financial matters & delegation of powers etc.)</i>03. <i>J&K Leave Rules. (deal with leaves of the employees).</i>04. <i>J&K Medical Attendance Rules (deal with Medical claims of the employees)</i>05. <i>J&K Classification & Conduct Rule:- (deal with discipline and conduct of the employees)</i>06. <i>Forest Manual/Act (deals with management and raising of plantations)</i>07. <i>SRO-175 of 2009 (Non-Gazetted Recruitment Rules)</i>08. <i>SRO-61 of 1992 & SRO-17 of 1999 (Repealed).</i>09. <i>SRO-143 (Repealed)</i>10. <i>State Forest Policy-2011</i>11. <i>Devolution of powers to Panchayat as per Panchayat Raj Act-2018 (Implementation phase).</i>12. <i>SO-327 of 2022 (J&K Social Forestry Planation Rules).</i>
<p>From where one can get a copy of Rules, regulations, instructions, manual and records</p>	<p>Direction Office/Regional Offices</p>
<p>Fee charged by the Department for a copy of rules, regulations, instructions, manual and records (if any)</p>	<p>As prescribed by the Government of J&K</p>

Chapter-5

Particulars of arrangement that exists for consultation with, or representation by, the members of the public in relation to the formulation of its policy or implementation thereof

Formulation of Policy

Sr. No.	Subject/Topic	Is it mandatory to ensure public participation (Yes/No)	Arrangement for seeking public participation
1	Formation of Village Panchayat (Plantation) Committees	Yes	As per the guidelines

Implementation of Policy

Sr. No.	Subject/Topic	Is it mandatory to ensure public participation (Yes/No)	Arrangement for seeking public participation
1	Formation of Village Panchayat (Plantation) Committees	Yes	As per the guidelines

Chapter-6

A statement of the categories of documents that relates specifically to Department of Social Forestry

Sr. No.	Category of the document	Name of the document and its introduction in one line	Procedure to obtain the document
1	Govt. Order No. 481-FST of 28-10-2004	The S.F. Project upgraded as the full-fledged Department	Available on Website
2	SRO-61 dated: 19-03-1992, modified vide SRO-17 dated: 12-03-1999	Formation/Working of VFCs & its Share etc.	-do-
3	Govt. Order No. 302-FST of 2005 dated: - 22-07-2005	Sharing of Usufruct/Felling etc.	-do-
4	SRO-175 of 2009 dated:- 29-06-2009	Non-Gazetted Recruitment Rules of the Department	-do-
5	Govt. Order No. 138-FST of 2001 dated: - 19-03-2001 read with amendment 2019.	Constitution of Auction Committee for S.F. Department	-do-
6.	Govt. Order. No. 433-FST of 21-08-2006.	Director, SFD stands empowered to sanction felling permission for matured trees/stuff of Social Forestry existing on other than Forest/Govt. land.	-do-
7.	SRO-143 of 2011 dated:- 26-04-2011	Amendment to SRO-61 of 1992 (Private landlord, is to be treated as single Member Village Committee)	-do-
8.	No. FST/SF/51/2004 Dated: 21-11-2006	Formation of SLDPC Committee	-do-
9.	Jan Bhagidari	Annual Publication	-do-
10	Govt. Order No. 182-FST of 2019 dated:- 19.06.2019 & No. 298-FST of 2019 dated:- 24.09.2019	Devolution of Powers to Panchayats as per Panchayati Raj Act-2018.	-do-
11	SO-327 of 2022 (J&K Social Forestry (Planation) Rules-2022.		-do-

All affairs of the Department including work, conduct etc. of its employees are governed by the following in vogue service rules of UT.

01. J&K Civil Service Rules
02. J&K Financial Code
03. J&K Leave Rules
04. J&K Medical Attendance Rules
05. J&K Classification & Conduct Rule
06. State Forest Policy-2011

Chapter-7

A statement of boards, council, Committees and other bodies constituted as its part

- ✓ Name and address of the Affiliated Body
- ✓ Type of Affiliated Body (Board, Council, Committees, Other Bodies)
- ✓ Brief Introduction of the Affiliated Body (Establishment Year, Objective/Main Activities)
- ✓ Role of the Affiliated Body (Advisory/Managing/Executive/Others)
- ✓ Structure and Member Composition
- ✓ Head of the Body
- ✓ Address of main office and its Branches
- ✓ Frequency of Meetings
- ✓ Can Public participate in the meetings?
- ✓ Are minutes of the meetings prepared?
- ✓ Are minutes of the meetings available to the public? If yes please provide information about the procedure to obtain them.

