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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 2346/02 - 2023 අගෝස්තු මස 21 වැනි සඳුදා - 2023.08.21
No. 2346/02 - MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023

(Published by Authority)

PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

L.D.B 203/33 (VIII)

FOREST CONSERVATION ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 451)

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation by virtue of the powers vested in him under section 64 (2) (f) read with Section 24 (1) (p), (q) and (r) of the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451).

PAVITHRA WANNIARACHCHI,

Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation.

Colombo,
11th August, 2023.

Regulations

1. These regulations may be cited as the Export of timber, seeds of forest free species or other forest produce Regulations No. 01 of 2023.

2. No person shall export any timber, seeds of forest tree species or other forest produce except under the authority of a permit issued for such purpose by the Conservator-General of Forests or an officer authorized in that behalf by the Conservator-General of Forests.



3. Every application for a permit –

(a) to export timber shall be substantially in the Form set out in Schedule I to these regulations; and

(b) to export forest produce and seeds of forest tree species shall be substantially in the Form set out in Schedule II to these regulations,

and shall be submitted to the Conservator-General of Forests.

4. The permit for the export of -

(a) timber shall be substantially in the Form set out in Schedule III to these regulations; and

(b) forest produce and seeds of forest tree species shall be substantially in the Form set out in Schedule IV to these regulations.

5. The Conservator-General of Forests or an officer authorized by the Conservator-General of Forests may examine, any timber, seeds of forest tree species or other forest produce ready for export, at any reasonable time.

6. It shall be the duty of the holder of a permit for export, to produce such permit for inspection on demand by any Forest Officer, any officer authorized in that behalf by the Conservator-General of Forests, any police officer not below the rank of Sub-Inspector or any authorized officer under the Customs Ordinance and to give all such information as regards the timber, seeds of forest tree species or other forest produce to be exported in respect of which the permit has been issued as is within his knowledge whenever such officer required him to do so.

7. In these regulations –

“Conservator-General of Forests” means the Conservator - General of Forests appointed in terms of the Ordinance, and includes an Additional Conservator Generals of Forests;

“Forest produce” means;

(a) trees, leaves and fruits, seeds, roots, juice, timber, charcoal, caoutchouc, catechu, wood oil, resin, natural varnish, bark, lac, gum and myrobalans;

(b) plants not being trees including grasses, creepers, reeds and mosses and all parts or fruits of such plants;

(c) petrified organic matter, surface soil, stones and minerals including all the products generated from mines and quarries and lime stones, coral, laterite, bitumen, bitumen scales, asphalt, mineral oil are included.

“Ordinance” means the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451);

“Seeds of forest tree species” means seeds of fruits of any of the trees referred to in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Ordinance and any other trees as may be specified by the Minister by Order published in the *Gazette*, that possess the ability or that does not possess the ability to reproduce their own species;

8. The Forest Regulations, No. 01 of 2000 published in *Gazette Extraordinary* No. 1161/6 of December 05, 2000 is hereby rescinded without prejudice to anything done thereunder.

SCHEDULE I

(Regulation 3(a))

APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT TO EXPORT TIMBER

Official Use Only	
Application No.:	
Date Received:	
Date of Issue:	

1. Name & Address of Applicant
(Individual/ Company)

--

2. National Identity Card No.: /
Business registration No.:

NIC No.:	
Passport No.:	
Business Reg. No.:	
Contact No.:	

3. Forest Conservation Department Timber Depot Registration No.
And Nature of the Business.

No:	TD/...../.....
Nature:	

4. Details of products to be exported

Item	Wood Species	Length (cm)	Width (cm)	Thickness / Height (cm)	No. of Pieces	Volume ((m ³))
Total						

5. Name and Address of the owner of the land
From where the timber has been obtained.

--

5.1. Title Deed No. & Plan No.:

Title Deed	
Plan No.:	

5.2. If the product has been purchased from
a dealer name and address of the dealer

--

6. Name and Address of the warehouse

--

7. The country exporting to

--

8. Name and Address of the Recipient

--

9. Purpose of Export.

--

10. Number of Shipment/
Size of the Containers

Size	20' Con.	40' Con.	LCL	Air Freight
No.				

11. Expected date of export

--

I /We certify that the information provided in this application are true and correct to the best of my/ our knowledge.

.....
Signature of the applicant

.....
Date

Statement of applicant regarding the export of Timber

Name & Address of the applicant :

The country of exporting to :

Transport permit No.: & Date :
(Original permit should be annexed with the applications)

List of Furniture:

No.	Item	Wood Species	Measurements			No. of Pieces
			Length (cm)	Width (cm)	Thickness / Height (cm)	
01						
02						
03						
04						
05						
06						
07						
08						
09						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
Total						

I / We certify that the above information furnished by me/us are true and correct to the best of my /our knowledge and that nothing has been concealed or held therefrom. I am/We are aware that the Forest Conservation Department will not take any responsibility or intervene in any way if export could not be done due to incorrect or false information provide by me / us.

Date :

.....
Signature of the applicant.

Name :

ID No. :

SCHEDULE II

(Regulation 3(b))

APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT TO EXPORT SEEDS OF FOREST TREE SPECIES OR OTHER FOREST PRODUCE

Official Use Only	
Application No:	
Date Received:	
Date of Issue:	

1. Name & Address of Applicant
(Individual/ Company)

--

2. National Identity Card No.: /
Business registration No.:/
Passport No.:

NIC No.:	
Passport No.:	
Business Reg. No.	
Contact No.	

3. Nursery Registration No.

--

4. Details of products to be exported

<i>Common Name</i>	<i>Botanical Name</i>	<i>Hight (cm)/ Weight (kg)</i>	<i>No. of Pieces</i>
Total			

5. From where the product is collected/ Purchased

5.1. If the product is collected from state land
Collection permit No. & Date

5.2. If the product has been purchased from
a dealer name and address of the dealer

6. Name and Address of the warehouse

7. The country & Point of destination

8. Name and Address of the Recipient.

9. Purpose of Export.

10. Number of Shipment/ Size of the
Containers

Size	20' Con.	40' Con.	LCL	Air Freight
No. of				

11. Expected date of export

I /We certify that the information provided in this application are true and correct to the best of my/ our knowledge.

.....
Signature of the applicant.

.....
Date

Statement of the Applicant regarding the export of Seeds of Forest Tree Species and Forest Produce

1. Name & Address of the applicant :
2. The country of destination :
3. Forest Conservation Department Registration No.:
4. Details of the Plants or Parts or Products to be exported:.....

No.	Common Name of the Plants	Botanical Name	Measurements		No. of Pieces
			Hight (cm)	Width (kg)	
01					
02					
03					
04					
05					
06					
07					
08					
09					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
	Total				

I / We certify that the above information furnished by me/us are true and correct to the best of my /our knowledge and that nothing has been concealed or held therefrom. I am/We are aware that the Forest Conservation Department will not take any responsibility or intervene in any way if export could not be done due to incorrect or false information provide by me / us.

Date:

.....
Signature of the applicant.

Name:.....

ID No:.....

(Regulation 4(a))

Date :

(Not valid for transport within Sri Lanka, Not Transferable)

Director General Sri Lanka Custom

Stamping hammer mark on timber

Amount **Rs:**

Timber to be Exported:

<i>No.</i>	<i>Timber Species</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Length (cm)</i>	<i>Width (cm)</i>	<i>Height (cm)/ Thickness (cm)</i>	<i>No of Pieces</i>	<i>Volume (m³)</i>
	Total						

Name of Applicant:

Address:

National Identity Card/Passport No:

Name and Location of the Land from which the Materials obtained:

If the Material collected is from State land the Permit No:

Name/Designation of Issued Officer:

If the material (used/new) is collected/buy from a timber depot/furniture shop,

Forest Conservation Department Registration No:

Institute: is hereby authorized to export from
Sri Lanka the above mentioned Material to

Refer Regulation No: of the Regulation under Section 24(1)(p) of the

Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451). (See conditions overleaf).

This Permit is valid for the export from .../.../.... to .../.../.....

