

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಅಪಜೀ 75 ಎಫ್‌ಎಪಿ 2022

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯ
ಬಹುಮಹಡಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ದಿನಾಂಕ:03.05.2025.

ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ/ಸೇರ್ಪಡೆ ಆದೇಶ

ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಅಪಜೀ 75 ಎಫ್‌ಎಪಿ 2022, ದಿನಾಂಕ:27.11.2024ರ ಆದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ, ಹಾಗೂ ಆದೇಶದೊಂದಿಗಿನ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಅನುಮೋದಿಸಿರುವ Memorandum of Association (MoA) ನಲ್ಲಿನ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿನ ಅಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ಅದರ ಮುಂದೆ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ/ಸೇರ್ಪಡೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಓದಿಕೊಳ್ಳತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.	ಆದೇಶ ಹಾಗೂ ಆದೇಶದೊಂದಿಗಿನ MoA ನಲ್ಲಿನ ಅಂಶ	ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ/ಸೇರ್ಪಡೆ
1.	ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ, ವನ್ಯಜೀವಿ ಮತ್ತು ಹವಾಮಾನ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಉಪಶಮನ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ (Karnataka Forest Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation-KFWCCMF) - ರ ಬದಲಾಗಿ	ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ, ವನ್ಯಜೀವಿ ಮತ್ತು ಹವಾಮಾನ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ (Karnataka Forest Wildlife and Climate Change Foundation - KFWCCF) - ಎಂದು ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು
2.	ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಟ್ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ (Corporate Social Responsibility - CSR) - ರ ಜೊತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ	ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಟ್ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಟ್ ಪರಿಸರ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ (Corporate Environmental Responsibility - CER) - ಎಂದು ಸೇರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಓದಿಕೊಳ್ಳತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.
3.	ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ (Governing Body) ರಚನೆ ಪ್ಯಾರಾ 4.1ರ ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ 12 ಮತ್ತು 13 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ನಾಗರಿಕ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ತಲಾ 2 ಅಧಿಕಾರೀತರ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳು -ರ ಬದಲಾಗಿ	ತಲಾ 1 ಅಧಿಕಾರೀತರ ಸದಸ್ಯರು - ಎಂದು ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಓದಿಕೊಳ್ಳತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.
4.	ಕಾರ್ಯಕಾರಿ ಸಮಿತಿಯ (Executive Committee) ರಚನೆ ಪ್ಯಾರಾ ನಂ.4.2 ರಲ್ಲಿನ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ - ರ ಜೊತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ	ಕಾರ್ಯಕಾರಿ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ರಚನೆ ಪ್ಯಾರಾ ನಂ.4.2 ರ ಸಮಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ಸದಸ್ಯರನ್ನಾಗಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಪರಿಸರ ಮತ್ತು ಜೀವಿಶಾಸ್ತ್ರ ರವರನ್ನು ಸೇರ್ಪಡೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಓದಿಕೊಳ್ಳತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.

ಇನ್ನುಳಿದಂತೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಅಪಜೀ 75 ಎಫ್‌ಎಪಿ 2022, ದಿನಾಂಕ:27.11.2024ರ ಆದೇಶ ಹಾಗೂ ಅದರೊಂದಿಗಿನ Memorandum of Association (MoA) ರಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಆದೇಶಾನುಸಾರ
ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ,

(ಶಿವಪ್ರಕಾಶ್)

ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧೀನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ (ಪ್ರ)
ಅರಣ್ಯ, ಜೀವಿಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಸರ ಇಲಾಖೆ.
(ಅರಣ್ಯ-ಎ)

ಇವರಿಗೆ,

1. ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮಹಾಲೇಖಪಾಲರು (ಜಿ ಮತ್ತು ಎಸ್ ಎಸ್ ಎ)/(ಇ ಮತ್ತು ಆರ್ ಎಸ್ ಎ)(ಎ ಮತ್ತು ಇ), ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 001.
2. ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮಹಾಲೇಖಪಾಲರು (ಲೆಕ್ಕಪತ್ರ 1 & 2)/(ಅಕೌಂಟ್ಸ್ 1 & 2), ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 001.
3. ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮಹಾಲೇಖಪಾಲರು (ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ) (ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಇಲಾಖೆ), ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 001.

4. ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ (ವನ್ಯಜೀವಿ), ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
5. ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ), ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
6. ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ (EWPRT), ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
7. ಅಪರ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಆಡಳಿತ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮನ್ವಯ) ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
8. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಉಪ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಮತ್ತು ಆಂತರಿಕ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಸಲಹೆಗಾರರು, ಅರಣ್ಯ, ಪರಿಸರ ಮತ್ತು ಜೀವಿಶಾಸ್ತ್ರ, ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬಹುಮಹಡಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
9. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧೀನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಇಲಾಖೆ (ವೆಚ್ಚ-5 & 7), ವಿಧಾನಸೌಧ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
10. ಶಾಖಾ ರಕ್ಷಾ ಕಡತ.

ಪ್ರತಿ:-

1. ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ, ಜೀವಿಶಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಸರ ಸಚಿವರ ಆಪ್ತ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ವಿಕಾಸಸೌಧ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
2. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಪರ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯವರ ಆಪ್ತ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಅರಣ್ಯ, ಜೀವಿಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ & ಪರಿಸರ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬಹುಮಹಡಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
3. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಪರ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯವರ ಆಪ್ತ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಧಾನಸೌಧ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
4. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ (ಅರಣ್ಯ) ರವರ ಆಪ್ತ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಅರಣ್ಯ, ಜೀವಿಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ & ಪರಿಸರ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬಹುಮಹಡಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
5. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಉಪ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ (ಅರಣ್ಯ) ರವರ ಆಪ್ತ ಸಹಾಯಕರು, ಅರಣ್ಯ, ಜೀವಿಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ & ಪರಿಸರ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬಹುಮಹಡಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

Annexure to the Government Order No: FEE 75 FAP 2022,

Dated:27.11.2024.

The Karnataka Forest, Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation

Memorandum of Association

Name of the Agency :Karnataka Forest, Wildlife and Climate Change
Mitigation Foundation, registered under the Societies Act, 1960.

Registered Office : Karnataka Forest, Wildlife and Climate Change Mitigation
Foundation, Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram,
Bengaluru -560 003. Phone: 080-23343770E-
mail: pccfkar@gmail.com

Jurisdiction : Co-terminus with the jurisdiction of Karnataka Forest Department.

Vision

"To create a sustainable and resilient Karnataka by restoring its natural ecosystems, fostering biodiversity, and empowering communities through innovative, science-based solutions that address climate change, conserve wildlife, and ensure the sustainable use of resources for future generations."

Mission

"To mobilize Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) engagement, public-private partnership and community in the development and implementation of transformative environmental projects. Through transparency, innovation, and collaboration, we aim to protect Karnataka's forests, wildlife, and water bodies, while fostering sustainable livelihoods and advancing climate action."

1. Executive Summary

The Karnataka Forest, Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation (KFWCCMF) is designed to create a multi-stakeholder platform that enables corporate entities to invest in impactful, scalable projects aimed at addressing environmental sustainability, conservation of forests and wildlife, biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation in Karnataka. This proposal outlines the establishment and operational structure of the Foundation, focusing on the alignment of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those related to forests, environmental conservation and climate action.

The creation of the Foundation aligns with the amended CSR policy of 2021, which mandates project-based CSR initiatives rather than simple funding, grants, or charitable donations. KFWCCMF will engage multiple stakeholders, including the government, private sector, civil society organizations (CSOs), intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), academic institutions, and industry associations such as FICCI, CREDAI, Nasscom, and CII. The Foundation will focus on participatory governance,

fostering representation from all key sectors to ensure accountability, transparency, and collaboration.

