

Government of Tamil Nadu

Abstract

Forests – Announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister for Forests – Constitution of State Forest Commission to look into the various aspects of Forest and Wildlife Management in Tamil Nadu – Orders – Issued.

Environment and Forests (FR.Spl.A) Department

G.O.(Ms)No.87

Dated: 14.08.2007

ORDER:

Tamil Nadu Forest Department has a rich tradition and great history. It has also completed 150 years of existence. To mark this unique milestone, the Hon'ble Minister for Forests, while presenting the Forest budget for the year 2007-2008 in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Session, has made announcement, among other things, to set up a "State Forest Commission" with Chairman and two members to look into various aspects of Forest and Wildlife management in Tamil Nadu. The Government have therefore decided to constitute State Forest Commission to look into the various aspects of Forests and Wildlife Management in Tamil Nadu, and to make recommendations in this regard.

2. Accordingly, the Government hereby constitute the State Forest Commission with the following compositions:

- a) Chairman : A Senior Administrator either a retired or serving Indian Administrative Service Officer of this State.
- b) Member : A Professor or Academician with Management in Science back ground.
- c) Member Secretary : Indian Forest Service Officer at the level of Chief Conservator of Forests by way of additional charge.

3. The Terms of Reference of the State Forest Commission shall be as follows:-

- (i) To review the existing policy and legal framework of forestry in Tamil Nadu and their impact in holistic manner from ecological, economic, social and cultural view points.

(P.T.O.)

- (ii) To make recommendation for specific policy option for achieving sustainable forest management in production forestry, protection forestry, protected area management social and extension forestry to bring 1/3rd of the land area under tree cover as stipulated in National Forest Policy, 1988 to achieve ecological security and Environmental stability of the state.
- (iii) To examine the current status of Forest administration to meet the needs of civil society from production, protection, social and extension forestry objective. To identify weaknesses and inadequacies and suggest appropriate improvement.
- (iv) To suggest technological innovations in communication, Information Technology Enabled Solutions to manage remote forest area and also research innovation activities to increase Forestry Productivity and conserve forest areas.
- (v) To recommend capacity building measures needed to equip the officers and staff of Forest Department to improve their skills and meet new challenges.
- (vi) To develop harmonious and meaningful partnership between the Forest personnel and local people especially tribals in achieving the goal of sustainable Forest Management.
- (vii) To suggest measures to make forest administration more responsive to the public need and establish mechanism for quick redressal of public grievances.
- (viii) To study the existing service conditions (other than those relating to pay and allowances which come with in the purview of Pay Commission) and suggest ameliorative measures.
- (ix) And other related issues and aspects.

The Terms of Reference does not include cadre review of Indian Forest Services/Career Progression for Indian Forest Service offices since these subjects are common to the entire country and are under the purview of Government of India.

(P.T.O.)

4. The head quarters of State Forest Commission be set up at Chennai and the Commission will take up tours within or outside the state to the extent necessary. The Commission shall be treated as Class I Committee for the purpose of drawl of Travelling Allowance and Dearness Allowance.

5. The Government direct that the Commission should submit its recommendations within a period of one year.

6. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide its U.O.No.1856/FS/8/07 dated: 02.07.2007.

(By order of the Governor)

R. RAJAGOPAL
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai-15.
The Accountant General, Chennai-18/BN.
The Accountant General, (CAS), Chennai-9.
The Pay and Accounts Officer, Chennai-9/35.

Copy to:

Secretary (KR) to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Chennai-9.
Senior Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minsiter (Forests), Chennai-9.
Finance Department, Chennai-9.
All Forest Sections in Environment and Forest Department, Chennai-9.
SF/SCs.

/Forwarded by Order/

Section Officer.