

**QUESTIONNAIRE
NATIONAL FOREST COMMISSION**

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMISSION

1. Review and assess the existing policy and legal framework and their impact in a holistic manner from the ecological, economic, scientific, economic, social and cultural viewpoint.
2. Examine the current status of forest administration and the forestry institutions both at all India and State level to meet the emerging needs of the civil society.
3. Make recommendations indicating specific policy options for achieving sustainable forest and wildlife management and development, bio-diversity conservation and ecological security.
4. Suggest ways and means to make forest administration more effective with a view to help to achieve the above policy options.
5. Establish meaningful partnership and interface between forestry management and local communities including tribal.

STAKEHODER: Representative of Association of forest officials

A. PARTICULARS

1. Name of the State Government/UT
2. Name of the Forest Service to which the respondent belongs
3. Designation wise sanctioned strength of cadre (Add more rows, as necessary)

Sl. No	Designation	Pay Scale	Sanctioned Strength
1			
2			
TOTAL			

4. Location of the head quarters:

Place	Dist.	State

5. Is your Association recognised by the State Government/UT: (*✓ Mark the appropriate box.*)

Yes No

6. Year of constitution of the Association/union
7. Post held by the respondent in association/union:
8. Number of Office Bearers:
9. Number of members:

10. Details of the assets (Approximately):

Savings: Rs.	Other assets (Rs. equivalence)
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11. Major source of income (*✓ Mark the appropriate box.*)

Membership fees Donations Others

B. GENERAL INFORMATION

12. What are the objectives of the Association/union?

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

13. List five major grievances that your association/union has been raising recently.

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

14. Are you happy with the relationship of your association/union with the government?

(*✓ Mark the appropriate box.*)

Yes Partly Yes No You have a mixed reaction.

Can't say anything.

15. If your answer is not 'yes' then please suggest various steps you think government should take to improve the relationship.

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

C. QUESTIONS ON FOREST ADMINISTRATION

16. Are you happy with management of your cadre? (*✓ Mark the appropriate box.*)

Yes Partly Yes No You have a mixed reaction.

Can't say anything.

17. If your answer is not 'yes' then please suggest various steps that you think government should take for proper cadre management.

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

18. Is your cadre properly equipped to effectively discharge duties? (*✓ Mark the appropriate box.*)

Yes Partly Yes No You have a mixed reaction.

Can't say anything.

19. If your answer is not 'yes' then please suggest various steps that you think government should take for properly equip your cadre.

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

20. Is your cadre being regularly trained to meet the emerging needs of the forestry sector? (✓ *Mark the appropriate box.*)

- Yes Partly Yes No You have a mixed reaction.
 Can't say anything.

21. If your answer is not 'yes' then please suggest various steps you think government should take for capacity building of your cadre.

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

22. What is the level of motivation of your personnel? (✓ *Mark the appropriate box.*)

- Very high High Moderate Low Very low

23. If your answer is moderate/low/very low then please suggest various steps you think should be taken to improve the level of motivation.

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

24. What is the level of political interference in the forest administration? (✓ *Mark the appropriate box.*)

Very high High Moderate Low Not at all

25. Does it lead to discriminatory practices? (✓ *Mark the appropriate box.*)

Yes Partly Yes No You have a mixed reaction.

Can't say anything.

26. If your answer is not 'yes' then please suggest various steps you think government should take to minimise it.

a)

b)

c)

d)

27. Are you happy with the performance appraisal system? (✓ *Mark the appropriate box.*)

Yes Partly Yes No You have a mixed reaction.

Can't say anything.

28. If your answer is not 'yes' then please suggest various steps you think government should take to make it more meaningful.

a)

b)

c)

d)

29. What is the level of corruption in the department? (✓ *Mark the appropriate box.*)

Very high High Moderate Low Not at all

30. If your answer is not 'not at all' then please list important reasons.

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)

31. Please suggest various steps you think government should take to curb the corruption.

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)

32. If you feel that forest administration has not been successful or has been partly successful in meeting the needs of the civil society, enumerate below five reasons for holding this opinion

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

33. Please give suggestions (as many as you can by adding additional sheets)to make forest administration more effective in meeting the needs of ecological security of the nation and other needs of the society

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

Please give your suggestions on different service matters under following titles

Service matter

- 1) Entrance examination
- 2) Induction training
- 3) In service training
- 4) Pay structure
- 5) Cadre structure
- 6) Annual Confidential reports
- 7) Promotions
- 8) Incentives to perform better
- 9) Disincentives to non performers
- 10) Living conditions
- 11) Family welfare
- 12) Leaves
- 13) Retirement benefits
- 14) Others(Please specify)

Name of titles (a) Present state of affairs (b) What is the influence on the morale of members of your service association (c) What are your suggestions for the improvement

D. QUESTIONS ON FOREST POLICY

(Please answer the following questions as the representative of your association/union. Your answer should be based on the views of your association/union)

34. What is the opinion of your association/union on the present forest policy? (✓ *Mark the appropriate box.*)

- Very Effective Effective Moderate
 Not at all Effective Don't know

35. If your answer is not 'Very effective' or 'effective' then please list important reasons.

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

36. In the opinion of your association/union, how the forest cover and productivity could be increased?

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

37. Are you aware of the forest policies of the Government

- Yes Partly Yes No

38. If you are aware or partly aware of the forest policies of the Government, then please express your opinion about them (*✓ Mark the appropriate box*)

