

ANNEXURE – 8

(See Proceedings of the Committee : Para 12)

Meeting with selected ministerial staff and field staff on 10.11.2010

1. Sri. Saby Varghese- Wild Life Warden Idukki

- Station should have section and beat. Staff should rotated at fixed periodicity say two months or three months by the Deputy RO at station level.
- Wild Life Assistants should be posted compulsorily wherever Nature Camp is organized. This need not be a uniformed staff.
- Eco-Restoration camps for Nature camps.
- Veterinary doctors in each circle.
- Explore scope for wild life biology.
- Wild Life research in specific areas.
- Landscape based management plans.
- Digital cameras and GPS for everybody.

2. Sri. Shaji Lal- Junior Superintendent, Munnar

- Induction training is a must.
- There has to be technical and non-technical wing in the department where the source of selection, training and posting norms should be the same but people do different jobs.
- Follow up of promising candidates who attended Nature Education Camps.
- Wild Life camps should be organized only on payment basis to attract only genuine persons to the camps.

3. Sri. Sanjayan Range Officer (Eco-Development) Thekkady.

- Periodic inspection of stations
- People should be for 6 months in a section
- Induction training staff a must.
- Special pay packages for staff
- Advanced curriculam for training.

- Empower front line staff for research, day to day monitoring, documentation and presentation.
- Encourage Forest Guards who conduct Nature Camps. They should be retained for long periods,
- Providing GPS,Digital cameras, DPAs etc.

4. Sri.Manu Sathyan Range Officer.

- Total re-distribution of staff in territorial and wild life divisions based on requirement, remoteness, difficulties etc.
- Since generating of all reports and documents is at range level 2 clerks should be given at the Range level.
- Increase in staff strength.
- Sections within stations.(Remote areas not covered now, forester does not have much role, joint responsibility is no responsibility in effect, station in one corner of jurisdiction)
- Management plans in wild life areas should not only speak about issues in forest areas, but also the problems of nearby villages and localities.
- GIS software in each range.
- Amendment of Forest Code and other Laws
- Induction training and in service training a must.
- Joint training on common issues with Police ,Excise and Panchayat staff.

5. Sri. T.C.Devassy, Deputy Range Officer

- Extend Station system to all divisions
- Tendency of persons to move from Stations to Sections should be resisted.
- Adequate rest should be given to staff. Eight hour duty time.
- Legal assistance for conducting cases.
- Special investigation unit like the Crime Branch
- Festival season is a difficult season. Lack of staff for activities.
- Engineering Wing should be introduced.
- Liability of staff a really worrying issue.
- System of compounding should be improved.

6. Sri. Robin Deputy Range Officer, Mannarappara

- Better pay structure for staff
- Infrastructure development

- Training for staff for dealing with the accounts of VSS/EDC
- Better Pay Scale for Forest Guard than Police Constable considering the arduous nature of the duties of the forest guard.
- തോട്ടങ്ങളിലെ തടി മുറിക്കുന്നത് ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നിരക്കിൽ ഇരട്ടിയെങ്കിലും ആക്കിയാൽ മാത്രമേ പണികൾ ചെയ്യുന്നതിന് ആളുകളെ കിട്ടുകയുള്ളൂ. ഇപ്പോൾ തേക്ക് ബില്ലറുകൾ ഒരു മീറ്ററിലാണ് മുറിക്കുന്നത്. അത് ഒന്നര മീറ്ററിൽ മുറിച്ചാൽ വാങ്ങുന്നവർക്ക് കൂടുതൽ പ്രയോജനവും സർക്കാരിന് ലാഭവും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതാണ്. ലേലം നടന്നാൽ 15 ദിവസത്തിനകം കൺഫർമേഷൻ കൊടുക്കുന്നത് നല്ലതാണ്.
- 8 മണിക്കൂർ ഡ്യൂട്ടിയായി നിജപ്പെടുത്തുകയും തുടർന്ന് ഹെഡ്കാട്ടേഴ്സ് വിട്ടുപോകാൻ അനുവാദം കൊടുക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുക.
- ഇ.ഡി.സി, വി.എസ്.എസ് സെക്രട്ടറിമാർക്ക് അതുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട എല്ലാ കാര്യങ്ങളിലും വിദഗ്ധ ട്രെയിനിംഗ് നൽകേണ്ടതാണ്. ടി ഇ.ഡി.സി, വി.എസ്.എസ് സെക്രട്ടറിമാരെ, സ്റ്റേഷൻ, സെക്ഷൻ, ബീറ്റ് ജോലികളിൽ നിന്നും ഒഴിവാക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.
- വനം വകുപ്പ് ജീവനക്കാർക്ക് ടിയാന്റെ സർവ്വീസിൽ ഒരിക്കൽ സീനിയറേജ് നിരക്കിൽ ടിയാന്റെ വീടിന്റെ ആവശ്യത്തിലേയ്ക്കായി 3൩³ തേക്കു തടി കൊടുക്കുന്നത് ജീവനക്കാരുടെ മനോവീര്യം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിന് സാധിക്കും.

7. Sri.Muraleedharan- Senior Superintendent.

- Social Forestry Wing should be strengthened to look after elephants, kandal areas and Secred groves.
- Samoohya Vrikshavalkaranam should be adopted.
- Reserve Forest Force for dealing with emergencies issues.
- Continuance monitoring and follow up of forest offences.
- Thorough review of Station System.
- There are specific issues in each station.
- Induction training to both uniformed as well as ministerial staff.
- Machinerries purchased are not properly utilized.
- Co-ordinated actions with other departments. There has to be co-ordination mechanisms.
- Circle level engineering wing.
- Separate Research Wing.
- Appointing a task force for analyzing the next 30 year programmes of the department.

