GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT

Ref.No.3780/2011-P3
Dated:12-07-2013

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force)
Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, Hyderabad.

Sri B.S.S.Reddy, IFS,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

CIRCULAR NO.09/2013.

Sub:- Procedure for grant of permission for felling and transportation of the trees in pattalands situated in scheduled areas – instructions issued-Reg.

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It is informed that Government have accorded permission to the District Collectors to allow the pattadars to fell and transport the Reserved trees having more than 120 Cms girth from the patta lands situated in scheduled areas. The rule position/ procedure for grant of permission for felling and transport of the trees in patta lands is as follows.

As per section 28 B (2) under chapter III of Andhra Pradesh, Forest Act, 1967 "No owner of any forest shall, without the previous permission of the District Collector cut trees or do any act likely to denude the forest or diminish its utility as a forest".

As per Rule 7 of Andhra Pradesh., Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978 "every application received by the District Collector shall be referred to the Divisional Forest Officer, and Sub-Collector or Revenue Divisional Officer for opinion, before the permission for felling trees is granted. Where the owner is a tribal, the Divisional Forest Officer, while giving his opinion shall state the current market value of these trees to be felled".

As per Rule 8(1) of Andhra Pradesh, Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978 "where permission is granted (which are having more than 120 cm girth) the cutting and transportation and sale of specified trees shall be done by the Divisional Forest Officer, departmentally in such manner as may be specified in an order by the State Government.

As per Rule 8(2) of Andhra Pradesh, Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978 "the amount of consideration payable to the land owner after deducting the amount actually incurred for felling, transport and other incidental charges and also the amount required to fully regenerate the area as specified by the State Government shall be deposited by the Divisional Forest Officer, in a Commercial Bank or a Co-operative Bank in a joint account of land owner and the P.O. Integrated Tribal Development Agency concerned or such other officer authorized by the District Collector to be operated jointly by both of them.

In this connection it is informed that the Andhra Pradesh, Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978 are made mainly to see that tribals are saved from exploitation of middle men. The Rule 8 (1) mandates departmental extraction and fair value for the felled tree is obtained.

In this connection it is informed that instances have come to the notice of the undersigned that where on the cutting permission given by District Collector, instead of taking up the extraction departmentally, the Divisional Forest Officers, allowed the pattadars to cut the trees themselves which amounts violation of the rules.
In view of the above, all the Officers are requested to adhere to the said position/procedure laid down above as and when permission is given by the District Collector for felling of trees in patta lands.

Sd/- B.S.S. Reddy,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

To:
The Distribution list -A
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//t.c.b.o//

Superintendent
14/11/03