- You like them You dislike them You have a mixed reaction

Can't say anything

39. In case you like the forest policies of the Government, enumerate not more than five reasons of your liking (Please write down below)

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

40. In case you dislike the forest policies of the Government, enumerate not more than five reasons of your disliking (Please write down below)

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

41. In case you have a mixed reaction to the forest policies of the Government then please enumerate not more than three points each of likes and dislikes (Please write down below)

Likes

- a)
- b)
- c)

Dislikes

- a)
- b)
- c)

42. Do you think that the present forest policies of the Government are providing services (good for ecology, economic benefit, social upliftment, economic upliftment) to the society (✓ *Mark the appropriate box*)

- Yes Partly yes No Can't say

43. If you think that the present forest policies of the Government are no good in providing services to the society then please suggest various steps you think the Government should take in making a shift in its policy (enumerate all steps)

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

Add more numbers, as necessary (May include a separate page)

44. What is your opinion about peoples participation in the management of forests through Joint Forest Management, Ecodevelopment, Forest Panchayats, Forest Protection Committees etc. (✓ *Mark the appropriate box*)

Type of Committee	Opinion				
	Working very well	Working well	Just Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	Totally ineffective
Joint Forest Management					
Ecodevelopment					
Forest Panchayat					
Forest Protection					
Others (Please specify)					

45. Has there been empowerment of the people through their involvement in Forest Management (*✓ Mark the appropriate box*)
- Yes Partly yes No Can't say
46. Has there been increase in income generation of the people through their involvement in Forest Management (*✓ Mark the appropriate box*)
- Yes Partly yes No Can't say
47. Has there been increase in the availability of forest produce to the people through their involvement in Forest Management (*✓ Mark the appropriate box*)
- Yes Partly yes No Can't say
48. Has there been an increase in forest cover in your State / UT (*✓ Mark the appropriate box*)
- Yes No Cant say
49. Has there been an increase in forest cover in your area (*✓ Mark the appropriate box*)
- Yes No Cant say
50. If there is no increase in forest cover in your State / UT in last 10 years enumerate five reasons for this (Please write down below)
- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)
51. What steps should, in your opinion, be taken so as to increase the forest cover to achieve the target of 25% by 2007 and 33% by 2012 (enumerate 5 steps below)
- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

52. How can the participation of tribal and other people help in implementing the Government forest policies and assist in increasing the forest cover (enumerate 5 steps below)

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

53. Any other views you may like to express about the forest policies of Central / State/UT Governments

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

Add more points if necessary

E. QUESTIONS ON LEGAL FRAMEWORK

54. What is the rate of conviction of the offenders? (*✓ Mark the appropriate box.*)

- Very high (>70%) High (>50%) Moderate (>30%)
 Low (<30%) Don't know

55. In case your answer is 'moderate' or 'low', list reasons for not being able to secure a conviction of the offenders from the court.

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)

56. What is the level of recovery of offences compounded? (*✓ Mark the appropriate box.*)

- Very high High Moderate Low Not at all

57. In case your answer is 'moderate' or 'low', suggest measures that should be taken to improve the recovery.

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

58. Do you think that forest Act & Laws are strong enough to deter offenders?

- Yes
 Partly Yes
 No
 You have a mixed reaction.
 Can't say anything.

59. If your answer is not 'yes' then please suggest which laws should be amended? Also briefly mention the amendments to be made.

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

60. What is your opinion about Forest Laws /Rules (✓ *Mark the appropriate box*)

Name of law	Useful	Not useful	Mixed feeling	Cant say
Indian/State Forest Act 1927/xx				
Wildlife Protection Act, 1972				
Forest Conservation Act, 1980				
Regulations on felling of trees on private land				
Transit of Forest Produce Rules				

61. If you find existing forest laws not useful or have a mixed feeling then give your suggestion for the changes you would like to be made in them (Name the law first and then suggest changes in each of them) Add additional pages as necessary.

Name of the Law	Changes suggested		
	Number	Suggested change	Reasoning for suggestion

F. QUESTION ON WILDLIFE MATTERS

62. Do you think that the present policy and legal framework are appropriate to effectively deal with the man-animal conflict? (✓ *Mark the appropriate box.*)

- Yes
 Partly Yes
 No
 You have a mixed reaction.
 Can't say anything.

63. If your answer is not 'yes' then please suggest various steps you think government should take.

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

64. Do you agree that shrinkage of the habitat of wild animals has given rise to man animal conflicts (✓ *Mark the appropriate box*)

- Yes
 No

65. Do you agree with the policy of the Government to establish wildlife national parks and sanctuaries to provide habitat and protection to wild animals (✓ *Mark the appropriate box*)

- Yes
 No

66. Do you agree that creation of national parks and sanctuaries has adversely affected the enjoyment of rights and privileges by the people (✓ *Mark the appropriate box*)

- Yes
 No

67. What are your suggestions for the policy of national parks and sanctuaries (Name any five below)

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

G. QUESTIONS ON MISCELANEOUS MATTERS

Above questionnaire has been designed to elicit the views of the stakeholder related to the terms of reference of the Commission. Effort has been made to make the questionnaire self contained as well as simple. It might not cover some of the areas on which you would like to provide your views. Commission will welcome your views on any issue related to the TOR. Please use extra sheet for this purpose. We would appreciate brief and to the point opinion as it would help us in compilation.