

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Department of Wildlife Protection Office of the Regional Wildlife Warden Kashmir Region

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The Joint Director, Information Department, Kashmir.

No, RWLW/K/Tech/2017-18/2093-94

Dated:- 9-01-2018

Subject:-Publication of Press Note.

Sir,

Kindly find enclosed herewith copy of "Press Note" and it is requested to kindly get the same published in the leading dailies of Kashmir for the purpose of wide publicity among the masses.

Yours faithfully,

Regional Wildlife Warden Kashmir Region

1. Copy alongwith copy of "Press Note" submitted to the Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife)/ Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K Govt. for information please.

Regional Wildlife Warden

Kashmir Region

Government of Jammu and Kashmir



Department of Wildlife Protection OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL WILDLIFE WARDEN KASHMIR REGION

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Press Note

Every year, wetlands of Kashmir valley receive lakhs of birds from across the world including Siberia, Central Asia and China etc., These birds are enlisted in schedule-I and II of Jammu and Kashmir Wildlife (Protection) Act 1978 (Amended upto 2002). By virtue of this Act, these birds receive complete protection against hunting, poaching, capturing and selling. Any person ventures to hunt, poach, capture or sell these birds is liable to a jail term of 1 year alongwith fine upto Rs.10,000. Hunting, poaching, capturing or sale of these birds are non-bailable and non-compoundable offences.

The Wildlife Protection Department has got registered many criminal cases against the persons caught while hunting, poaching, capturing and sale of these migratory birds in and outside the Wetland Conservation Reserves. The persons so caught were prosecuted under the stringent criminal law provisions and many such cases are pending before the criminal courts of Kashmir.

The courts have taken a serious view of the said offences committed against these birds and have refused to grant bail to the persons accused of such offences and have even declined permission to release the weapons recovered from them by the Wildlife Protection Department.

Through the medium of this press note the general public is informed that the Wildlife Protection department shall, besides taking other actions, take stringent criminal action against person/persons for hunting, poaching, capturing and sale of these migratory birds under the said Act. If need be, Wildlife Protection department may take the assistance from the Forest Protection Force and the local Police to prevent hunting, poaching, capturing and sale of these migratory birds in and around the Wetland Conservation Reserves of Kashmir Reserves.

> Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir Wildlife Protection Department