



## ABSTRACT

Forests - Modernization of Tamil Nadu Forest Force - Administrative sanction for implementation of the scheme at a cost of Rs.5283.00 lakhs for years 2022-2025 - Release of Rs.2111.28 lakhs for the year 2022-2023 – Orders issued.

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### ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & FOREST (FR.14) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms) No.223

Dated: 28.12.2022

சுபகிருது, மார்கழி - 13

திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு-2053

Read:

1. Announcement made by the Government of Tamil Nadu on the Floor of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 03.09.2021.
2. From Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) Chennai, Letter No.PV1/29399/2021, Dated: 07.10.2022.

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### ORDER:

Forestry has evolved significantly over the last few years with advent of several new technologies. There is a paradigm shift in forest management practices. Modern day forestry requires thoughtful strategies to protect forest heritage for years to come. Modern forest practices should be focused on sustainable forestry practices to support forests which are invaluable resources providing oxygen for breathing, habitats for flora & fauna and livelihood opportunities for millions of people who depend on them.

2. Forests across the world are facing unprecedented challenges mainly due to forest degradation, climate change, invasion of alien species and increasing biotic pressure, etc. With an increase in human population and commercialization, forests are facing threats and over exploitation. In these circumstances, the importance of better forest management using newer technologies cannot be underestimated. It is in this context that the Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to modernize its forest force taking into account sustainable economic, social and ecological development requirements.

3. Tamil Nadu has become a leading state in wildlife conservation due to its pioneering efforts in the arena of wildlife conservation and climate change initiatives.

Government of Tamil Nadu has undertaken the following initiatives encompassing protection, conservation and promotion of biodiversity.

1. Notification of Agasthiyamalai Elephant Reserve
2. Kaluvezhi Bird Sanctuary
3. Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary
4. Kadavur
5. Kadavur Slender Loris Wildlife Sanctuary
6. Notification of Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary
7. Declaration of 14 New Ramsar Sites
  - a. Point Calimere Bird Sanctuary
  - b. Chitrangudi Bird Sanctuary
  - c. Vembannur Wetland
  - d. Suchindram – Theroor wetland complex
  - e. Vaduvur Bird Sancturay
  - f. Udhayamarthandapuram Bird Sanctuary
  - g. Vellode Bird Sanctuary
  - h. Pallikaranai Marsh
  - i. Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve
  - j. Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary
  - k. Pichavaram Mangrove
  - l. Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary
  - m. Karikili Bird Sanctuary
  - n. Koonthankuklam Bird Sanctuary
8. Dugong Conservation Reserve
9. Project Nilgiri Tahr
10. Queens Commonwealth Canopy Accreditation for Longwood Shola

4. Government of Tamil Nadu has also launched the following three missions viz.

1. Green Tamil Nadu Mission
2. Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission
3. Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission

#### **Green Tamil Nadu Mission**

The Government of Tamil Nadu proposes to increase the Forest and Tree Cover in the State from the present 23.8% (as per the India State of Forest Report 2019 of the Forest Survey of India, Dehradun) to 33% by the year 2030-2031.

#### **Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission**

The Government has announced the Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission with the objective of taking ambitious and effective steps to mitigate & adapt actions through the climate lens with definite strategies, co-ordination with line departments, research evidence and well-planned measures for maximum efficiency. The primary aim of the Mission is to prepare a holistic Climate Change Policy for the Government of Tamil Nadu.

## Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission

With an increase in human population there is increasing demand in exploitation of natural resources. Whenever there is an over exploitation, it has led to degradation and fragmentation of natural habitats leading to frequent human wildlife conflicts. There is clearly a shift from earlier practices of co-existence to conflict. These conflicts hinder the conservation efforts in the field due to their negative impact as a result of crop damage, loss of human life, injuries and loss of crop. These can be devastating for the local community. It is in this context that there is a need to manage the human wildlife conflict in a scientific and professional manner. Use of modern satellite technologies, tracking of wildlife movement and unmanned aerial vehicles, use of drones, GPS enabled technologies, radio collaring and several other new innovations must be used to prevent and mitigate the impact of human wildlife conflict. Tamil Nadu forest Department therefore needs to be equipped adequately to minimize conflict situations with the use of modern technology.

