

FORM SR-1

APPLICATION FORM FOR SOCIETIES REGISTRATION ACT 1860 MODIFIED BY THE SOCIETIES REGISTRATION (EXTENSION TO THE ARUNACHAL PRADESH ACT 1970)

1. Name of society : Deka Village Forest Management Committee.
(Memorandum to be enclosed)
2. Object of the society : Regeneration, eco-development & protection of
community degraded forests of Deka village.

To promote active participation of village for
achieving long term & short term objectives as
envisaged in article 5 of memorandum of society &
byelaws.
3. Who are the governing Body.
 1. Sri Momar Riba, Chairman
 2. Smti Rapi Riba, Member
 3. Smti Mamoy Riba, Member
 4. Smti Toshi Riba, Member
 5. Sri Daknya Riba, Member
 6. Smti Goi Riba, Member
 7. Sri Dakmo Riba, Member
 8. Smti Domi Riba, Member
 9. Sri Tonya Riram, Member
 10. Range Forest Officer, Nari, Member
Secretary.
4. Name & address of governing body:

Sl	Name	Address	Occupation
1.	Sri Momar Riba	Vill: Deka, PO: Nari, District: East Siang, Arunachal Pradesh	Farmer
2.	Smti Rapi Riba	-Do-	-Do-
3.	Smti Mamoy Riba	-Do-	-Do-
4.	Smti Toshi Riba	-Do-	-Do-
5.	Sri Daknya Riba	-Do-	-Do-
6.	Smti Goi Riba	-Do-	-Do-
7.	Sri Dakmo Riba	-Do-	-Do-
8.	Smti Domi Riba	-Do-	-Do-
9.	Sri Tonya Riram	-Do-	-Do-
10.	Range Forest Officer	Nari Forest Range	Govt. Servant

5. If society established for promotion of literature, science, fine arts, diffusion of useful knowledge (diffusion of political knowledge) or veritable programme. : Yes
6. Is there any memorandum of association? If so, certified copy of to be enclosed. : Yes, copy enclosed.
7. Is there any Rules & Regulations of the society? If so, certified copy to be enclosed. : Yes, copy enclosed.
8. Is there any General Body meeting held after formation of the society? If so, a certified copy of the reports of the proceeding at which the registration was resolved to be submitted. : Yes, copy of the minutes of General Body meeting & constitution of Executive Committee in enclosed.
9. If the registration fee paid. : Yes, copy of receipted Treasury Challan enclosed.
10. List of movable/ immovable property of the society at the time of applying for registration. : Yes, list enclosed.

I/We certify that the above statements are true to the best of my/our knowledge and belief.

Place: Deka

Date : 31st March/2003

Signature

Chairman

Member Secretary

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

No. for 104/D-4/90/Vol-I, dated Itanagar the 3rd October 1997

Whereas the Government of Arunachal Pradesh is concerned about the continued degradation of Un-classed Forests around the villages and other inhabited areas due to excessive biotic pressure especially grazing and removal of firewood and timber, jhuming etc.

An whereas the Department of Environment and Forests has decided to take up a massive programme for regeneration and protection of the above Un-classed Forest areas jointly with the local villagers/inhabitants under a Joint Forest Management (JFM) scheme for converting them into productive forests.

And whereas active participation and involvement of local people are vital for regeneration, maintenance and protection of the aforesaid forests and plantations and successful implementation of the programme.

Now therefore, the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh is pleased to decide that Village Forest Management Committee (VFMCs) shall be constituted for this purpose throughout the State of Arunachal Pradesh and beneficiaries acting as members of such committees shall be allowed as a measure of incentive, 25% of the benefits subject to observance of the conditions provided in this resolution.

The composition, duties and function, the usufructuary benefits and restrictive measure pertaining to such committees shall be as follows:

1. Composition

The management of the selected forest areas will vest with the VFMCs. A VFMC shall be constituted for each of the Joint Forest Management (JFM) area and shall have the following composition.

