

## LAW OF PASTURE LANDS

19 Hoot 1249

### CHAPTER ONE: GENERAL REGULATIONS

- ARTICLE 1: This law has been enacted to protect the pastures and make better use of them.
- ARTICLE 2: The word "pasture" includes the plains, hills, mountains, the skirts of the mountains, marshlands, the banks of rivers and forest areas which are covered with grass and other plants that grow wild and could be used as fodder for cattle.
- ARTICLE 3: The pastures are public property and the people can use them in accordance with the rules of this law.
- ARTICLE 4: The pastures are demarcated and demarcated by an official team. The Government is required to appoint such a team in every province two months since the coming to force of this law.
- ARTICLE 5: The disputes arising in connection with the pastures shall be settled according to the rules of the Land and Pasture Law and the Law of Organisation and authorities of the Courts.

### CHAPTER TWO: MAINTENANCE OF PASTURES

- ARTICLE 6: It is strictly prohibited to buy or sell pastures.
- ARTICLE 7: The pastures cannot be sold or leased for agricultural expansion or commercial purposes. Public projects for development are an exception to this rule.
- ARTICLE 8: It is strictly prohibited to burn the pastures. In case there is a fire in a pasture, it will be the duty of the neighboring people and the officials of government agencies to extinguish it.
- ARTICLE 9: Nobody is allowed to encroach upon the pastures or convert them into cultivable land. If it is proved that someone has converted a pasture into cultivable land before the enforcement of this law, it will be sequestered and recognized as pasture.
- ARTICLE 10: No one is allowed to do away with the tracks, pens, fords or springs used by the cattle or utilize them for another purpose.
- ARTICLE 11: The tracks and pens used by the cattle but later done away with or utilized for another purpose before the enforcement of this law shall be rehabilitated.

ARTICLE 12: The Government will take necessary measures for the protection and enhancement of the pastures.

ARTICLE 13: The Government has the right to expropriate the water rights or private springs inside or on the fringes of the pastures in order to protect and enhance the pastures within the framework of the laws.

### CHAPTER THREE: THE USE OF PASTURES

ARTICLE 14: Only the cattle can use the pastures in order to graze.

ARTICLE 15: Persons will have the right to graze their cattle on the pastures if they possess official documents or used the pasture traditionally before the enforcement of this law.

ARTICLE 16: New rights to use the pastures can be acquired through a decision made by the administrative council of each province and the endorsement thereof by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

ARTICLE 17: The right to use pastures is not transferable.

ARTICLE 18: It is prohibited to graze goats and camels in forest areas.

### CHAPTER FOUR: PUNISHMENTS

ARTICLE 19: Any person who buys or sells the pasture areas must not only return the land to the Government with the crops thereof, but also will undergo the following punishments:

- a) Imprisonment from 10 to 20 days.
- b) Fines from 500 to 1,000 Afghanis.

ARTICLE 20: Any official who sells or leases a pasture shall be punished according to law.

ARTICLE 21: Any person who encroaches upon pastures or converts them into cultivable land will return the land with the crops thereof to the Government and undergo the following two punishments for each half-acre involved:

- a) Imprisonment from 20 to 40 days.
- b) Fines from 1,000 to 2,000 Afghanis.

ARTICLE 22: Any person who does away with pens or uses these for other purposes shall return the crops thus obtained to the Government as well as be treated according to Article 11 of this law. He will also undergo the two following punishments:

- a) Imprisonment from 20 to 40 days.
- b) Fines from 1,000 to 2,000 Afghanis.

ARTICLE 23: Any person who does away with the tracks or uses these for other purposes, will return the crops thus obtained and be treated according to Article 11. He will also undergo the following two punishments:

- a) Imprisonment from one to six months.
- b) Fines from 3,000 to 6,000 Afghamis.

**ARTICLE 24:** Any person who sets the pasture on fire intentionally will undergo the following two punishments:

- a) Imprisonment from two to three years.
- b) Fines from 5,000 to 15,000 Afghamis.

**ARTICLE 25:** Any person who grazes his goats or camels in the forest areas will be sentenced to a fine of 50 Afghamis for each animal for the first offense and for each subsequent offense the penalty shall be doubled.

#### CHAPTER FIVE: MISCELLANEOUS RULES

**ARTICLE 26:** The Government is required to create the necessary organizations in order to protect and enhance the pastures.

The Government will formulate the necessary regulations in order to facilitate the application of the rules embodied in this law.

**ARTICLE 27:** Matters not clarified in this law shall be dealt with according to the Land Survey and Statistics Law.

**ARTICLE 28:** This law shall be effective after publication in the Official Gazette.