Date of issue:/...../.....

Number of Shipment: (.....)

Signature

Conservator General of Forests./
 Authorised Forest Officer.

C.C.

2. Controller of Imports & Exports.

- f.i & n.a

CONDITIONS

- (1) When any permit is issued for the export, it is the duty of the holder of the permit for export to produce, such permit for inspection and endorsement on demand by the Conservator of Forests or any other Forest Officer or any Officer of Customs.
- (2) This permit is not transferable.
- (3) At any instance when it is demanded by an Officer mentioned in condition (1) above to produce the material pertaining to the permit, it is the duty of the Permit holder to produce or cause to be produced such materials for the inspection.
- (4) If the issuing officer imposes any additional condition/s duly authenticated by his signature and office seal as deemed fit at any instance the permit holder should abide by such conditions so laid.
- (5) If the materials exported are log timber or sawn timber, the stamping hammer mark depicted in the permit, should appear on the sawn timber or log timber pieces as well.

I agree to abide by the above Conditions and the Rules framed under Section 24(1) (p) of the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451)

.....
Date

.....
Signature of the Permit Holder

SCHEDULE IV

(Regulation 4b)

Permit No:

Date

**PERMIT FOR THE EXPORT OF SEEDS OF FOREST TREE SPECIES
AND FOREST PRODUCE
(Not valid for transport within Sri Lanka, Not Transferable)**

Director General Sri Lanka Custom

Receipt No:

Amount Rs:

Stamping hammer mark on material

Plants or Other Forest Produce

No.	Common Name	Botanical Name	Hight(cm)/ Weight (kg) (Total)	Amount No. of Plants/Paces.
	Total	-	-	

Name of Applicant:

Address:

National Identity Card/Passport No:

Name and Location of the Land from which the Materials obtained :

If the Material collected is from State land the Permit No:

Name/Designation of Issued Officer:

If the plant or forest product is collected/buy from a nursery,

Forest Conservation Department Registration No:

Institute: is hereby authorized to Export.

From Sri Lanka the above – mentioned Material to:

Refer Regulation No: of the Regulation framed under Section 24(1)(p) of the

Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451). (See conditions overleaf).

This Permit is valid for the export from/.../..... to/...../.....

Date of issue: .../.../... Number of shipment: (.....)

.....
Signature
Conservator General of Forests/
Authorised Forest Officer.

C.C

1. Director, Seeds Certificate & Plants Conservation Center, - f.i & n.a
Department of Agriculture
2. National Plant Quarantine Service - f.i & n.a
3. Controller of Imports & Exports - f.i & n.a

CONDITIONS

- (1) When any permit is issued for the export, it is the duty of the holder of the permit for export to produce, such permit for inspection and endorsement on demand by the Conservator General of Forests of any other Forest Officer or any Officer of Customs.
- (2) This permit is not transferable.
- (3) At any instance when it is demanded by an Officer mentioned in condition (1) above to produce the material pertaining to the permit, it is the duty of the Permit holder to produce or cause to be produced such materials for the inspection.
- (4) If the issuing officer imposes any additional condition/s duly authenticated by his signature and office seal as deemed fit at any instance the permit holder should abide by such conditions so laid.
- (5) If the materials exported are log timber or sawn timber, the stamping hammer mark depicted in the permit, should appear on the sawn timber or log timber pieces as well.

I agree to abide by the above Conditions and the Rules framed under Section 24(1) (p) of the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451)

.....
Date

.....
Signature of the Permit Holder

L.D.B 203/33 (VIII)

FOREST CONSERVATION ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 451)

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation by virtue of the powers vested in him under subsection (1) of section 64 read with sections 23A, 23B, 23C, 23D and 28(3) of the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451).

PAVITHRA WANNIARACHCHI,
Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation.

Battaramulla,
11th August, 2023.

REGULATIONS

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Forest Conservation (Registration of Timber Depots and Property Marks) Regulation No. 02 of 2023.

2. Every application for a Certificate of Registration made under section 23B of the Ordinance, to carry on the business of a timber depot in terms of section 23A of the Ordinance, shall be substantially in the Form set out in Schedule I to these regulations:

Provided however, any person who carries on the business of a timber depot, by virtue of a Certificate of Registration obtained prior to the coming into operation of these regulations, under the Forest Regulations No. 3 of 1979 published in *Gazette* Extraordinary No.68/14 of December 26, 1979 shall not be required to obtain a Certificate of Registration under these regulations and the Certificate of Registration so obtained shall be deemed to be a Certificate of Registration issued under these regulations.

3 An application for a Certificate of Registration to carry on the business of a timber depot referred to in regulation 2 that engages in the activities specified in column I of Schedule II to these regulations shall be refused, if such timber depot is situated within the minimum aerial distance to a State forest or a forest plantation, as specified in column II of such Schedule.

4. (1) Upon issuing a Certificate of Registration to carry on the business of a timber depot, the Conservator-General of Forests shall also issue a permit authorising the person to whom the Certificate of Registration was issued to engage in the business of a timber depot. The application form for a permit shall be substantially in the Form as set out in Schedule VIII to these regulations.

(2) The Certificate of Registration and the permit shall be in such Forms as set out in Schedules III and IV respectively to these regulations. Unless earlier cancelled, the Certificate of Registration shall be valid for so long as the business of the timber depot shall be in operation and the permit shall be valid for the period mentioned in the said permit.

5. (1) The fee for the registration of timber depots specified in column I of Schedule V to these regulations shall be as specified in the corresponding entry in column II of that Schedule.

(2) The annual fee for issuing a permit to carry on the business of a Timber depot specified in column I of Schedule V to these regulations shall be as specified in the corresponding entry in column III of that Schedule:

Provided however, any person who has obtained a permit which is valid for the current year, in terms of the provisions of Forest Regulations No.3 of 1979 published in *Gazette* Extraordinary No.68/14 of December 26, 1979, prior to the coming into operation of these regulations shall not be required to pay the annual fee for the current year.

6. The owner of the timber depot shall exhibit in a conspicuous place in the depot, the Certificate of Registration and the permit issued in respect of such timber depot.

7. (1) Upon registration of a timber depot the Conservator-General of Forests shall assign to such timber depot a property mark.

(2) The form, size and distinctive figure ~~or number and letter~~ in respect of any timber depot shall be determined by the Conservator-General of Forests at the time of registration of a particular timber depot, taking into consideration the administrative district and other similar requirements.

(3) The Conservator-General of Forests shall forthwith notify the owner of the timber depot, that a property mark of the given dimension has been issued to him and such owner shall have the property mark made out of metal and affixed onto a piece of timber in such manner as would appear to be capable of being embossed.

(4) The owner of the timber depot shall thereafter impress the property mark on a square sheet of paper twenty centimetres by twenty centimetres (20cm) together with his name, date and signature thereon in each side and forward the same to the Divisional Forest Officer of the area within which his timber depot is situated, within one month of such mark being issued to him.

8. All logs and sawn timber stored in a timber depot including the timber sold from such timber depot shall be stamped with the property mark issued to the respective depot.

9. (1) The owner of the timber depot shall maintain the following registers containing a daily record of the transactions :-

(a) a register substantially in the Form specified in Schedule VI to these regulations relating to logs of timber; and

(b) a register substantially in the Form specified in schedule VII to these regulations relating to the sawn timber.

(2) The stock of timber as appearing in the registers maintained in a timber depot shall at all times tally with the physical stock of timber in the timber depot.

(3) (a) The owner of the timber depot shall at the end of each month prior to the tenth day of the succeeding month, send a certified extract containing all the particulars of the register for that month substantially in the Form specified in Schedule VI to these regulations relating to logs of timber to the Range Forest Officer of the area where the timber depot is situated by registered post.

(b) In the case of timber depots situated in the administrative district of Colombo other than the timber depots situated in the divisional secretary's divisions of Seethawaka and Padukka the certified extracts shall be sent to the **Deputy Conservator of Forests** in charge of North Western – Western region.