- i). One adult member from each family of all the village located within or adjacent to the selected JFM area. At least 30% of the total registered members shall have to be women.
- ii). The VFMCs, in additions to the registered members, shall have ex-officio members as follows.
 - a). Vice President(s) of the Zilla Parishad(s) of the District.
 - b). Vide President(s) of the Anchal Samities falling within the identified areas.
 - c). Range Officer concerned.
 - d). One representative from local non-governmental organisation (NGO) if any, in the areas to be nominated by the Divisional Officers concerned.

Non of the Ex-officio members including NGO representative would entitled to any of the benefits under this scheme.

- iii). Each Village Forest Management Committee shall have one Executive Committee (EC) with the following composition:
 - a). Chairman to be elected by the registered members at the first general body meeting of the VFMC to be convened by the Range Officer concerned. Ex-officio members shall not be entitled to vote.
 - b). 8 (eight) Members from amongst the registered members of the VFMC shall be elected on the first meeting of the General Body.
 - c). 3 (three) Ex-officio members comprising of
 - i). Vice President of the Zilla Parishad.
 - ii). One representative of NGO.
 - iii). The Range Officer concerned (Member Secretary)
 - d). The Chairman and the Member Secretary of the Executive Committee shall also function as the Chairman & Member Secretary of the VFMCs concerned.

2. Duties of VFMCs

- i). The Village Forest Management Committee shall maintain a register showing necessary particulars of the registered members as well as the beneficiaries, as for example, name, father's name, address, age, number of family members, name of nominees, etc. The nomination form duly approved by the Executive Committee should be pasted in the register. Such registers are also to be maintained in the Range Office of the Forest Department and a copy of the aforesaid register shall also be kept in the office of the Divisional Forest Officer concerned for record.
- ii). The Village Forest Management Committee maintain a minutes book wherein proceedings of the meeting(s) of the Executive Committee held from time to time, as well as the proceedings of the annual general meeting(s) of the Village Forest Management Committee(s) will be recorded under the signature of the Chairman of the Committee and such minutes duly attested shall be sent to the concerned Range Officer for record.
- iii.) The Village Forest Management Committee shall hold an annual general meeting once in every year, where activities of the Village Forest Management Committee as well as the details of distribution of usufructuary benefits are to be discussed, besides electing representatives of the beneficiaries to the Executive Committee(s).

3. Functions and Responsibilities (VFMCs)

- a)
 - i). To ensure protection of forests/plantations through members of the Committee(s).
 - ii). To protect the said forests/plantations with the members of the Committee.

- iii). To inform forest personnel about any person or persons attempting trespass and wilfully or maliciously damaging the said forests/plantations and commit theft thereon.
- iv). To prevent such trespass, encroachments, grazing, forest fire, theft and poaching of wild animals.
- v). To regulate jhuming, grazing and collection of non-timber forest products (NTFP).
- vi). To assist the forest personnel in apprehension of such person or persons committing any of the offences mentioned above.
- b). i). To ensure smooth and timely execution of all forestry works taken up the area under protection by the Committees.
- ii). To involve every member of the Committee in the matter of protection of forests/plantations as well as any other duty assigned to the Committee.
- c). i). To ensure smooth harvesting of forest produce by the forest department.
- ii). To assist the concerned forest official in proper distribution of the earmarked portion of the net sale proceeds among the members of the Committee as per list maintained by the Executive Committee.
- iii). To ensure that usufructuary rights allowed by the Government is not in any way misused by any of the members and forests/plantations are kept free from any encroachment whatsoever.
- d). i). To prevent any activity in contravention of the provisions of the Assam Forest Regulation or any other Acts and Rules made thereunder.

The members of Executive Committee (EC) shall have power to apprehend any forest offender and hand them over to the authorities concerned for taking punitive action. They shall have power to seize illegal timber and any other forest produce. The Executive Committee shall have power to levy fines for unauthorised / illegal activities on any of the members of VFMC.

