

**Forest Protection Force
Proposed Annual plan for 2012-13**

INTRODUCTION

Realizing the physical inadequacies of the Forest Department to effectively deal with the problem of Forest offences including the organized smuggling of Forest produce and poaching of wild animals, Government of J & K raised Forest Protection Force in the 9th Five Year Plan creating 2257 posts under different categories vide Government Order No. 129 - PD of 1996 Dated 1.12.1996. Formal sanction for creation of the Forest Protection Force was accorded vide Govt. No. 514-FST of 1997 Dated 1.12.1997. Subsequently "The J & K Forest(Protection), Force Act 2001" was enacted to provide legal support to the force.

Infrastructural requirement of the Forest Protection Force were sanctioned under Government Order No. 514 FST of 1997 Dated 1.12.1997 issued in pursuance to the cabinet decision No. 258/27 dated 27.11.1997 to be completed by the end of 9th Five Year Plan with Capital Component of 37.04 crores. This included 363 buildings, 128 Vehicles, 120 Motor Cycles, Wireless system and Computers. However, financial achievements for 9th, 10th and 11th Plans put together remained much less than the approved targets which are depicted here under :-

S.No.	Particulars of items	Created as per Cabinet decision	Existing	%age achieved
01.	Manpower	2265	1833	80.48
02.	Buildings	363	207	57.02%
03.	a) Vehicles	128	41	32.03%
	b) Motorcycles	120	95	79.16%
04.	Deployment capacity of personnel Movement by Vehicles and Motorcycles.	1560 (Persons)	577	36.98%

The financial Achievements are given here as under:

(Rs. in lacs)

S.No.	Item	Approved Outlay	Expenditure incurred
01.	9 th Five Year Plan	37.04	13.91
02.	10 th Five Year Plan	20.58	19.15
03.	11 th Five Year Plan	28.68	19.624 till date

Against the sanction to establish 30 FPF Gama Units i.e one each in twenty six territorial Forest Divisions of the State; and two each at HQ, Jammu and Srinagar, so far 24 have been established leaving yet to establish 06 FPF Gama Units viz, Marwah, Bhaderwah, Ramnagar, Mahore, Nowshera, and Ramban.

The Department proposes to consolidate the already established 23 Units- 21 in Territorial Jurisdiction, 02 Flying Units for provinces and 2 Headquarters at Jammu and Srinagar. This is necessary so as to reduce the establishment cost which currently costs around Rs. 4.00 crore per unit. In the moderate forest offence zone the left out above noted six forest areas shall be patrolled and controlled from the adjoining established Units viz:- Kishtwar, Doda, Udhampur, Reasi, Rajouri and Batote Units respectively. As at present, 17 FPF Gama Units are in advanced stage of establishment, the work in four Gama Units viz. Reasi, Poonch, Gulmarg and Bandipora is midway and during the current financial year the department is initiating to establish the remaining three FPF Gama Units, viz. Kehmil, Langate, and Kishtwar during the year 2012-13 of 11th five year Plan.

The infrastructure buildings required to be created in a FPF Gama Units is tabulated as under:

S.No	Name of the building	Unit Nos	Estimated cost (approx.) per unit (Rs. in lacs)	Total amount involved (Rs. in lacs)
01.	Dy.Directors Office	01	25.00	25.00
02.	DD's Resi.	01	25.00	25.00
03.	ADs Barrack	01	25.00	25.00

04.	Insp. Barrack	01	25.00	25.00
05.	Mess, Kitchen Lounge	01	20.00	20.00
06.	Guards Barracks	05	15.00	75.00
07.	Armoury Control Room	01	20.00	20.00
08.	Chowkidar Hut/ Garrage	01	20.00	20.00
09.	Play Ground	01	15.00	15.00
10.	Parrade Ground	01	15.00	15.00
11.	Compound Wall	01	20.00	20.00
12.	Internal approach roads		10.00	10.00
13.	Toilet Blocks	02	12.50	25.00
	Total		247.50	320.00

The requirement of funds for building infrastructure is estimated as under:

a) New Units	= 3 x 320	=	960.00
b) Midway Units	= 4 x 60% of 320	=	768.00
c) Advanced Units	= 17 x 10% of 320	=	544.00
	Total	=	<u>2272.00</u>

This amount of Rs. **2272.00 lacs** is required for completing the infrastructure of buildings- leaving out the Six Units, so that the department is in a position to establish its command in all the regions from the proposed 24 FPF Gama Units as per Government sanctions and hence the higher demand projected for 2012-13.

