



# കേരള ഗസറ്റ് KERALA GAZETTE

## അസാധാരണം EXTRAORDINARY

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തുന്നത്  
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

വാല്യം 12  
Vol. XII

തിരുവനന്തപുരം,  
ശനി  
Thiruvananthapuram,  
Saturday

2023 നവംബർ 04  
04th November 2023

1199 തുലാം 18  
18th Thulam 1199

1945 കാർത്തികം 13  
13th Karthika 1945

നമ്പർ  
No. } 3574

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Forest and Wildlife (B) Department

NOTIFICATION

G.O.(P)No.21/2023/F&WLD.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

S. R. O. No. 1159/2023

17<sup>th</sup> Thulam 1199

12<sup>th</sup> Karthika 1945

In exercise of the powers conferred by sections 39 and 76 of the Kerala Forest Act, 1961(4 of 1962), the Government of Kerala hereby make the following rules to amend the Kerala Forest (Regulation of Sawmills and Other Wood-based Industrial Units) Rules, 2021 issued under G.O.(P) No.2/2021/F&WLD dated 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 and published as



SRO.No.162/2021 in the Kerala Gazette Extraordinary No.727 dated 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2021, namely:-

## RULES

1. *Short title and commencement.*- (1) These rules may be called the Kerala Forest (Regulation of Sawmills and Other Wood-based Industrial Units) Amendment Rules, 2023.

(2) They shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of the Rules.*- In the Kerala Forest (Regulation of Sawmills and Other Wood-based Industrial Units) Rules, 2021,-

(1) in rule 3,-

(i) in sub-rule(3), for the words “six months from the date of commencement of these rules”, the words “six months from the date of commencement of the Kerala Forest (Regulation of Sawmills and Other Wood-based Industrial Units) Amendment Rules, 2023” shall be substituted;

(ii) after sub-rule(7), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

“Provided that the restriction to grant licence to function within a radial distance of five kilometers under this sub-rule shall not be applicable for granting licence to any wood based industrial units mentioned in Category V and Category VII to function within a radial distance of five kilometers from the boundary of reserve forest areas leased out to the Plantation Corporation of Kerala Limited or such other Government or Government owned public sector undertakings established exclusively for raising rubber plantations”.

(2) in rule 6, in sub-rule (1), for the words “six months from the date of commencement of these rules”, the words “six months from the date of commencement of the Kerala Forest (Regulation of Sawmills and Other Wood-based Industrial Units) Amendment Rules, 2023” shall be substituted.

(3) in rule 12, in sub-rule (3), after the words “application for power enhancement”, the words, figures and symbols “except for Categories II, V, VII, VIII, IX and X mentioned in rule 9” shall be inserted.



(4) in Schedule D, against the entries in serial numbers 6 and 7, under the heading “Amount(per unit)(in Rs)” in column three, the words and symbols “Press/peeler/slicer” shall be omitted.

By order of the Governor,  
K R JYOTHILAL  
*Additional Chief Secretary to Government*

### **Explanatory Note**

(This does not form part of the notification, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

1. The Kerala Forest(Regulation of Sawmills and Other Wood Based Industrial Units) Rules, 2021 came into force on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2021. A period of six months from the date of commencement of the said Rules was allowed to those saw mills which started functioning on or before 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2002. The said period expired on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2021.

2. Due to Covid 19 pandemic restrictions prevailed in the State during the said period, several applicants were not able to submit their applications in time. Several applications for licence were received after the cut off date. State Level Committee has recommended to the Government for extending the time limit to six more months from the date of commencement of the amendment rules for this purpose, considering the applications for extensions received in this behalf. Hence amendment is necessitated in sub-rule(3) of rule 3 and sub-rule(1) of rule 6 of the Kerala Forest(Regulation of Sawmills and Other Wood Based Industrial Units) Rules, 2021.

3. Forest Department has been receiving applications for licence for establishing rubber wood based industrial units within a radial distance of 5 kilometers from Rubber Plantations owned by the Plantation Corporation of Kerala Limited, which has the status of reserve forest. Sub-rule(7) of rule 3 of the said Rules prohibits granting licence for functioning wood based industrial units within a radial distance of five kilometers from the boundary of any nearest



notified forests. Consequent to the recommendation of the State Level Committee, Government have decided to amend sub-rule(7) of rule 3 of the said Rules permitting the rubber units [Categories V and VII] to function, within a radial distance of five kilometers from the boundary of reserve forest areas leased out to the Plantation Corporation Kerala Limited or such other Government or Government owned public sector undertakings.

4. Already existing units under Category II, V, VII, VIII, IX and X are not allowed to enhance the machine capacity as Wood Balance Study is mandatory as per the existing rule. Government have decided to amend the rules to rectify the above discrepancy.

5. Authorized Officers are charging One Time Payment for each machine installed in wood based industrial units. In Schedule D of the Rules, payment for sawmill or other wood based industrial units under Categories VI and VII is mentioned as Rs.2,00,000/- Press/Peeler/Slicer. Government have decided to amend Schedule D of the Rules to make a clarification to the effect that One Time Payment amount is meant to be collected per unit and not for individual items like Peeler, Press and Slicer.

6. The notification is intended to achieve the above objects.

