

ਵੱਲੋਂ

ਵਣ ਮੰਡਲ ਅਫਸਰ,
ਮਾਨਸਾ।

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ਸੇਵਾ ਵਿਖੇ

1) ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਸਿੱਖਿਆ ਅਫਸਰ (ਸਕੈਂਡਰੀ),
ਮਾਨਸਾ।

2) ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਸਿੱਖਿਆ ਅਫਸਰ (ਪ੍ਰਾਇਮਰੀ),
ਮਾਨਸਾ।

ਨੰ: 1206-07

ਮਿਤੀ: 09-06-2021

ਵਿਸਾ: ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਦੀ ਕੀਮਤ ਅਸੈਸ ਕਰਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ।

ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਸ਼ੇ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ ਬੇਨਤੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਆਪ ਦੇ ਅਧੀਨ ਆਉਂਦੇ ਸਕੂਲਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਖੜੇ ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਦੀ ਅਸੈਸਮੈਂਟ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਜੋ ਪੱਤਰ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਨੂੰ ਭੇਜੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ, ਉਹਨਾਂ ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਕੱਟਣ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨਗੀ (NOC) ਆਪ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਜੋ ਆਪਣੇ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਦੇ ਸਮਰਥ ਅਧਿਕਾਰੀ ਤੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ ਉਸ ਦੀ ਕਾਪੀ ਸਮੇਤ ਪੱਤਰ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਨੂੰ ਭੇਜੀ ਜਾਇਆ ਕਰੇ ਤਾਂ ਜੋ ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਦੀ ਅਸੈਸਮੈਂਟ ਕਰਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾ ਸਕੇ, ਕਿਉਂਕਿ ਮਾਨਯੋਗ ਸੁਪਰੀਮ ਕੋਰਟ ਆਫ ਇੰਡੀਆ ਅਤੇ ਮਾਨਯੋਗ ਨੈਸ਼ਨਲ ਗਰੀਨ ਟ੍ਰਿਬਿਊਨਲ ਨਵੀਂ ਦਿੱਲੀ ਦੇ ਹੁਕਮਾਂ ਦੀ ਪਾਲਣਾ ਕਰਦੇ ਹੋਏ ਵਣ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਕਿਸੇ ਨੂੰ ਹਰੇ ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਕੱਟਣ ਦੀ ਮੰਨਜੂਰੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਦਿੰਦਾ।

15/6/21

ਕਰਮ: ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਸਿੱਖਿਆ ਅਫਸਰ ਜੀਕੇ ਪਾਸ, ਜੀ.ਐ. 11/2021/84570

ਵਣ ਮੰਡਲ ਅਫਸਰ, ਮਾਨਸਾ।

ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਸ਼ੇ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ ਬੇਨਤੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਆਪ ਦੇ ਅਧੀਨ ਆਉਂਦੇ ਸਕੂਲਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਖੜੇ ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਦੀ ਅਸੈਸਮੈਂਟ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਜੋ ਪੱਤਰ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਨੂੰ ਭੇਜੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ, ਉਹਨਾਂ ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਕੱਟਣ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨਗੀ (NOC) ਆਪ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਜੋ ਆਪਣੇ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਦੇ ਸਮਰਥ ਅਧਿਕਾਰੀ ਤੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ ਉਸ ਦੀ ਕਾਪੀ ਸਮੇਤ ਪੱਤਰ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਨੂੰ ਭੇਜੀ ਜਾਇਆ ਕਰੇ ਤਾਂ ਜੋ ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਦੀ ਅਸੈਸਮੈਂਟ ਕਰਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾ ਸਕੇ, ਕਿਉਂਕਿ ਮਾਨਯੋਗ ਸੁਪਰੀਮ ਕੋਰਟ ਆਫ ਇੰਡੀਆ ਅਤੇ ਮਾਨਯੋਗ ਨੈਸ਼ਨਲ ਗਰੀਨ ਟ੍ਰਿਬਿਊਨਲ ਨਵੀਂ ਦਿੱਲੀ ਦੇ ਹੁਕਮਾਂ ਦੀ ਪਾਲਣਾ ਕਰਦੇ ਹੋਏ ਵਣ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਕਿਸੇ ਨੂੰ ਹਰੇ ਰੁੱਖਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਕੱਟਣ ਦੀ ਮੰਨਜੂਰੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਦਿੰਦਾ।

15706/21
ਮਾਨਸਾ

Half the trees on sugar mill premises chopped, green tribunal seeks action

At least 993 fully-grown trees can still be saved if action taken, says forest dept

DIVYA GOYAL GOPAL
LUDHIANA, JUNE 7

A BENCH of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Punjab Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF, Head of Forest Force) to 'look into the grievances and take remedial measures in a case of alleged illegal tree felling on the premises of Faridkot Cooperative Sugar Mills.

As per the latest assessment report of the state forest department, of the total 2058 trees of different species that were standing in the sugar mill premises, at least 1,065 trees (more than 50 per cent of the total count) have already been axed. However, as many as 993 fully-grown trees, which are still standing, can be saved if timely action is taken.