10. (1) An application for the renewal of a permit to carry on the business of a timber depot shall be substantially in the Form set out in Schedule VIII to these regulations and shall be submitted to the Conservator-General of Forests at least one month prior to the expiration of the current permit.

(2) The annual fee specified in Schedule V to these regulations shall be paid for the renewal of a permit to carry on the business of a timber depot.

(3) If the owner fails to submit the application for renewal within the time specified in paragraph (1), he shall pay to the Conservator-General of Forests, ten *per centum* of the prescribed permit fee as a surcharge, for each month or part

thereof during which he has so delayed to apply for renewal after the expiration of the permit. The failure to renew the permit for the period of more than six months, without a valid reason, shall cause the cancellation of the Certificate of Registration.

11. (1) Where the registered owner of a timber depot whose registration and permit has been suspended intends to commence the business of a timber depot after the period of such suspension has expired, he shall apply for a fresh Certificate of Registration and a permit before the expiry of a period of one month from the date on which the period of suspension is to expire. No Certificate of Registration or permit shall be granted if he delays to do so within the specified period.

(2) Where there has been a delay, as specified in paragraph (1), the Conservator-General of Forests shall inform the owner in writing of the refusal of granting the Certificate of Registration and the permit by registered post.

(3) The owner of the timber depot may appeal to the Conservator- General of Forests within thirty days of the date of suspension of the permit upon receipt of the notice by registered post.

(4) If sufficient and justifiable reasons have not been given by the owner of the timber depot within the period referred to in paragraph (1), the Conservator - General of Forests shall confirm the refusal of granting the Certificate of Registration and the permit of the timber depot and shall notify the owner of the timber depot of the same by registered post.

12. (1) It shall be lawful for the owner of a timber depot, the registration of which has been cancelled, in terms of section 23C of the Ordinance, to sell, with the approval of the Conservator-General of Forests, within three months from the date of such cancellation, his entire stock in trade to the owner of any other registered timber depot or to any other person authorized by the Conservator-General of Forests. An officer authorized by the Conservator-General of Forests shall issue a permit for transportation of any such stock of timber.

(2) Where the registration of a timber depot has been cancelled in terms of section 23C of the Ordinance, a new timber depot shall not be registered for the same land where the cancelled timber depot was situated until the expiry of a period of six years from the date of such cancellation.

13. (1) (a) The Certificate of Registration issued by the Conservator-General of Forests in respect of a timber depot shall be transferable to another person, only upon both the registered owner and the prospective owner forwarding a request to the Conservator-General of Forests or to the officer authorized in that behalf by the Conservator-General of Forests.

(b) Every request for a transfer of Registration in terms of paragraph (1), shall be accompanied by an application of the prospective owner for a Certificate of Registration substantially in the Form set out in Schedule I hereto and a statement that the new owner has himself verified the stock of logs and sawn timber in the depot with the entries in the Register.

(c) In case the figures in the register do not tally with the stock of logs and sawn timber in the depot, a statement setting out the reason for the discrepancies shall be submitted to the Conservator-General of Forests along with the relevant request.

(2) (a) Where the Conservator-General of Forests or the officer authorized by the Conservator-General of Forests in that behalf approves the transfer of the registration of the timber depot to the name of the prospective owner the previous Certificate shall forthwith be cancelled and a Certificate of Registration and a permit enabling him to carry on the business of the timber depot shall be issued to the new owner subject to the provisions of these regulations.

(b) The prospective owner shall be required to pay the fees specified in Schedule V hereto in respect of such Certificate of Registration and permit.

14. (1) A registered owner of a timber depot intending to close his timber depot for a specified period, shall inform the Conservator-General of Forest in writing of his intention within a period of at least thirty days prior to the intended date of closure. The Conservator- General of Forest shall issue notice of closure of the timber depot in the Form set out in Schedule IX to these regulations which shall be valid for a maximum period of two years from the date of issue.

(2) Where an owner of a timber depot who has closed his timber depot in terms of paragraph (1), wishes to commence the business of the timber depot once again, he shall renew the Certificate of Registration and the permit issued to him for such purpose:

Provided however, the registration of that particular timber depot shall not be renewed after a period of two years from the date of its closure and if the owner wishes to reopen his timber depot, he shall act in accordance with the provisions of regulations 3 and 4 hereof and obtain a fresh Certificate of Registration by submitting a fresh application.

(3) The owner of the timber depot referred to in paragraph (2) shall along with a copy of the letter sent informing of the intended closure of the depot, apply to the Conservator-General of Forests, at least thirty days prior to the date of reopening the same. The Conservator-General of Forests may after carrying out a proper investigation issue the relevant Certificate of Registration and the permit to recommence the business of the timber depot from the date on which the request was received.

(4) No arrears, registration fees or any surcharge shall be recovered for the period of closure of the timber depot on the issuance of a fresh Certificate of Registration and a permit as referred to in paragraph (3).

15. The forest officer or an officer authorized to inspect timber depots by virtue of the provisions of the Ordinance may enter any timber depot at any reasonable time for the purpose of inspecting the logs and sawn timber stored therein and the records of transaction of such timber depot. It shall be the duty of the owner of the timber depot to make available to any authorized officer all timber, registers and records maintained by him and render all assistance which may be required of him for the purpose of facilitating the inspection of the timber depot.

16. Where an inspection is carried out in respect of any timber depot by an officer authorised to inspect timber depots, it shall be the duty of the owner thereof, to prove that all timber stored was legally in his possession and control.

17. The following provisions shall apply to a mobile timber saw mill, in addition to the provisions of these regulations other than the provisions of regulations 3,6,4,8,9,12,13,15, and 16 :-

- (a) every mobile timber saw mill shall be used solely for the purpose of sawing timber felled in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance and any regulation made thereunder, within the private land upon which such mobile timber saw mill is located;
- (b) any person who intends to saw timber using a mobile timber saw mill shall, prior to starting the sawing activities, obtain from the Range Forest Officer or Divisional Secretary of the area within which the mobile timber saw mill is operated a certificate to confirm that the timber has been obtained from a private land:

Provided however, any person who holds a felling permit used for felling trees under the Felling of Trees (Control) Act, (Chapter 452) shall not be required to obtain a certificate under this regulation;

- (c) the certificate referred to in sub-paragraph (b) shall be substantially in the Form specified in Schedule X to these regulations;
- (d) when sawing is being carried out, the operator shall have in his possession the Certificate of Registration and the permit that were issued for the mobile timber sawmill and the certificate referred to in sub-paragraph (b) ;
- (e) the hand tractor or trailer to which the mobile timber saw mill is fixed shall be registered with the Commissioner-General of Motor Traffic and shall possess a Vehicle Revenue Licence in respect of the current year. When sawing is being carried out the said licence shall be in the possession of the machine operator at all times;

- (f) the registration of the mobile timber saw mill shall be carried out only within the Divisional Secretary's Division where the applicant permanently resides;
- (g) the applicant shall be the registered owner of the hand tractor to which the mobile timber saw mill is fixed;
- (h) the minimum aerial distance from a State forest or a forest plantation to the land where the sawing is being carried out shall not be less than 200 metres;
- (i) when applying for the renewal of the permit, the Annual Vehicle Revenue Licence of the hand tractor shall be submitted;
- (j) a mobile timber saw mill shall not be fixed to any vehicle or a machine other than the hand tractor of trailer mentioned in the Certificate of Registration;
- (k) the blade of the saw that is used for the mobile timber saw mill shall be less than 75 centimeters (30 inches) in diameter;
- (l) a mobile timber saw mill shall be operated only from 06.00 am to 06.00 pm of each day; and
- (m) an officer authorized to inspect timber depots by virtue of the provision of the Ordinance may, inspect any mobile timber saw mill at any time when the saw mill is being operated and it shall be the duty of the owner of the mobile timber saw mill and the owner of the land in which the mobile timber saw mill is being operated, to render all assistance required therefor.