Annual Plan 2012-13 (Revised Estimate 2011-12)

As per guidelines of Planning and Development Department the following budget estimates are proposed.

I. The Revenue Component

The revenue component of the department has been transferred to the Non-Plan w.e.f. 2006-07 and therefore no proposal in this regard has been made under plan.

II. Capital Component

The establishment of the Forest Protection Force has been sanctioned by the state cabinet as per the P&D Department Order No 129 PD of 1996 dated 04.12.1996 for Rs. 37.24 Crore including, Vehicles, Building and other infrastructure to be completed by March 2002. However, this could not be achieved due to paucity of funds and is being followed up with cost escalations.

In tune with the guidelines of the Planning & Development department, in the current plan proposal focus has been laid on the completion of this sanctioned programme under On-going Schemes. This includes the building works largely in seven Gamma Units discussed above. As discussed in the foregoing paras, the establishment of Gamma Units, which are at the Forest Division level execution/cutting edge of the FORCE has got delayed much behind the schedule laid down in the creation document, as a result the operational efficiency of the FPF has remained much below the optimal desired level.

In coming few years, the thrust of the department is to complete the infra-structural requirements of selected Gamma Units so that force starts working at its prescribed optimal efficiency and to provide them desired mobility by procuring vehicles sanctioned for each of them by the Govt.

As per proposals an amount of Rs. 710.00 lacs has been proposed for the year 2012-13 under State share in the capital component. Accordingly, the object-wise break up of approved outlay is proposed as under:

(Rs. In Lacs)

S.No.	Object-wise detail	Revised outlay. 2011-12	Approved Outlay 2012-13
1.	Ongoing works	369.00	476.00
2.	Machinery & Equipment	9.00	11.00
3.	Maintenance of capital assets	80.00	90.00
4.	Raw material/Drugs	2.00	3.00
5.	Others/vehicle	40.00	130.00
Total		500.00	710.00

The Scheme-wise further distribution is tabulated below:-

(Rs. In Lacs)			
S.No.	Name of Scheme	Revised Outlay 2011-12	Approved outlay for 2012-13
1.	Construction of Barracks & other facilities	225.00	250.00
2.	Construction of Dy. Directors Office and residence	83.00	95.00
3.	Construction of Reporting Centers	50.00	80.00
4	Construction of Head Quarter Complex	10.00	50.00
5	Tent Accommodation	1.00	1.00
6	Maintenance of Capital Assets	80.00	90.00
7	Purchase of Vehicles	40.00	130.00
8	Communication Network	4.00	5.00
9	Computers	4.00	5.00
10	Arms and ammunition	1.00	1.00
11	Raw Material and Drugs	2.00	3.00
Total		500.00	710.00

GN-0, GN-II and GN-III are enclosed as annexure I , II & III.

1. Construction of Barracks & other facilities :-

As per proposed plan Forest Protection Force personnel are required to stay in the field at strategically selected locations in 24-hour preparedness. Accommodation and other necessary facilities will thus be required inside the gamma unit complex from where the field deployments could be made as per operational requirements. The land for Gamma unit complex and for Reporting center etc is provided by the Forest Department. Each gamma unit complex is developed to house 60 FPF personnel including one Deputy Director and 2 Assistant Directors. Accommodation comprises of 5 barracks with Bathroom Blocks, Mess, Kitchen and lounge for FPF guards. Similarly duty accommodation for 5 Inspectors, 2 Assistant Directors and family accommodation for one Deputy Director besides unit office and Armoury form part of the Gamma Unit.

