

**THE AZAD GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF JAMMU &
KASHMIR, LAW & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
SECRETARIAT, MUZAFFARABAD**

Dated the 14th February, 1981

No. 986/LD/81. The following Ordinance made by the President on the 14th day of February, 1981, is hereby published for general information.

(ORDINANCE XXXI OF 1981)

AN

ORDINANCE

to provide for the prohibition of cutting of trees or causing damage to the standing and growing trees near the line of control in Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the prohibition of cutting of trees and causing damages to the standing and growing trees 1,000 yards (914.4 meters) of the line of control in Azad Jammu and Kashmir and for matters ancillary thereto;

AND WHEREAS the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary to take immediate action;

NOW THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 41 of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir and promulgate the following Ordinance:-

1. **Short title, Extent and Commencement.**- (1) The Ordinance may be called the Cutting of Trees (Prohibition) Ordinance, 1981.
 - (2) It extends to the whole of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.
 - (3) It shall come into force at once.
2. **Definitions.**- In this Ordinance unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context:-
 - (a) 'formation' means Corps, Division or Brigade of the Pakistan Army;
 - (b) 'local formation commander' in relation to an area, means an officer for the time being in command of the formation in the area; and
 - (c) 'tree' means a large plant with the self supporting trunk.
3. **Cutting etc. of trees prohibited.**- Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, no person shall, without the prior written approval of the local formation commander or an officer authorised by him in this behalf, cut,

fell or damage or cause to be cut, felled or damaged any tree - growing within 1,000 yards (914.4 meters) belt along the line of control in Azad Jammu and Kashmir;

Provided that this Ordinance shall not affect the existing lease/contracts and any action taken, anything done or intended to be done thereunder.

4. **Penalty.-** Whoever contravenes the provisions of this Ordinance or the rules made thereunder shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine or with both.
5. **Power to make rules.-** The Azad Government of the State of Jammu and Kashmir may make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Ordinance.
6. **Savings.-** Notwithstanding any judgment, decree or order of any court including High Court, everything done, all actions taken, notifications issued, orders or appointments made, proceedings initiated, jurisdiction or powers exercised under the provisions of the Cutting of Trees (Prohibition) Ordinance, 1980 (Ordinance XXVI of 1980) or its succeeding Ordinances issued from time to time shall be deemed to have been validly done, taken, issued, made, initiated or exercised under this Ordinance.

(Muhammad Hayat Khan)
President,
Azad Jammu & Kashmir.

Sd/- (Syed Muhammad Akram Shah)
Secretary Law.