

"The Wild Life (Protection) (Meghalaya) Rules, 1977"

The 11th July 1977

THE WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) (MEGHALAYA) RULES, 1977

No.MFG.1/17/80.—In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 64 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (53 of 1972), the State Government hereby makes the following rules, namely :—

CHAPTER I

Preliminary

1. *Short title, extent and commencement.*—(1) These rules may be called the Wild Life (Protection) (Meghalaya) Rules, 1977.

(2) They extend to the whole of the State of Meghalaya.

(3) They shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st April, 1977.

2. *Definitions.*—(1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) "Act" means the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (Central Act 53 of 1972) ;
(b) "Board" means the Wild Life Advisory Board constituted under sub-section (1) of Section 6 ;
(c) "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Board ;
(d) "Divisional Forest Officer" means the Divisional Forest Officer of the District/Division concerned ;
(e) "Form" means a form appended to these rules ;
(f) "Licence" means a licence granted under Chapter III of these Rules ;
(g) "Licensee" means a holder of a licence ;
(h) "Licensing Authority" means the Chief Wild Life Warden or any other officer authorised by the State Government under Section 9 to grant a licence ;
(i) "Section" means a section of the Act ;
(j) "Schedule" means a Schedule to the Act.

(2) Words and expression used but not defined in these rules but defined in the Act shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act.

CHAPTER II

Wild Life Advisory Board

3. *Term of office.*—The term of office of a member of the Board referred to in clause (g) of sub-section (1) of Section 6 shall be three years from the date of this appointment.

4. *Resignation.*—(1) A member of the Board may resign his office by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman.

(2) The office of a member of the Board shall fall vacant from the date on which his resignation is accepted, or on the expiry of thirty days from the date of receipt of intimation of resignation, whichever is earlier.

(3) The power to accept the resignation of a member of the Board shall vest in the Chairman who, on accepting the resignation, shall report to the Board at its next meeting.

5. *Filling of casual vacancy.*—(1) When a member of the Board referred to in clause (g) of sub-section (1) of Section 6 resigns or dies or is removed from office or becomes incapable of acting, the State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint a person to fill the vacancy.

(2) A person appointed to fill the casual vacancy under sub-rule (1) shall hold office only so long as the member whose place he fills would have been entitled to hold office, if the vacancy had not occurred.

6. *Removal from the Board.*—The State Government may remove any member from his office—

(a) if he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent medical court, or
(b) if he is an undischarged insolvent, or
(c) if he is convicted of an offence under the Act or a criminal offence involving moral turpitude, or
(d) if, without the leave of the Chairman, he fails to attend more than three successive meetings of the Board.

7. *Allowances.*—(1) The non-official member of the Board shall get travelling and daily allowances as may be prescribed by the State Government from time to time.

(2) If a meeting of the Board is held during a session of the Legislature/District Council and at the same place where such session is held, a member of the Legislature/District Council who is a member of the Board shall not be entitled to any daily allowance.

8. *Secretary to be controlling authority.*—The Secretary of the Board shall be the controlling authority in respect of payment of allowances under this Chapter.

CHAPTER III

Hunting of Wild Animals

A. *Special Game Hunting Licence, Big Game Hunting Licence and Small Game Hunting Licence*

9. *Application.*—(1) An application for a Special Game Hunting Licence, Big Game Hunting Licence or Small Game Hunting Licence shall be made in Form No.1 :

Provided that no application for a licence shall be entertained from any person eligible for registration under Section 34, unless the applicant has registered his name and address under the said section :

Provided further that no person shall apply for a licence under this Chapter unless he possesses a valid licence for sport in Form No.III set in Schedule III to the Arms Rules, 1962.

(2) (a) An application for a Special Game Hunting Licence shall be made to the Chief Wild Life Warden.

(b) An application for a Big Game Hunting Licence or a Small Game Hunting Licence may be made to the Chief Wild Life Warden or any other officer authorised by the Chief Wild Life Warden in this behalf (in either case hereinafter referred to as the issuing officer).

10. *Fee.*—An application for a licence of the category specified in column (1) of the Table below when made by a person of the category specified in the corresponding entry in column (2) shall be accompanied by a Call Deposit receipt showing that the fee according to the scale specified in the corresponding entry in column (3) of the said Table had been paid.

Name of Licence	Category of person	Amount
1	2	3
A. Special Game Hunting Licence.—		Rs.
(a) Monthly licence ...	(i) Citizen of India ...	50
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	100
(b) Yearly licence ...	(i) Citizen of India ...	250
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	500
B. Big Game Hunting Licence —		
(a) Monthly licence ...	(i) Citizen of India ...	30
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	60
(b) Yearly licence ...	(i) Citizen of India ...	200
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	400
C. Small Game Hunting Licence—		
(a) Monthly licence ...	(i) Citizen of India	10
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	25
(b) Yearly licence ...	(i) Citizen of India ...	50
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	100

B. *Wild Animal Trapping Licence*

11. *Application.*—An application for a Wild Animal Trapping Licence shall be made to the Chief Wild Life Warden in Form No.2.