2. Context and Rationale

Clause Number (iv) of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Policy, as defined in Schedule VII, Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013, emphasizes the alignment of corporate contributions with specific, measurable projects that deliver tangible benefits to society and the environment. This shift reflects a more strategic approach to CSR, where companies are encouraged to invest in long-term projects that address national and global priorities, producing measurable outcomes.

Karnataka, with its rich biodiversity and extensive forest cover, provides a unique opportunity to direct CSR funds toward projects that promote forest conservation, wildlife protection, climate change mitigation, and sustainable rural development. These investments are crucial in addressing the state's pressing environmental challenges, while also contributing to global sustainability efforts.

The Karnataka Forest, Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation (KFWCCMF) serves as a platform to channel CSR contributions as well as donations and other contributions, into well-defined, high-impact projects. These projects are aligned with key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), enabling corporates to invest in initiatives that directly address:

- SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation – By focusing on the rejuvenation of riverine ecosystems, lakes and wetlands, KFWCCMF will help secure water resources and restore critical ecosystems.
- SDG 13: Climate Action – Afforestation and reforestation initiatives will play a pivotal role in mitigating climate change, enhancing carbon sequestration, and restoring degraded landscapes.
- SDG 15: Life on Land – Projects will prioritize biodiversity conservation, natural habitat protection, and sustainable land use practices.

As Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) standards gain prominence in corporate strategies, KFWCCMF provides an opportunity for companies to align their CSR contributions with ESG goals. This integration enables companies to:

- Enhance environmental impact through afforestation, wildlife conservation, water conservation and biodiversity restoration projects.
- Support social development by fostering sustainable livelihoods for rural communities.
- Ensure governance and transparency, with rigorous monitoring and reporting of CSR project outcomes, aligning with ESG principles.

The Karnataka Forest, Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation offers corporates a strategic platform to align their CSR efforts with SDGs and ESG frameworks. By investing in impactful environmental and social projects, companies

can not only fulfil their CSR obligations but also enhance their sustainability profile and brand value while delivering measurable, long-term benefits for Karnataka's environment and communities.

3. Broad Objectives

The Foundation will focus on the following broad objectives:

- **Forest Conservation and Biodiversity Protection:** Support large-scale afforestation, reforestation, and wildlife habitat protection to increase green cover and preserve biodiversity.
- **Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation:** Implement strategies to enhance carbon sequestration through afforestation and focus on climate resilience research and projects.
- **Sustainable Rural Development:** Promote sustainable livelihoods in forest-fringe communities through eco-tourism, eco-development, agroforestry, and sustainable agriculture.
- **Water Resource Management and Restoration:** Rejuvenate lakes, wetlands, riverine ecosystems and other water bodies to improve water conservation, enhance groundwater recharge, and support ecosystems.
- **Public-Private Partnerships (PPP):** Foster collaboration between government, corporates, and other stakeholders to maximize CSR engagement and ensure participatory governance.
- **Infrastructure development:** Take up infrastructure development to enhance Forest and Wildlife protection and improve the staff welfare measures, including the housing for the Frontline staff.
- **Innovation and Research:** Drive innovation through the adoption of emerging technologies like GIS, AI, and promote scientific research in forestry, wildlife, sustainability and environmental management.
- **Environmental Education and Capacity Building:** Provide training, workshops, and outreach programs to enhance awareness and knowledge of sustainable practices and conservation for the local people as well as the Frontline staff.
- **Carbon and Green Credit Systems:** Establish systems for carbon and green credits to incentivize sustainable environmental practices and fulfil corporate ESG commitments.
- **Transparent Governance and Accountability:** Ensure transparency and accountability in project implementation, financial management, and reporting, with a focus on CSR fund utilization.
- **Sustainable Energy Integration:** Promote renewable energy solutions such as solar, biomass, and wind energy to reduce carbon emissions and support clean energy adoption in rural areas.



