

## Conservator's Conference

Record of discussion held in the conference room of the Chief Conservator of Forests on 22 and 23 of September 1986. The following Officers attended the above meeting.

### 22 Sept. 1986

- Sri. M. Sivarajan, Chief Conservator of Forests.
- Dr. P.N. Nair, Chief Conservator of Forests (D).
- Sri. N.M.Pillai, Chief Conservator of Forests (HQ).
- Sri. G. Mukundan, Chief Conservator of Forests (WL).
- Sri. M.S. Nair, Chief Conservator of Forests (Vig).
- Sri. James Varghese, Managing Director, K.F.D.C.
- Sri. C.K.Karunakaran, Conservator of Forests, High Range Circle.
- Sri. Chand Basha, Conservator of Forests, S. Circle.
- Sri. B.C. Kharbanda, Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle.
- Sri. K. Sasidharan Nair, Conservator of Forests, Working plan & Research circle.
- Sri. M. Govindhan Kutty, Conservator of Forests, Social Forestry, Kozhikode.
- Sri. P.K. Surendranathan Asari, Conservator of Forests, (WL) & Field Director.
- Sri. P. Premachandran Nair, Conservator of Forests, (Planning).
- Sri. S. John Koliparambil, Conservator of Forests, Central Circle, Trichur.
- Sri. S. Venkitakrishna Iyer, Sr. Finance officer.
- Sri. P.K. Zachariah, Asst. Conservator of Forests, (P)

The Conference commenced at 10.30 am.

Before taking up the agenda of the conference the Chief Conservator of Forests narrated three cases of death in harness of Forest Protection Staff.

The deceased are:

1. Sri. O.J.Sebastian, Forest Guard, Chungathara Range II, Nilamboor Sepcial Division.
2. Sri. G. Appu, Forest Guard, Konni Range, Konni Division.
3. Sri. N. Padmanabhan Nair, Forester, Malayattur Division.

After paying tributes to their selfless service, the Chief Conservator of Forests requested all present to absorb two minutes silence in memory of the departed souls who laid down their lives in the cause of forest protection. The Participants of the meeting then stood up and observed two minutes silence for paying homage to the three members of the protective staff.

### The following points were discussed outside the agenda:

1. The CCF enquired about the progress of redeployment of the Forest protective staff to areas vulnerable to trespass and aggression by local public as directed by the Minister of Forest in the wake of loss of life of protective staff. All the Conservators reported that they have taken suitable action on the directions issued by the Chief Conservator of Forests in this regard. (Action Conservator of Forests)
2. The CCF then pointed out that about 300 vacancies of forest Guards exist in the department at present. The District wise vacancies of Forest Guards were called for but so far no reports have been received from the Conservators. The CCF told that the District wise details of Vacancies should be reported by 29-9-1986. Eligible promotion

quota of watchers to the cadre of Guards should be filled up at the earliest. (Action Conservators of Forest)

3. The CCF wanted the Conservators to bestow special attention in the following instructions issued for the preparation of confidential reports (in the new forms) of the subordinate officers. Also he reiterated the need to get the contents of the report noted by the officer on whom the confidential report is written. These may be sent up immediately (Action CF)
4. The CCF has underlined the need to limit granting of extension of contract periods. It should be ensured that the extension applications, if any, reaches the appropriate authority at least two week prior to the expiry of the period. The remarks of the Conservators will be called for shortly to improve the present system of granting extension for contract periods. (Action CF and Asst. CF).
5. The problem of final felling of plantations was them discussed, the issue of revising the rates for timber loss working & that of loading and unloading is pending with the Government. It was decided after discussion that the final felling can be deferred for a period of one year or till the revised rates of loading and unloading is sanctioned by the Govt. However wherever this work could be got executed departmentally it may be taken up and completed without wastage of time (Action CF).
6. The CCF also urged on the Conservators the need to observe promptness in obtaining CRs of all officers during January every year , Special care should be taken to see that the C.R. is got noted by the officer one whom the reports pertains. The need for observing uniform norms for assessment in the new system of grading the officers capabilities was also stressed (Action all CCFs/Sr. Administrative officers)

The agenda items proposed for the conference were then taken up agenda item No. 10.

Suggestion dated 14.6.1984 of task force on Forestry Govt. of India, Dept. of space, on improvement of Forest protection.

This item was discussed. Based on recommendation Nos. 5&6 suitable amendments are to be proposed for the Kerala Forest Act and Rules (Action Asst. CCF).

### **Agenda Item No. 11:**

Damages to vehicles confiscated under seating 61 (A) of Kerala Forest Acts.

After detailed discussions suggestions (1) and (2) made in the agenda were approved. Frequent review of the cases are to be conducted by the Conservators of Forests so that delay in settling the case can be reduced. The suggestions are reproduced below:

1. A legally valid condition to the effect that the vehicle immediately after its seizure should be sold in public auction with the concurrence of the superior officers and to deposit the sale proceeds till the case is finally disposed of is to be included in the statute.
2. Instructions to expedite action on such cases should be given to the authorized officers and procedure for expeditious settlement of such cases in the court of law may be get issued by the Govt. (Action Asst. CCF and Dy. CF (C)).