Not Applicable

Chapter-8

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

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

Central Public Information Officer (Section 5-1 RTI Act, 2005)

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Mehnaz Anjum
Designation	Dy. Conservator of Forests, M&E
Jurisdiction	UT of J&K /Direction Office
Phone/FAX (O)	0191-2504398 (Jammu)
Mobile No.	9596900333
Email Address	dcfmesf@gmail.com

Central Assistant Public Information Officer (Section 5-2 RTI Act, 2005)

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Dr. Munmtaz Majeed
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Srinagar
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Srinagar/Budgam/Ganderbal & RD, DSF, Kashmir's Office
Phone/FAX (O)	0194-502196
Mobile No.	9906926155
Email Address	dfosocialforestrysgr@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Tanveer Ahmad Parae
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Baramulla
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Baramulla/Bandipora
Phone/FAX (O)	01952-237986
Mobile No.	9682177189
Email Address	dfosfdbla@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Zahoor Ahmad Akhooon
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Kupwara
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Kupwara
Phone/FAX (O)	01955-253350
Mobile No.	9797124335
Email Address	sfkupwara@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Gazala Abullah
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Anantnag
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Anantnag/Kulgam
Phone/FAX(O)	01932-224228
Mobile No.	9797773057
Email Address	sfdanantnag@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Mohammad Iqbal Lone
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Pulwama
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Pulwama/Shopian
Phone/FAX (O)	01933-240167
Mobile No.	7006930288
Email Address	dfosfdpulwama@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Safeer Hussain Shah
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Jammu
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Jammu/Samba
Phone/FAX (O)	0191-2502942 (Jammu)
Mobile No.	8492011136
Email Address	<u>dfosfjmu444@gmail.com</u>

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Ashok Kumar Kalsi
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Kathua
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Kathua/Samba
Phone/FAX (O)	01922-234687
Mobile No.	9419140095
Email Address	dfosfk@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Kuldeep Kumar
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Udhampur
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Udhampur/Reasi
Phone/FAX (O)	01992-270997
Mobile No.	7006621098
Email Address	<u>dfosfu@gmail.com</u>

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Sanjay Kumar Gupta
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Doda
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Doda/Kishtwar
Phone/FAX (O)	01996-233408
Mobile No.	9419910010
Email Address	dfosfdoda@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Jugal Kishore
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Ramban
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Ramban
Phone/FAX (O)	01998-266620
Mobile No.	9419162087
Email Address	dfosframban@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Amrik Singh</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Rajouri
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Rajouri
Phone/FAX (O)	01962-263210
Mobile No.	9419236135
Email Address	rajouridfosf@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Muhstaq Chowdhary</i>
Designation	Divisional Forest Officer, S.F. Division, Poonch
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Poonch
Phone (office)	01965-220365
Mobile No.	9419131080
Email Address	dfosfpoonch@gmail.com

Appellate Authorities (Section-19 of RTI Act-2005)

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Ravinder Singh</i>
Designation	Regional Director, DSF, Jammu
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Jammu Province/Direction Office
Phone/FAX (O)	0191-2505742
Mobile No.	9419236810
Email Address	rdsjdjmu@gmail.com

Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	<i>Zahid Aslam Mughal</i>
Designation	Regional Director, DSF, Kashmir
Jurisdiction (Districts)	Kashmir Province
Phone/FAX (O)	0194-2311737
Mobile No.	9419966093
Email Address	rdkdsf@gmail.com

Chapter-9

Procedures followed in Decision Making Process

- 9.1. What is the procedure followed to take a decision for various matters? (A reference to Secretariat Manual and Business Rules and other rules/regulations etc. can be made).**

The different depending upon the nature of the case are settled at different levels i.e. at Divisional Level (by concerned DFO), At Regional Level (by concerned Regional Director), at UT Level (by Director) strictly as per rules in accordance with the powers vested to each, however issues/matters which lie beyond the competence of Head of the Department are referred to Administrative Department (Forests) for guidance and final orders.

- 9.2. What are the documented procedures/laid down procedures/Defined Criteria/Rules to arrive at a particular decision for important matters? What are different levels through which a decision process moves?**

The rules and procedure to decide cases of different nature are well prescribed vide various Acts, Manuals, SROs and notifications. The issues at different levels are settled/decided strictly as per the prescribed rules and regulations at Divisional, Regional, Direction Office and Administrative Department level.

- 9.3. What are the arrangements to communicate the decision to the public?**

Public is informed about the decisions on demand, through post and can be communicated through media as well, if required.