12. *Fee.*—An application for a Wild Animal Trapping Licence shall be accompanied by a Call Deposit receipt showing that the fee according to the following scale had been paid namely :—

(a) monthly licence fee of Rs.25 for trapping of birds and Rs.50 for trapping of animals if made by a citizen of India ; or a monthly licence fee of Rs.50 and Rs.100 respectively if made by a person other than a citizen of India ;

C. *Grant of Licence*

13. *Grant of Licence.*—(1) On receipt of an application for a licence under this Chapter, the issuing officer may, after such inquiry as he may deem fit, grant or reject the application.

(2) (a) Where an application is rejected, the licence fee shall be refunded expeditiously to the applicant.

(b) *Refund of Licence Fee.*—(i) Any person who has been refused a licence may apply to the Licensing Authority in Form No.3 for refund of the licence fee paid by him.

(ii) On receipt of the application under sub-rule (1), the Licensing Authority shall, after such inquiry as it may deem fit, refund the licence fee paid by the applicant.

(3) Where the issuing officer decides to grant the licence applied for, he shall require the applicant to submit within such time as he may specify the necessary call deposit receipts showing the payment of deposit and royalty, if any, as specified in Rule 14 and Rule 15.

(4) On receipt of the Call deposit receipts showing the payment of deposit and royalty, if any, the issuing officer shall grant the licence applied for in the appropriate form specified in sub-rule (5).

(5) (a) A Special Game Hunting Licence shall be granted in Form No.4.

(b) A Big Game Hunting Licence shall be granted in Form No.5.

(c) A Small Game Hunting Licence shall be granted in Form No.6.

(d) A Wild Animal Trapping Licence shall be granted in Form No.7.

14. *Deposit.*—A person to whom a licence may be granted under this Chapter, shall, when required by the issuing officer, pay a security deposit in any manner as directed, equivalent to the calculated royalty of the animals and birds granted by the license.

15. *Royalty.*—The person specified in column (2) of the Table below shall, when required by the issuing officer, pay royalty in respect of the animals specified in the corresponding entry in column (1) of the Table at the rate specified in the corresponding entry in column (3) of the said Table.

TABLE

Part I

Name of animal (1)	Category of person (2)	Amount of Royalty (3) Rs.
1. Capped Langur (Presbytis pileatus).	(i) Citizen of India ...	15
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India	30
2. Dolphins (Dolphinus delphis, Platanista Gangetica).	(i) Citizen of India ...	25
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	50
3. Flying squirrels (All species of the genus Hylopetes, Petaurista, Belonys and Eupetaurus).	(i) Citizen of India ...	50
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	100
4. Giant squirrels (Ratufa macroura, Ratufa indica and Ratufabicolor).	(i) Citizen of India ...	25
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	50
5. Indian elephant (Elephas maximus).	(i) Citizen of India ...	Other 1,000 Tusker 1,500
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India ...	2,000 3,000
6. Pig-tailed Macaque (Macaca namestrina)	(i) Citizen of India ...	10
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	20
7. Pythons (Genus Python)	(i) Citizen of India ...	100
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	
8. Stamp-tailed Macaque (Macaca speciosa).	(i) Citizen of India ...	15
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	30
9. Wild Dog or Dhole (Camalpinus)	(i) Citizen of India ...	20
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	40
10. Assam Macaque ...	(i) Citizen of India ...	8
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	16

Name of animal (1)	Category of person (2)	Amount of Royalty (3)
11. Rhesus Monkey ..	(i) Citizen of India (ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	5 10

BIG GAME

1. Barking deer or Muntjac (Muntiacus muntjak).	(i) Citizen of India ... (ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	50 100
2. Chital (Axis axis) ..	(i) Citizen of India ... (ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	150 300
3. Himalayan Black bear (Selenarctos thibetanus).	(i) Citizen of India ... (ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	100 200
4. Hog deer (Axis porcinus).	(i) Citizen of India ... (ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	50 100
5. Sambar (Cervus unicolor).	(i) Citizen of India ... (ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	200 100
6. Wild pig (Sus scrofa)	(i) Citizen of India ... (ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	50 100

SMALL GAME

1. Hares (Black naped, Common Indian Desert, Himalayan Mouse-hare).	(i) Citizen of India (ii) A person other than a citizen of India	10 20
2. Martens (Martes foina intermedia, Martes flavigula, Martes guatkinsii).	(i) Citizen of India (ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	10 20
3. Otters (Lutra lutra percicillata, Aonyx cinerea.	(i) Citizen of India. (ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	50 100