4. Governance Structure

A key aspect of KFWCCMF is its participatory governance framework, which ensures representation from the government, private sector, CSOs, and academia. The governance structure will include:

4.1 Governing Body

The Governing Body of the Karnataka Forest, Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation (KFWCCMF) will play a critical role in overseeing the strategic direction, policy formulation, and financial oversight of the Foundation's initiatives. The structure of the Governing Body ensures balanced representation from the government, private sector, and civil society, facilitating transparency, accountability, and collaboration. The Governing Body will consist of the following members, ensuring a blend of public and private sector leadership as well as expertise in environmental sustainability:

1. Chairperson: The Minister in charge of Forests and Wildlife will serve as the Chairperson, providing overall leadership and ensuring alignment with Karnataka's environmental policies and regulations.
2. Vice-Chairperson: The Additional Chief Secretary (Forest, Environment, and Ecology Department) will act as the Vice-Chairperson.
3. Members:
 - o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Karnataka Forest Department as Member Secretary.
 - o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife.
 - o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, EWPRT&CC
 - o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Development.
 - o Principal Secretary, Forests, FEE.
 - o Principal Secretary, Environment and Ecology, FEE.
 - o Principal Secretary, Finance department
 - o Principal Secretary, Commerce and Industries.
 - o 2 Representatives from key industry bodies such as FICCI, Nasscom, CREDAI, and CII, bringing in private sector expertise and alignment with CSR goals – to be nominated by Government.
 - o 2 CSR Heads of leading multinational corporations (MNCs) operating in Karnataka, ensuring corporate engagement in project development and execution- to be nominated by Government.
 - o 2 Eminent academicians and environmental experts with expertise in biodiversity, climate change, and sustainable development - to be nominated by Government.
 - o 2 Representatives from civil society organizations (CSOs) actively working in the fields of climate action and conservation- to be nominated by Government.

4. **Appointment and Tenure:** The non-official members shall be appointed by the Government, for a period of 3 years. The term of the ex-officio members shall be co-terminus with their appointment to the posts held by them.

Key Responsibilities

The Governing Body will be responsible for:

- **Strategic Oversight:** Setting the strategic direction of the Foundation, ensuring alignment with both CSR regulations and SDG priorities. The Governing Body will oversee the identification and approval of key projects, ensuring they address Karnataka's environmental and social needs. The Governing Body shall also approve the operational guidelines of the Foundation.
- **Financial Oversight:** Ensuring the efficient use of funds, including CSR contributions, philanthropic donations, and other revenue streams. The Governing Body will be responsible for approving annual budgets, reviewing financial reports, and ensuring that funds are allocated transparently.
- **Policy Formulation:** Defining the policies governing the Foundation's operations, including project approval processes, partnership criteria, and monitoring and evaluation frameworks.
- **Partnership Development:** Fostering partnerships with corporates, international organizations, academia, and government bodies to maximize the impact of the Foundation's initiatives.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Overseeing the progress and impact of projects, ensuring that outcomes are measurable and in line with the Foundation's objectives. Regular progress reports will be reviewed, and adjustments to strategies will be made as needed.
- To add, delete or modify any of the clauses of the Memorandum of Association of the Foundation, subject to the approval of the Government.

The Governing Body will ordinarily convene meetings at every 6 month interval to review ongoing projects, discuss new proposals, and assess financial performance. Decisions will be made by majority vote, with the Chairperson having the final authority in case of any deadlock.

To ensure transparency, all decisions, financial statements, and project reports will be publicly accessible through the Foundation's website. The Governing Body will also release an Annual Report detailing the Foundation's achievements, financial performance, and upcoming initiatives. The Governing Body will play a pivotal role in ensuring that the Karnataka Forest, Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation operates in a strategic, transparent, and accountable manner, driving meaningful outcomes for environmental sustainability and social development across Karnataka.