- 9.4. Who are the officers at various levels whose opinions are sought for the process of decision making?**

In the process of decision making opinion of the concerned functionary viz. RO, DFO, RD etc. is sought.

- 9.5. Who is the final authority that vets the decision?**

Competence to take decision is well defined in book of financial code and business manual. Depending upon the nature of the case and competence, the decision is taken by Divisional Forest Officer, Regional

Director, Director & Administrative Department. Head of the Department is the final authority to vet the decision, if lies, in his competence.

9.6. Please provide information separately in the following format for the important matters on which the decision is taken by the Public Authority.

Sr. No.	
Subject on which the decision is to be taken	<i>Auction of matured trees existing on non-forest lands.</i>
Guidelines/Direction, if any	Govt. order No. 138-FST of 2001 dated:- 19-03-2001 read with amendment 2019, Govt. Order No. 302-FST of 2005 dated: - 22-07-2005 read with Govt. Order No. 433-FST of 2006 dated:- 21-08-2006 and SOPs for felling procedure available on official website of the Department.
Process of Execution	The felling proposals for matured trees existing on private lands are submitted to the Directorate for permission by the concerned DFO with recommendations of concerned RD and Directorate after its securitization grants felling permission, if finds fit in every respect and thereafter the Auction Committee meant for the purpose auctions the stuff/trees after giving it wide-publicity and fulfillment of all codal formalities strictly as per the guidelines/directions over the issue.
Designation of the officers involved in decision making	The Auction Committee for the Department comprise of following officers:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DFO concerned & GM, SFDC (Members); 2. DCF , M&E Member Secretary; 3. Regional Director concerned (Chairman).
Contact information of above mentioned officers	Given at "Chapter-10" of this Hand book.
If not satisfied by the decision, where and how to appeal	Director, Department of Social Forestry

Chapter-10

Contact Details of Social Forestry-Officers

Sr. No.	Name of the Officer (S/Shri)	Designation	Place of posting	Cell No.	Email ID
1	Roshan Jaggi, IFS	PCCF/Director	Dir. Office	9419194268	jksforestry@gmail.com
Head Quarter					
1	Imtiyaz Ahmad Lone	DCF (C&E)	Dir. Office	7006845782	jksforestry01@gmail.com
2	Mehnaz Anjum Malik	DCF (M&E)	Dir. Office	9596900333	dcfmesf@gmail.com
3	Bilal Ahmad	DD (Plg)	Dir. Office	9419969102	ddpsocialforestry@gmail.com
Kashmir Region					
1	Zahid Aslam	Regional Director	Kashmir	9419966093	rdkdsf@gmail.com
2	Dr. Mumtaz Majeed	Divisional Forest Officer	Srinagar	9906926155	dfosocialforestrysgr@gmail.com
3	Mohammad Iqbal Lone	Divisional Forest Officer	Pulwama	7006930288	dfosfdpulwama@gmail.com
4	Gazala Abdullah	Divisional Forest Officer	Anantnag	97977 73057	sfdanantnag@gmail.com
5	Tanveer Ahmad Parae	Divisional Forest Officer	Baramulla	9682177189	dfosfdbla@gmail.com
6	Zahoor Ahmad Akhoon	Divisional Forest Officer	Kupwara	97971 24335	sfkupwara@gmail.com
Jammu Region					
1	Ravinder Singh	Regional Director	Jammu	9419236810	rdsfdjmu@gmail.com
2	Safeer Hussain Shah	Divisional Forest Officer	Jammu	8492011136	dfosfjmu444@gmail.com
3	Ashok Kumar Kalsi	Divisional Forest Officer	Kathua	9419140095	dfosfk@gmail.com
4	Kuldeep Kumar	Divisional Forest Officer	Udhampur	70066 21098	dfosfdu@gmail.com
5	Sanjay Kumar Gupta	Divisional Forest Officer	Doda	9419910010	dfosfdoda@gmail.com
6	Jugal Kishore	Divisional Forest Officer	Ramban	9419162087	dfosframban16@gmail.com
7	Amrik Singh	Divisional Forest Officer	Rajouri	94192 36135	rajouridfosf@gmail.com
8	Mushtaq Chowdhary	Divisional Forest Officer	Poonch	9419131080	dfosfpoonch@gmail.com
Personal Section (Director)					
1	Khalid Manzoor	CA	Dir. Office	9419004431	jk.sforestry@jk.gov.in
2	Sunil Kumar Sharma	I/C PA	Dir. Office	9419220881	jksforestry@gmail.com

Chapter-11

The Monthly Remuneration Received by each of its officers and Employees including the system of Compensation as provided in Regulations

Sr. No.	Name	Designation	Monthly remuneration	Compensation/ Compensatory allowance	The procedure to determine the remuneration as given in the regulation

The staff strength of the Department as per Government Order No. 719 & 720 of 2019 read with Govt. Order No. 481-FST of 2004 dated:- 28-10-2004.