Name of animal (1)	Category of person (2)	Amount of Royalty (3)	(4)
4. Weasels (Mustela sibirica, Mustela kathiah and Mustela altaica).	(i) Citizen of India	...	10
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	...	20
5. Birds (other than those subspecies and species mentioned in Part III of Schedule I or in Schedule V, and belonging to the families listed below :—			
(i) Barn Owls (Tytoninae)	(i) Citizen of India	...	8
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	...	16
(ii) Cranes (Cruidae)	(i) Citizen of India	..	10
	(ii) A persons other than a citizen of India.	...	20
(iii) Ducks (Anatidae)	(i) Citizen of India	..	4
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	...	8
(iv) Emerald Dove (Dolumbide)	(i) Citizen of India	...	2
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	...	4
(v) Falcons (Falconidae)	(i) Citizen of India	...	5
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	...	10
(vi) Geese (Antidae)	(i) Citizen of India	...	8
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	...	16
(vii) Hawks (Accipitridae)	(i) Citizen of India	...	5
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	...	10
(viii) Hornbills (Bucerotidae)	(i) Citizen of India	...	50
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	...	100
(ix) Uungle and Spur fowl (Phasiandae)	(i) Citizen of India	...	4
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	...	8
(x) Minivets (Campaphagidae)	(i) Citizen of India	...	2
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India	...	4
(xi) Orioles (Oriolidae)	(i) Citizen of India	...	2
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	...	4

Name of animal (1)	Category of person (2)	Amount of Royalty (3)
(xii) Owls (Strigidae)	(i) Citizen of India	... 8
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	... 16
(xiii) Partridges (Phasianidae)	(i) Citizen of India	... 5
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	... 10
(xiv) Pheasants (Kaliz)	(i) Citizen of India	... 10
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	... 20
(xv) Pigeons (except Blue Rock pigeon) (Columbidea)	(i) Citizen of India	... 2
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	... 4
(xvi) Quail (Phasianidae)	(i) Citizen of India	... 2
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India,	... 4
(xvii) Snipe (Charadriidae).	(i) Citizen of India	... 2
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	... 4
(xviii) Thrushes (Muscicapidae)	(i) Citizen of India	... 2
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	... 4
(xix) Peacock Pheasant	(i) Citizen of India	... 20
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	... 40
(xx) Hill Mynas	(i) Citizen of India	... 10
	(ii) A person other than a citizen of India.	... 20

16. *Validity of licence.*—(a) A Special Game Hunting Licence shall be granted for a period of one month or more but not exceeding one year from the date of the grant thereof.

(b) A Big Game Hunting Licence and a Small Game Hunting Licence shall be granted either for a period of one month or one year, from the date of the grant thereof.

(c) The Wild Animal Trapping Licence shall be granted for a period not exceeding one month from the date of the grant thereof.

(d) A Licence granted under Rule 13 shall be valid only for the area specified therein.

17. *General conditions governing grant of licence.*—(1) The Special Game Hunting Licence and the Big Game Hunting Licence shall specify—

(a) the number of animals of any species,
(b) the sex, and
(c) the minimum size of each speciment that could be hunted.

(2) The Small Game Hunting Licence shall also specify the maximum number of each species that could be hunted in the course of a day.

(3) The Wild Animal Trapping Licence shall specify the method that would be permitted for the capture of the wild animal specified therein and the conditions under which the wild animal could be trapped.

(4) Every Licence granted under this Chapter shall also be subject to the restrictions imposed by Section 17.

(5) A holder of a Special Game Hunting Licence, a Big Game Hunting Licence or a Small Game Hunting Licence shall not sell or barter to any person any animal shot by him or any meat or uncured trophy derived therefrom.

(6) Any person who is entitled to hunt a dangerous animal under a Special Game Hunting Licence or a Big Game Hunting Licence and who wounds such animal shall do his utmost to kill the same.

(7) On his failure to do so he shall forthwith inform in writing the issuing officer and officer-in-charge of nearest Forest Police Office giving reasons why the wounded animal could not be tracked and killed and he shall also inform the village headmen of the adjoining area of the existence of the wounded animal in the neighbourhood.

(8) For the purposes of a Special Game Hunting Licence and a Big Game Hunting Licence, an animal which has been wounded and lost shall be deemed to have been hunted under the licence, and the licencee shall forfeit the right to hunt another specimen in the place of the one wounded and lost.

(9) (a) The trapping of wild animals specified in Schedule II and Schedule III shall not be permitted unless the Chief Wild Life Warden is satisfied for reasons to be recorded in writing that such trapping is necessary under the provisions of sub-section (1) of Section II, or of Section 12.

(b) A holder of the Wild Animal Trapping Licence, unless specifically permitted so to do, shall not trap such animal in shooting blocks referred to in Rule 22 and Government forests.

(10) (a) A licensee under this Chapter shall intimate in advance the Divisional Forest Officer concerned his desire to organise drives in any reserve forest, giving the date and the place where he desired to have such drives.

(b) No drive will be permitted except in special cases where necessity for such drive arises for reasons to be recorded. The Divisional Forest Officer may permit a drive with prior approval of the Chief Wild Life Warden.

(c) Only spears and axes may be carried if necessary, by the beaters, for the purpose of the drive.

(11) Any machang or pit constructed for purpose of hunting shall immediately be dismantled or filled in on the completion of hunting.