**Agenda Item No. 23:-**

The High Court of Kerala in Judgment dated 9-9-1985 in OP. 3013/85 directed Govt. to decide whether lops and tops would take in timber above 60cm. Girth or less than 60 cm. and also to fix the price for lops and tops.

This item was discussed and the general opinion was that there is no need of taking any further action on this item at present as the Mellabhom of collection of lops and tops is not followed now.

**Agenda Item No. 12:-**

Release of Vehicles taken into custody under section 61 (A) of Kerala Forest Act.

This suggestion has already been taken care of through a proposed amendment to the Kerala Forest Act which is pending with the Govt. Govt. may be reminded (Action Asst. Chief Conservator of Forests).

**Agenda Item No. 16:-**

Expecting disciplinary proceedings:

The CCF (Vig) circulated a note captioned some relevant tips in departmental enquires. These tips (Copy enclosed) may be made use of while proceeding with the departmental enquiry. (Action all enquiry authorities).

**Agenda Item No. 17:-**

Duties and responsibilities of Inquiry Authority.

The matter was discussed. The need to train the enquiry authorities regarding procedure of departmental enquiry was felt and it was decided to conduct special classes (Action CCF).

The meeting was adjourned at 5.45 pm and it was decided to continue the meeting on 23 September 1986.

**Agenda No. 24:-**

Note submitted in No. QA1-4144/85 dated. 19-11-1985 of Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, Quilon.

- a. Maintenance of marking Register for the sceoud Silvicultural and subsequent thinning in the case of teak plantations and the schedule of rates applicable to this.
- b. Recovery of heavy miscellaneous advances from the Range Officer.
- c. Enhancement of schedule of rate for haulage in the case of collection of Ist and IInd class poles A, B,C, categories.
- d. Restoring failed patches of plantations.

**Sub item – a:-**

CCF's letter No. P1-64316/76 will be examined and the matter will be discussed in the next Conservators meeting (Action CF (Planning) CF, Trichur may please submit the relevant file (TR.20775/76) for perusal and return.

**Sub Item b:-**

Each and every case of recovery of miscellaneous advance should be examined and the expenditure regularized where ever possible. The miscellaneous advance has to be reduced to the minimum at the earliest. The action taken in this regard should be intimated to CCF (Development) every month. (Action all CFs).

**Sub item c:-**

The matter is pending with the Govt. Govt. reminded (Action CF (Planning) (P3-21136/81)

**Sub item d:-**

The suggestion has shown below put forward by the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle in letter No. QA1-4144/85 dated 19-11-1985 is generally approved. The following procedures suggested. The failed patches may be identified and surveyed by the Range Officers and plotted in the original plantation map and necessary entry made in the plantation journal. The Divisional Forest Officers after inspection, submit necessary proposals with full details for deleting such areas from the original list of plantations, suitable species with manuring and proper cultural operations can be raised in such areas availing funds from the centrally sponsored schemes so that the area can be got restocked with some tree growth. However while replanting the commitment of Govt. in supplying raw-material to the industries should be safe guarded. This means that in areas car-marked for a particular industry replanting should be done with the species which forms the raw materials for that industry.

The following points also was discussed.

**Regarding item 21:-**

1. Silver jubilee celebration of Kerala Forest School Walayar the following up action reported in letter No. WE2-3768/86 dated 20-9-1986 of CF, WP & RC was discussed and generally approved.
2. The need to submit the progress reports with physical achievements of various developmental programmes in accordance with the instructions issued was stressed by the CCF (D).
3. The Sr. Finance Officer pointed out certain discrepancies in the system of submission of accounts and connected reports. These are enumerated hereunder for strict adherence.
  - i. At present the plan progress statement is prepared based on the cheques issued. This various for the monthly accounts. So in order to find out the variation, the DFO's in the forwarding letter of their accounts should give separated the amount actually adjusted in the monthly accounts and the amount included otherwise.

- ii. The CCF (D) explained the necessity to follow the instructions contained in this office circular No. A3-26756/82 dated 3-7-1982 at least from the month of September. 1986.
- iii. It was also stressed that the Conservators should furnish the quarterly progress statement of inspection reports and audit objection regularly.

The meeting come to a close by 4.30 pm.

Encl. Some relevant tips on departmental enquiries.

Sd/-  
For Chief Conservator of  
Forests.

Endt. On FS- 4081/86 (II) Dated 22-7-1987

Copy to TR/CH/VC/ML/G1/A2/E1/HA/FS Sections in office for follow up action wherever necessary.  
Copy to Administrative Asst/ Senior Supdt./Junior supdt. For information.  
Copy to Stock file (Minutes)  
Copy to Stock file (FS).

For Conservator of Forests,

Office of the Conservator of Forests,  
Center Circle, Thrichur-20