18. In these regulations-

- “Certificate of Registration” means a Certificate of Registration required to be obtained under section 23A of the Ordinance to carry on the business of a timber depot;
- “Conservator - General of Forest” means the Conservator - General of Forests appointed in terms of the Ordinance;
- “mobile timber saw mill” means a saw mill which is not permanently fixed to the ground, mounted on a hand tractor and used to saw timber;
- “Ordinance” means the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451);
- “owner of the timber depot” includes an agent or any employee administering the timber depot;
- “permit” means a permit required to be obtained under section 23A of the Ordinance to carry on the business of a timber depot;
- “timber depot” shall have the same meaning assigned to that expression under the Ordinance.

19. The Forest Regulations, No. 3 of 1979 published in *Gazette Extraordinary* No. 68/14 of December 26, 1979 as amended from time to time and last amended by *Gazette Extraordinary* No. 429/8 of November 26, 1986 and the Notification made under section 28 published in *Gazette Extraordinary* No. 80/7 of March 20, 1980 are hereby rescinded without prejudice to anything done thereunder.

SCHEDULE I

(Regulation 2 and 13)

Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451)
Application for the Registration of a Timber Depot (Section 23B)
Forest Department

1. Full Name of the Applicant:
Permanent Address:
NIC number:
(If the applicant is a company a copy of the Certificate of Registration should be annexed)
2. Address of the place where the timber depot is or will be located:
.....
Name of the Land:
Owner of the Land:
(Please submit documentary proof for ownership)
3. Name of the timber depot:.....
4. Nature of the timber depot:
Mark "✓" within the relevant cage indicating the category to which the nature of the business of the timber depot.

(a).	sawmill	
	(i) sawmill (Only for Sawing)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
	(ii) mobile timber sawmill (Only for Sawing)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
(b)	timber sales outlet	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
	(only for sale of timber and machines cannot be Used)	
(c)	timber seasoning or processing factory	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
	(sawing of logs and sale of timber not permitted)	
(d)	carpentry shed	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
	(storing of logs and sale of timber not permitted)	
(e)	timber furniture shop	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
	(only for the sale of finished furniture. Use of machines not permitted)	
(f)	firewood shed	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
5. Description of the Location of the timber depot:
 - i. District :
 - ii. Divisional Secretary Division:.....
 - iii. Grama Niladhari Division
 - iv. Local Govt. Area :.....
6. In the case of a mobile timber sawmill;
 - i. Registration No. of the hand tractor:
 - ii. Registration No. of the trailer: :.....
(Copy of the Certificate of Registration and Revenue License should be attached).
7. The Divisional Secretary's Division where the mobile timber sawmill is to be used:
8. The date on which the business was started or is to be started :.....

9. Validity period of the Environmental Protection License:
(Please attach a copy)

I do hereby certify that the information provided in this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I hereby agree to carry on the business of the timber depot according to the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451) and regulations published under the Forest Conservation Ordinance.

.....
Signature of the Applicant.

Date.....

NB: This application shall be submitted in triplicate to the Divisional Forest officer of the area. Applications of Colombo District except Seethawaka and Padukka Divisional Secretary's Areas shall be submitted to the Regional Deputy Conservator of Forests, No. 60, Akuragoda Road, Pelawatttha, Thalangama South. Application of Seethawaka and Padukka Divisional Secretary's Area shall be submitted to the Divisional Forest Officer at Kaluthara.

SCHEDULE II

(Regulation 3)

Column I	Column II		
Nature of the timber depot	The minimum aerial distance to the timber depot from the State owned forest not less than 40 ha./ forest plantation not less than 20 ha.		
	Within Municipal Council limits (in Km)	Within Urban Council limits (in Km)	Within Pradeshiya Sabha limits (in Km)
1. Sawmills	1	1	2
2. Timber sales outlets	0.5	0.5	1
3. Timber seasoning or processing factories	0.5	0.5	1
4. Carpentry sheds	0.5	0.5	1
5. Timber furniture shops	Distance limit is not applicable		
6. Firewood sheds	0.5	0.5	1

SCHEDULE III

(Regulation 4)

Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451)
Certificate of Registration of Timber Depot (Section 23B)
Forest Department

District:..... Registration No:

1. Name of the timber depot:.....
2. Address of the timber depot :.....
3. Details of the owner of the timber depot
 - i. Full name.....
 - ii. Permanent address.....
 - iii. National Identity Card No
4. Nature of the timber depot:
5. In cases of a mobile timber saw mill:
 - i Registration number of the hand tractor:
 - ii Registration number of the trailer:.....
 - iii The Divisional Secretary's Division where the mobile timber saw mill can be operated :.....
6. Property Mark Assigned to the timber depot:

.....
Conservator-General of Forests/ Deputy Conservator of
Forests/ Divisional Forests Officer.

Date.....

.....Forest office,
.....

Request shall be made without any delay to the officer who issued the Certificate of Registration when the nature of the timber depot needs to be changed or any other matter.

SCHEDULE IV

(Regulation 4)

Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451)
Permit to carry out a business of a timber depot (Section 23B)

District:..... Registration No:

The timber depot that had been registered with the Forest Department bearing above registration number under section 23B of the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451) is hereby granted permission to carry on the business of a timber depot as mentioned below from to unless the registration of the timber depot is cancelled earlier, as per the orders of the Forest Conservation Ordinance.

- 1 Name of the timber depot:.....
- 2 Address of the timber depot :.....
- 3 Details of the owner of the timber depot
 - i. Full Name.....
 - ii. Permanent Address.....
 - iii. NIC No
- 4 Nature of the timber depot
- 5 In the case of a mobile timber saw mill:
 - i. Registration Number of the hand tractor
 - ii. Registration Number of the trailer.....
 - iii. The Divisional Secretary's Division where the mobile timber saw mill can be operated
- 6 Property Mark Assigned of the timber depot :.....

.....
Conservator-General of Forests/ Authorized officer

Date
..... Forest office,
.....

Conditions.

- The owner of the timber depot or his agent shall not act in contravention of any of the provisions of the Forest Conservation Ordinance (chapter 451) or any regulation made thereunder.
- The owner of the timber depot or his agent shall not act in contravention of any of the provisions of any written law relating to a timber depot in force for the time being.
- No timber which is the property of the State shall be stored in the land where the timber depot is situated.
- Where the ownership of the land where the timber depot is situated is changed from the owner of the timber depot, the Certificate of Registration shall be forthwith submitted to the officer who issued the Certificate of Registration to change it to the new owner of the land or for the cancellation of the Certificate of Registration.

SCHEDULE V

(Regulations 5, 10 and 13)

Column I	Column II	Column III
Nature of the timber depot	Fee for Registration Rs.	Annual fee for permit and it's renewal Rs.
1. Sawmill	5750.00	5750.00
2. Mobile timber sawmill	5750.00	5750.00
3. Timber sales outlet	3450.00	3450.00
4. Timber seasoning and processing factory	5750.00	5750.00
5. Carpentry workshop	870.00	870.00
6. Wooden furniture shop	580.00	580.00
7. Firewood shed	170.00	170.00

SCHEDULE VI

(Regulation 9)

[illegible]

(Regulation 9)

[illegible]

SCHEDULE VIII

(Regulation 4 and 10)

Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451)

Application for renewal of the permit to carry out the Business of a Timber Depot (section 23B)

Forest Department

1. Full name of the owner of the timber depot:.....
.....
Permanent Address :.....
National Identity Card No.:.....
(If the applicant is a company the Certificate of Registration should be annexed.)
2. Address of the timber depot:.....
.....
3. Name of the timber depot:.....
4. (a) Registration No. of the timber depot:.....
(b) Date of first registration:.....
5. Nature of the timber depot:.....
.....
6. Period of validity of the permit obtained last:.....
(attach a copy of the last permit)
7. Period for which the new permit is requested:.....
8. In the case of Mobile sawmill:
 - i Registration Number of the hand tractor:.....
 - ii Registration Number of the trailer:.....
 - iii Validity period of the revenue licence:.....
(attach a copy of the revenue licence)
9. The Divisional Secretary's Division in which the mobile timber saw mill is to be operated :
10. Particulars of forest offences relating to the timber depot, if any:.....
11. Validity period of the Environmental Protection License:
(attach a copy)

I do hereby certify that the information provided in this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I hereby agree to carry on the business of the timber depot according to the Forest Conservation Ordinance(chapter 451) and regulations under the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451).