5. Forest fires pose a serious threat to valuable forest resources. Forest fire also impacts tribal and other communities living in fringe areas often leading to loss of livelihood. Due to increasing incidents of fire under the impact of climate change, it has become critical to empower the department with necessary resources and trained manpower to prevent forest fires or minimize the loss. Several modern tools and technologies have been unveiled which are effective and low cost for better forest fire management. Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to build capacities of its staff and provide resources for better management of forest fires. Capacity building and training of forest force with newer management skills and tools is critical to enable the department to manage its forest resources better. Towards this it has become imperative to orient and train forest officers and staff on modern scientific conservation and management tools.

6. In today's time forestry management has undergone a complete change and has gone beyond the limits of management of forests alone. Today sustainable forest management practices must include equitable development of tribal communities which are completely dependent upon forests. Modern forest management practices must focus on integrated and participatory approaches involving several stakeholders in the sustainable growth. Environment, Climate Change & Forests Department therefore has proposed training programmes to bring transformational changes. The department is also proposing collaborative research with Social Forestry Research Institute, Advanced Institute of Wildlife Conservation etc. for better forest management practices. New forestry research will help the Department in bringing out data analysis and information which can be used by frontline forest staff to protect our natural resources.

7. Considering the above, during the Revised Budget Estimates 2021-2022 placed on 03.09.2021, the Government have announced on the floor of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, as below:

*"Special attention will be paid to the modernization of the forest force by equipping them with modern equipment and technology including Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), artificial intelligence, GIS and MIS based management systems, updated weaponry and forest worthy vehicles."*

8. In accordance with the above announcement, Government have decided to modernise Tamil Nadu Forest Force by equipping them with modern equipments and technology, trainings and capacity building etc., with the following strategic objectives

- a. Upgrade and adapt to modern technologies and scientific forest management practices for sustainable growth of forest resources.
- b. Build an efficient and effective department, with well trained and skilled staff.
- c. Implement modern strategic and operational changes to enable better protection and management of biodiversity and ecosystems.
- d. Strengthen the service delivery infrastructure through regional facilities.
- e. Ensure continuous updating of knowledge of forest personnel to improve the efficiency, service delivery and enhance accountability and transparency.
- f. Improve the capability and mobility of field staff to handle Human wildlife conflict issues.

9. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has sent a proposal in this regard. The Government after careful examination, have decided to accord administrative sanction for a sum of Rs.5283.00 lakhs (Rupees Five thousand two hundred and eighty-three lakhs only) for implementing the scheme of Modernization of Tamil Nadu Forest Force for years 2022-2025 and financial sanction a sum of Rs.2211.28 lakhs (Rupees Two thousand two hundred and eleven lakhs and twenty eight thousand only) for implementation of the scheme for 2022-2023, as per the details provided in the table below:

**A. Component I: Human Resource Management Modernization**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Details of the components	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Total	Head of Account
1	In-Service training programmes for front line forest personnel and field officers					
	(i) Conducting In-Service training programmes for front line forest personnel and field officers (includes honorarium charge for speakers / trainers, boarding and lodging expenditure of trainees, training expenses, field visits within the state and to other states, printing and documentation charges and other related expenditures)	20.00	100.00	100.00	220.00	2406 01 001 AB 37201

	(ii) Improving Training infrastructure of the Tamil Nadu Forest Academy for weapon training. Including trainings on darting of animals through tranquilizer guns, rapid response to forest fires and Human Wildlife Conflicts. Includes improvement of infrastructure and accommodation facilities.	30.00	70.00	-	100.00	
2	Sponsoring specialized courses & International exposure on best practices					2406 01 001 AB 33302
2.1	Sponsoring specialized courses					
	i. Short term courses	5.00	25.00	25.00	55.00	
	ii. Long term / resident programme courses	-	100.00	100.00	200.00	
2.2	National level and International exposures on best practices	50.00	100.00	100.00	250.00	
3	Development of Performance based Appraisal system for Forest personnel	5.00	25.00	-	30.00	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>110.00</b>	<b>420.00</b>	<b>325.00</b>	<b>855.00</b>	