S. No	Category of Posts	Sanctioned Strength	Remarks
1	Director	1	
2	Regional Director	2	
3	DCF (SG)	2	
4	DCF	7	
5	Asstt. Conservator of Forests	4	
6	Dy. Director Planning	1	
7	Range Officer-I & II	35	
8	Forester/ Dy. Forester	88	
9	Asstt. Accounts Officer	1	
10	Statistical Officer	4	
11	Draftsman	2	Govt. Order No. 481-FST of 2004
12	P.A to Director	1	
13	Section Officer	1	
14	Head Assistant	4	
15	Accountant	10	
16	Senior Assistant	15	
17	Junior Assistant	40	
18	Steno Typist/ Jr. Asstt.	4	
19	Statistical Assistant	3	
20	Accounts Clerk	2	
21	Driver	26	
22	Orderlies / Chowkidars	54	
23	Jamadar	3	
24	SFW / Forest Guard	152	
25	Senior Mali / Jr. Mali	76	
26	Helpers	2243	
27	Computer Analyst	1	
28	Training Officer	1	
29	Tracer	1	
30	Gardner	1	
31	Watcher	2	
32	Khalasi	1	
33	Sweeper	2	
	Total :	2791	

Strength & composition of the service in the Department as per
SRO-175 of 2009 dated: - 29-06-2009 is given as under:-

SCHEDULE-IA
(Ministerial)

Sr. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Posts	Pay	Remarks
1.	Section Officer	1	9300-34800+4600	
2	PA to Director/ Senior Stenographer	1	9300-34800+4600	
3	Assistant Accounts Officer	1	9300-34800+4600	
4	Statistical Officer	3	9300-34800+4600	
5	Computer Analyst	1	9300-34800+4200	
6	Chauffeur	4	9300-34800+4280	
7	Accountant	10	9300-34800+4200	
8	Head Assistant	3	9300-34800+4200	
9	Statistical Assistant	3	9300-34800+4200	
10	Accounts Assistant	2	5200-20200+2800	
11	Senior Assistant	15	5200-20200+2400	
12	Driver (Grade-I)	8	5200-20200+2400	
13	Driver (Grade-II)	13	5200-20200+1900	
14	Jr. Assistant	44	5200-20200+1900	
15	Jamadar	3	4440-7440+1650	
16	Orderlies/Chowkidars	52	4440-7440+1300	

SCHEDULE-IB
(Executive)

Sr. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Posts	Pay	Remarks
1.	RO-II	12	9300-34800+4200	
2	Forster	33	5200-20200+2800	
3	Dy. Forester	55	5200-20200+2300	
4	Draftsman	2	5200-20200+2400	
5	Social Forestry Worker/Forest Guard	150	5200-20200+1900	
6	Senior Mali	25	4440-7440+1650	
7	Junior Mali	50	4440-7440+1300	

Chapter-12

<i>Total Area Covered (Ha) till date</i>	<i>1.80 Lakh Hectare</i>
<i>Total Plants Planted till date</i>	<i>13.33 crore</i>
<i>Total Plants distributed till date</i>	<i>16.45 crore</i>
<i>Plantation Target (2023-24)</i>	<i>39.50 Lakh</i>
<i>Distribution of plants target (2023-24)</i>	<i>8.20 Lakh</i>
<i>Area target (2023-24)</i>	<i>2088.491 hectare</i>
<i>No. of Nurseries</i>	<i>45</i>
<i>Staff strength</i>	<i>548 (Regular) + 1249 Helpers</i>
<i>No. of Village Woodlots</i>	<i>3820</i>
<i>No. of RDF Units</i>	<i>2350</i>
<i>No. of strips</i>	<i>841</i>
<i>No. of VPPCs constituted</i>	<i>4291</i>

Chapter-13

The Manner of Execution of Subsidy Programme

- Name of programme/scheme
- Duration of the programme/scheme
- Objective of the programme
- Physical & financial targets of the programme (for the last year)
- Eligibility of Beneficiary
- Pre-requisites for the benefit
- Procedure to avail the benefits of the programme
- Criteria of deciding eligibility
- Details of the benefits given in the programme (also mention the amount of subsidy or other help given)
- Procedure for the distribution of the subsidy.
- Where to apply or whom to contact in the office for applying.
- Application format (where applicable. If the application is made on plane paper please mention it along with what the applicant should mention in the application).
- List of attachments (certificates/documents)
- Format of Attachments
- Where to contact in case of process related complaints
- Details of the available fund (at various levels like district level, block level etc.)
- List of beneficiaries in the format below

Sr. No/Code	Beneficiary Name	Amount of Subsidy	Parent Guardian	Criteria of Selection	Address			
					District	City	Town/Village	House No.
					Amount sanctioned	Amount released/disbursed	(No. of installment)	Actual expenditure for the last year

The Department is operating no subsidy programme, however, provides plants to people at subsidized rates.