The green court - while hearing a petition filed by environmental activists Kapil Arora, Jaskirat Singh of Ludhiana and Gurpreet Singh Chandbaja of Faridkot - issued an order stating, "On the subject of alleged illegal felling of 2058 trees in the premises of the Faridkot Cooperative Sugar Mills Ltd, we direct the PCCF (HoFF), Punjab, to look into the grievance and take remedial measures for the enforcement of the rule of law. The Chief Conservator of Forests may, after ascertaining the facts, take such remedial measures as

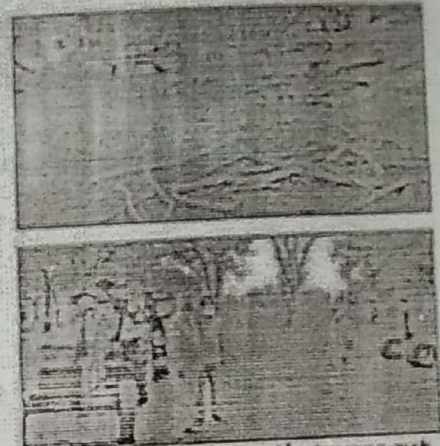
WHAT'S LEFT AND WHAT'S LOST

SPECIES	TREES	VOLUME*	COST**
Sheesham	138	47.75	3,71,463
Kikkar	14	7.3	39,328
Safeda	987	534.95	34,78,059
Drek	248	90.55	3,67,508
Mango	18	17.65	70,167
Futkal	653	292.5	12,77,217
TOTAL	2058	990.7	56,03,751

*in cubic metres, **estimated cost in lakh rupees

1065 Trees chopped | 993 Still standing

(Source: Forest department, Punjab)



'Majority of the trees that were cut were green and fully grown'

may be found necessary, including coercive measures against anyone found responsible for violating the law. The application is disposed of."

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Amritpal Singh, divisional forest officer (DFO), Ferozepur forest range, said that as per the latest assessment and counting of trees carried out by their department, a total of 993 trees of different species were still standing on the premises of Faridkot Cooperative Sugar Mill, which has been lying shut for more than a decade.

"Last year, the sugar mill owners (which functions under Sugarfed) had asked us for monetary assessment of trees standing on the premises, spread over 136 acres. We had communi-

cated to them that a total of 2058 trees, worth Rs 56 lakh, were there and along with this, we had clearly mentioned in the letter that the forest department was not granting them any permission to cut fully grown green trees. However, those trees are not our property and they are not on forest land, so we had no further role in the matter and it was their (the mill owners) decision to get the trees chopped. A private firm, via a tendering process, was hired for the chopping of trees," said the officer.

He said that later there was an uproar over the trees being axed and several NGOs and green activists launched protests on the site to save trees that were the homes of several birds and animals. A fresh counting was

done which showed that at least 993 trees could still be saved. He said that several species of shady fruit bearing and fully-grown trees, such as mango, jamun, sheesham, drek, and kikkar among others, have been found in the area. Birds such as peacocks, pigeons, parrots apart from other flora-fauna are also found in abundance, he said.

As per a series of three letters (copies of which *The Indian Express* has seen), the forest department assessed the minimum cost of the trees after a request for the same was put in to the general manager, Faridkot sugar mills (now transferred to Bhogpur Cooperative Sugar Mills).

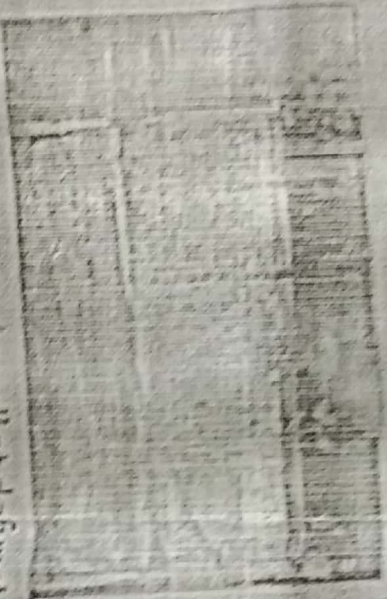
FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Act against 'illegal' felling: NGT

LAHNDKOT, JUN 8

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Head of the Forest Force, Punjab, to take remedial measures for enforcement of rule of law in the alleged illegal felling of 2,058 trees on the premises of the Fardkot Cooperative Sugar Mills Ltd, a defunct unit for the past about 15 years.

The force, may, after ascertaining facts, take such



2,058 trees were 'axed' at defunct Fardkot Cooperative Sugar Mills.

remedial measures as may be found necessary, including coercive measures against the persons found responsible for violating the law, following due process,

read the NGT orders. The orders came after some tree lovers and environmentalists approached the tribunal, alleging illegal axing of trees at the mill.

As per the petition, the Forest Department had not taken permission from the Union Environment Ministry before ordering felling of trees as the area of the closed sugar mill was a deemed forest area in terms of various judgments of the SC. — TNS