#### B. Component II: Enhancing Information and Communication Technology

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Details of the components	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Total	Head of Account
1	Payment of Spectrum Charges, License Fees payable to Wireless Planning and Coordination Wing of the Department of Telecommunication, for the existing Digital Wireless Network	34.60	-	-	34.60	2406 01 003 AE 33302
2	Preparation of Detailed Project Report for development of a Centre for Artificial Intelligence for better management of forest resource and improvement of surveillance and monitoring for wildlife management	2.00	-	-	2.00	2406 01 001 AB 33302
3	Preparation of a Detailed Project Report for establishment of a Forest & Wildlife Crime Cyber Cell within Tamil Nadu Crime Control Bureau	2.00	-	-	2.00	
4	Preparation of Project Report and Wireless Network Planning to upgrade the existing Digital Very	1.40	-	-	1.40	

Sl. No.	Details of the components	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Total	Head of Account
	High Frequency Communication System and expand to all districts.					
	<b>Total</b>	<b>40.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40.00</b>	

**C. Component III: Strengthening the Forest Protection through Modern Technologies**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Details of the components	Qty	Unit Cost	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Total	Head of Account
1	<b>Modern Weaponry to the Tamil Nadu Forest Force</b> Preparation of a comprehensive plan for strengthening the Forest department with advanced weaponry, through constitution of an expert committee which will provide detailed recommendation in this regard (Including honorarium charges, field visits, preparation of reports etc..)			5.00	-	-	5.00	2406 01 800 AB 33302
2	Establishment of a Command-and-Control Centre for management of Human Wildlife Conflicts in a prioritized and high conflict area.	1	600.00	-	600.00	-	600.00	4406 02 110 KA 41601
3	<b>Upgrading Anti-Poaching and Transit Camps</b> i. Improving and strengthening camp buildings with a separate kitchen shed. ii. Bio fencing / elephant proof trenches (For elephant landscape) iii. Solar power system with lighting and ventilation facilities iv. Providing water	25	14.00	140.00	140.00	70.00	350.00	2406 01 800 AB 31701

Sl. No.	Details of the components	Qty	Unit Cost	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Total	Head of Account
	facilities to camps v. Field Gear, camp equipments and utensils							
4	Establishment of new Anti-Poaching and Transit Camps i. Construction of new camp buildings with kitchen sheds ii. Bio fencing / elephant proof trenches (for elephant landscape) iii. Solar Power system with lighting and ventilation facilities iv. Providing water facilities to camps v. Field Gear, camp equipments and utensils	20	22.00	-	220.00	220.00	440.00	2406 01 800 AB 31901
5	Mobile Command and Control Station in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Corporation							
	Drone Units							
	i. Fixed Wing Drone with thermal camera, Multirotor – Payload Carrying, Tethered Drones, Mapping Drone with LiDAR (Inclusive of all accessories)	1	680.00	680.00	-	-	680.00	4406 01 800 JA 41901
	ii. Mobile Ground Control Station (all terrain defence Stallion model vehicle Inclusive of telemetry and control station)	1	150.00	150.00	-	-	150.00	
	iii. Technical assistance which includes specialised training	-	30.00	30.00	-	-	30.00	
	iv. Consumables and Spares for 1 year operation	-	90.00	90.00	-	-	90.00	

Sl. No.	Details of the components	Qty	Unit Cost	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Total	Head of Account
	<b>Total</b>			1095.00	960.00	290.00	2345.00	