(12) All trophies which had been killed or captured in contravention of the conditions of the licence including specimens smaller than the minimum dimensions specified, shall be deemed to be Government property under Section 39.

(13) While hunting or trapping any wild animal a licensee shall carry with him his licence and shall, on demand, produce for inspection such licence before any staff of the Forest Department of the State, or an officer appointed under sub-section (1) of Section 4.

(14) A licence granted under this Chapter shall not be transferable.

(15) A licensee under this Chapter shall maintain a record in Form No.8 of the animals killed, captured or wounded by him and such record shall be surrendered to the issuing officer as required by Section 10.

(16) Any licence granted under this Chapter shall not be valid during the period of closed time declared under sub-section (1) of Section 16.

(17) The licensee shall not use any rifle of a bore smaller than 400 H.V. except a Magnum .375 H.V. rifle for hunting of a bision or elephant.

(18) The licensee shall not possess any live animal which is maimed or injured.

(19) No licensee shall engage more than two non-licensees to assist him in his hunting.

(20) The licensee or any of his retainers or followers shall be responsible for any liability if any in respect of any wrongful act done under the Meghalaya Forest Regulation or any other law for the time being in force.

Explanation :—For purpose of this sub-rule—

(a) 'retainer' means a person holding an arms licence and accompanying the licensee for assisting him during hunting, capturing or trapping of any wild animal ; and

(b) 'follower' means a person employed by the licensee for rendering field assistance to him in connection with hunting, capturing or trapping of any wild animal.

(21) No licensee shall, during hunting, have in his possession a loaded fire-arm while travelling in any vehicle or boat, nor shall be discharge any fire-arm from any vehicle or boat, whether stationary or in motion.

Explanation :—For the purpose of this sub-rule—

(a) 'boat' means a boat other than a boat which is propelled by human powers ;

(b) any fire-arm having a live shell or cartridge in its chamber shall be deemed to be loaded.

(22) Particulars of the persons accompanying the licensee in hunting shall be furnished to the Range Officer having jurisdiction over the area, in advance.

18. *Licensee to abide by rules.*—A licensee under this Chapter shall abide by these rules and the conditions specified in the licence.

19. *Forfeiture of deposit.*—(1) If the holder of the licence contravenes the provisions of Rule 17, the deposit made by him shall be liable to forfeiture either in whole or in part.

(2) Where the issuing officer cancels or suspends under Section 13 a licence granted under this Chapter, he may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, order the forfeiture of the whole or part of the deposit made by the licensee.

20. *Refund of deposit and royalty.*—(1) On the expiry of the period specified in the licence and on receipt of the return in Form No.8 from the licensee, the issuing officer shall, after satisfying himself that the holder of the licence had not committed any breach of the conditions of the licence, refund expeditiously the deposit.

(2) Where the issuing officer is satisfied that an animal in respect of which royalty if any had been paid had not been killed, captured or wounded, he shall refund expeditiously to the licensee the amount paid as royalty.

21. *Duplicate copies of licence.*—A duplicate copy of the licence shall be issued by the Issuing officer, on payment of half the fee prescribed for the original licence, clearly stamped 'duplicate', in red ink therein.

D. *Shooting Blocks*

22. *Determination of shooting blocks.*—(1) Every year in the month of July the Conservator of Forests concerned, shall send proposals to the Chief Wild Life Warden for notifying in the Official Gazette, the shooting blocks consisting of forest areas under his jurisdiction specifying therein the areas—

(a) which are absolutely closed for hunting ;

(b) which are provisionally closed for hunting ; and

(c) in which hunting is permitted under a shooting Block Permit.

(2) On receipt of the proposals under sub-rule (1), the Chief Wild Life Warden shall, subject to any directions issued by the State Government in that behalf, determine the shooting blocks and recommend to the State Government to notify them in the Official Gazette :

Provided that, the Chief Wild Life Warden may with the consent of the State Government if he considers it necessary so to do, with effect from such date as he may direct, permit hunting in a shooting block which is provisionally, closed for hunting or declare any area in which hunting is permitted as provisionally closed for hunting.

(3) No person shall hunt any wild animal in any shooting block without a Shooting Block Permit.

23. *Application for reservation of shooting blocks.*—(1) An application in Form No.9 for reservation of a shooting block shall reach the office of the Chief Wild Life Warden not earlier than ninety days and not later than thirty days before the first day of the month for which reservation of the shooting block is required.

(2) No applicant shall apply for a reservation of a shooting block unless he possesses a valid hunting licence issued under this Chapter.

(3) Each application shall be accompanied by particulars of the hunting licence possessed by the applicant.

24. *Application under Rule 23 how dealt with.*—(1) On receipt of an application under Rule 23, the Chief Wild Life Warden shall, after making such inquiry as he may deem fit, either allot the shooting block or reject the application.

(2) Where there are more applications than one for reservation of the same shooting block for the same period, the shooting block shall be allotted to the applicant whose application has been received earlier :

Provided that an applicant shall not get more than one shooting block at any one time.

