Annexure V(1),(Vide Article-5.01)

Rules for the Departmental Examination of Gazetted Forest Officers and Range Forest Officers recruited directly :-

1. Forest officers of the grade of Assistant Conservator of Forests and the directly recruited Indian Forest Service Officers shall be required to pass examination in the following subject:

a) Language Examination:- Language viz Marathi and Hindi according to the Government Officers' Regional Language Examination Rules and Hindi Examination Rules.

b) Departmental Examination:-
   1) Land Revenue and Criminal Laws
   2) Forest Law
   3) Accounts and Procedure

The test in Land Revenue and Criminal Law, Forest Law and Account Procedure will be as per the prescribed syllabus (vide appendix A to the Rules)

2. Every officer appointed directly as Assistant Conservator of Forests and Indian Forest Service Officer on probation shall appear for the examination in subjects (b) (1) (2) (3) mentioned in Rule 1 at the latest at the first examination held by the Public Service Commission after the expiration of the first year of his probation. Should such officers fail to pass the examination they will neither be confirmed in class I and II nor be given promotion and they will further render themselves liable to have their increments withheld until they pass examination or Government may at its discretion dispense with their services, or may deal with them in such manner as may deem fit.

Note 1: Entries regarding passing of or failure to pass the examination shall be made in the confidential records of the officers concerned and earlier passing of the examination will be taken into account for confirmation and making promotion to higher posts.

Note 2: The officers allocated from Ex. Madhya Pradesh State, Ex-Hyderabad State and old Bombay State to the Maharashtra State on reorganization of States on 1st November 1956 and also those recruited by the Bombay State thereafter and now in the service of the forest department need not pass the examination according to these rules provided they have passed the departmental examination prescribed by the former States. Such of the officers as have not passed the examination shall have to pass the examination prescribed by these rules within two years from the date the rules come in force.

3. Range Forest Officers promoted as Assistant Conservator of Forests (class I) shall be required to pass at the first examination held after the expiration of the first year of his appointment as a Assistant Conservator of Forests, the prescribed departmental examination in subjects (b) (1) (2) and (3) mentioned in rule I. Should he fail to pass the examination, he shall neither be confirmed in class II nor given promotion and render himself liable to have his increments withheld until he passes the examination. He may even be reverted as Range Forest Officer if considered necessary.

Provided that a Range Forest Officer appointed as Assistant Conservator of Forests who has already passed the Departmental Examination for Range Forest Officer prescribed in rule 4 shall be exempted from passing the examination under this rule.

Note 1 : Notes 1 and 2 below rule 2 are applicable to the Range Forest Officers promoted as Assistant Conservator of Forests.

Note 2 : The person directly recruited as Range Forest Officers prior to 29th January 1949 by old Bombay State are exempted from the operation of this rule.

4. Every person who has been appointed directly as Range Forest Officer shall appear for the examination in subjects (b) (1)(2) and (3) mentioned in rule 1, the latest at the examination held by the Public Service Commission before the expiration of the period of five years from the date of his appointment. Should such Range Forest Officer fail to pass the examination, he shall render himself liable to have his increments withheld until he passes the examination or the Principle Chief Conservator of Forests may at his discretion dispense with his services or may deal with him in such manner as he may deem fit.

Note 1: Notes 1 and 2 below Rule 2 are applicable in the case of Range Forest Officers.

Note 2 : The Range Forest Officers recruited after 29/1/1949 will not be considered eligible for promotion until they pass the departmental examination for Gazetted Forest Officers and Range Forest Officers.

Note 3: When the increments are stopped under this rule and also rule 2 and 3 above, they shall be withheld only until the officer passes the necessary examination. The increments earned in his subsequent career shall not be deferred by a period equal to the delay which occurred beyond the period prescribed for passing the examination.

APPENDIX – A

Syllabus for the Departmental Examination of the Gazetted Forest Officers and Range Forest Officers recruited directly .