Play grounds / Parade ground for sports and drill of the force is also developed inside the complex. Complex houses one armoury, one control room, chowkidar hut and a store.

The Gamma unit complex has its own electricity sub-station and water supply system to cater to the requirements of FPF personnel.

As per proposed target, these facilities were to be completed by the end of 9th Five Year Plan. However due to Administrative & budgetary constraints achievements are far less even at the end of 10th Five Year Plan.

Against the target of 150 barracks for 30 units , for accommodating 1500 the Forest Protection Force guards , 91 barracks have been completed till date. Similarly against target of 44 Inspector's residence blocks , 30 have been completed ending 2010-11. Further under this sub-head works in 22 Gama Units shall be taken up against the proposed amount of **Rs. 250.00 lacs** during 2012-13, which also include other buildings such as stores/Chowkidar Hut and facilities for the Barracks like Toilet Block, Sump Tank, Septic Tanks, Sewerage drains; and electrification etc.

In order to further cater to the requirement of accommodation of Ministerial staff posted in FPF Gama Units at far flung areas as their services are of utmost concern for the smooth functioning of the Units, on the pattern of police department the construction of multistory staff quarters in the Gama Units in both provinces is proposed.

Further to complete the ongoing works taken in hand under the scheme during the current financial year 2011-12 an additionality to the tune of Rs. 79.227 lacs has been proposed during the ensuing year.

2. Dy. Directors Office/ Residence

Against 9th Five year Plan targets modified to 24 offices & 24 residence , 19 DD offices, 15 DD residence buildings have been completed by ending 2010-11. During 2011-12, the requirement at various Gama Units, within the proposed ceiling of **Rs. 90.00 lacs** offices/Residences of DDs shall be taken up besides taking up the

furnishing material and other facilities for established or yet to be established structures.

Further to complete the ongoing works taken in hand under the scheme during the current financial year an additionality to the tune of Rs. 30.32 lacs has been proposed during the ensuing year.

3. Reporting Centers

The Government has sanctioned at strategic locations within the territory of each Gamma Unit three reporting centers to be established for receiving complaints / reports regarding Forest damage. FPF personnel maintain round the clock these centers which are provided with basic facilities like kitchen, bathroom, besides communication system telephone / wireless etc.

Against sanction of 90 reporting centers, only 29 Reporting centers so far have been established. There is a dire need to immediately establish the remaining centers. Due to budgetary constraints, only 06 new Reporting centers and other allied works have been proposed for 2012-13. Besides this 06 Reporting Centre taken up during 2011-12 shall be completed. Thus amount is Rs. 80.00 lacs is proposed for 2012-13 under this sub head for the purpose.

Further to complete the ongoing works taken in hand under the scheme during the current financial year an additionality to the tune of Rs. 33.00 lacs has been proposed during the ensuing year.

4. FPF Head Quarter Complex

A building for housing Forest Protection Force Head Quarter has been constructed through JKPC at a total cost of Rs. 251.94 lacs at Jammu. During 2011-12 works of Forest Protection Force Hqtr. complex at Srinagar & Director's residence shall be carried forward, besides taking up the furnishing activities of the building constructed under this head, Rs.50.00 lacs has been proposed for the purpose.

5. Tent Accommodation

To meet the accommodation requirements of FPF personnel during Makes and field trips to interior forest areas, tents are used by the field parties. In order to purchase tents, an amount of Rs. 1.00 lacs has been proved for 2012-13.

6. Maintenance of Capital Assets

Under this head maintenance and upkeep of communication networks, office equipments etc is carried out. Further maintenance of Building, playgrounds, roads, electric and water supply system, barracks/ mess items and various other assets raised over the years in Gamma Units will be carried out.