(3) Where there are more applications than one received on the same day, the matter shall be decided by drawal of lots.

(4) The Chief Wild Life Warden shall communicate to the applicant the order passed on the application either within five days of passing the order, or of the drawal of lots, as the case may be.

(5) The Shooting Block Permit shall be in Form No.10 and shall be valid for a period of not exceeding thirty days as may be specified therein. It shall specify the number of each animal species permitted to be hunted in the block, together with their age and sex.

(6) No holder of a Shooting Block Permit shall hunt in the block to which the permit relates, any species of animal mentioned in the licence granted under Rule 13, but not included in the Shooting Block Permit.

(7) No Shooting Block shall remain open for shooting for a period exceeding 30 (thirty) consecutive days and it shall not be re-opened for shooting unless a rest of 15 (fifteen) clear days is allowed between two consecutive shooting periods.

25. *Chief Wild Life Warden to maintain register.*—The Chief Wild Life Warden shall maintain in his office a register in which all applications made under Rule 23 shall be entered and the register shall contain the following particulars, namely :—

(a) the date of application ;
(b) the date of receipt in his office ;
(c) the particulars of the hunting licence possessed by the applicant ;
(d) whether the application has been granted or rejected.

26. *Fee.*—(1) A person to whom a shooting block has been allotted shall, within seven days of receipt of the order of allotment, deposit fee of Rupees 50 (fifty) only in any Government Treasury and produce the receipt before the Chief Wild Life Warden as proof of having deposited the requisite fee.

(2) Where a person fails to deposit the fee as required under sub-rule (1), the reservation shall be cancelled and the shooting block may be allotted to the person next in the order of priority.

E. *Special Purpose Permit*

27. *Application.*—(1) Every person desiring the hunt any wild animal, for any of the purposes referred to in Section 12, shall obtain a permit from the Chief Wild Life Warden (hereinafter called a 'Special Purpose Permit').

(2) An application for a Special Purpose Permit shall be made to the Chief Wild Life Warden, in Form No.11.

(3) Every application referred to in sub-rule (2), shall be accompained by a fee of Rs.5 in cash, if the license required, is for a period of one month or Rs 50 where it is required for one year.

28. *Grant of a Permit.*—(1) On receipt of an application for a Special Purpose Permit, the Chief Wild Life Warden may, after such inquiry as he deems fit and subject to the provisions of Section 12, grant or reject the application.

(2) Where an application is rejected, the fee paid by the applicant shall, on an application made by him in Form No.3 be refunded to him.

(3) Where the Chief Wild Life Warden decides to grant a Special Purpose Permit, it shall be granted in Form No.12.

29, *General Provisions.*—(1) Every person holding a Special Purpose Permit, shall submit a fortnightly or a weekly report of his collection, as may be required by the Chief Wild Life Warden, and send a copy of such report, each to the Conservator of Forests and the Divisional Forest Officer of the area in which hunting or trapping is done.

(2) The Permit-holder shall not collect any animal specified in Schedule I and Part II of Schedule II, unless he is specifically permitted to do so.

(3) The Permit-holder shall, wherever required by the Chief Wild Life Warden or any other officer authorised by him in that behalf, produce for inspection, the entire collection made by him.

(4) The Permit-holder shall not export his collection outside the State of Meghalaya, without the written permission of the Chief Wild Life Warden or any officer authorised by him in this behalf.

CHAPTER IV

Sanctuaries and National Parks

30. *Claim to be made upon proclamation by Collector.*—Where the Collector publishes a proclamation under Section 21, any person, claiming any right mentioned in Section 19 may prefer before such Collector, within two months from the date of such proclamation, a written claim in Form No.13.

31. *Notice to the Claimant.*—On receipt of the claim made under Rule 30, the Collector shall serve a notice upon the claimant requiring him to appear at such place and on such date as may be specified in such notice either in person or through an agent authorised by him in this behalf and to produce evidence, oral or documentary, in support of the claim.

32. *Entry in Sanctuary or National Park for purposes of Section 28(1)(d) and (e).*—(1) Every person desiring to enter a Sanctuary or National Park for purposes of tourism or transaction if any lawful business with any person residing therein shall obtain a permit which shall be issued at the gate of the Sanctuary or National Park.

(2) A permit referred to in sub-rule (1) shall be in form No.14 and shall be issued by an officer authorised by the Chief Wild Life Warden in this behalf on payment of a fee specified in sub-rule (3).

(3) The fee in respect of the permit shall be as follows, namely :—

(A) (a) In the case of visitors (not being students) who are—

(i) Indian citizens fifty paise per head per day ;
(ii) Other than Indian citizen, Rupee one per head, per day ;

(b) In case of students who are—
(i) Indian citizen, twenty-five paise per head, per day ;
(ii) Other than Indian citizen, fifty paise per head, per day.

(c) A child below the age of five years shall be exempted from payment of the fee.

