

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

Rc.No.22076/1/2024/WLR Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of
-2, Forest Force,
Dated:08/10/2024 Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri.

Sri Chiranjiv Choudhary, I.F.S.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force.

CIRCULAR No.01/2024

Sub:- Issuance of Notices to Revenue Authorities Regarding Pattas issued in Forest Areas and
Clarification on Pattas Cancellation –Regarding.

It has come to the notice of this office that several cases related to pattas issued by Revenue authorities in forest areas (notified forest land) are pending in various Hon'ble Courts. In this regard, it is requested to verify all such cases with reference to the gazette notification of the Forest block and confirm the legal status of the land which is under encroachment. Further, it has been observed that the District/Divisional Forest Officers and Deputy Directors have not issued notices to the Revenue authorities concerned questioning the authority to issue pattas in forest areas which is against the provisions of the Andhra Pradesh State Forest Act, 1967 as well as under the provision of the Forest (Conservation), Act 1980, amended in 2023. .

In light of the above, all District/Divisional Forest Officers / Deputy Directors are hereby directed to immediately take the following actions:

- 1. Issue notices to the Revenue authorities concerned** duly following the process mentioned below,
 - Seek confirmation of the veracity of the Pattas granted in forest areas.
 - Request for clarification on the authority under what authority these Pattas have been granted by the Revenue authorities.
- 2. Clarification is to be sought on cancellation of Pattas:**
 - A formal explanation is to be obtained from the Revenue authorities as to why pattas issued in forest areas shall not be cancelled, as these lands are under the control of the Forest Department as per Notification and other records.
- 3. A detailed report is to be submitted:**
 - Upon responses from the Revenue authorities , a comprehensive report is to be prepared and submitted to this office, including the reasons provided for the

issuance or non-cancellation of the Pattas, for further action to be taken.

Additionally, it is instructed that this issue be placed before the **District Forest Protection Committee** for discussion, and necessary steps are to be taken to ensure that the matter is resolved to avoid further legal complications. Besides, the DFOs are also requested to circulate the file to the District Collector for taking immediate necessary action.concerned

Please treat this as a matter of utmost importance and ensure compliance at the earliest.

Chiranjiv

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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force

To
All the Circle Heads/DFOs/ Dy. Directors