#### D. Component IV: Improving Forest Management

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Details of the components	Qty	Unit Cost	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Total	Head of Account
1	Establishment of Modern High-Tech Forest Nurseries							4401 01 800 JA 41901
	i. Establishment of Modern High-Tech Forest Nurseries at five locations	5	150.00	-	375.00	375.00	750.00	2406 01 001 AB 37601
	ii. Development of Integrated Forest Nursery portal and app for public access			-	20.00	-	20.00	2401 01 800 AB 32001
2	Strengthening Wildlife Rescue and Conflict Management Mechanism							2406 01 800 AB 32101
	i. Purchase of multipurpose and all-terrain vehicles for wild animal rescue and firefighting activities.	35	15	525.00	-	-	525.00	2406 01 800 AB 32101
	ii. Basic Wildlife Rescue Kits - trap cages for leopards/tigers and for other small animals, trapping nets, tranquillizing kit with drugs for chemical immobilization, wireless handsets, GPS sets, long-ranging night vision equipment for seeing objects in the dark, digital camera, search lights, and ropes. (35 sets for each rescue vehicle @ 3 lakhs per kit)	35	3	105.00	-	-	105.00	2401 01 800 AB 32001
	iii. Consolidated wages for vehicle on outsourcing basis Rescue Vehicle driver and rescue assistant (Rescue driver - Rs 15,500/- per month)	35	Rs. 15,500 per month per	16.28	69.86	76.86	163.00	2406 01 800 AB 33309



Sl. No.	Details of the components	Qty	Unit Cost	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Total	Head of Account
	(3 months wages for 2022-2023-, and 12-months wages for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 with 7.5 % cost escalation)		person (2022 - 2023)					
3	Advanced Forest Fire Control and Rescue gears							
	i. Supply of modern forest fire control equipment and kits, such as air blowers, power grass cutters, shovels, fire retardant suits with gloves, boots, and face shields, and any other necessary equipment.			120.00	-	-	120.00	2406 01 800 AB 32401
	ii. Supply of contemporary Fire Rescue Kits, including respirators, thermal imaging devices, first aid kits, and associated accessories	15	10	150.00	-	-	150.00	
4	Global Accreditations for TNFD and its operations - Application and processing			10.00	-	-	10.00	2406 01 800 AB 32001
	<b>Total</b>			<b>926.28</b>	<b>464.86</b>	<b>451.86</b>	<b>1843.00</b>	

**E. Component V : Advancement in Forest & Wildlife Research through collaborations**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Details of the components	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Total	Head of Account
1	Strengthening of Forest & Wildlife Research by collaborating with WII and other institutes of National and International importance					
	i. Collaborative research works with reputed research institutions	20.00	30.00	30.00	80.00	2406 01 003 AE 31701
	ii. Collaborative research works of AIBC with reputed research institutions	20.00	50.00	50.00	120.00	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>40.00</b>	<b>80.00</b>	<b>80.00</b>	<b>200.00</b>	

## ABSTRACT

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Components	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Total
1	Modernized Human Resource Management in Forest Department	110.00	420.00	325.00	855.00
2	Enhancing the Capacity of Information and Communication Technology in Tamil Nadu Forest Department	40.00	-	-	40.00
3	Strengthening the Forest Protection through Modern Technologies	1095.00	960.00	290.00	2345.00
4	Improving Forest Management	926.28	464.86	451.86	1843.00
5	Advancement in Forest & Wildlife Research through collaborations	40.00	80.00	80.00	200.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,211.28</b>	<b>1,924.86</b>	<b>1,146.86</b>	<b>5,283.00</b>