Date.....

.....
Signature of the Owner of the Timber Depot

NB: This application shall be submitted in duplicate to the Divisional Forest officer of the area. Applications of Colombo district except Seethawaka and Padukka Divisional Secretary's Areas shall be submitted to the Regional Deputy Conservator of Forests, No. 60, Akuregoda Road, Palawatte , Thalangama South. Applications of Seethawaka and Padukka Divisional Secretary's Areas shall be submitted to the Divisional Forest Officer at Kalutara.

SCHEDULE IX

(Regulation 16)

Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451)

Notice for the closure of the timber depot.

1 Full Name of the owner of the timber depot:

Permanent Address:

2 Name of the timber depot and the address:

3 Registration Number:

4 Nature of the timber depot:

- a
- b
- c
- d
- e

5 If mobile timber sawmill, registered numbers of the hand tractor and the trailer:

6 Registered Divisional Secretary's area:

7 Applying period for the closure of the timber depot: From to

8 Reason for the closure and date of application:

9 Approved period for the closure: From..... To

Hereby you are permitted to close your timber depot during the above period without paying fees for the permit. When you wish once again to commence the business of the timber depot, you shall obtain a permit for such purpose, by informing the officer who issued the Certificate of Registration, in writing, by registered post, along with a copy of this notice, thirty days prior to the date of reopening of the timber depot.

Conservator-General of Forests/ Deputy
Conservator of Forests/ Divisional Forest Officer

Date of issue:

SCHEDULE X

(Regulation 17)

The Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451)
Forest Department

The certificate issued by the Range Forest Officer / Divisional Secretary to a person who wishes to saw timber from a mobile timber saw mill confirming the fact that the timber to be sawn is obtained from a private land.

1. Name of the applicant
2. Address
3. Name of the land
4. (i) Range:
(ii) Beat:
(iii) Forest Field Assistant Division
5. Divisional Secretary's Division /Grama Sevaka Division
...../.....
6. Deed/Grant/Gazette/Permit number and date of registration
7. (i) Plan Number.
(ii) Lot Number.....
8. Description of timber.

Tree/Logs no.	Species	Measurements of Timber (m/cm)		
		Brest Height Girth	Girth in Centre	Length
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				

9. No. of trees/logs
10. Officer's hammer mark
11. I hereby certify that the above timber (trees/logs) is located in the above mentioned private land and permission is granted to saw that timber within that particular land using a mobile timber sawmill for a period ofdays fromto.....

On theday of,
at the office of the

.....
Range Forest Officer/Divisional Secretary

copy – Beat Forest Officer / Grama Seva Niladhari -

L. D. - B 203/ 33 (VIII)

FOREST CONSERVATION ORDINANCE (Chapter 451)

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation under Sub section (1) of Section 24 of the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451).

PAVITHRA WANNIARACHCHI,
Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation.

Colombo,
11th August, 2023.

Regulations

The Forest Regulations No. 01 of 2008, published in *Gazette* Extraordinary No. 1548/ 29 dated May 9, 2008 are hereby amended in the First Schedule thereto, by the substitution for the words specified in Column II in respect of each Area specified in the corresponding entry in Column I thereof of the words specified in the corresponding entry in Column III hereto.

Column I Area	Column II Repeal	Column III Insert
1. Colombo Administrative District	Eucalyptus, Species and Toona.	Eucalyptus Species, Toona and Gal Bambu.
2. Gampaha Administrative District	Eucalyptus, Species and Toona.	Eucalyptus Species, Toona and Gal Bambu.
3. Kalutara Administrative District	Eucalyptus, Species and Toona.	Eucalyptus Species, Toona and Gal Bambu.
4. Kandy Administrative District	Imported sawn timber, and Ginisapu.	Imported sawn timber, Ginisapu and Gal Bambu.
5. Matale Administrative District	Eucalyptus species and Toona.	Eucalyptus species, Toona and Gal Bambu.
6. Nuwara Eliya Administrative District	Cane products and Imported sawn timber.	Cane products, Imported sawn timber and Gal Bambu.
7. Galle Administrative District	Eucalyptus, species and Toona.	Eucalyptus Species, Toona and Gal Bambu.
8. Matara Administrative District	Imported sawn timber and Toona.	Imported sawn timber, Toona and Gal Bambu.
9. Hambantota Administrative District	Imported sawn timber and Toona.	Imported sawn timber, Toona and Gal Bambu.
10. Jaffna Administrative District	Imported sawn timber and Toona.	Imported sawn timber, Toona and Gal Bambu.
11. Mannar Administrative District	Eucalyptus species and Toona.	Eucalyptus Species, Toona and Gal Bambu.

Column I Area	Column II Repeal	Column III Insert
12.Vavuniya Administrative District	Eucalyptus, species and Toona.	Eucalyptus Species, Toona and Gal Bambu.
13.Mullativ Administrative District	Eucalyptus, species and Toona.	Eucalyptus Species, Toona and Gal Bambu.
14.Killinochchi Administrative District	Eucalyptus, species and Toona.	Eucalyptus Species, Toona and Gal Bambu.
15. Ampara Administrative District	Imported sawn timber and Toona.	Imported sawn timber, Toona and Gal Bambu.
16. Batticaloa Administrative District	Imported sawn timber and Toona.	Imported sawn timber, Toona and Gal Bambu.
17. Trincomalee Administrative District	Imported sawn timber and Toona.	Imported sawn timber, Toona and Gal Bambu.
18. Kurunegala Administrative District	Eucalyptus, species and Toona.	Eucalyptus Species, Toona and Gal Bambu.
19. Puttalam Administrative District	Imported sawn timber and Toona.	Imported sawn timber, Toona and Gal Bambu.
20. Anuradhapura Administrative District	Imported sawn timber and Toona.	Imported sawn timber, Toona and Gal Bambu.
21. Polonnaruwa Administrative District	Imported sawn timber and Toona.	Imported sawn timber, Toona and Gal Bambu.
22. Monaragala Administrative District	Imported sawn timber and Toona.	Imported sawn timber, Toona and Gal Bambu.
23. Badulla Administrative District	Cane products and Imported sawn timber.	Cane products, Imported sawn timber, and Gal Bambu
24. Ratnapura Administrative District	Imported sawn timber and Eucalyptus species.	Imported sawn timber, Eucalyptus species and Gal Bambu
25. Kegalle Administrative District	Eucalyptus species and Toona.	Eucalyptus Species, Toona and Gal Bambu.

LDB. 203/33 (v)

THE FOREST CONSERVATION ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 451)

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation under Subsections (3), (4) and (5) of Sections 3A, Section 6 and Section 64 of the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451)

PAVITHRA WANNIARACHCHI,
Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation.

Colombo,
11th August, 2023.

Regulations

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Forest Conservation (Conservation Forests) Regulations, No. 03 of 2023 and shall come into operation on 21.08.2023

(2) The provisions of these regulations shall apply to all conservation forests declared in terms of Section 3A of the Ordinance.

2. (1) The Management Plan prepared by the Conservator General in terms of the provisions of Section 3A of the Ordinance shall contain measures –

- (a) for the preservation of unique eco systems, genetic resources, habitats of rare and endemic species of flora, fauna and micro organism and threatened species in the conservation forests;
- (b) to achieve an ecological balance in conservation forests by preventing salinisation and drying up of rivers and preventing landslips and fires.

(2) The Management Plan shall also contain the modalities or criteria -

- (a) for carrying out surveys and marking of boundaries of conservation forests, as and when required;
- (b) for zoning of the conservation forests where necessary;
- (c) for the identification of areas within which the specified activities required for the management of conservation forests are to be implemented;
- (d) for the identification of activities required for the management of conservation forests and for the implementation of the same; and
- (e) for introducing and implementing a mechanism for protecting conservation forests.

3. (1) The Conservator General shall affix his signature to the Management Plan once it has been finalized in order to signify his approval and he shall be responsible for the implementation of the Management Plan so approved.

