

Proceedings of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala

Present.V.Gopinathan

Sub: Kerala Forest Department- Provisional promotion of Deputy Rangers to the cadre of Range Forest Officer- orders issued-regarding.

- Read:**
- 1 Letter No.D1-27438/2010 dated 03.03.2011 of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
 - 2 Letter No.D1-27438/2010 dated 14.11.2011 of Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Administration)
 - 3 GO (Rt) No.80/2012/F&WLD dated 09.02.2012
 - 4 Proceedings orders no. D1-5740/2010 dated 06.02.2012 and D1-5741/2010 dated 18.02.2012 of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala.
 - 5 Letters No.D1-27438/2010 dated 16.02.2012 & 17.02.2012 of Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Administration)
 - 6 Letter No.D1-27438/2010 dated 28.04.2012 of Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Administration)
 - 7 GO(Ms) No.62/2012/F&WLD dated 01.06.2012.

Order No. D1-27438/2010 Dated 18.06.2012

1. The sanctioned strength of Range Forest Officers in the Kerala Forest Department is 204. Prior to 21.10.2010, the method of recruitment was as follows:- "25% of the total cadre strength (ie, sanctioned posts) of Range Forest Officers shall be filled by Direct Recruits having the qualifications of (B.Sc. Forestry) who have satisfactorily completed the practical training in the Forest Department, 25% by appointment of Forest Apprentices (FA) who have satisfactorily completed training in the Forest Colleges and the practical training in Forest Department; 25% by appointment of Deputy Rangers / Foresters who have undergone Ranger's Training (FTR) and 25% by promotion of Deputy Rangers/Foresters who have undergone Forester's training (FNTR)".

2. The Forest Range Officers in the Kerala Forest Department were under the purview of the Kerala Forest Subordinate Service Rules. Lately, the post of Forest Ranger has been included in the category of gazetted post as per G O (MS) 48/2009/F&WLD dated 27.10.2009 and the post has been included in the State Forest Service as per the Kerala Forest Service Special Rules, 2010 notified vide the GO (P) No. 73/2010/F&WLD dated 21.10.2010. As per the said Rules, the quota of recruitment has been recast as follows

Sl. No.	Category	Quota	No.of posts
1	Direct Recruitment from candidates who possess a Degree in Forestry	25%	51
2	Direct Recruitment from candidates who possess a Degree in Science or Engineering	25%	51
3	Appointment by transfer from among the Deputy Rangers in the Kerala Forest Subordinate Service Rules	25%	51
4	Recruitment by transfer from forest officers namely Wildlife Assistant, Deputy Ranger, Forester and Forest Guard	20%	41
5	Recruitment by transfer from approved probationers in the Kerala Forest Ministerial Subordinate and the Kerala Ministerial Services in Forest Department	5%	10

3. Twelve Range Forest Officers in the Department had retired from service on superannuation on 31.03.2011. Sixteen Range Forest Officers have been promoted to the cadre of Assistant Conservator of Forests as per G.O (Rt) No. 446/2011/F&WLD dated 13.10.2011. Sri. Vismju Viswanathan, Range Forest Officer, Konni on getting selection to IFS has been relieved from the post of Range Forest Officer as per order no. D1- 6247/2011 dated 25.08.2011 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests. Due to the death of Sri. B. Prabhakaran Pillai, Range Forest Officer on 07.11.2011, one more vacancy has arisen. Thus 30 vacancies of Range Forest Officers arose in the Department from 01.04.2011 onwards on account of retirement, promotion, resignation and death. Out of the 30 vacancies, 4 vacancies occurred due to retirement have been filled up as per order No. D1-27438/2010 dated 30.03.2011 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests by promoting Deputy Rangers provisionally. One vacancy is filled by promoting Sri. M.G. Vinod Kumar, Forester, First Rank Holder in Forester Training as per order No. D1- 12675/2011 dated 29.10.2011 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests. Further, five Assistant Conservators of Forests are likely to be conferred IFS and as such five vacancies shall arise in the cadre Assistant Conservator of Forests. While filling the vacancies of Assistant Conservator of Forests through by transfer appointment of Range Forest Officers, there would arise 5 vacancies of Range Forest Officers also raising the total vacancies as 30.

4. As the existing vacancies of Range Forest Officers are required to be filled immediately so that the functioning of the Ranges is not badly affected on account of posts not being properly manned, Government sanction has been sought vide letters cited read 1st and 2nd to promote 30 Deputy Rangers to the cadre of Range Forest Officers as per Rule 31(a) (i) of Kerala State and Subordinate Service Rules. Government vide GO read 3rd above accorded sanction for the temporary promotion of 30 Deputy Rangers as Range Forest Officers.

5. In the mean time, the Kerala Public Service Commission have advised 25 candidates under the quota earmarked for Direct Recruitment from among Forestry Graduates. The said 25 candidates are appointed as Range Forest Officers as per orders read 4th of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala and deputed to undergo training course for directly recruited Forest Range Officers commenced from 14th February 2012 at the Andhra Pradesh Forest Academy, Dulapally, Hyderabad. As per the Kerala Forest Service Special Rules amended in 2010, the Range Forest Officers are appointed to the service from the date of commencement of training itself. On appointment of the above said Range Forest Officers, 25 vacant posts stand technically filled up but without officers in the field to occupy the posts of Range Forest Officers. For all practical purposes in the field, the posts of Range Forest Officers will be lying vacant affecting the functioning of the Department for the next 30 months ie the duration of training.