(B) In respect of a Vehicle which is—

(a) a light motor vehicle, such as a car or jeep, Rs.5 per vehicle, per day ;
(b) a heavy motor vehicles, such as a lorry or truck, Rs 10 per vehicle, per day ;
(c) a motor cycle or tricycle, including motor scooters and cycle with attachment for propelling the same by machanical power, Rs.2 per vehicle, per day ;
(d) a cycle and other vehicle manually operated, 50 paise per vehicle, per day ; and
(e) an animal-driven vehicle, Rupee one per vehicle, per day.

(4) The fee for operating a camera shall be as follows, namely :—

(a) in the case of a still camera to be operated by an Indian citizen, Rs.2 per camera, per day and in the case of other persons, Rs 8 per camera per day ;
(b) in the case of a cine-camera where it is to be operated by an Indian Citizen Rs 5 per camera, per day, and in the case of other persons Rs.20 per camera, per day.

(5) A permit referred to in sub-rule (1), shall be valid for the period specified therein but not exceeding 15 days.

33. *Entry in a Sanctuary or National Park for purposes of Section 28(1)(a), (b) and (c).*—(1) Every person desiring to enter a Sanctuary or National Park for purposes of investigation or study of Wild Life and purposes ancillary or incidental thereto or professional photography or scientific research shall obtain a permit from the Chief Wild Life Warden or the officer-in-charge of the Sanctuary or National Park.

(2) The fee for operating a camera shall be as follows, namely :—

(a) Where photography is for scientific research, investigation and study of Wild Life and purposes ancillary or incidental thereto—
  (i) in the case of a still camera to be operated by Indian citizens not exceeding five in number, Rs.2 per camera per day, and in the case of other persons not exceeding five in number, Rs.10 per camera, per day ;
  (ii) in the case of a cine-camera where it is to be operated by Indian citizens not exceeding five in number, Rs.25 per camera, per day, and in the case of other persons not exceeding five in number, Rs.50 per camera per day ;

(b) Where photography is for professional purposes—
  (i) in the case of a still camera to be operated by an Indian citizen Rs.50 per camera per day, and in the case of other persons Rs.250 per camera, per day ;
  (ii) In case of a cine-camera to be operated by an Indian citizen, Rs 500 per camera, per day, and in case of other persons, Rs.1,000 per camera per day.

(3) The fee payable under sub-rule (2) shall be paid in advance.

34. *General conditions governing the issue of a permit.*—(1) The Permit referred to in Rule 32 shall be in Form No.15.

(2) The permit shall not entitle any person to free accommodation in any Government building situated within the limits of the Sanctuary or National Park.

(3) Any officer or servant of the Forest Department on duty or an officer appointed under sub-section (1) of Section 4, may require any person to stop within the limits of the Sanctuary or National Park as the case may be, or at the entrance gate, for the purpose of checking and may demand for inspection, the permit granted under this Chapter, every person so required to stop, shall stop when called upon to do so and shall produce the permit for inspection.

(4) No person shall be allowed to enter a Sanctuary or a National Park with any weapon or ammunition except with the previous permission in writing, of the Chief Wild Life Warden or any other officer authorised in this behalf.

(5) No dog and any other pet animal shall be permitted to enter a Sanctuary or National Park.

35. *Cancellation of permit.*—Where any person commits a breach of any of the conditions specified in a permit, the Chief Wild Life Warden or the officer-in-charge of a Sanctuary or National Park may, after recording his reasons in writing, cancel any permit.

36. *Power to exempt.*—Where the State Government considers it necessary or expedient so to do in the public interest, it may by order exempt any person or class of persons from the payment of the fee payable under this Chapter.

37. *Registration of persons holding fire arms.*—(1) Within three months from the declaration of an area as a Sanctuary or National Park, or in the case of a Sanctuary or National Park existing at the commencement of these rules within three months of such commencement, every person residing within ten kilometres of such Sanctuary or National Park and holding a licence granted under the Arms Act, 1959 (Central Act 54 of 1959), or exempted from the provisions of that Act and possessing arms, shall apply in Form No.16 to the officer-in-charge of the Sanctuary or National Park for the registration of his name.

(2) The application under sub-rule (1) shall be accompanied by a fee of five rupees in cash.

(3) (a) On receipt of an application under sub-rule (1) the officer-in-charge of the Sanctuary or National Park shall, after making such inquiry as he may deem fit, register the name and other particulars of the applicant in Form No.17.

(b) A separate page in the register shall be allotted to every person whose name is so registered (herein in this rule referred to as licencee).

(4) Where a licensee commits any offence under the Act or the rules made thereunder, the officer-in-charge of the Sanctuary or National Park shall make an entry to that effect in the register and where the registering officer is satisfied that the licensee has committed the said offence on occasions more than one he may take such steps as he considers necessary to move the authority concerns for cancelling the licence under the Arms Act, 1959 (Central Act 54 of 1959).

(5) Where the licensee transfers his arms to another person by way of sale, gift or otherwise, he shall intimate the officer-in-charge of the Sanctuary or National Park, within a period of fifteen days of such transfer.