(2) The Conservator General may make amendments to the Management Plan where necessary, in order to assure the sustenance of the conservation forests.

(3) The Conservator General shall specify by way of guidelines the procedure to be followed in monitoring the activities being implemented under the approved Management Plan and for assessing the effectiveness of such Plan in relation to such activities.

4. (1) Any person who intends to conduct scientific research in a conservation forest shall make an application to the Conservator General substantially in the form set out in the First Schedule.

(2) The applicant shall submit with the application a research proposal specifying the purpose and the scope of his research.

(3) The Conservator General may, upon considering such research proposal, issue a permit for conducting such scientific research subject to such terms and conditions as may be specified in the Second Schedule.

(4) Any person who has been granted approval to conduct a scientific research and to enter a conservation forest for observation of fauna and flora for that purpose, under this regulation shall be required to pay the fee specified in the Third Schedule.

(5) Where any matter which is out of the scope of authority given under the permit, arises with regard to conducting a scientific research, a prior approval of the Conservator General shall be obtained by the person who conducts the research.

5. (1) Any person who desires to observe fauna and flora in a conservation forest may make a request in that behalf to the Conservator General.

(2) Upon receipt of a request under paragraph (1), the Conservator General may grant approval to enter into and observe fauna and flora in the relevant conservation forest subject to such terms and conditions as he deems necessary.

6. For the purpose of these regulations –

“Conservator General” means the Conservator General of Forests appointed under the Ordinance (Chapter 451);

“Department” means the Forest Conservation Department;

“Management Plan” means a plan prepared in terms of Section 3A of the Ordinance, for scientific management of conservation forests and approved by the Conservator General;

“Ordinance” means the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451); and

First Schedule**{regulation 4(1)}**

For office use

National Forestry Sector Research Committee**Application for research projects**

Project ID	
Conservation Forest	
Fauna/Flora/Other.....	

1. Project information

1.1 Title of the project

--

1.2 Objectives

--

1.3 Sector: Flora /Fauna/ Other (specify).....

1.4 Project locations

	District	Forest		
1			1.5 Species category	1.6 Discipline:
2			flowering plants	Biodiversity
3			lower plants	Biomass/carbon
4			Micro-organisms	Conservation
5			mammal	Ecology
6			amphibian	Ecotourism
7			reptiles	Propagation
8			fish	Taxonomy
9			birds
10			insects
11		
12		

1.7 Duration of project		From		To	
1.8 Duration of data collection		From		To	

1.9 Total cost of project

1.10 Funding source

2. Personal information

2.1 Principal investigator

Name with initials	Prof. /Dr./ Mr. / Ms.		
Designation			
Institute			
Official address		Official Phone No.	
Private address:		Residential Phone No. Mobile Phone No.	
Nationality		NIC No.	
Email			

2.2 Other collaborative researchers

	Name	Designation/Institute	NIC	Phone No.
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

2.3 Field research staff

	Name	Private address	NIC	Phone No.
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

3. Description of research

3.1	Project summary with justification, methodology, time schedule and intended outcome Please attach a Copy of the research Proposal
3.2	Have you obtained necessary permission from other relevant institutions, if required for conducting of the research (Kindly attach a copy of the letters of permission)

4. Information on previous research

Please State below the details of any previous research, if any, conducted by the applicant (as principal investigator or collaborative researchers), in a conservation forest within last ten years.

Title of the project (short)	Year of permission	PI of the project	Report Submitted (Yes/No)

5. Certificate of the Head of the Institute

5.1 Certificate of the Principal Investigator

I..... (full name) hereby certify that all the details furnished by me are true and correct. I agree to follow the guidelines and conditions stipulated by the Forest Department with respect of the research and to comply with the provisions of the Forest Conservation Ordinance and rules and regulations made thereunder.

Name: Prof/Dr/Mr/Ms

Designation:

Institute:

Date:

Signature of applicant:

5.2 Certificate of the Head of the Institute

The approval for the application of Prof/Dr/Mr/Ms is hereby granted and it is stated that the facilities of the institution will be provided to the applicant for the research.

Name: Prof / Dr/ Mr/ Ms

Contact No.

Date:

Signature and Seal of the Head of the Institute:

Second Schedule

{regulation 4(3)}

Conditions for conducting a Research

1. Any application for a permit to conduct a research within a Conservation Forest, prepared substantially in the form set out in the First Schedule shall be submitted to the Conservator General at least three months prior to the initiation of research activities.
2. The permit issued by the Conservator General or an officer authorized by him in that behalf based on the recommendations of the National Forestry Sector Research Committee and on payment of fee specified in the Third Schedule, shall be valid for a maximum period of one year. For an extension of a permit, a request shall be made at least one month prior to the lapse of permitted time period, giving reasons along with the progress report of the research.
3. Any person who enters into a Conservation Forest for a scientific research shall subject to the provisions of the Forest Conservation Ordinance and rules and regulations made thereunder and to any other written law.
4. Any activity or study related to a research within a Conservation Forest shall be done or conducted under the supervision of the Forest Officers.
5. The permit shall not be transferable. Where the researcher intends to make any change to his research project, he shall obtain prior approval from the Conservator General.
6. Any foreign researcher shall submit his research application through the Head of his Institution. Such research project shall be conducted in collaboration with a state affiliated local research institute or the Department of Forest Conservation. The Head of the relevant local research institute shall approve such research project and the principal investigator of the research project shall be a person of such institute.
7. Any disclosure of contravention of a condition of the permit by the researcher may result in the cancellation of the permit or refusal of any future request for a permit to conduct any other research.
8. The Department of Forest Conservation shall not be responsible for any damage or loss caused to any person or a property during the period of research.
9. A report of the results or findings of the research shall be submitted to the Research Division of the Department of Forest Conservation within six months after the completion of the research project. The Conservator General may request to conduct a presentation on the findings of the research project to the officers of the Department of Forest Conservation. The copies of the thesis, research papers, and the reports of the seminars which include the findings of the research shall be submitted to the Department of Forest Conservation. These requirements shall be fulfilled before making a request for a future research work.
10. The Conservator General may impose any other conditions depending on the nature of the research project.

I/ We hereby agree to comply with the above conditions.

Name :
Designation :
Institute :
Date :

.....
Signature of Principal Investigator.

Third Schedule

{regulation 4(4)}

Charges

01. For a research conducted by undergraduates	Free of charge
02. One Year Research Project	Rs. 5,000.00
03. One Year Extension	Rs. 2,500.00
04. Refundable deposit for a research project (This is not relevant to No. 01)	Rs. 10,000.00

EOG 08-0205/4

L.D.B 203/33 (v)

THE FOREST CONSERVATION ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 451)

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation under subsection (4) of section 3 and section 64 of the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451).

PAVITHRA WANNIARACHCHI,
Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation.

Colombo,
11th August, 2023.

REGULATIONS

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Forest Conservation (Reserved Forests) Regulations, No. 04 of 2023 and shall come into operation on 21.08.2023

(2) The provisions of these regulations shall apply to all reserved forests.

2. The Management Plan prepared by the Conservator General in terms of the provisions of section 3 of the Ordinance shall :-

- (a) contain measures for the conservation of bio diversity, soil and water within reserved forests and for the preservation of its unique ecological system and genetic resources as a habitat of rare and endemic species of flora and fauna; and
- (b) include the modalities or criteria, as the case may be -
 - (i) for surveying and demarcation of boundaries of reserved forests, as and when required;
 - (ii) For dividing the reserved forests into management zones and for altering the boundaries of such zones where necessary;

- (iii) for the identification of areas within which the specified activities required for the management of reserved forests are to be implemented;
- (iv) for the identification of activities required for the management of reserved forests and for the implementation of the same;
- (v) for introducing and implementing an appropriate mechanism for protecting reserved forests; and
- (vi) for the sustainable utilization of forest produce of reserved forests.

3. (1) The Conservator General shall affix his signature to the Management Plan once it has been finalized in order to signify his approval and he shall be responsible for the implementation of the Management Plan so approved.