- e). Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

The VFMCs through their ECs shall execute MOUs with the concerned DFOs for active participation in the in the task of protection, regeneration and management of forest areas and for implementation of the programmes as per the joint management plans. The format of MOU is at Annexure-I.

4. Responsibilities of the Department of Environment and Forests

- i). The Department of Environment and Forests shall be responsible for the constitution of the Village Forest Management Committee and for overseeing the formation of the General Body(s) and Executive Committee(s).

- ii). It shall ensure that the Management Plans are prepared for each of the JFM areas before such activities are taken up for timber operation/regeneration.
- iii). The Divisional Forest Officer concerned shall prepare a Management Plan for each of the Management units identified under this Scheme after a critical analysis of the management issues and the needs of the local people.

The Management Plan shall aim at sustainable development of the selected forest areas and shall have prescriptions for production of timber, fuel-wood, fodder, regulation of grazing, method of regeneration, method of rehabilitation of degraded forest areas, the quantities and modalities for removal of forest produce.

The Management Plan shall cover a period of 5 (five) years.

- iv). The draft Management Plan will be considered by the Executive Committee (EC) and after discussion in the General Body (GB) of Village Forest Management Committee (VFMC), it shall be submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests for approval.
- v). The implementation of the Management Plan will be taken up with the help of funds available under relevant State Plan Schemes including the regeneration of the harvested areas and degraded forests under State Plan/Central Sector Scheme.
- vi). The prescriptions of the Management Plan shall be strictly enforced to guard against over-felling and to ensure that the harvested areas are regenerated within a given time frame.
- vii). The Executive Committee (EC) and the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) concerned shall maintain close control over all operations in the identified areas.
- viii). The Department shall ensure proper sharing of the usufruct and revenues accruing from the management of the JFM areas and guard against any misuse of the benefits and privileges under this scheme.
- ix). The Divisional Forest Officer concerned shall set up an Extension cell in his office under the charge of a responsible officer (ACF/Range Officer) for furthering the objectives of this Schemes in the areas under their jurisdiction and eliciting the cooperation of the local people in implementing the JFM Scheme.
- x). The Department shall make necessary arrangements for providing training to the members of VFMCs and ECs enabling them to discharge their duties and responsibilities effectively.
- xi). The Department will arrange for the disposal of the timber and NTFPs harvested from the areas under Management Plan prescriptions through the Arunachal Pradesh Forest Corporation Ltd. (APFCL) so as to ensure maximum financial returns to the CFNCs.

- xii). The Department through its State Forest Research Institute (SFRI) shall develop area-specific packages for afforestation and development of the forest resources in the identified JFM areas.
- xiii). The Department shall also promote either directly or through the concerned agencies, the development of traditional jhum-lands in the areas for permanent cultivation, so that the “Jhumias” do not extend their jhumming activities to new sites within the identified JFM areas.

5. Selection of Areas

- i). The Joint Forest Management (JFM) Scheme shall be implemented in the Un-classed forest around the respective villages and other habitat which are vulnerable to encroachments and biotic interference.
- ii). The Scheme shall to apply to private forests or forests under private ownership.
- iii). The selection of areas shall be done by the Department of Environment and Forests in consultation with the local administration and consent of the local people.
- iv). The villages will have to enter into an agreement with the Sate Department of Environment and Forests giving their consent for implementing the Joint Forest Management (JFM) Schemes in their areas and to abide by the terms and conditions specified thereunder.
- v). The Management Unit shall be determined on the basis of the extent of Un-classed forest area which can be delineated into composite block and over which the nearby villagers have been traditionally exercising customary rights and privileges.
- vi). All the villages of the villages so identified shall hereinafter be referred to as the “beneficiaries”
- vii). The protection regulation provisions of the Assam Forest Regulation 1891 (VII of 1891) shall *ipso facto* apply to the selected areas so as to provide the necessary regulatory and control mechanism and bring the areas under scientific management.

