



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Forest & Wild Life Department –State Level and District Level Task Forces on Captive Elephants – Constituted – Orders issued

FOREST & WILD LIFE (D) DEPARTMENT

GO (Ms) No. 03/2015/F&WLD

Thiruvananthapuram, Dated: 17.01.2015

- Read: 1) D.O Letter No. 2-6/2012/PE dated 04.11.2014 from the Inspector General Of Forests, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India
2) Letter No. BDC2-1230/2014 dated 06.11.2014 from the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Thiruvananthapuram.

ORDER

As per letter read as 1st paper above, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India have issued a direction for constitution of Captive Elephant Welfare Committee with representatives of Animal Welfare Board of India and Central Zoo Authority and Forest Department. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) has forwarded a proposal for constitution of State Level and District Level Task Forces on captive Elephants as per letter read as 2nd paper above as detailed below:

State Level Task Force

1	Additional Chief Secretary, Forests and Wildlife, Kerala	Chairman
2	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala	Vice Chairman
3	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity Cell)	Convener
4	Director, State Animal Husbandry Department	Member
5	Veterinary Expert, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Pookode, Wayanad	Member
6	Representative of Wildlife Institute of India	Member

*Intimate all concerned
and upload on
website*

22/1/2015

7	Representative of Animal Welfare Board of India	Member
8	Representative of Central Zoo Authority	Member
9	Representative of Project Elephant, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India	Member

District Level Task Force

1	Divisional Forest Officer, Flying squad	Chairman
2	District Veterinary Officer	Vice Chairman
3	Representative of the organization of Elephant owners nominated by the Divisional Forest Officer	Member
4	Forest/Assistant Forest Veterinary Officer nominated by Divisional Forest Officer	Member
5	Member of the society for Prevention of cruelty to animals (SPCA)	Member

Government have examined the matter in detail and are pleased to constitute the State Level and District Level Task Forces on captive elephants as detailed above with the following duties and Responsibilities.

Duties and responsibilities of State Level Steering Committee

- 1) Monitoring the functioning of District Level Task Forces and issuing instructions to the District Level Task Forces from time to time
- 2) Examining the functioning of rescue centers/elephant camps with Kerala Forest Department and exploring the possibility of additional Elephant rehabilitation centers

Duties and responsibilities of District Level Task Forces

- 1) Conducting inspections and appraisals of each captive elephant facility in the State to check abuse and overwork of animals. Reports to be sent for further legal action to the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(Bio Diversity Cell) for placing the report before the State Level Task Force.
- 2) To act in every case received regarding abuse of elephants and resolve the same keeping welfare of the elephants foremost

- 3) To check illegal interstate sale of Elephants under various guises of gift, donation, lease, exchange etc. and propose methods to prevent it.
- 4) To determine ownership details and source of acquisition of Captive Elephants in Kerala.
- 5) Creation of Statewide list of captive Elephants including those kept by private individuals, Circus companies, Temples, Zoos, Rescue Centers or any other establishment.

(By order of the Governor)

P.VIJAYACHANDRAN

Deputy Secretary

For Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.

To

- 1) The Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Govt. of India (with C/L)
- 2) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and HoFF, Thiruvananthapuram
- 3) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(Wildlife), Thiruvananthapuram
- 4) The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Bio Diversity Cell)
- 5) The Accountant General (Audit/A&E) Thiruvananthapuram
- 6) Stock File /Office Copy

Forwarded/by order



Section Officer