

**THE MAHARASHTRA LAND REVENUE
(REGULATION OF CUTTING AND SUPPLY OF WOOD,
ETC.) RULES, 1970**

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (viii) of sub-section (2) of Section 328, read with sub-section (2) of Section 329 of the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966 (Mah. XLI of 1966), and of all other powers enabling it in this behalf and in supersession of all previous rules made in this behalf and continued in force by virtue of the third proviso to Section 336 of the said Code, the Government of Maharashtra hereby makes the following rules, the same having been previously published as required by sub-section (1) of section 329 of the said Code, namely:-

1. Short title - These rules may be called the Maharashtra Land Revenue (Regulation of Cutting and Supply of Wood, etc.) Rules, 1970.

2. Regulation of cutting of wood from waste land - (1) Subject to the provisions of sub-rule (2), the inhabitants of a village in general may take wood for fuel and agriculturists may take such wood as may be required for agricultural implements, without payment of any tax, from trees standing in any waste land outside any reserved forest.

(2) The following trees shall not be cut or lopped for the purposes of sub-rule (1), except with the permission of the Sub-Divisional Officer:-

- (a) trees required for shade or any public purpose;
- (b) road side trees, trees in groves and trees around places of encampment ground declared as such by the Collector;
- (c) teak, black-wood, tiwas, khair, hirda, and mango;
- (d) trees within thirty metres of the extreme edge of the bank of any water-course, spring or tank;
- (e) trees, the cutting of which is prohibited under any law for the time being in force;
- (f) such other trees as may, from time to time, be notified by the Collector in consultation with the Conservator of Forest concerned.

(3) Any person committing a breach of this rule shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two times the value of the wood cut or lopped.

3. Regulation of cutting of wood from forest reserves - (1) In respect of trees standing on lands set apart under Section 22 of the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966, for forests reserve, the Collector shall, after making necessary enquiries, ascertain and record the existing privileges of the villagers or certain classes of persons to cut firewood or timber for domestic and other purposes.

(2) The Collector may, from time to time, issue instructions to the village officers with regard to the time and mode in which the privileges recorded under sub-rule (1) shall be exercised by the villagers. Such instructions shall be given due publicity in the village.