

The Reserved Forest Rules, 1957

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In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 26A of the Rajasthan Forest Act, 1953 (Act No. XIII of 1953), the Governor of Rajasthan is pleased to make the following rules, namely: -

Part I Preliminary

- 1. Title and commencement.** - (a) These rules shall be called the Reserved Forest Rules, 1957 and shall come into force upon their publication in the Gazette.
- (b) **Interpretation**, — In these rules 'Form' means a form appended to these rules.

Part II Clearance and Shifting Cultivation

- 2. Permit for clearance.** - No person shall make any fresh clearing for cultivation or for any other purpose without obtaining a permit in- writing in form I from the Divisional Forest Officer concerned.
- 3. Practice and permit for shifting cultivation.** - The practice of shifting cultivation shall remain confined to the areas already under such cultivation and no person shall extend this practice in new area without obtaining a permit in writing in Form II from the Divisional Forest concerned.
- 4. Burning of debris.** - After making fresh clearing of an area, if debris are burnt, they shall be burnt in such a manner that there is no danger of any fire spreading into the area not cleared.
- 5. Bunding and Terracing.** - If the land cleared has a slope of more than 1 to 100 shall not be brought under cultivation unless it is enclosed by a bund at the lower end of the slope, but has slope of one in thirty suitable terracing must be done and no terrace shall have the slope of more than 1 in 100.
- 6. Tenancy rights.** - No tenancy rights shall accrue in the land so cleared for the purpose of cultivation.
- 7. Structure.** - No Permanent structure shall be erected on the land cleared without an agreement for the purpose with the Government.
- 8. Duties of occupants.** - The occupants of the land cleared shall be bound to render all possible help whether assistance is called for or not:-
 - (i) In bringing under control and extinguishing forest fires; and

- (ii) In stopping illicit felling, lopping, grazing, shooting, hunting, fishing and any other kind of forest offence.

Part III

The Cutting of Grass, Pasturing of Cattle in Such Forests

- 9. Cutting of grass etc.** - (1) No person shall cut grass from any part which is dosed to grass cutting.
(2) Grass shall not be cut in any period of the year except from 1st October and 31st January.
(3) No person shall pasture cattle except in such parts of the forest as are opened from time to time for grazing by Divisional Forest Officer.
(4) No person shall graze cattle except in accordance with a permit issued in Form III by the Range Officer and without payment of grazing fee prescribed for the area by the Government from time to time.
(5) There shall be one headman for every twenty heads of cattle or part thereof.

Part IV

Carrying of Forest produce by persons whose rights is admitted under Section 12.

- 10. Carriage of forest produce.** - No person whose right, is admitted under Section 12 of the Rajasthan Forest Act, 1953, shall carry any forest produce except in accordance with a permit in Form 1V issued by the Range Officer.
- 11. Passage through the specified nakas.** - All forest produce extracted from the Reserved Forests must pass through the chowkies (nakas) specified by the Divisional Forest Officer.

Part V

Kindling keeping or carrying of Fire

- 12. Closed period** - The Divisional Forest Officer shall publish every year the period during which no one shall kindle, keep or carry any fire.

Part VI

Felling, Uprooting, Girdling, Sawing, Conversion and Removal of Trees and Timber and the Collection, Manufacturing and Removal of Forest Produce from such Forests.

- 13. Cutting of trees.** - No person shall fell, uproot, tap girdle, saw, convert and manufacture any standing tree except in accordance with the permit issued in Form V by the Range Officer and no person shall remove any tree or other produce convert or manufacture except in accordance with the permit issued in Form IV by the Range Officer.
- 14. Manner of felling.** - (a) These shall be felled as closed to the ground as possible, leaving the Government hammer mark intact and on no account shall be stumps of tree under 3' in girth be left more than 6" in height.
(b) No person shall fell a tree in a manner so as to cause damage to any other-tree.
(c) Should any tree which a person is entitled to fall, he accidentally arrested in its fall by another tree to which he is not entitled is such a manner that former cannot be utilized

without felling' or injuring the latter, he may fell or injure the latter tree upon payment of such price and compensation therefore as may be fixed by the Divisional Forest Officer.

15. Presumption of caution. - The axe or saw cuts will be inspected by the Range Officer concerned. If the slope of the cut is in the direction in which the tree is to be felled it shall be presumed that was no care-less felling.

16. Filling of pits. - In case of uprooting trees the pits shall be refilled by the persons uprooting the tree.

17. Sliding. - Sliding any timber it strictly prohibited.

18. Obstructions. - No obstruction to roads and fire lines shall be made in felling and conversions of trees and the person felling and converting shall not stock his material outside the limits of the area without the specific permission of the Divisional Forest Officer in writing.

19. Bamboo. - (a) Bamboo culms shall not be cut during the time of their flowering. But they may be cut anywhere after the shed of seed with the permission of the Divisional Forest Officer.

(b) In each clump at least 3-4 old, sound and well grown clumps must be left unfelled, evenly spaced along the outer periphery of the clump.-

(c) Digging and extracting of bamboo rhizomes is prohibited.

(d) Bamboo clumps shall not be cut less than 2" or more than 6" above the ground except in the case of congested clumps where the cutting must be done at the best possible point.

(e) Sharp implements must be used in order to avoid tearing of the clumps.

20. Marking etc. - (a) No timber including trees or parts thereof shall be conveyed beyond the limits of the area without being stamped at both ends, with such mark as the Divisional Forest Officer may specify.

(b) No forest Produce shall be conveyed beyond the limits of the area without pass signed by the Forest Moharrir (Nakedar) in such form as the Divisional Forest Officer may prescribe.