1**) Land Revenue and Criminal Law:-** **Marks 150**

The Maharashtra Land Revenue code, 1966 (Maharashtra Act No.XLI of 1966) Chapter I and Chapter II, Chapter III-Sections 20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28 and 31, Chapter IX. Maharashtra Land Revenue (Boundaries and Boundaries Marks) rules, 1969 as published under Government Notification No. 2167- R dated 13th August 1969. The Maharashtra Land Revenue (Regulation of Right to trees etc.) Rules, 1967 published as per Government Notification No. UNF – 1567 (b) –R, dated 1/9/1967 and further amended as per Government Notification No. UNF. 1567 –(b) –R dated 4/8/1968. Maharashtra Land Revenue (Disposal of Government trees, produce of trees, grazing and other natural products) Rules, 1969 as published under Government Notification No. UNF – 1567 (F) – R dated 3/4/1969. The Indian Penal Code (Act XLV of 1860) as amended upto date Chapters II,IV, IX, X, XVI-Sections 319 to 358, XVII-Sections 378 to 389, 403 to 420, 441 and 447, XVIII-Sections 478, 479 and XXIII. The Criminal Procedure Code (Act V of 1898) as amended upto date, Chapter I- Sections 4 and 5 with schedule II so far as it relates to the Chapters and Sections of the Indian Penal Code above mentioned and to offences against other laws, Chapter II-Sections 9 to 18, Chapter III Sections 31 to 33, 36 and 37 with schedules III & IV, Chapters IV, V-Sections 54 and 59, Chapters XVI, XVII, XX, XXI and XXXIX. The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 Chapters II, VII, IX and X.

(P.T.O.)

2) **Forest Laws:-** **Marks 150**

The Indian Forest Act (XVI of 1927) as modified uptodate with all the Rules and Orders published and in force at the time being under that Act. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 amended up to date. The Maharashtra Felling of Trees Act, 1964, Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Felling of Trees belonging to S.T.(Regulation) Act, 1969.

3) **Accounts and Procedure** :- **Marks 150**

Not more than 12 questions from:-

a) The Maharashtra Forest Manual Volume I

b) Maharashtra Forest Manual Volume II

(in so far as it is not covered by the examination in forest law)

c) Rules which have been published under the Sea Custom Act (VII of 1878), Arms Act 1959 (54 of 1949) as in force at the time being and apply to the forest officers in the Forest Department of the State.

d) An introduction to Indian Government Accounts and Audit IIIrd Edition 1963 Chapters 1,7,8,12,13,14,16,20,24,26,27, and 28)

e) Bombay Financial Rules, 1959, such portions of the Chapters 2,4 to 6 which applies to the Department and Chapters I, II, III, VI, VIII, IX, X, XI and XII and paragraphs 57,58,59,60,61,62,63(b) of Chapter IV and 74 and 77 of chapter V of the Bombay Budget Manual Financial Publication X (Second edition)

f) The Bombay Civil Services Rules Manual (Financial Publication V) Chapters I to V, VIII to XII , XV and XLIV -A to the Bombay Civil Services Rules.

g) The Financial Publication No. VII (Manual of Financial Powers) only such portion which applies to the Forest Officers.)

h) Financial Publication No. VIII (The Bombay Civil Services Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules).

Note 1 (a) Fifty percent in each paper will be required to pass the examination.

Provided that a candidate who appears in all papers at one and the same examination but fails to obtain the required minimum marks for passing in one paper alone shall be entitled to have his deficiency condoned provided he has secured at least forty five percent of the marks obtainable in that paper.

(b) A candidate who obtains at least 75 % of the aggregate marks obtainable will be considered to have passed the examination with credit provided that a candidate who has secured an exemption or exemption under note 2 below and passes at the second attempt in the remaining paper shall not be declared to have passed with credit.

Note 2 :- An unsuccessful candidate who has obtained sixty percent or more of the marks obtainable in a paper will be exempted from appearing again in that paper.

Note 3 :- No books will be allowed to be used in the examination in the subject (iii) but for the examination in subjects (i) and (ii) the use of books will be allowed.