

## **Rules and Regulations to the Forest Act of 1993**

A legal act lays down broad policy outlines, whereas rules and regulations are critical guidelines which aim at translating policy aspirations into reality. The revised rules and regulations to the Forest Act have gone through an extensive process involving policy-makers in HMG/N and donor organisations. An agreed draft has been finalised and is expected to be formally released by HMG/N in the near future.

In the absence of accompanying rules and regulations, some forest department staff are following the old rules while others are awaiting the release of the new rules. It is hoped that the new rules and regulations will accelerate the process of handing over community forests to user groups in the future.