

(To be published in Part-I Section-I of Gazette of India)
No. 4-7/2012-ROHQ
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests

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Dated: 08/01/2014

RESOLUTION

Subject:- Strengthening and expansion of Regional Offices under the Central Sector Plan Scheme of Strengthening of Forestry Division-Strengthening of Regional Offices 2013-2014.

The Government of India had set up five Regional Offices of the Ministry vide Resolution No. 37-3/85-FP dated 07/04/1986 at Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Lucknow and Shillong with a Headquarter unit at New Delhi to monitor and evaluate ongoing forestry development projects and schemes with special emphasis on conservation of forest land and to advise the State/ Union Territory Governments in preparation of proposals involving diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. In view of the increasing work relating to all aspects of environmental management including pollution control and environmental management of projects and activities in the country, the Regional Offices were further strengthened vide Resolution No. 17-3/88-PC dated 12/05/1988 by opening the sixth Regional Office at Chandigarh. In 1999 it was decided to set up seventh Regional Office at Ranchi vide Resolution No. 7-1/96-ROHQ dated 08/07/1999 by carving it out from the Regional Offices at Bhubaneswar and Bangalore without creating additional staff. The Regional Office at Ranchi could not be made functional due to financial constraints

2. In compliance of the Order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 06/07/2011 in I.A. No. 1868 of 2007 filed by Lafarge Umiam Mining Pvt. Ltd and other related I.As in Writ Petition No. 202 of 1995 in the matter of T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad *versus* Union of India & Others, the Expenditure Finance Committee decided in its meeting held on 04/03/2013 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Environment and Forests) to establish four Regional Offices with their Headquarter at Chennai, Dehradun, Nagpur and Ranchi with a Headquarters unit at New Delhi as part of the Secretariat in the Ministry of Environment and Forests at New Delhi to facilitate more frequent inspections and in-depth scrutiny and appraisal of the proposals. The detailed mandate of the Regional Offices is as under –

A. Forest (Conservation) Act related functions:

- (i) To assist the State/ Union Territory Governments in preparation of the proposals involving diversion of forests land for non-forestry purposes under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for expeditious processing and disposal of such cases;
- (ii) To undertake physical inspection of sites in cases of diversion of forestland involving an area of more than 100 hectares and in other cases as may be required;
- (iii) To monitor the implementation of conditions and safeguards stipulated by Central Government in the proposal approved under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;
- (iv) Approval of diversion of forest land to the extent of 5 hectares (except mining and regularization of encroachment) and to process cases between 5 hectares to 40 hectares (and mining and regularization of encroachment cases) in consultation with the State Advisory Groups;
- (v) Uploading on the websites the Stage-I (In-principle), Stage-II (Final) approvals, the site inspection/ monitoring reports, Agenda and Minutes of the SAG meetings held.

B. Working Plan related functions:

- (i) To assist the State/ Union Territories in the preparation of management/ working plans for working of forest under their control within the framework of guidelines issued by Central Government from time to time;
- (ii) Monitoring the implementation of the management/ working plans.

C. Monitoring of other schemes:

- (i) To monitor and evaluate all ongoing forestry development projects and scheme with specific emphasis on conservation of forests;
- (ii) Monitoring the utilization of CAMPA funds;
- (iii) Monitoring of Centrally sponsored schemes.

D. Environmental Management and Pollution Control functions:

- (i) To follow up implementation of conditions and safeguards laid down for projects/ activities when environmental clearance is given;
- (ii) To examine and analyse the Six Monthly Progress reports from the Project Proponents vis-à-vis conditionalities in the Environmental Clearance (EC) and take further necessary action;
- (iii) To do surprise and random checks/ verifications of EC conditions of various projects by site visits;
- (iv) To conduct enquiries as may be directed by the Ministry;
- (v) To follow up pollution control measures taken by industries, local bodies, Government (State/ Centre);
- (vi) To collect and furnish information relating to environmental impact assessment of projects, Pollution control measures, methodology and status, legal and enforcement measures, environmental protection for special conservation areas like wetlands, mangroves and biosphere reserves;
- (vii) To maintain liaison and provide linkage with the concerned State Government, with Central Government Agencies (including Regional Offices of BSI, FSI & ZSI) with project authorities, with the Regional Offices of the Central Pollution Control Board; with State Pollution Control Boards and with non-Government Organisation involved in implementation of programmes relating to environment;
- (viii) To organize workshops for State Pollution Control Board and State Environment Department to acquaint with the application of Hazardous Management Rules and Public Liability Act; and
- (ix) Uploading on their website the Six Monthly Progress reports of compliance and site visit reports.