Most of the vehicles available in Forest Protection Force are quite old and require regular maintenance so as to keep them in proper running condition. For maintenance and upkeep of various office items viz Photostat machine, computer Systems, Fax, Wireless Mobile Telephone and office equipments provision has been kept under this head. Various capital assets like barracks, inspector's residence, playgrounds road electricity water supply etc require regular maintenance which would be carried out under the proposed budgetary ceiling under this head.

7. Purchase of vehicles

Govt. gives high priority to safeguard the green gold of the State and also making all out efforts to protect the environment from further degradation. For achieving the above said aim the Govt. created Forest Protection Force, but the desired goal upto the fullest extent has remained un-achieved so far due to non-tapping of full potential of Forest Protection Force. As against 60 FPF Personnel posted per Unit, the deployment of man-power has been restricted to 10-12 personnel per Unit due to non-availability of Vehicles.

The Cabinet had approved for purchase of 128 Vehicles and 120 Motorcycles, out of which in the past 12 years only 44 Vehicles including 03 vehicles transferred from IWDP Department to this Department vide Govt. order No. 322-FST of 2011 dated 23.08.2011 and 101 Motorcycles have been procured thereby leaving a deficiency of 84 Vehicles and 19 Motorcycles. This means that only 34.37% Vehicles and 84.16% Motorcycles have been procured whereas out of 30 sanctioned Gama

Units 20 have been established in the field and working and four more Gama Units viz, Kishtwar, Kehmil, Langate and Gulmarg are likely to be commissioned during the current financial year.

The availability of Vehicles and the number of persons which can be deployed in the field is tabulated as under:

Type	Vehicles presently available	Capacity	No. of persons which can be deployed	Acquisition cost per person.
Car/ Scorpio	03	05	15	1.20 lacs
Gypsy/Bolero	20	06	114	1.00 lacs
LCV Tata 207	03	11	33	0.50 lacs
HCV Tata 407	17	15	255	0.38 lacs
Temp Traveller	01	20	20	0.38 lacs
Motorbike	101	02	202	0.25 lacs
Total			639	

It is pertinent to mention here that the inadequate mobility available with the department i.e 44 Vehicles and 101 Motorcycles which at most can carry 639 persons against sanctioned strength 2265 posts i.e 28.21% of the total available force can be deployed in the field and remaining remained underutilized due to non-availability of Vehicles. If the Department gets all the sanctioned Vehicles i.e 248 then the Department is in a position to deploy 70% of its Force in the Field. There is therefore immediate need to re-inforce the organization with vehicles mentioned below to achieve the very purpose of swift movement of Jawans and Officers of FPF to overlook the protection of Forest and Forest Property and to reach the place of offence in shortest possible time.

In order to keep the operational capability of the force at optimum level the swift mobility of the force comprising of 1650 Personnels (150 FPF Inspectors and 1500 FPF Guards) is the pre-requisite for which the following vehicles are required in 24 Gama Units and 02 Headquarters.

S.No	Type of vehicle	Cabinet sanction	Requirement	Availability	Grounded Vehicle	Immediate Procurement	Rate in lacs	Funds Required
1	Motor cycle	120	19	101	2	10	0.50	5.00 lacs
2	Gypsy/Sumo	34	27	21	1	10	5.80	58.00
3	Car	4	4	3	0	1	7.00	7.00 "
4	LCV	60	0	3	0	0	0	0
5	Truck	30	25	16	1	10	6.00	60.00
6.	Tempo Traveller	0	0	01	0	0	0	0
							Total	130.00

It is pertinent to mention that against the minimum requirement of Rs. 130.00 lacs for purchase of Vehicles have been proposed in the Current year Plan 2012-13.

8. Communication Network

In the creation document approved by cabinet, due emphasis was laid to develop an effective & reliable communication network for result oriented working of the force.

Telephone, wireless and computer networking are three important communication means, which FPF is developing for this purpose.

With the launch of mobile telephone in the state, the FPF has acquired close-use group mobile telephone facility for the force in order to improve the intra-departmental communication. It would enhance the working efficiency of the Force.

