



**PROCEEDINGS OF PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
(FOREST MANAGEMENT), KERALA**

Present: RAJESH RAVINDRAN IFS

Sub :- Kerala Forest Department - Ease of Doing Business - State Business Reforms Action Plan plus 2024 - Reform recommendations - Kerala Forest Department - Constituting Online Grievance Redressal Committee for Grievance Redressal of applicants - orders issued - reg:

Ref :- Letter No 245/Prl.Secy/Ind/2024 dated 06/11/2024 of the Principal Secretary, Industries & Rev. (WAQF) Department.

Order No. Pro(5)-225/2025 dated 01-02-2025

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, as part of the State Business Reforms Action Plan Plus 2024 (SBRAP Plus 2024) has recommended a series of reforms aimed at increasing transparency and improving efficiency and effectiveness of the regulating framework and services for business in India. State Business Reforms Action Plan Plus 2024 mandates reforms in two sub-areas pertaining to Forest Department (under the Area Environment registration enablers), namely **(1) NOC for Tree felling from the Tree Authority /Appropriate Authority (prior to commencement of construction activities) and (2) Tree Transit Permission** and to establish an Online Grievance Redressal Committee and define working procedures and escalation matrix for grievance handling.

As per reference above, Government has directed to implement the reform recommendations pertaining to Kerala Forest Department as suggested by State Business Reforms Action Plan Plus 2024.

Based on this, a Grievance Redressal mechanism for applicants, as provided in the Kerala Promotion of Tree Growth in Non-Forest Areas Rules, 2011 will be in place to look into the grievance of any applicant aggrieved by the decision of Authorized Officer, for the two services mentioned above. The Grievance mechanism is as follows.

1. Grievance Redressal mechanism at Forest Division level office
 - a. An appeal can be filed by the applicant in the online portal as per provisions of Rule 8 (1) of the Kerala Promotion of Tree Growth in Non-Forest Areas Rules, 2011. As per Rule 8(1) of the said rules, appeal shall be preferred before the Divisional Forest Officer/Wildlife Warden having jurisdiction over the area, within thirty days of the order of the Authorized Officer, giving reasons for preferring the appeal alongwith a copy of the order against which the appeal is preferred.
 - b. As per provisions of Rule 8 (2) of the Kerala Promotion of Tree Growth in Non-Forest Areas Rules, 2011, the Divisional Forest Officer/Wildlife Warden shall cause necessary enquiries and after hearing all the parties pass appropriate orders within thirty days from the date of receipt of the appeal and the decision thereon shall be final.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Management), Kerala

To

All Territorial Circle Chief Conservators of Forests/Conservator of Forests,
Territorial Divisional Forest Officers, Territorial Range Forest Officers

Copy to:

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Kerala
2. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Finance, Budget & Audit)/(Vigilance & Forest Intelligence)/Administration/
Ecodevelopment & Tribal Welfare
3. Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala
4. All Chief Conservators of Forests/ Conservators of Forests