6. Meetings

- i) The General Body (GB) of the VFMC shall meet once annually while the Executive Committee (EC) shall meet at least once in three months, or more frequently if the Member Secretary in consultation with the Chairman deems it necessary to transact any urgent business.
- ii). The quorum for the meeting of the General Body (GB(as well as the Executive Committee (EC) shall be half of the registered members and elected members respectively.
- iii). The General Body (GB) and EC will maintain registers of members, a register to record the minutes and decisions of each meeting and a cash register to maintain records of income and expenditure.

- iv). The EC may appoint part time or full time employees at such consolidated wages as may be decided, to maintain the accounts and for other purposes.
- v). The Member Secretary shall be overall responsible for the proper maintenance of all records and accounts.
- vi). The accounts shall be got audited annually after their approval by the Executive Committee (EC) and the GB) of the Village Forest Management Committee (VFMC).

7. Benefits/Un-usufruct Sharing

- i). The members of the VFMCs will be entitled to use all non-timber produce (NTF), dead and fallen wood, small timber, fodder, etc. for their bona fide domestic consumption free of cost, without causing any damage to the forest areas. These benefits will be available to the VFMC members only when they undertake to discharge their protection and management responsibilities and functions as envisaged under the scheme.
- ii). The revenues accruing from the timber operations, both at the time of silvicultural thinning and main felling, will be shared between the VFMCs and the Department in the following manner.
 - 50% (fifty percent) of the gross revenues shall be credited to the Government account as revenue while from the remaining 50%, 25% will be distributed equally among all the members of the VFMC concerned and the balance 25% will be deposited in the Development Fund which will be operated by the EC for development activities as may be approved by it and endorsed by the General Body (GB). The other revenues such as from levy of fines, etc., will also be credited to the Development Fund.
- iii) In case substantially degraded Un-classed forests are selected as JFM areas in some places, VFMCs should be assured some immediate benefits until the identified forests reach a productive stage. This can be ensured by providing wage employment to as many VFMC members as possible during the implementation of forest regeneration and development effort. Assistance can also be taken through District Administration under the ongoing Rural Development schemes to benefit the VFMC members.

8. Financial Implications

There will be no direct financial implication for the Department in the implementation of this scheme. No additional staff will be required to be engaged by the Department for implementing this Scheme in the identified areas. However, if the DFO concerned can deploy his staff to further the objectives of this scheme he shall be free to do so. In any case as provided for in the Scheme the EC may appoint part time or full time employees as may be necessary for various purposes in implementing the Scheme. Ongoing State Plan and Central Sector Schemes shall be made use of the in the afforestation of degraded JFM lands and for aided natural regeneration (ANR) of harvested

areas. Advantage will also be taken of the new Cs Schemes initiated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the joint management of forest lands with the association of Scheduled Tribes and rural poor. The Department will also strive to obtain financial assistance through externally aided projects and bilateral and multilateral funding agencies for furthering the objectives of this programme. The VFMC Development Fund will also be utilised in furthering the aims and objectives of the Schemes as may be considered from time to time by the Executive Committee (EC).

9. Termination of Membership, Dissolution of the Committee etc.

- i). The Divisional Forest Officer concerned shall have the power to disqualify and remove from the membership of the VFMC, GB and EC any member who is found guilty of forest offences by a competent Government official or authority concerned. He shall also be empowered to dissolve any VFMC, GB, EC if it is found necessary to do so in the interest of proper management of the forest of the area.
- ii). If a VFMC fails to function properly, or if there are instances of financial irregularities, misappropriation or violation of any relevant rules and regulation, the DFO concerned can supersede the VFMC without paying any compensation for any work that might have been done prior to such supersession. In such an event the management of the JFM area shall best wholly with the Department.
- iii). If there is any matter which fails to get resolved by the GB/EC, it shall be referred to the DFO concerned for a decision. Appeal against any such decision of the DFO shall lie with the Conservator of Forest concerned. An appeal against the decision of the CF shall lie with the Government whose direction/decision shall be binding on the VFMC.