Under wireless networking, against approved requirement of 150 mobile sets, 135 base, 675 hand held sets and construction of six repeater stations, up till now 80 mobile, 51 base, 299 hand held sets has been procured. During 2012-13 provision of Rs 5.00 Lacs has been kept.

9. Computerization

Under computerization plan all gamma units are to be connected with each other and also with FPF Headquarter, for functioning of FPF on systematic and scientific lines. Direct Computer linkage of Headquarter with field units would help in accurate and quick monitoring of important forest damage cases and field operations at Joint Director and Director Level.

As per approved plan 105 computers were to be installed however till date only 43 computers could be installed.

Though highly educated and well trained manpower stands recruited for the purpose, who have developed some important software packages but there is urgent need to make the approved plan fully functional by procuring and installing the required computer hardware for this purpose during 2012-13 a provision of Rs. 5.00 lacs has been kept.

10. Arms & Ammunition

FPF is an armed force and FPF act provides for the use of arms of different categories at different levels by the Force members. The conditions for quality, usage and maintenance of the arms & ammunition are to be regulated by the rules to be notified under the provisions of FPF Act and it is expected that these rules would be notified by the Govt., during current year, and thus a token provision of Rs. 1.00 lac has been kept during the year.

11. Raw Material & Drugs:

Under this head, it is proposed to procure the equipments and gears required in fire-fighting activities by the FPF personnel. To carry out the operations against forest fires, FPF personnel need special types of clothing and fire fighting

equipments at Gama Unit level in those areas which are prone to forest fires. Though a substantial amount would be required to equip each Gama Unit but due to budgetary constraints only a meager amount of Rs. 3.00 lacs has been approved for this year.

Director
Forest Protection Force
J&K Govt Srinagar.

The actual picture pertaining to the creation, availability and net %age achieved is tabulated as under:

S.No.	Particulars of items	Created as per Cabinet decision	Existing	%age achieved
01.	Manpower	2265	1833	80.48
02.	Vehicles	248	65	26.20%
03.	Carrying capacity of Vehicles	1560 (Persons)	435	19.27%
04.	Buildings	363	207	57.02%

The availability of Vehicles and the number of persons which can be deployed in the field is tabulated as under:

Type	Vehicles presently available	Capacity	No. of persons which can be deployed	Acquisition cost per person.
Car/ Scorpio	03	05	15	1.20 lacs
Gypsy/Bolero	19	06	114	1.00 lacs
LCV Tata 207	03	11	33	0.50 lacs
HCV Tata 407	15	15	225	0.38 lacs
Motorbike	24	02	48	0.25 lacs
Total			435	

It is pertinent to mention here that the inadequate mobility available with the department i.e 41 Vehicles and 24 Motorcycles which at most can carry 435 persons against sanction strength 2265 posts i.e 19.27% of the total available force can be deployed in the field and remaining remained underutilized due to non-availability of Vehicles. If the Department gets all the sanctioned Vehicles i.e 248 then the Department is in a position to deploy 70% of its Force in the Field. There is therefore immediate need to re-inforce the organization with vehicles mentioned below to achieve the very purpose of swift movement of Jawans and Officers of FPF to overlook the protection of Forest and Forest Property and to reach the place of offence in shortest possible time.

In order to keep the operational capability of the force at optimum level the swift mobility of the force comprising of 1650 Personnels (150 FPF Inspectors and 1500 FPF Guards) in the pre-requisite for which the following vehicles are required in 24 Gama Units and 02 Headquarters.

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1	Motor cycle	120	52	24	0	28	0.50	14.00 Lacs
2	Gypsy/Sumo	34	27	20	1	8	6.00	48.00 Lacs
3	Car	4	4	3	0	1	6.00	6.00 Lacs
4	LCV	60	0	3	0	0		
5	Truck	30	25	15	1	11	5.75	63.25 Lacs
							Total	131.25