(2) The Conservator General may make amendments to the Management Plan where necessary, in order to assure the sustenance of the reserved forests.

(3) The Conservator General shall specify by way of guidelines the procedure to be followed in monitoring the activities being implemented under the approved Management Plan and for assessing the effectiveness of such Plan in relation to such activities.

4. (1) For ensuring the sustainable management of reserved forests the Conservator General may obtain the participation of the community and non - state sector, whenever necessary subject to entering into a Management Agreement for such purpose.

(2) Where there is a need to enter into a Management Agreement as specified above, for the management of a reserved forest, the Conservator General shall prepare the agreement and such agreement shall be signed by all stakeholders who are parties to the agreement.

(3) Where there is a Management Agreement under paragraph (1) to implement the activities of the Management Plan the implementation of which is beneficial to the community and non - state sector, the Conservator General shall determine and collect a fee which shall reflect the value in proportion to the monetary and non- monetary benefits obtained from such forest by the community and non - state sector. Non disclosure of benefits obtained shall be an offense under the Ordinance.

5. The prior written approval of the Conservator General shall be obtained by every person who is engaged in any activity within a reserved forest for the purpose of discharging any duty arising out of, or in connection with the implementation of the Management Plan.

6. (1) The Conservator General may grant permission to the local community-

(a) for removing of dead and fallen sticks, from any reserved forest: provided that,

- (i) those dead and fallen sticks may be used as firewood for home fuel needs and those sticks shall be removed from the forest after cutting them into pieces not more than one meter in length; and
- (ii) no person shall remove or drag dead and fallen sticks from one place to another and they shall also leave behind the sufficient amount of dead wood for providing habitats for insects, micro organisms and other fauna and flora in places as indicated by the forest officers;

(b) for collection and removal of non-timber forest produce, in any reserved forest, in a manner that will not adversely affect the conservation of genetic resources, ecosystems and rare and endangered animals and plants; and

(c) for utilizing water from natural springs, fountains and other natural resources of water in any reserved forest for drinking purpose, without disturbing the upstream and downstream aquatic habitats of such natural springs, fountains or water resources .

(2) No act referred to above shall be done otherwise than in accordance with such conditions as may be set out in the written permission granted for such purpose.

7. (1) Any person who intends to conduct a scientific research in a reserved forest shall make an application to the Conservator General in the form as may be determined by the Conservator General.

(2) The Conservator General may, upon considering such application, issue a permit for conducting a scientific research subject to such terms and conditions as may be specified in the Schedule.

(3) Any person who has been granted approval to conduct a scientific research under this regulation shall be required to pay a fee as may be determined by the Conservator General.

(4) Where any matter which is out of the scope of authority given under the permit, arises with regard to conducting a scientific research, a prior approval of the Conservator General shall be obtained by the person who conducts the research.

8. For the purpose of these regulations -

“ Conservator General” means the Conservator General of Forests appointed under section 58 of the Ordinance;

“ firewood” means timber not exceeding 1 meter (3 feet) in length and not exceeding 45 centimeters (18 inches) in girth at either end, of any species except those set out in Schedules I and II of the Ordinance but including the branch wood of such species, yet conforming to the above specifications;

“local community” means permanent residents in a Grama Niladhari Division fully or partly situated within a distance of an air kilometer from the boundary of the relevant reserved forest;

“Management Plan” means a plan prepared in terms of section 3 of the Ordinance, for scientific management of any forest and approved by the Conservator General;

“non-timber forest produce” means leaves, flowers, nuts, seeds, fruits, roots, juice, oil, myrabolans, resin, gum, thipal, herbal plants and parts thereof or substances generated by it, grass, creeps, bamboo, reeds, moss, rattan cane, mushroom and honey;

“Ordinance” means the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451);

“reserved forest” means a forest declared as a reserved forest in terms of section 3 and forests deemed to have been reserved in terms of section 10 of the Ordinance; and

“sticks” means any wood that is dead or fallen of any plant species which are below 45 centimeters at the center.

Schedule

{regulation 7(2)}

Conditions for conducting a Scientific Research

1. Any application for a permit to conduct a scientific research within a Reserved Forest shall be prepared substantially in the form as may be determined by the Conservator General and shall be submitted to the Conservator General at least three months prior to the initiation of research activities.
2. The permit issued by the Conservator General or an officer authorized by him in that behalf based on the recommendations of the National Forestry Sector Research Committee and on payment of fee as may be determined by the Conservator General, shall be valid for a maximum period of one year. For an extension of a permit, a request shall be made at least one month prior to the lapse of permitted time period, giving reasons along with the progress report of the research.
3. Any person who enters into a Reserved Forest for a scientific research shall subject to the provisions of the Forest Conservation Ordinance and rules and regulations made thereunder and to any other written law.
4. Any activity or study related to a scientific research within a Reserved Forest shall be done or conducted under the supervision of Forest Officers.
5. The permit shall not be transferable. Where any researcher intends to make any change to his research project, he shall obtain prior approval from the Conservator General.
6. Any foreign researcher shall submit his research application through the Head of his Institution. Such research project shall be conducted in collaboration with a state affiliated local research institute or the Department of Forest Conservation. The Head of the relevant local research institute shall approve such research project and the principal investigator of the research project shall be a person of such institute.
7. Any disclosure of contravention of a condition of the permit by the researcher may result in the cancellation of the permit or refusal of any future request for a permit to conduct any other research.
8. The Department of Forest Conservation shall not be responsible for any damage or loss caused to any person or a property during the period of research.
9. A report of the results or findings of the research shall be submitted to the Research Division of the Department of Forest Conservation within six months after the completion of the research project. The Conservator General may request the researcher to conduct a presentation on the findings of the research to the officers of the Department of Forest Conservation. The copies of the thesis, research papers, and the reports of the seminars which include the findings of the research shall be submitted to the Department of Forest Conservation. These requirements shall be fulfilled before making a request for a future research work.
10. The Conservator General may impose any other conditions depending on the nature of the research project.

I/ We hereby agree to comply with the above conditions.

Name :
Designation :
Institute :
Date :

Signature of Principal Investigator

L.D.-B 203/33 (VII)(A)

FOREST CONSERVATION ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 451)

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation under section 64 read with sections 58 and 59 of the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451).

PAVITHRA WANNIARACHCHI,
Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation.

Colombo,
11th August, 2023.

Regulations

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Forest Conservation Regulations No. 05 of 2023.

(2) These regulations shall apply in relation to the Powers and Duties of the Forest Officers.

2. The officers specified in Column I of the Schedule hereto shall exercise within their respective areas of authority the powers specified in the corresponding entry in Column III of that Schedule, conferred or imposed under the relevant section of the Forest Conservation Ordinance specified in the corresponding entry in Column II of that Schedule.

3. In terms of the provisions of subsection (2) of section 58 of the Forest Conservation Ordinance, the following employees are hereby authorized to perform the functions of a forest officer within their respective area of authority:-

- (a) the General Manager, Deputy General Managers, Assistant General Managers, Deputy Managers, Regional Managers, Deputy Regional Managers, Assistant Regional Managers, Depot Officers or Coupe Officers of the State Timber Corporation, for the purpose of paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 58 of that Ordinance; and
- (b) the Director-General of the Department of Wildlife Conservation, Directors, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors, Wildlife Rangers, Assistant Wildlife Rangers or Wildlife Guards of the Department of Wildlife Conservation, for the purpose of paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 58 of that Ordinance.

4. The Forest Regulations No. 4 of 1979 published in *Gazette* Extraordinary No. 68/14 of December 26, 1979 as amended from time to time, are hereby rescinded without prejudice to anything done thereunder.