(c) No such forest produce shall be carried except by such routes and via such chowki or chowkies as may be prescribed by the Divisional Forest Officer and Wood Officer and no wood other than fuel shall be removed beyond the said chowki or chowkies without being stamped with such Government mark as the Divisional Forest Officer may prescribe for use at each chowki. The forest produce may be counted and measured by the forest official in charge of the chowki and by any Forest Officer at many time during transit.

21. No Carriage in night. - No forest produce shall be exported after sunset and before sun rise unless specifically permitted by the Divisional Forest Officer.

22. Dragging by cattle. - No dragging of trees by cattle is permitted along any road or path in any part of the forest.

Part VII

The examination of Forest Produce Passing out of such Forests

- 23. Checking.** - Any Forest Officer not below the rank of a Forest Guard may check the forest produce during transit.

Part VIII

The Protection from fire of Timber, Charcoal or Other Produce lying in such Forests and of Trees.

- 24. Protection against fire.** - (1) No person shall kindle, keep or carry any fire except at such places as may from time to time be notified locally by the Divisional Forest Officer.
- (2) No person shall kindle, or leave any fire burning on a public path which adjoins or passes through a Reserved Forest but does not form part of such forest.
- (3) No person shall ignite any material for making a fire within 200 yards of the boundary of a Reserved Forest unless between such boundary and the spot on which such material is ignited a space of 25ft, in width is kept clear of vegetation capable of carrying fire from such spot to the forest, and such other precautions, such as employing watchers, as are reasonably necessary to prevent fire from spreading into the forest are taken.
- (4) Except for the purpose of making ash-manure no fire shall be kindled elsewhere than a place used as a human dwelling within a distance of 200 yards of the boundary of a Reserved Forest, without the previous written permission of the Forest Officer not lower in rank than a Range Officer.
- (5) No person shall kindle any fire or leave any fire burning at any place which is at a distance less than 200 yards from the boundary of a Reserved Forest but from which the fire may by natural means spread into the forest unless he takes precautions by clearing a fire path not less than 25 ft. in width between such place and such boundary, by employing watchers or otherwise to prevent fire from spreading into the forest.
- (6) This rule shall not operate except during the period commencing the 15th July and ending the 30th September.

Part IX

Penalties

- 25. Penalties.** - (1) Any contravention of the Rules 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21; 22, 24 shall upon conviction by a Magistrate be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or fine which may extend five hundred rupees or both.

Form I

-----Range-----Division.

Permit Clearance

(Rule 2)

Date 200.....

Permit No.....

Subject to the provisions of the Rajasthan Forest Act; 1953 and the rules made thereunder, permission is hereby granted to Shri..... son ofof to make fresh clearance over acres for cultivation or for..... inBlockRangeDivision.

Form II

.....Range.....Division

Permit for extension of shifting cultivation

(Rule 3)

Date 200.....

Permit No.....

Subject to the provisions of the Rajasthan Forest Act, 1953 and the rules made thereunder, permission is hereby granted to Shri..... son of..... of..... to extend shifting cultivation over.....acres in..... BlockRangeDivision.

Divisional Forest Officer.

Form III

Permit for Grazing

(Rule 9)

Date..... 200.....

Permit No

BlockRange Division fromTo

Name	Residence	No & description of animal permitted to graze	<u>Fees paid</u> <u>Rate Amount</u>	Remarks

Note. - This permit is granted subject to the provisions of the Rajasthan Forest Act, 1953 and the rules framed thereunder, any breach of which will render the offender liable to the prescribed penalties. It is also subject to the conditions which are printed on the reverse and any breach of any of these conditions will render the permit *ipso facto* null and void and will render permit holder liable to penalties under the Forest Act to the same extent and in the same manner as if he had possessed no permit.

Date.....

Signature of the Range Officer

Conditions

- (1) There shall be one herdsman for every 20 herds of cattle or part thereof.
- (2) The cattle covered by this permit shall invariably be accompanied by and be in charge of the owner or some herdsman or servant of the owner.

- (3) The owner or herdsman or servant accompanying and in charge of the cattle shall invariable have with him this permit and shall produce it for inspection on demand by any Forest Officer.
- (4) If any grazier causes damage to trees his permit shall be liable to cancellation.
- (5) No cattle shall be penned within forest except under a written permission of the Divisional Forest Officer.
- (6) No cattle shall be allowed within specially protected area or grazing area closed under authority.
- (7) Government reserve the right to burn any part or all of the area covered by the permit, whenever it is found necessary to do so, as a protective measure against fires, and no compensation will be granted for any loss sustained by permit holder through such burning.

Form IV

..... Range..... Division

Form of Permit for removal of Forest produce

(Rule No. 10 and 13)

Date 200.....

Permit No...

- (i) Name and address of the Permit Holder...
- (ii) Description of the forest produce for which permit is granted ...
- (iii) The name of the Block and Compartment from which the forest produce will be extracted
...
- (iv) Fees paid, if any ...
- (v) Facsimile of the property mark, on timber, if any...
- (vi) Destination of the forest produce ...
- (vii) Period for which the permit is valid
- (viii) Route through which export is permitted ...
- (ix) Other conditions, if any ...

Date

Signature of the Range Officer

Form V

..... Range..... Division

Permit Lopping, Felling, and uprooting trees

(Rule 13)

Permit No.....

1. Name parentage and residence of person to whom the permit is granted
2. Number and species of trees for which permit has been granted
3. Amount of royalty paid.....
4. Block and Compartment for which permit has been granted
5. Period for which the permit is valid
6. Wier Conditions, if any

Range Officer