Min seeks report about tree felling in forest office

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Shivamogga: Forest minister Eshwar Khandre asked CCF (Shivamogga circle) Hanumanthappa to submit a report within three days about charges that several trees were axed at the CCF's office premises.

The 'Rainland' Conservation Community had filed a complaint accusing the forest department of cutting down trees estimated to be over 50 years old instead of trimming their branches. Nithin Herale Gajanur, an environmentalist, condemned the forest department's actions and called it daylight robbery.

Khandre sought clarification on the reasons behind the tree felling and asked whether the necessary permissions were

obtained for axing.

Unauthorised filming

Meanwhile, Khandre also addressed concerns surrounding unauthorised filming at the Sakrebail Elephant Camp in Shivamogga and Bannerghatta Biological Park, which has sparked a row. The minister instructed officials to investigate and take necessary action.

The probe will also examine whether permission was granted for filming at restricted areas within wildlife sanctuaries, including animal enclosures.