Chapter-14

Particulars of Recipients of Concessions, permits or authorization granted by it

- Name of Programme
- Type (Concession/Permits/Authorization)
- Objective
- Target set (For the last year)
- Eligibility
- Criteria for the eligibility
- Pre-requisites
- Procedure to avail the benefits
- Time limit for the concession/permits/authorizations
- Application Fee (Where applicable)
- List of attachments (certificates/documents)
- Format of Attachments
- List of beneficiaries in the format given below.

Sr. No/Code	Beneficiary Name	Validity period	Parent/Guardians	Address			
				Amount sanctioned	Amount released/disbursed (No. of installment Actual expenditure for the last year	District	City

The Department is empowered to grant felling permission to the matured trees raised or owned by this Department located on non-forestry lands in terms of Govt. Order No. 302-FST of 2005 dated:- 22-07-2005 read with Govt. Order No. 433-FST of 2006 dated:- 21-08-2006. The details of such felling permission granted by this Department are available in the Directorate.

Chapter-15

Norms set by it for the discharge of its functions

- 15.1. Please provide the details of the Norms/Standards set by the Department for execution of various activities/programmes.

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).

Chapter-16

Information Available in an electronic form

01. All information mentioned in this Handbook
02. MPRs/QPRs.
03. Budget Proposals/Annual Plans and all other planning related statements (in updated form).
04. Details of allotments (updated) both under capital as well as revenue component, division-wise, sector-wise.
05. All Circulars, Orders, Notifications; Directions
Details of technical sanctions issued by the Department.
06. Details of assets owned by the Department.
07. Details of felling permissions granted by this Department & all related correspondences.
08. Details of FCA cases.
09. Replies of QDs/AQs/Cut Motions etc.
10. Pay details.
11. Stay/Seniority Lists.
12. Proceedings of DPCs.
13. RTI Act.
14. Details of RTI cases.
15. Details of complaints/HCM's Grievance etc.
16. Departmental Telephone Directory
17. Archives

Chapter-17

Particulars of the facilities available to citizens for obtaining information

In both soft and as well as in hard form, information remains readily available for citizens and can be obtained during office hours on any working day, however digitization of old works is under process and will be placed on website shortly.

Chapter-18

Other Useful Information

18.1. Frequently Asked Questions and their Answers by Public

18.2. Related to seeking information

- Application form (*a copy of filled application form for reference*)
- Fee
- How to write a precise information request. Few Tips.
- Right of the Citizen in case of denial of information and procedure to appeal.

18.3. With relation to training imparted to public by public authority.

- Name of training programme with brief description
- Time period for Training Programme/Schcme
- Objective of training
- Physical & Financial Targets (Last year)
- Eligibility of training
- Prerequisite for training (if any)
- Financial and other form of help (if any)
- Description of help (mention the amount of financial help, if any)
- Procedure of giving help
- Contact Information for applying
- Application Fee (Wherever applicable)
- Application Form (in case the application is made on plain paper)
- List of enclosures/documents
- Procedure of application
- Selection Procedure
- Time table of training programme (in case available)
- Process to inform the trainee about the training schedule
- Arrangement mad by the Public Authority for creating public awareness about the training programmes
- List of Beneficiary of the training programme at various levels like district level, block level etc.

Not Applicable

18.5. With relation to registration process.

- Objective
- Eligibility for registration
- Pre-requisite (if any)
- Contact information for applying
- Application Fee (Wherever applicable)
- Other Fee (Wherever applicable)
- Application Form (In case the application is made on plain paper, please mention the details which the applicant has to provide.)
- List of enclosures/documents
- Format of enclosures
- Procedure of application
- Process followed in the Public Authority after the receipt of application.

Not Applicable



“Un Poshe Teli Yeli Van Poshe”

Food is subservient to forests

(Sheikh Noorudin Wali, A.R)



HAND BOOK

***Updated
(February-2024)***

Directorate of Social Forestry, Jammu & Kashmir