6. In view of the above administrative exigency, Government sanction has been sought vide letters read 5th to promote and post 25 Deputy Rangers as Range Forest Officers provisionally from the list already sanctioned by Government vide the GO read 3rd to the posts lying vacant on account of the deputation of 25 Range Forest Officers to undergo training for the Range Forest Officers creating supernumerary posts in the cadre of Range Forest Officers. In the meantime, the Kerala Public Service Commission have advised 15 more candidates from candidates who possess a Degree in Science or Engineering and approved probationers in the Kerala Forest Ministerial Subordinate and the Kerala Ministerial Services in Forest Department for appointment as Range Forest Officers. As such it was recommended to Government vide the letter read 6th for the creation of 40 supernumerary posts in the cadre of Range Forest Officers.

7. Government vide the GO read 7th have accorded sanction for the creation of supernumerary posts of Trainee Range Forest Officers for the period till training of Trainee Range Forest Officers ends . The GO further says that such posts will be coterminus with the training and will not be perpetuated further. The vacancies arising in the post earmarked for Public Service Commission recruits will be filled up by appointment from among Department Officers (ie Deputy Rangers) on provisional basis.

8. Under the above circumstance, it is ordered to create 25 supernumerary posts of Trainee Range Forest Officers . It is further ordered to accommodate the 25 Range Forest Officers already appointed vide orders read 4th above and deputed to undergo training course for directly recruited Forest Range Officers from 14th February 2012 at the Andhra Pradesh Forest Academy, Dulapally, Hyderabad in the supernumerary posts created above.

9. As such 25 vacancies mentioned in para 3 of this order are left unfilled in the Department. Due to the retirement of Sri. P.V. Natesan and Sri. C.S.Radhakrishnan, Range Forest Officers on 30.04.2012 and 31.05.2012 respectively, there arose two vacancies of Range Forest Officers also. Altogether 27 vacancies of Range Forest Officers are available for filling. Out of the 27 vacancies, 8 vacancies are to be kept unfilled for the posting of 8 Forest Apprentices on regular basis who are undergoing practical training in the Department, which will end by 20th July 2012. As such only 19 posts are available for filling by the temporary promotion of Deputy Rangers.

10. Government vide the GO read 3rd above accorded sanction for the temporary appointment of Deputy Rangers as Range Forest Officers subject to the following conditions.

1. Probation should have been declared in the feeder category
2. Basic academic qualification as in the feeder category
3. No major disciplinary action / vigilance case is pending against them.

11. The eligibility of Deputy Rangers who are seniors and whose names are not included in the list already sanctioned by Government has been examined in relation to the above conditions. Sri. O.N. Sadasivan, Sri. T.G. Mohanan and Sri. P.M.Abdul Razak having seniority nos.3, 5 and 13 respectively in the provisional seniority list of Deputy Rangers as on 01.03.2011 and in whose name disciplinary action for major penalty was pending are finalized now are eligible for temporary promotion as per the above said

conditions. Sri. A. Baburaja Prasad, Deputy Ranger having seniority no. 29 has been excluded from list of Deputy Rangers for temporary promotion since disciplinary action for major penalty has been initiated against him and placed under suspension as per order no. B2- 42661/12 dated 30.05.2012 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force.

12. Under the above circumstances, the following 19 Deputy Rangers are temporarily promoted as per Rule 31(a) (i) of Kerala State and Subordinate Service Rules as Range Forest Officers in the scale of pay of Rs. 20,740-36140.

Sl.No.	Name	Seniority no. in the provisional seniority list of Deputy Rangers as on 01.03.2011
1	M. Abdul Salam	1
2	O.N.Sadasivan	3
3	T.V. Prakasan	4
4	T.G. Mohanan	5
5	D.Edison	7
6	A.M. Soman	10
7	P.V. Jayakumar	11
8	P.M. Abdul Razak	13
9	P. Balakrishnan Nair	14
10	K.R. Davis	19
11	C.K. Sudheer	25
12	K. Manilal	26
13	P.C. Johnson	27
14	T.C. Devassy	28
15	Augustine Joseph	30
16	B. Viswambharan	31
17	V.V. Sajeev	32
18	J.K. Purushothaman	33
19	K.K. Sabu	34

The promotion is subject to the following conditions

1. The promotions are over and above the quota fixed for promotion of Deputy Rangers and therefore are purely on provisional basis
2. The promoted Deputy Rangers will be reverted without any notice when eligible hands join duty, if they cannot be accommodated in their respective eligible quota
3. The reversion will take place starting from the junior most of the officers herein promoted.
4. In respect of the Range Forest Officers promoted temporarily as per this order, the promotion will be regularized as and when vacancies earmarked for them will occur in their respective quota.

Posting orders will be issued separately.



**Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) &
Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala**

Copy to :-

Individuals through the concerned Head of Offices.

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force
2. PA to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala
3. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry)
4. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
5. Chief Conservator of Forests
6. Conservator of Forests
7. Accountant General (A& E), Kerala with C/L
8. File/Stock File/ E4-Section/D3-Section