4.2 Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Karnataka Forest, Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation (KFWCCMF) will be responsible for the day-to-day

management, administration and execution of the Foundation's initiatives. This committee will ensure that projects are implemented efficiently, funds are utilized effectively, and goals are aligned with the broader strategies set by the Governing Body.

The Executive Committee will be composed of senior officials from the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD), Environment department, corporate leaders, and subject matter experts. This ensures a well-rounded management team capable of handling the Foundation's operational complexities. The Committee will be chaired by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, ensuring direct alignment with state environmental priorities.

Key members of the Executive Committee include:

- Chairperson: The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), who will lead the committee and ensure alignment with Karnataka's forestry and environmental policies.
- PCCF Wildlife
- PCCF EWPRT&CC
- PCCF Development
- Director General, EMPRI
- APCCF Publicity & ICT
- APCCF Wildlife
- Member Secretary, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
- All the 13 Chief Conservator of Forest/Conservator of Forests, heading the Circles.
- 2 representatives from the Industry and IT Companies to be nominated by the Government.
- 2 Experts from the field of Wildlife Conservation and Environment sector – to be nominated by the Government.
- Nodal Officer: A dedicated Nodal Officer will be appointed from within the Executive Committee, by the Chairperson of the Executive Committee, to oversee the Foundation's CSR Cell, ensuring efficient coordination between CSR partners, government departments, and project implementation teams. The Nodal officer shall be the Member Secretary of the Foundation.

Membership in Executive Committee

- i. A member of the Executive committee, except nominated members, become a member by reason of the office of appointment he/she holds and his/her membership of the Executive Committee shall terminate when he/she ceases to hold that office or appointment.
- ii. The tenure of the nominated members shall be for a period of 3 years. Nominated members shall be appointed by the Government.

Key Responsibilities

The Executive Committee will have the following core responsibilities:

- **Operational Management:** Overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Foundation, ensuring that projects are executed in accordance with the guidelines set by the Governing Body. This includes managing timelines, budgets, and resource allocation for ongoing and new projects.
- **Project Implementation:** The committee will be responsible for the execution of all CSR-funded projects, other projects based on the donations received, Wildlife Conservation Plan implementation from the Funds from the User Agencies which commit funding for such activities as part of the Environmental clearance, and ensuring that they meet the set objectives and produce measurable outcomes. This involves liaising with the relevant forest divisions, corporate partners, and local communities to ensure smooth project implementation.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** The Executive Committee will develop a rigorous monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework to assess the progress of projects. Periodic reports on project milestones, financial disbursements, and impact assessments will be submitted to the Governing Body as well as to Corporate partners and Donors.
- **Financial Management:** Managing the budget and ensuring transparent fund utilization for each project. The Executive Committee will work closely with the finance team to ensure that funds from CSR contributions and other sources are efficiently allocated.
- **Stakeholder Coordination:** Ensuring smooth coordination between corporate partners, government agencies, CSOs, and local communities. The Executive Committee will also handle stakeholder engagement, ensuring that all parties are aligned with the project goals and deliverables.
- **Resource Mobilization:** The Committee will actively engage in securing additional funding and resources from philanthropic organizations, international agencies, and social impact investors to complement the CSR contributions. This will help scale successful initiatives and expand the Foundation's impact.

The Executive Committee will meet at least once every quarter to review progress, make key operational decisions, and address any challenges that arise during project implementation. Decisions will be made by consensus, with the Chairperson having the authority to make final decisions in cases where consensus is not reached.

The Executive Committee is directly accountable to the Governing Body and will submit quarterly reports detailing project progress, financial expenditures, and overall outcomes. Additionally, the Committee will prepare an Annual Report that will be placed before the Governing Body and shall be shared publicly, ensuring transparency in the Foundation's operations.



The CSR Cell, headed by the Nodal Officer within the Executive Committee, will ensure continuous coordination with corporate partners and will be responsible for the execution and monitoring of all CSR-funded initiatives.