10. The expenditure sanctioned in para 9 above shall be debited to the following head of account: -

Head of Account	Rs. in lakhs
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 001 Direction and Administration – State's Expenditure – AB District Establishment – 372 Training - 01 Training DPC 2406 01 001 AB 37201	50.00
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 001 Direction and Administration – State's Expenditure – AB District Establishment – 333 Payments for Professional and Special Services – 02 Remuneration DPC 2406 01 001 AB 33302	65.40
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 003 Education and Training – State's Expenditure – AE Scheme for Training Research, Education and Extension (TREE) – 333 Payments for Professional and Special Services – 02 Remuneration DPC 2406 01 003 AE 33302	34.60
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 800 Other Expenditure – State's Expenditure – AB Forest Protection – 333 Payments for Professional and Special Services – 02 Remuneration DPC 2406 01 800 AB 33302	5.00
4406 CAPITAL OUTLAY ON FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 02 Environmental Forestry and Wild life – 110 wildlife – State's Expenditure – KA Tackling of Human Animal Conflict – 416 Major Works – 01 Major Works DPC 4406 02 110 KA 41601	-
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 800 Other Expenditure – State's Expenditure – AB Forest Protection – 317 Minor Works – 01 Minor Works DPC 2406 01 800 AB 31701	140.00
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 800 Other Expenditure – State's Expenditure – AB Forest Protection – 319 Machinery and Equipments – 01 Purchase DPC 2406 01 800 AB 31901	-

Head of Account	Rs. in lakhs
4406 CAPITAL OUTLAY ON FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 800 Other Expenditure – State's Expenditure – JA Forest Protection - 416 Major Works – 01 Major Works DPC 4406 01 800 JA 41601	950.00
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 001 Direction and Administration – State's Expenditure – AB District Establishment – 376 Computer and Accessories – 01 Purchase DPC 2406 01 001 AB 37601	-
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 800 Other Expenditure – State's Expenditure – AB Forest Protection – 321 Motor Vehicles – 01 Purchase DPC 2406 01 800 AB 32101	525.00
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 800 Other Expenditure – State's Expenditure – AB Forest Protection – 320 Tools and Plant – 01 Purchase DPC 2406 01 800 AB 32001	115.00
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 800 Other Expenditure – State's Expenditure – AB Forest Protection – 333 Payments for Professional and Special Services – 09 Other Payments DPC 2406 01 800 AB 33309	16.28
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 800 Other Expenditure – State's Expenditure – AB Forest Protection – 324 Materials and Supplies – 01 Materials and Supplies DPC 2406 01 800 AB 32401	270.00
2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE – 01 Forestry – 003 Education and Training – State's Expenditure – AE Scheme for Training Research, Education and Extension (TREE) – 317 Minor Works – 01 Minor Works DPC 2406 01 003 AE 31701	40.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,211.28</b>

11. Necessary additional funds of Rs.22,11,28,000/- will be provided in RE/FMA 2022-2023. Pending provision of such funds, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Chennai-32 is authorized to draw and disburse the amount sanctioned in para 9 above. However, this expenditure shall be brought to the notice of the Legislature by Specific Inclusion in the Supplementary Estimate 2022-2023. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Chennai-32 is also directed to include this item of expenditure while sending the Budget proposal for RE/FMA 2022-2023 and also send draft explanatory note for inclusion of the expenditure in the Supplementary Estimate 2022-2023 to Government in Finance (ECC&F/BG-I) Department without fail.

12. This order issues with the concurrence of the Finance Department vide its U.O.No.54553/Finance(ECC&F)/2022, Dated:28.12.2022 and Additional Sanction Ledger No.2153 (Two thousand one hundred and fifty-three). (IFHRMS ASL No.2022122153)

**(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)**

**SUPRIYA SAHU  
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To  
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force),  
Chennai – 32.

The Principal Accountant General, Chennai-18.

The Pay Accounts Officer, Chennai-9.

**Copy to :-**

The Hon'ble Chief Minister's Office, Chennai-9.

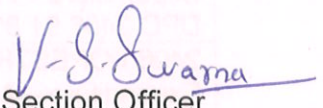
The Senior Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister (Forests), Chennai-9.

The Private Secretary to Additional Chief Secretary to Government,  
Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department, Chennai-9.

Finance (ECC&F/BG.I/BG.II/WM.I) Department, Chennai-9.

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**//FORWARDED BY ORDER//**

  
Section Officer