8. Sri. C.G.Raveendran Senior Administrative Assistant

- Service Book maintenance is not proper. Dossier system for an individual should be tried.

- Induction training should be given circle-wise.
- A ministerial staff who has Range/Division experience as clerk alone should be considered for promotion as HA
- Re-deployment of Ministerial staff wherever needed.
- Principal CCF should have the powers for this re-deployment
- Convenor System. Review. Forester and Convenor has no responsibility
- Maintenance of office records of convenor bills not proper. Copies are not kept in the office file.
- Recovery from pay is a minor penalty, but as per rules only the appointing authority can order this. This needs amendment to rules.
- Special training to staff for handling case files. Circle-wise training
- ROs are gazette officers. They should have powers to sanction leave of subordinates. Similarly to Dy ROs.
- SS can also be delegated with some powers.
- Mobile phones to all officers of and above SS.
- Cheque drawing powers to TAs.
- Reserve Force of Forest Guards to move in a van like in the case of Police.
- Use of crane for depots.
- Provision for arms and ammunitions and helicopters.

9. Smt. Jaya, Head Accountant

- FMIS has not improved a bit since its inception days. Same problems persist.
- Many facilities to staff and officers, but not properly used.
- Ministerial staff is practically ignorant about what Forest Department is, its mandate and functioning.
- High stress on staff. Staff is not happy.
- De-centralisation is a necessity.
- Training at all levels.
- Periodic training at intervals. Once in six months.
- Communication gap between each level is very large.

10. Sri. Santhosh Kumar Administrative Assistant

- Powers should be delegated to Circle and Region levels.
- CCFs should be sent to the field.

- Cheque drawing powers could be given to TAs, AAs, SS etc.
- Post of Divisional Accountant should be created.
- Reserve Force in Forest Stations.
- Yearly shifting within stations.
- Dy.ROs should have powers for filling petrol in vehicle allotted, its maintenance etc. Advance should be given for this.
- Power to sanction leave to sub-ordinates should be given to Dy.ROs also.
- Power to shoot offenders. No magisterial enquiry.
- Induction training to all staff including Ministerial staff.
- Periodic training at all levels.
- Periodic skill upgradation training to staff.
- Forest Department and Environment Department should be brought under one Minister at least.

11. Sri, Raju Thomas Assistant Conservator of Forests

- District level spokesman for the department.
- Driver cum guard
- Personal file for each individual officer
- Re-notification of RF boundaries.
- Contract system for raising plantations.
- Station should be manned by direct recruits. Fresh ROs can be considered to be posted in stations coming under direct ROs for 2 years so that the stations get the benefit of such direct ROs.

12. Sri. P.Chandran, Forester, Flying Squad, Palakkad

- Minimum forest advance for Deputy Rangers
- DFOs in Flying Squad should be Senior ACFs / DCFs
- Flying Squads should be strengthened like Crime Branch in Police.
- Reserve Force in each division under a Dy. Range Officer.
- Drivers should be well trained like in Police.
- Tribals should be given better facilities.
- Beet / section system should be introduced within station.
- Modern equipments like high range binoculars, night vision binoculars etc should be made available.
- Communication / wireless system should be strengthened.

- Field staff should be provided with quarters with amenities like carom board, chess.
- Training to staff with national standard.
- Use of helicopters should be tried.
- Training for parachute landing.
- Forester, who is familiar with forest cases should be entrusted with the task of processing cases.
- Range Officers should be given prosecution sanction power.
- Important Court cases – special monitoring by technical assistants of Conservators / Chief Conservator of Forests.
- Periodic training to staff.
- Timber at seigniorage to all forest department employees once during their service.
- Facility for forest department staff to visit forest and wildlife areas once in a year with facility of IB.

13. Sri. B. Anilkumar, Forest Guard, Forest Intelligence Cell

- Station system should continue as of now. No sections/ beats within station.
- There should mechanism to use man power available in nearby divisions.
- Dy. Rangers should be given power to charge cases of lesser importance.
- Legal machinery should be strengthened at division level.
- Increase in staff strength.
- Reserve Force in each circle.
- VSS/EDC fully under the control of department.
- FMIS should be expanded.
- Good weapons and weapon training.
- Night vision equipments, sensors to locate animals etc should be given.
- Colony type accommodation in forest areas for accommodating families.
- Unification of trainings.
- Wildlife assistants should be posted in training schools.
- Fast growing timber species should be introduced.
- Depot should be mechanized with crains.

14. Sri. T.D.Jaganathan, Forester, Flying Squad Range, Kalpetta

- Divisions should be formed based on district boundaries.
- Number of protective staff should be increased.

- Stations system should be introduced in all divisions.
- The extent of forest within each station should be fixed based on field study.
- Blocks can be formed within stations.
- Staff should be deployed on rotation basis within stations.
- Staff pattern should be scientifically decided.
- Fire engine facility at district level.
- Spy cameras should be installed in different parts of forest.
- Better equipments and arm should be provided.
- Vehicle availability should be improved.
- Experts in different fields alone should be posted in training schools.
- Special training for survey and issue of certificate.
- Extent tree planting.
- Mono culture plantations should be reduced.
- Grass lands should be left untouched.
- Use insecticide near sanctuaries should be stopped.
- Grazing within the forest and construction of resorts within the forest should be stopped.
- Coordination of activities of line departments.
- Depots should be mechanized.
- The condition that Rs.1 lakh should be remitted may be limited to Teak and Rosewood only.
- Working Plan at Division level only.
- Wildlife crime control bureau should be established.
- Light, arms should be provided.
- Facility for keeping arms in stations.
- Revision of Forest Code without further delay.
- FSR should be revised from time to time.
- Importance should be given for planting, banyan trees.
- Fast vehicles should be provided.