4.3 CSR Cell

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Cell within the Karnataka Forest, Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation (KFWCCMF) will serve as the operational hub for all CSR-related activities. Its primary function will be to coordinate, manage, and monitor CSR projects in alignment with both corporate and environmental objectives. The CSR Cell will play a pivotal role in facilitating the engagement of corporates with the Foundation's projects, ensuring compliance with CSR guidelines as outlined in Schedule VII, Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013.

For the effective administration, management, implementation of projects, monitoring and evaluations, Report generations, website maintenance, development of other IT tools, etc., by the CSR Cell, an amount equal to 5% of the CSR contributions, donations, etc., shall be earmarked towards the administrative costs of the Foundation.

Key Functions of the CSR Cell

The CSR Cell will be the key point of contact between corporate partners, the government, and the project implementation teams, ensuring that CSR contributions are effectively channelled into impactful, measurable projects. The CSR Cell's responsibilities include:

- **Coordination with Corporates:** The CSR Cell will act as the primary liaison between corporates and the Foundation. It will approach companies for CSR funding, facilitate partnerships, and ensure that corporate contributions are aligned with specific projects. The Cell will work closely with CSR Heads of companies to match their sustainability goals with the Foundation's project needs.
- **Project Identification (Charter of Desirables) and Proposal Development:** The CSR Cell will work with various divisions of the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) to identify potential projects, to be called as Charter of Desirables, which are eligible for CSR funding as per the Policy formulated by the Foundation. It will develop Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), including cost estimates, timelines, expected outcomes and sustainability assessments to be presented to corporate partners.
- **Facilitating Agreements and Partnerships:** The CSR Cell will be responsible for negotiating and finalizing Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) and tripartite agreements between the Foundation, corporate partners, and the implementing government bodies (e.g., Deputy Conservators of Forests of Territorial, Wildlife and Research wings). These agreements will outline the roles, responsibilities, and financial commitments of each party.

- **Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E):** A critical responsibility of the CSR Cell is to establish a robust monitoring and evaluation system to track the progress and impact of CSR-funded projects. The Cell will conduct regular site visits, track project milestones, and generate reports on project performance. This ensures that corporate partners are kept informed about the impact of their contributions and the progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- **Financial Management and Reporting:** The CSR Cell will oversee the receipts, disbursements and utilization of CSR funds, ensuring compliance with CSR regulations and corporate requirements. The Cell will maintain detailed financial records for each project, ensuring transparency and accountability in the use of funds. Regular quarterly financial reports will be submitted to both the Executive Committee and the corporate partners.
- **Ensuring Compliance with CSR Guidelines:** The CSR Cell will ensure that all projects meet the criteria outlined in Schedule VII, Section 135 of the Companies Act, ensuring that CSR activities align with legal and regulatory requirements. It will also ensure that projects contribute to specific SDG targets, such as SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 15 (Life on Land).
- **Ensuring compliances with Statutory Laws:** The CSR cell shall ensure that all the activities are in tune with the Forest Act, Forest Conservation Act, Wildlife Protection Act, Working plans and Management plans, Environment Protection Act, Biodiversity Act, Societies Act, Companies Act and any other applicable Law.
- **Capacity Building and Stakeholder Engagement:** The CSR Cell will engage with key stakeholders, including local communities, NGOs and government departments, to build capacity for project implementation. It will organize training programs and workshops to ensure that all parties involved in project execution are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills.
- **Public Transparency and Communication:** To ensure transparency, the CSR Cell will regularly update the Foundation's website with the charter of desirables/Projects, DPRs, progress reports, project outcomes, impact assessments and financial disclosures. This will help maintain public confidence in the Foundation's work and demonstrate the impact of corporate contributions.