(6) Where the licensee shifts his residence to another place within the said ten kilometres or shifts his residence beyond the said distance, he shall within a fortnight of shifting to the new residence, intimate the new address to the officer-in-charge of the Sanctuary or National Park.

(7) Where the licensee dies, his successor or legal representative shall intimate the fact to the officer-in-charge of the Sanctuary or National Park.

CHAPTER V

Trade or Commerce in Wild animals, Animal articles and trophies

38. *Declaration.*—Notwithstanding any declaration that a person may have made under sub-section (1) of Section 40, any person who has in his control, custody or possession, any captive animal, animal article or trophy (other than the musk of a musk deer or the horn of a rhinoceros) or salted or dried skins derived from an animal specified in Schedule I or Part II of Schedule II shall, within thirty days from the commencement of these rules, make a declaration in Form No.18 to the Chief Wild Life Warden or an officer authorised by him in this behalf (hereinafter referred to as the authorised officer).

39. *Inquiry and preparation of investories.*—(1) On receipt of a declaration under Rule 38, or under sub-section (1) of Section 40, the Chief Wild Life Warden or the authorised officer shall give a notice to the person making the declaration as to the date and time on which he shall enter upon his premises and such notice shall be served on the person making the declaration or sent to him by registered post.

(2) The Chief Wild Life Warden or the authorised officer may, after making such inquiry as he may deem fit, inspect the premises and animal articles, trophies, uncured trophies, and captive animals, specified in Schedule I or Part II of Schedule II.

(3) The Chief Wild Life Warden or the authorised officer shall made an inventory in Form No.19 of such animals or objects found upon the premises.

(4) The Chief Wild Life Warden or the authorised officer shall affix upon the objects referred to in sub-rule (3), identification marks as far as possible in indelible ink.

40. *Certificate of ownership.*—The Chief Wild Life Warden may, for the purposes of Section 40, issue a certificate of ownership in Form No.20 to a person who, in his opinion, is in lawful possession of any wild animal, animal article, trophy or uncured trophy.

41. *Application for license to commence or carry on business as a manufacturer of or dealer in any animal article, etc.*—(1) Every person desiring—

(a) to commence or carry on the business as—

(i) a manufacturer of or dealer in any animal article ; or
(ii) a taxidermist ; or
(iii) a dealer in trophy or uncured trophy ; or
(iv) a dealer in captive animals ; or
(v) a dealer in meat ; or

(b) to cook or serve meat in any eating-house, shall make an application in Form No.21 to the Chief Wild Life Warden or the authorised officer for the grant of a licence.

(2) An application for obtaining a licence to cook or serve meat in any eating-house shall specify the species of animal whose meat he desires to cook or serve.

42. *Grant of licence.*—(1) On receipt of an application under Rule 41, the Chief Wild Life Warden or the authorised officer shall, after making such inquiry as he may deem fit, either grant the licence in appropriate form mentioned in sub-rule (4) or reject the application. Validity of such licence shall be for 1 year from the date of grant thereof.

(2) Where an application is rejected, the fee paid thereon shall be refunded expeditiously to the applicant.

(3) In granting a licence under sub-rule (1), the Chief Wild Life Warden or the authorised officer shall have due regard to—

(a) the past record of the applicant as a dealer in the business which he desires to carry on ;
(b) whether the person has been convicted of any offence under the provisions of the Act or the rules made thereunder or under any of the provisions of an act repealed by Section 66 ;
(c) the need for granting a licence keeping in view the abundance or otherwise of wild life existing in the State.

(4) A licence—
(a) to commence or carry on the business as—
(i) a manufacturer of or dealer in an animal article or a dealer in trophy or uncured trophy shall be granted in Form No.22.
(ii) a taxidermist shall be granted in Form No.23.
(iii) a dealer in captive animals shall be granted in Form No.24.
(iv) a dealer in meat shall be granted in Form No.25.
(v) to cook or serve meat in any eating-house shall be granted in Form No.26.

43. *Renewal of licences.*—(1) A licensee may apply in Form No.27 for renewal of the licence at least thirty days before the date of expiry of the licence.

(2) The Chief Wild Life Warden or the authorised officer may, subject to the provisions of sub-section (7) of Section 44, renew the licence in Form No.22, Form No.23, Form No.24, Form No.25 or Form No.26 as may be appropriate and specify therein the period up to which the licence is renewed.

44. *Fee.*—Every application for the grant of licence or renewal thereof shall accompanied by a Call Deposit receipt showing the fee according to the following scale had been paid, namely :—

(a) to commence or carry on the busines as—
  (i) A manufacturer of or dealer in any animal article shall be rupees fifty ;
  (ii) a taxidermist shall be rupees two hundred ;
  (iii) a dealer in trophy or uncured trophy shall be rupees twenty ;
  (iv) a dealer in captive animals shall be rupees one hundred ;
(b) to cook or serve meat in any eating-house shall be rupees one hundred.