The Government may add to or delete from any of the provisions of this Scheme as may be considered necessary depending upon the experience gained in the implementation of this Scheme.

The order shall come into force with immediate effect.

This is issued with the approval of the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh vide CAB/M(2)/96 dated 7-11-96.

Annexure – I

Format for Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

We the members of the Executive Committee of the Village Forest Management Committee of _____ village do hereby undertake individually and collectively to perform the duties and shoulder the responsibilities and details in the Resolution No. _____ dated _____ of the Environment and Forest Department, Government of Arunachal Pradesh for proper protection and regeneration of degraded forest area as per the schedule given hereunder.

Schedule

1. Name of Village Forest Management Committee :
2. District/Forest Range. :
3. Sub-Division/Forest Range. :
4. Police Station :
5. Village :
6. Name of Forest Block :
7. Legal Status of the forest land :
8. Area (ha) of the forest land :
9. Boundaries of the area
 - North :
 - East :
 - South :
 - West :

We, understand that the usufructuary benefits detailed in the aforesaid Resolution shall be allowed only upon satisfactory observance of the duties, responsibilities and functions by Executive Committee and by the Members of the Village Forest Management Committee as per the aforesaid Resolution.

A copy of the aforesaid resolution is annexed herewith duly signed by us on every page in the proof/evidence of our having read/understood the same in letter and spirit. It is hereby agree that this Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect from _____.

Signature of the Members of the Executive Committee		Signature of the Witness Name and Address Signature with date	
1.		1.	
2.		2.	
3.		3.	
4.		4.	
5.		5.	
6.		6.	

Signature of the local Forest Office

Signature with date

Sl. No.	Designation	Name
1.	DFO	
2.	ACF	
3.	Forest Range Officer	
4.	Forester	
5.	Forest Guard	

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION
OF DEKA VILLAGE FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1. Name of society :
2. Objects of the society :

SHORT TERM

- i). Regeneration, Eco-development & protection of community degraded forest of Deka village jointly by the Members of DVFMC & the Department of Environment & Forests.
- ii). Augment production of fuel-wood, fodder, small timber & other NTFPs to meet the bona fide domestic requirement of the members of DVFMC & market the surplus yield from the VFMC areas.
- iii). Promote & secure active participation of the members of the society in the planning, protection & regeneration efforts to ensure their sustainability & equitable.
- iv). Employment generation for the most needy sections of the society including women of VFMC.
- v). Development & Extension of technologies & treatment thereof in the degraded & problem lands to act as a catalyst in the regeneration & eco-development efforts.

LONG TERM

- i). Checking forest degradations & loss of bio-diversity.
 - ii). Ecological restoration, environmental conservation & eco-development of DVFMC area.
 - iii). Fulfilment of broader objectives of productivity, quality & sustainability for the general good of the people.
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3. Office of the society: Office of the society is located at Deka village of Nari circle.

Name, Address & Occupation of the Governing Body members:

Sl. No.	Name	Address	Occupation	Signature
1.	Sri Momar Riba	Vill: Deka, P.O. Nari Distt: East Siang, Arunachal Pradesh	Farmer	
2.	Smti Rapi Riba	-Do-	-Do-	
3.	Smti Mamoy Riba	-Do-	-Do-	
4.	Smti Toshi Riba	-Do-	-Do-	
5.	Sri Daknya Riba	-Do-	-Do-	
6.	Smti Goi Riba	-Do-	-Do-	
7.	Sri Dakmo Riba	-Do-	-Do-	
8.	Smti Domi Riba	-Do-	-Do-	
9.	Sri Tonya Riram	-Do-	-Do-	
10.	Range Forest Officer	Nari Forest Range	Govt. Servant	