The CSR Cell will be headed by a Nodal Officer, appointed by the Chairperson of the Executive Committee, who will oversee all CSR operations. The Nodal Officer will report directly to the Executive Committee, ensuring alignment between operational execution and the strategic direction set by the Governing Body. The Nodal Officer will be supported by a team of professionals with expertise in:

- CSR strategy and management
- Project management and coordination



- Monitoring and evaluation
- Financial management and reporting
- Environmental science and sustainability

This multidisciplinary team will ensure that all aspects of CSR project execution—from proposal development to implementation and reporting—are managed effectively and efficiently. The above key personnel and ministerial staff shall be engaged on outsource basis. Till the time the Foundation generates money for its administrative costs, the Karnataka Forest Department shall depute Officers/officials from the Forest department, on deputation or as concurrent charges.

Key Responsibilities of the Nodal Officer

- **Lead CSR Engagement:** The Nodal Officer will spearhead corporate outreach, managing relationships with corporate partners and identifying new opportunities for engagement.
- **Supervise Project Implementation:** They will ensure that all CSR-funded projects are implemented according to plan, ensuring that deliverables are met within the established timelines and budgets.
- **Oversee Reporting and Compliance:** The Nodal Officer will ensure that all financial and project reports are accurate, timely, and compliant with both CSR regulations and corporate requirements.
- **Coordinate Cross-Departmental Collaboration:** They will ensure seamless collaboration between the KFD divisions, corporate partners, and other stakeholders to ensure successful project outcomes.

The CSR Cell will submit quarterly progress reports to the Executive Committee, detailing the Project lists/Charter of desirables, the status of ongoing projects, financial expenditures, and challenges encountered. These reports will be shared with corporate partners to keep them informed about the progress of their contributions. Additionally, the CSR Cell will be responsible for preparing an Annual CSR Report that outlines the overall impact of CSR projects, which will be submitted to the Executive Committee which would place it before the Governing Body and made publicly available.

5. Project Implementation

The Karnataka Forest, Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation will adopt a systematic and transparent approach to project implementation to ensure that all initiatives deliver measurable environmental and social impacts. The following outlines the key stages of project implementation:

Project Identification and Planning

- **Needs Assessment:** Collaborating with stakeholders, including the Karnataka Forest Department, local communities, and corporate partners, to identify

- priority areas for intervention, such as afforestation, wildlife conservation, water restoration, climate change mitigation measures and community development.
- **Project Selection:** Projects will be aligned with the Foundation's core objectives and key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The selection process will ensure that initiatives meet the environmental and social priorities of Karnataka. The Projects, prepared and selected, shall be called as Charter of Desirables.
 - **Feasibility Studies:** Conduct detailed assessments, including environmental impact analysis, to evaluate the feasibility of each project and its potential for long-term sustainability.

Detailed Project Reports (DPRs)

- **Project Scope:** Develop Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) outlining the project's scope, objectives, and deliverables.
- **Budgeting and Resource Allocation:** Provide a clear financial plan, including detailed cost estimates for project execution, ensuring effective resource allocation for each initiative.
- **Timelines and Milestones:** Define the timelines for project activities, setting clear milestones to track progress at different stages of implementation.

Partnership Agreements

- **Corporate Partnerships:** Engage with corporate partners through the CSR Cell to secure funding and technical support, aligning corporate sustainability goals with project needs.
- **Government and Community Engagement:** Establish formal agreements with local government bodies, forest departments, and community organizations to ensure coordinated project execution.
- **Tripartite MoUs:** Sign Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) between KFWCCMF, corporate partners, and implementing agencies, outlining roles, responsibilities, and funding commitments.

