

Chapter No.IX

Poona No.1, Dt. June, 1964

**Subject:- RULES RELATING TO THE CUSTODY, ISSUE, USE AND
RETURN OF THE MARKING AND PASSING HAMMERS.**

1. INTRODUCTORY:

In order to exercise strict control over the removal of timber from contract areas, it is proposed that the system in vogue in the Vidarbha Region in regard to the use of Marking and the Passing Hammers be introduced in the order regions in the State where this system is not prevalent. This system if implemented uniformly throughout the State will help maintain an effective check, and thus act as a deterrent on the possible malpractices in the working of contract areas. The following rules are laid down for the purpose.

**2. THE TYPES OF
HAMMERS AND THEIR
USE:**

Two types of hammers will be used, one known as the Marking Hammer to be used for marking the trees to be felled under any system of working prescribed in the Working Plan or under any operation, and the other termed as the Passing Hammer to be used to mark the timber (Derived after felling the above trees) before it is allowed to be removed from the coupe or any area under felling.

**3. THE SPECIFICATION
OF THE HAMMERS**

(a) The Marking Hammer will have a circular face with a well-defined and projecting rim. The diameter of the face should be between 3.25 cms to 4 cms. and the hammer should weigh between 500 to 600 Gms. The impression on the hammer should be as indicated in Annexure I hereto. The size of each letter should be between 0.75 Cm. to 1.00

Cm. The dimensions of the eye of the hammer should be 2.5 Cms. X 1.75 Cm. and the handle should be of convenient size.

(b) The Passing Hammer will have a rectangular face with a sharply defined and projecting rim. The dimensions of the face should be 2.75 Cm. x 4.00 Cm., and the weight of the hammer between 350-400 gms. The impression on the hammer would be as shown in Annexure-I. The size of each letter would be more or less the same as in the case of the Marking Hammer. The – dimensions of the eye should be 2.25 Cm. x 1.50 Cm. and the handle should be widely.

4. THE METHOD OF AFFIXING THE HAMMER MARK

(a) All trees to be felled under any method of working of under any forest operation, shall be distinctly marked by a Marking Hammer at the breast height as well as at the base on the clear blaze of at least of 20 sq.cm. The blaze at the base should be as low as possible on the main trunk or on a buttress or on a root if exposed. In addition to such hammer marks, the trees to be felled will also be given chisel or digit numbers according to the executive orders in force in each Circle and / or Division. While felling a tree, it is necessary that the hammer marks on the blaze at the base, is preserved intact. In the case of felled trees to be sold, the Marking Hammer should be affixed both on the stumps of such trees as well as on the butt ends.

(b) No timber shall be allowed to be removed by a contractor or purchaser from the coupe or any area under felling unless it bears the mark of the prescribed departmental Passing Hammer. This mark will be in addition to the registered property hammer mark of the contractor or the purchase. The Passing Hammer mark will be impressed distinctly on both the butt and the top ends. In the case of areas where the period of extraction extends beyond one control year, a fresh Pressing Hammer should be used for the next control year.

5. The hammers should be kept in an iron safe embedded in the Divisional Office or in a steel cupboard or box securely locked, the keys of which must be kept by the Divisional Forest Officer or his Gazetted Assistant or by the Head Clerk with the prior permission of the Divisional Forest Officer. The Divisional Forest Officer will be personally responsible for the safe custody of the hammers in the Divisional Office.

6. CUSTODY, ISSUE AND
RETURN OF THE HAMMERS

(Para 5 to 10)

One Marking Hammer should be used for one coupe only in one Range in any control year. For this purpose, it should be ensured in good time that the stock of serviceable hammers is adequate. The same Marking Hammer should not be issued, in one Range in two consecutive years. Until adequate number of hammers are available, one hammer may, as a special case, be used for marking another coupe widely separated and in different Ranges in the same control year.

7. Hammer should be issued on a written requisition from the Range Forest Officer. The requisition should state the number of hammers required, the purpose for which they are needed, the particulars of coupes in which they are to be used and the probable date of return. Such requisitions should be submitted to the Divisional Forest Officer well in advance.

8. The requisition should be checked in the Divisional Officer and the hammers issued in accordance with Rule 6 Supra, on approval by the Divisional Forest Officer. The hammer should invariably be used only for the area and purpose specified by the Divisional Forest Officer while issuing the hammers.

9. The Range Assistant or the Forester in charge of the marking work shall return the Marking Hammer duly sealed to his Range Forest Officer, after final approval of his marking. The Range Forest Officer will in turn return this hammer

promptly to the Divisional Office duly sealed. The Marking Hammer must be returned to the Divisional Office in good time before the date fixed for the sale of coupes in which the hammers are used. The Range Forest Officer should submit a list of hammers so returned along with the name of the coupe in which the particular hammer is used. This list together with the hammers should be checked carefully in the Divisional Office. The impression of the Marking Hammer must be given in the pertinent Schedule to the Agreement Bond.

10. A permanent register showing the issue and return of all Marking and Passing Hammers should be maintained in a Form, a specimen of which is given in Annexure II. A separate page should be used for each hammer. This register will be maintained by the Divisional Surveyor. It should be posted meticulously and each entry relating to issue and receipt of the hammers should be initialed by the Divisional Forest Officer. The registers should be maintained for Marking and Passing Hammers.

11. The Passing Hammer must be returned by the Range Assistant or the Forester to his Range Forest Officer within a week of the expiry of the contract period of extraction period as the case may be. The Range Forest Officer in turn should return the same may be the Divisional Forest Officer immediately.

12. When a hammer is lost, it should be notified to all Forest Officers in the Division as well as to the adjoining Divisional Forest Officer to guard against the fraudulent use of such hammer. In no case should it be replaced by the one having the same number and design.

13. LOSS AND REPLACEMENT OF HAMMER

When a hammer becomes unserviceable and needs replacement, it should be got defaced by the Divisional Forest Officer and disposed of as scrap.

Sd/-
(S.S.Buit)
For Chief Conservator of Forests,
Maharashtra State.

To,

The Divisional Forest Officer and
Independent Sub-Divisional Forest Officer (All)

The Conservator of Forests (All)

ANNEXURE – I

(a) Abbreviations for Division and Sub-Divisions:

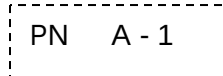
<u>Circle</u>	<u>Divisions</u>	<u>Abbreviation to be used</u>
Poona	Poona	PN
	Satara	SR
	Kolhapur	KP
	Aurangabad	AB
	Nanded	NR
	Ahmednagar	AH
	Koynanagar	KR
	Bhor Sub-Division	BH
	Ghod Project Divn.	JN
	Junnar	
Thane	Osmanabad	OS
	Dahanu	DH
	Shahapur	SH
	Thana	TN
	Roha Sub-Division	RH
	Sawantwadi	SD
	Kolaba	KB
Nashik	West Nashik	WN
	East Nashik	EN
	West Dhulia	WD

North Dhulia
Jalgaon

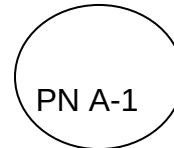
ND
JL

(b) The design of impression on the Marking and Passing Hammer:

Passing Hammer



Marking Hammer



A-1: 2 etc. upto A-9

B-1: 2 etc. upto B-9

ANNEXURE – II

Form of register for issue and return of the Marking / Passing Hammer.

S. No. of the hammer	Hammer impression and its weight	Date of purchase	Source of purchase	Price (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5

Issue				Return				Remarks
Date	To whom	For what purpose	Initials	Date	From	Whom	Initials	

NOTE:- The above columns will hold good for Marking as well as Passing Hammer.