45. *Conditions governing the grant of licence.*—Every licence granted under this Chapter shall be specify the term subject to which a business or profession shall be carried on and shall also be subject to the provisions of the Act and these rules.

46. *Issue of bill or cash memo.*—(1) Every licensee, other than a taxidermist, shall, at the time of sale, issue a bill or cash memo to the purchaser and such bill or cash memo shall contain the following particulars—
(a) Name of the Licensee.
(b) Name, address and place of business of the Licensee.
(c) Licence number.
(d) Description of article sold.
(e) Sale price therefor.
(f) Date of Sale.
(g) Signature of the Licensee.

(2) Every taxidermist shall at the time of returning the trophy or uncured trophy issue a voucher to the owner thereof and such voucher shall contain the following particulars, namely :—

(a) Date of issue of voucher.
(b) Name, address and place or business of the licensee.
(c) Licence number.
(d) Description including name of species.
(e) Price realised.
(f) Name and address of the person to whom the voucher is issued.
(g) Signature of the licensee.

47. *Bill, cash memo or voucher—how to be maintained.*—(1) Every bill, cash memo or voucher, as the case may be, referred to in Rule 46, shall be in triplicate and serially numbered.

(2) The duplicate and triplicate copy of every bill, cash memo or voucher shall be retained by the licensee and the original copy—

(a) in the case of a bill or cash memo shall be given to the purchaser ; and

(b) in the case of a voucher, shall be given to the owner of the trophy.

(3) Every book containing blank vouchers shall be presented to the Chief Wild Life Warden or the authorised officer for affixing his initials or stamp on such book before it is brought into use.

(4) The duplicate copy of every bill, cash memo or voucher shall be sent along with the monthly return referred to in Rule 49.

48. *Maintenance of registers.*—(1) A licensed dealer in captive animals, animal articles, trophies or uncured trophies or meat derived therefrom shall maintain a register in Form No.28.

(2) A licensee who is a taxidermist or a manufacturer of animal articles shall maintain a register in Form No.29.

(3) A licensee authorised to cook or serve meat in any eating-house shall maintain a register in Form No.30.

(4) The licensee shall ensure that the register required to be maintained by him under this rule has been brought up-to-date before closing the business for the day.

49. *Submission of monthly returns.*—(1) Every licensee shall submit a monthly return to :—

(a) The Chief Wild Life Warden or the authorised officer, and

(b) The Director of Wild Life Preservation or the officer authorised by him in this behalf, together with a true copy of the entries made by him in the relevant register referred to in Rule 48, during the course of a month, duly certified and signed by the licensee as true copy of such entries and the duplicate copies of the bills, cash memo or vouchers referred to in Rule 47.

(2) The return under sub-rule (i) shall be submitted by the tenth of the month following the month to which the return relates and shall also contain such particulars or information as the Chief Wild Life Warden may, by general or special order, direct.

CHAPTER VI

Miscellaneous

50. *Disposal of meat or uncured trophy seized under Section 50.*—The Chief Wild Life Warden or the officer authorised by the Chief Wild Life Warden may arrange for the sale in public auction of any meat or uncured trophy seized under the provisions of Section 50 and the proceeds thereof shall be credited to the appropriate head of the account in a Government treasury or Bank.

51. (a) All fees, forfeited deposits and royalties shall be credited to Government Treasuries or Bank under the appropriate head of Government accounts.

(b) All deposits will be in the form of call deposits on Nationalised Banks, Meghalaya Apex Bank or Post Office Saving Bank Account duly pledged to the Chief Wild Life Warden or an authorised officer.

52. *Power to compound offences.*—For the purposes of Section 54 the following officers shall be empowered to accept payment of a sum of money by way of compensation of an offence against the Act, and to release on payment of the value thereof any property seized within the area of his jurisdiction, namely :—

(a) Chief Wild Life Warden ;
(b) Wild Life Warden.
(c) A Forest Officer of a rank not inferior to that of the Deputy Conservator of Forests.

53. *Cognizance of offences.*—The following officers shall be authorised to make complaints under Section 55, namely :—

(a) The Chief Wild Life Warden ;
(b) Any Forest Officer not below the rank of a Forest Ranger ;
(c) Any Police Officer not below the rank of Sub-Inspector of Police.

54. *Repeal and Saving.*—"As from the commencement of these Rules, the shooting Rules contained in the notification of the Government of Assam in the Forest Department's No.FOR/WL/679/68/28, dated 29th November, 1968 shall stand repealed."

Provided that such repeal shall not—

(i) affect the previous operation of the rules so repealed or anything duly done or suffered thereunder ;
(ii) affect any right, privilege, obligation or any liability acquired, accrued or incurred under the rules so repealed ;
(iii) affect any investigation, legal proceeding or remedy in respect of any such right, privilege, obligation or liability :

Provided further that subject to the proceeding proviso, anything done or any action taken under the rules so repealed, shall in so far as it is not inconsistent with the provisions of these rules be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of these rules and shall continue in force accordingly, until it is superseded by anything done or any action taken under these rules.