



Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Civil Secretariat, Forest Department

Subject: Empowerment of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the State in respect of Fisheries Department.

Reference: Government Order No: 1126-GAD of 2011 Dated 22.09.2011.

Government Order No: 258 - FST of 2012
Dated: 04.06.2012.

The Department of Fisheries is entrusted with the primary responsibility of conservation of water resources for promotion of fisheries culture, establishment of infrastructure like hatcheries, fish farms and laboratories, establishment of aquaria cum awareness centres under recreational fisheries and construction of Angler's lodges/ survey huts under sport fisheries. The Department also takes up fish farming in private sector by establishing rearing units and provides free housing to the fishermen under welfare programmes. It is also associated with stocking of natural water resources and development of community ponds.

In furtherance to Government Order No.1126-GAD of 2011 dated 22.09.2011, the following detailed instructions are hereby issued with regard to devolution of functions to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) at the level of Halqa Panchayat, Block Development Council and District Planning and Development Board in respect of the activities pertaining to the Fisheries Department as follows for strict compliance: -

A) PREPARATION OF PLANS

1) HALQA PANCHAYAT

- i. **Identification of community ponds for stocking of fish**
Identification of the community ponds shall be done jointly by Halqa Panchayat and the Deputy Inspector Fisheries/ Extension Worker/ Fisheries Guard, as the case may be. The fish seed stocking of such ponds will be done by departmental functionaries in presence of the representatives of the Halqa Panchayat.
- ii. **Construction / Renovation of Community Ponds**
Construction of new community ponds and renovation of existing community ponds would be carried out by the Halqa Panchayat through the Rural Development Department. The Deputy Inspector Fisheries/ Extension Worker/ Fisheries Guard

concerned shall coordinate between the Rural Development Department and the Halqa Panchayat for establishment of new ponds as per feasibility and in accordance with the departmental parameters. He shall also coordinate for carrying out renovation of existing ponds, if any.

2) DISTRICT PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Protection, Conservation and development of other protected waters duly notified under the Fisheries Act

For protection, conservation and development of fish fauna in the waters like Sanctuaries, Trout, Protected and Reserved waters, as notified under the J&K Fisheries Act, the Assistant Director Fisheries at the district level shall work in close coordination with District Planning and Development Board for monitoring the implementation of the Act. This shall include identification of new areas through detailed survey for bringing them under various developmental programmes after taking into consideration feasibility and other laid down parameters. Thereafter appropriate developmental programmes shall be formulated by the District Planning and Development Board so as to enable promotion and development of fish culture programmes under various schemes already available with the department.

B) IDENTIFICATION OF BENEFICIARIES

1) HALQA PANCHAYAT

Identification of beneficiaries under Government Schemes as per norms

For establishment of ponds in the private sector, the Halqa Panchayat may recommend cases to the Deputy Inspector Fisheries/ Extension Worker / Fisheries Guard, who will place such cases before the Technical Committee of the Department, already existing at the district level for ascertaining the feasibility under laid down norms.

For welfare schemes like Housing facilities to Fishermen, the Halqa Panchayat may recommend the bonafide houseless deserving fishermen to the Deputy Inspector Fisheries/ Extension Worker/ Fisheries Guard concerned for covering them under the scheme as per the guidelines.

2) BLOCK DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

i. Identification of Fish farmers for training in fish culture

On the recommendations of the Block Development Council, the Inspector Fisheries/ Fisheries Development Assistant

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concerned shall organize the training of fish farmers in fish culture through Fish Farmers Development Agency (FFDA).

ii. Collection of demand and distribution of seedlings to the Fish Farmers

On the recommendations of the Block Development Council, the demand and distribution of fish seed / fingerlings to the fish farmers shall be organized by the Inspector Fisheries/ Fisheries Development Assistant concerned.

C) SUPERVISION OF WORKS

1) HALQA PANCHAYAT

i. Maintenance and control of community ponds

Maintenance/ control /repairs/up-gradation of community ponds will be done by the Halqa Panchayat through Rural Development Department under MGNREGA/ other schemes as per the existing procedures.

The Deputy Inspector Fisheries/ Extension worker/ Fisheries Guard, as the case may be, shall coordinate between Rural Development Department and Halqa Panchayat for carrying out maintenance, repairs and up-gradation of the community ponds as per requirement through MGNREGA under his close supervision.

ii. Conservation of aquatic fauna of rivers and streams

For the conservation of fish fauna in natural water resources and for implementation of the Fisheries Act , Halqa Panchayat shall assist the Deputy Inspector Fisheries/ Extension Worker/ Fisheries Guard concerned to check the illegal fishing /extraction of sand/ boulders and Bajri, which activities are responsible for disturbing the habitat / breeding / feeding grounds of fish. Stocking of natural water resources with quality seed shall be carried out by the Deputy Inspector Fisheries/ Extension Worker/ Fisheries Guard, as the case may be, in presence of the Halqa Panchayat and a certificate to that effect shall be recorded by the Halqa Panchayat.

To check illegal fishing in the natural water bodies the members of the Halqa Panchayat shall immediately inform the concerned functionary of the Fisheries Department and help him in checking the illegal fishing or illegal extraction of river bed material.

The Deputy Inspector Fisheries/ extension Worker/ Fisheries Guard concerned shall seek the assistance and support of Halqa Panchayat for efficient implementation of the provisions of the Fisheries Act.

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2) DISTRICT PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Monitoring of implementation of Fisheries Act

The District Planning and Development Board shall oversee the monitoring and implementation of the Fisheries Act in the District as a whole and address the complaints, if any, received regarding non-implementation of the Act by issuing appropriate instructions to the Assistant Director Fisheries who is the designated officer at district level for coordination with District Planning and Development Board.

D) FLOW OF FUNDS

HALQA PANCHAYAT

Right to lease community ponds to the beneficiaries and realization of lease money

Right to lease the community ponds would be the prerogative of Halqa Panchayat and the money realized in lease proceedings shall be utilized by the Panchayat for village development.

In the lease proceedings, the Deputy Inspector Fisheries / Extension worker/ Fisheries Guard concerned shall be coopted as a member of the lease committee.

By order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sd/-

(Umang Narula), IAS

Commissioner / Secretary to Government
Forest Department

No: FST/ Coord/ 30/ 2011

Dated: 04.06.2012.

Copy to: -

1. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister.
2. Commissioner / Secretary to Government, Rural Development Department.
3. Divisional Commissioners, Kashmir / Jammu.
4. Secretary to Government, General Administration Department.
5. Director Fisheries, J&K, Srinagar.
6. Additional Secretary / Principal Private Secretary to Chief Secretary.
7. OSD to Hon'ble Minister of State for Fisheries (Independent Charge).
8. Private Secretary to Commissioner / Secretary to Govt. Forest Department.
9. Manager, Government Press, Srinagar, for publication in Govt. Gazettee.
10. I/c Website, General Administration Department / Forest Department.
11. Government Order file / Stock file / Forest Website.


(G.R. Mir), KAS

Addl. Secretary to Government
Forest Department