E. Miscellaneous functions:

- (i) To service the Standing Site Inspection Committee in the matter of ascertaining the position of the forest or non-forest land;
- (ii) Rendering assistance in preparation of the National Forestry Action Plan;
- (iii) Regional level technical and scientific consultation on biological diversity;
- (iv) To assist the State/ Union Territories in streamlining collection, collation, storage and retrieval of data/ covering all forestry activities and to transmit such data to the Central Government/ Central Data Processing Centre;

- (v) Verification of nominees for Indira Gandhi Paryavaran Puruskar and other Awards of the Ministry;
- (vi) Attending to Court Cases pertaining to the Ministry of Environment and Forests;
- (vii) Attend to RTI Applications, general complaints pertaining to environment and forest issues;
- (viii) Such other work as may be assigned from time to time.

The Headquarter and jurisdiction of the Regional Offices are under-

| S. No. | Headquarter of the Regional Office | States and UTs under jurisdiction |
|---------------|---|---|
| 1 | Bangalore | Karnataka, Kerala, Goa and Lakshadweep |
| 2 | Bhopal | Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh |
| 3 | Bhubaneswar | Orissa and West Bengal |
| 4 | Chennai | Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands |
| 5 | Chandigarh | Chandigarh, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab |
| 6 | Dehradun | Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand |
| 7 | Lucknow | Delhi, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh |
| 8 | Nagpur | Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra |
| 9 | Ranchi | Bihar and Jharkhand |
| 10 | Shillong | Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura |

The Headquarters Unit in the Ministry at New Delhi will be responsible for supervision and coordination of all the activities in relation to the functions assigned to the Regional Offices as enumerated above under the overall control of the Secretary, Government of India in the Ministry of Environment and Forests New Delhi.

3. The total sanctioned strength of Regional Office Headquarters in the Ministry and ten Regional Offices is 341 (22 for Headquarters, 36 for Regional Office Shillong and 34 each for Regional Office Bangaluru, Bhubaneswar, Lucknow, 33 for Bhopal, 30 each for Chennai Dehradun, Nagpur, Ranchi and 28 for Regional Office Chandigarh).

4. The complement of staff sanctioned for Regional Office Headquarters in the Ministry and ten Regional Offices is shown in Annexure-1.

5. This order supersedes all previous orders on the subject.

6. This order will come in to force with immediate effect.

(Dr. V. Rajagopalan)
Secretary to the Government of India

To

The General Manager,
Government of India Press,
FARIDABAD.

(together with a copy of the Hindi version of the Resolution),

Copy forwarded for information to:-

1. P.S. to Governors/Lt. Governors of all States/Union Territories.
2. Chief Ministers of all States and Union Territories.
3. Chief Secretaries of all States/ Union Territories.
4. All Ministries of Government of India, including Planning Commission, Prime Minister's Office, President's Secretariat, Vice-President's Secretariat, Parliament Secretariat, Department of Parliamentary Affairs.
5. Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi.
6. Accountant General of Revenue/ (AGCR)
7. Secretary, Department of Environment and Forests, all States/ Union Territories.
8. All State Land Use Board of States/ Union Territories.
9. All attached and subordinate offices/all Sections/Units, Cells, of Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi.