5. In these regulations, unless the context requires otherwise-

“Forest Conservation Ordinance” means the Forest Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 451);

“forest officer” means any person or persons appointed to the post of the Conservator-General of Forest, Additional Conservator-General of Forest, Conservators of Forest, Deputy Conservators of Forests, Assistant Conservators of Forests, Divisional Forest officers, Additional Divisional Forest Officers, Assistant Divisional Forest officers, Special Foresters, Foresters, Range Forest Officers, Additional Range Forest Officers, Beat Forest Officers, Forest Field Assistants, Plantation Watchers, Plantation Labourers or Forest Labourers or any other person appointed by name or by office to discharge any function of a forest officer under the provisions of the Forest Conservation Ordinance or any regulation or rule made thereunder;

“State Timber Corporation” means the State Timber Corporation established under the State Industrial Corporations Act, No. 49 of 1957.

SCHEDULE

(Regulation 2)

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>	<i>Column III</i>
<i>Class of the officer empowered</i>	<i>Section of the Forest Conservation Ordinance under which the power are given</i>	<i>Brief description of the nature of the powers conferred</i>
1. Conservator-General of Forest, Additional Conservator-Generals of Forest and Conservators of Forest	3(3)	To implement Management Plans for Reserved Forests in the manner as may be prescribed for the purposes specified in section 3(2).
	3A (4)	To implement Management Plans for Conservation Forests in respect of which such Management Plans was prepared, in the manner as prescribed for the purposes specified in section 3A(1).
	19	To grant permission for the activities specified in section 19.
	24 (1)(g)	To establish checking stations.
	24 (1) (gg)	To nominate checking stations or places to where timber or forest products seized in transit may be brought and issue permits for their transport.
2. Conservator-General of Forest, Additional Conservator-Generals of Forest, Conservators of Forest, Deputy Conservators of Forest, Assistant Conservators of Forest, Divisional Forest Officers, Additional Divisional Forest Officers, Special Foresters and Assistant Divisional Forest Officers.	24 (1) (i)	To authorize the transport of timber belonging to the State across any land and regulate compensation to be paid for damage done by transport or removal of such timber
	5	To stop ways and watercourses in Conservation Forests or Reserved Forests.
	24 (1) (gg)	To nominate places to where timber or forest products seized in transit may be brought
	24 (1) (i)	To authorize the transport of timber belonging to the State across any land and regulate compensation to be paid for damage done by transport or removal of such timber
	24 (1) (j)	To prevent obstructions of waterways.
	24 (1) (k)	To remove obstructions of waterways and to recover the cost of the removal of the obstruction.
	24 (1) (l)	To grant permission to establish sawpits or sawmills and possession or carrying of marking hammers.

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>	<i>Column III</i>
<i>Class of the officer empowered</i>	<i>Section of the Forest Conservation Ordinance under which the power are given</i>	<i>Brief description of the nature of the powers conferred</i>
	30 (2)	To nominate the places to which the collect timber mentioned in section 30 (1) shall be brought.
	31	To give public notice of timber collected under section 30.
	32	To inquire and make decisions on claims regarding timber collected under section 30.
	35	To receive payments due as expenses for collecting, moving, storing or disposing of timber
	41	To take possession of timber or forest produce on conclusion of a trial.
	42	To direct the sale of property seized under section 37 or accept security and release the seizure.
	45	To release property seized under section 37 and withdraw charges.
	51	To compound forest offences and accept compensation.
	59 (1) (c)	To hold inquiries into forest offences and in the course of such inquiries to receive and record evidence.
	69	If there is any forest produce in respect of which money is payable to the State to take possession, retain and sell such forest produce.
3. Foresters, Range Forest Officers, Additional Range Forest Officers	24 (1) (gg)	To nominate places to where timber or forest products seized in transit may be brought.
	24 (1) (k)	To remove obstructions of waterways.
	24 (1) (l)	To grant permission to carry and use stamping hammers.
	24 (1) (n)	To detain timber or forest produce floated or stored in contravention of any regulation made under 24(1)(n).
	30 (2)	To name the stations to where the collected timber mentioned in section 30 (1) shall be brought.
	41	To take possession of property on conclusion of trial.
	45	To release property seized and withdraw charges.
	59 (1) (c)	To hold inquiries into forest offences and in the course of such inquiries to receive and record evidence.

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>	<i>Column III</i>
<i>Class of the officer empowered</i>	<i>Section of the Forest Conservation Ordinance under which the power are given</i>	<i>Brief description of the nature of the powers conferred</i>
4. Beat Forest Officers and Forest Field Assistants	24 (1) (k)	To remove obstructions of waterways.
	24 (1) (l)	To carry and use stamping hammers.
	24 (1) (n)	To detain timber or forest produce floated or stored in contravention of any regulation made under 24(1)(n).
	59 (1) (c)	To hold inquiries into forest offences and in the course of such inquiries to receive and record evidence.
5. Plantation Watchers and Plantation Labourers	24 (1) (k)	To remove obstructions of waterways.
	24 (1) (n)	To detain timber or forest produce floated or stored in contravention of any regulation made under 24(1)(n).
6. General Manager of the State Timber Corporation, Deputy General Managers, Assistant General Managers, Deputy Managers, Regional Managers, Deputy Regional Managers and Assistant Regional Managers	24 (1) (k)	To remove obstructions of waterways.
	24 (1) (l)	To grant permission to carry and use stamping hammers.
	24 (1) (n)	To detain timber or forest produce floated or stored in contravention of any regulation made under 24(1)(n).
	27	To stop and examine and deal with timber and forest produce in transit.
	37	To seize property liable to confiscation.
	48	To arrest without an Order from a Magistrate and without warrant.
7. Depot Officers of the State Timber Corporation	24 (1) (l)	To carry and use stamping hammers.
8. Coupe Officers of the State Timber Corporation	24 (1) (k)	To remove obstructions of waterways.
	24 (1) (l)	To carry and use stamping hammers.
	27	To stop and examine and deal with timber and forest produce in transit.
	37	To seize property liable to confiscation.

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>	<i>Column III</i>
<i>Class of the officer empowered</i>	<i>Section of the Forest Conservation Ordinance under which the power are given</i>	<i>Brief description of the nature of the powers conferred</i>
	48	To arrest without an Order from a Magistrate and without warrant.
9. District Secretaries, Divisional Secretaries and Assistant Divisional Secretaries	24 (1) (gg)	To nominate places to where timber or forest products seized in transit may be brought.
	24 (1) (i)	To authorize the transport of timber belonging to State across any land.
	24 (1) (j)	To prevent obstructions of waterways.
	24 (1) (k)	To remove obstructions of waterways and sale of timber or forest products to levy of money spent on it.
	24 (1) (l)	To grant permission to carry and use stamping hammers.
	24 (1) (n)	To detain timber or forest produce floated or stored in contravention of any regulation made under 24(1)(n).
	27	To stop and examine and deal with timber and forest produce in transit.
	28	To check stocks of timber, registers and property marks in private timber depots and deal with timber found out from the timber depot.
	30 (2)	To name the stations to where the collected timber mentioned in section 30 (1) shall be brought.
	32	To inquire and make decisions on claims regarding timber collected under section 30.
	37	To seize property liable to confiscation.
	48	To arrest without an Order from a Magistrate and without warrant.
10. District Land Officers, Land Officers, Kachcheri Surveyors, Grama Niladharis and Colony Officers of the Land Commissioner's Department	27	To stop and examine and deal with timber and forest produce in transit.
	37	To seize property liable to confiscation.
	48	To arrest without an Order from a Magistrate and without warrant.

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>	<i>Column III</i>
<i>Class of the officer empowered</i>	<i>Section of the Forest Conservation Ordinance under which the power are given</i>	<i>Brief description of the nature of the powers conferred</i>
11. Director-General of the Department of Wildlife Conservation, Directors, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors, Wildlife Rangers, Assistant Wildlife Rangers of the Department of Wildlife Conservation.	24 (1) (gg)	To nominate places to where timber or forest products seized in transit may be brought.
	27	To stop and examine and deal with timber and forest produce in transit.
	37	To seize property liable to confiscation.
	48	To arrest without an Order from a Magistrate and without warrant.
12. Wild Life Guards of the Department of Wild Life Conservation.	27	To stop and examine and deal with timber and forest produce in transit.
	37	To seize property liable to confiscation.
	48	To arrest without an Order from a Magistrate and without warrant.

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