

STATE FOREST POLICY

The main features of the Forest Policy, which was adopted in early 1948 and modified in 1954, are as follows :

1. To dedicate as Permanent Forest Estate sufficient areas of land strategically located throughout the State, in accordance with the concept of rational land use, in order to ensure :-
 - a. *The sound climatic and physical condition of the State, the safeguarding of water supplies, soil fertility and environment quality and the minimization of damage by floods and erosion to rivers and agricultural land; such forest lands being known as PROTECTIVE FORESTS;*
 - b. *The supply in perpetuity at reasonable rates of all forms of forest product which can be economically produced within the State and are required for agricultural, domestic and industrial purposes, and for export; such as forest lands being known as PRODUCTIVE FORESTS;*
 - c. *The conservation of adequate forest areas for recreation, education and scientific studies; and research; such forest lands being known as AMENITY FORESTS;*
 - d. *The preservation as habitat of the State's unique flora and fauna. Genetic resources; species and ecosystem and biological diversity; such as forest lands being known as VIRGIN FORESTS;*
2. To manage the Permanent Forest Estate with the object of maximizing social, economic and environmental benefits for the State Policy of sustainable Forest Management.
3. To pursue a sound programme of forest restoration and development through regeneration and rehabilitation operations in accordance with approved silvicultural practices in order to achieve maximum productivity from the Permanent Forest Estate.
4. To ensure through and efficient utilization of the forest resources on land not included in the Permanent Forest Estate, prior to the alienation of such land, by means of proper coordinated planning by land development agencies in order to obtain maximum benefits for the people through complete harvesting and processing of such resources as adhering strictly to the optimum need of local processing industries.

5. To promote efficient harvesting and utilization of all forms of forest produce and to stimulate the development of appropriate wood-based industries with determined capacities commensurate with resource flow in order to achieve maximum resources utilization, create employment opportunities and earn foreign exchange.
6. To ensure the sound development of trade and commerce and to promote the exportation of forest products.
7. To promote effective Bumiputra participation in forest and wood-based industries consistent with the State and National Policy.
8. To undertake and support an intensive research programme in forest development aimed at achieving maximum yield from the Permanent Forest Estate, maximum direct and indirect benefits from harvesting and utilization and, above all maximum financial return on investment in forest development activities.
9. To undertake and support a comprehensive programme of forestry training at all level in the public sector in order to ensure an adequate supply of trained manpower to meet the requirement of forestry and wood-based industries.
10. To encourage private sector's involvement in forest research and training at all levels with a view to accelerate industrial development and enhance the quality of professionalism in forestry and forest industrial practices.
11. To foster, by education and publicity, a better understanding among the community of the multiple value of the forests to them and their descendants.
12. To foster close co-operation among all in order to achieve optimum utilization of the valuable natural resources of the country.