(Dr. V. Rajagopalan)
Secretary to the Government of India

Annexure-I

The details of staff sanctioned for Regional Office Headquarters in the Ministry and ten Regional Offices located at Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Chandigarh, Dehradun, Lucknow, Nagpur, Ranchi and Shillong

| SI. No. | Name of the Post | Pay Band | Pay Scale + GP | Total Sanction Strength of Regional Office Headquarter and each Regional Office | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---|----------|--|---|-----------|-------------|--------|---------|----------|------------|---------|----------|--------|--------|-------|
| | | | | ROHQ | Bangalore | Bhubaneswar | Bhopal | Lucknow | Shillong | Chandigarh | Chennai | Dehradun | Nagpur | Ranchi | Total |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) | (10) | (11) | (12) | (13) | (14) | (15) | (16) |
| 1 | Additional Director General of Forests (FC) | HAG+ | Rs. 75500-80000 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 2 | Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) | HAG | Rs. 67000-79000 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| 3 | Conservator of Forests (Central)/ Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central) | 4 3 | Rs. 37400-67000+GP 8900/ Rs. 37400-67000+GP 7600/- | - | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 29 |
| 4 | Assistant Inspector General of Forests | 3 | Rs.15600-39000+GP 7600/- | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| 5 | Scientist 'F' | 4 | Rs. 37400-67000+GP 8900 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 |
| 6 | Scientist 'D'/'C' | 3 | Rs. 15600-39000 + GP Rs. 7600/- Rs. 15600-39000 + GP Rs. 6600/- | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 33 |
| 7 | Deputy Legal Adviser | 3 | Rs. 15600-39000+GP 7600/- | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 8 | Assistant Legal Adviser | 3 | Rs. 15600-39000+GP 6600/- | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 9 | Legal Assistant | 2 | Rs. 9300-34800+GP 4600/- | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 10 | Principal Private Secretary to APCCF | 3 | Rs. 15600-39000+GP 6600/- | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| 11 | Private Secretary (Sr. P.A) | 2 | Rs. 9300-34800+GP 4600/- | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 |
| 12 | Section Officer | 2 | Rs. 9300-34800+GP 4600/- | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| 13 | Research Officer Grade-II (Env.) | 2 | Rs. 9300-34800+GP 4600/- | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| 14 | Technical Officer Grade-I (Forestry) | 2 | Rs. 9300-34800+GP 4800/- | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 |
| 15 | Technical Officer Grade-II (Forestry) | 2 | Rs.9300-34800+GP 4600/- | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 |

| Sl. No. | Name of the Post | Pay Band | Pay Bank & GP | Total Sanction Strength of Regional Office Headquarter and each Regional Office | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|----------|--------------------------|---|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| | | | | ROHQ | Bangalore | Bhubaneswar | Bhopal | Lucknow | Shillong | Chandigarh | Chennai | Dehradun | Nagpur | Ranchi | Total |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) | (10) | (11) | (12) | (13) | (14) | (15) | (16) |
| 16 | Assistant | 2 | Rs. 9300-34800+GP 4200/- | - | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 19 |
| 17 | Research Assistant (Env.) | 2 | Rs. 9300-34800+GP 4200/- | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| 18 | Research Investigator (Forestry) | 2 | Rs. 9300-34800+GP 4200/- | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 |
| 19 | Personal Assistant/Stenographer Grade 'C' | 2 | Rs. 9300-34800+GP 4200/- | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 5 |
| 20 | Stenographer Grade 'D' | 1 | Rs. 5200-20200+GP 2400/- | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 32 |
| 21 | Junior Hindi Translator | 2 | Rs. 9300-34800+GP 4600/- | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| 22 | Date Entry Operator | 1 | Rs.5200-20200+GP 2400/- | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 23 | Upper Division Clerk | 1 | Rs. 5200-20200+GP 2400/- | - | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15 |
| 24 | Lower Division Clerk | 1 | Rs. 5200-20200+GP 1900/- | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 28 |
| 25 | Staff Car Driver | 1 | Rs. 5200-20200+GP 1900/- | - | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 20 |
| 26 | Multi-Tasking Staff | 1 | Rs. 5200-20200+GP 1800/- | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 37 |
| Total | | | | 22 | 34 | 34 | 33 | 34 | 36 | 28 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 341 |