Project Execution

- **On-the-Ground Implementation:** Mobilize teams and resources for the execution of project activities, including Forest protection, afforestation drives, water body restoration, wildlife management and habitat improvement works, and community development programs.
- **Technology Integration:** Leverage innovative technologies such as GIS mapping, remote sensing, drones, and AI for enhanced monitoring, data collection, and project management.
- **Sustainable Practices:** Ensure that all projects incorporate sustainable practices that are environmentally sound and socially inclusive, promoting long-term ecological balance.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

- **Progress Tracking:** Implement a comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework to regularly track project progress. This will include field visits, data collection, and performance reviews against set milestones.
- **Impact Assessment:** Evaluate the environmental and social impact of projects, using data-driven metrics to assess success in areas such as carbon sequestration, biodiversity enhancement, water conservation, and community development.
- **Reporting:** Provide regular progress reports to the Executive Committee, corporate partners, and other stakeholders, ensuring transparency and accountability in the implementation process.

Financial Management and Accountability

- **Fund Disbursement:** Ensure the timely and efficient disbursement of CSR funds for project activities, adhering to the budgetary allocations in the DPRs.
- **Financial Auditing:** Conduct regular financial audits to maintain transparency in fund utilization. All financial activities will comply with regulatory frameworks and the Companies Act, 2013 CSR guidelines.

Capacity Building and Stakeholder Engagement

- **Community Involvement:** Engage local communities through training programs and awareness campaigns to build capacity and ensure community ownership of projects.
- **Workshops and Training:** Organize workshops for project teams, government officials, and corporate partners to ensure skill development and knowledge-sharing related to sustainable practices, climate resilience, and innovation.

Final Reporting and Documentation

- **Completion Report:** Prepare a final project report that includes detailed documentation of the project's outcomes, challenges, financial expenditures, and lessons learned.
- **Public Reporting:** Share the outcomes of the projects through the Foundation's Annual Report and make them accessible to the public via the Foundation's website to maintain transparency and demonstrate the impact of corporate contributions.

Scaling and Replication

- **Best Practices:** Identify successful projects that can be scaled or replicated across other regions in Karnataka or other states. Projects demonstrating high impact and sustainability will serve as models for future initiatives.
- **Scaling Partnerships:** Seek additional partnerships, both domestic and international, to scale successful projects and expand the reach of KFWCCMF's initiatives.

Through a structured and transparent approach, KFWCCMF will ensure that each project is implemented effectively, with measurable outcomes that contribute to Karnataka's environmental sustainability, social development, and climate resilience.

6. Powers of the Government

The Government may review the functioning of the Foundation from time to time and issue such directions with absolute authority as may consider necessary, in respect of the affairs of the Foundation. The Government of Karnataka shall have absolute and unconditional powers to give directions or instructions and the same shall be binding upon Foundation.

The State Government shall have powers to appoint the non-official members to the Governing Body and the Executive Committee. Besides, it can also appoint Financial Advisor or any other officer or staff on deputation and the same has to be complied by the Foundation.

Any change in the MOA or the Bye-Law, approved by the Annual General Body meeting of the Governing Body, shall be incorporated only after the approval of the Government.

Moreover, the Society shall not be dissolved without the prior consent of the Government and on such dissolution, the assets of the Society shall be automatically transferred to the Government or shall be disposed of, as per the directions of the Government.

7. Funding Mechanisms

The Karnataka Forest, Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation (KFWCCMF) will adopt a diverse range of funding mechanisms to ensure the sustainability and scalability of its projects. These mechanisms will leverage Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions, philanthropic donations, funds received as part of the Environment clearances for Wildlife Conservation Plans, Eco-tourism activities and innovative financial instruments such as carbon and green credits. The goal is to create a stable and transparent funding structure that enables long-term environmental and social impact while aligning with corporate, governmental, and global sustainability priorities.

For the effective administration, management, implementation of projects, monitoring and evaluations, Report generations, website maintenance, development of other IT tools, etc., by the CSR Cell, an amount equal to 5% of the CSR contributions, donations, etc., shall be ear-marked towards the administrative costs of the Foundation.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

- Primary Funding Source: CSR Engagement from corporations will serve as the primary funding source for the Foundation's projects. These contributions are aligned with Clause (iv) Schedule VII, Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013, and enable companies to invest in well-defined, measurable projects.

- **Project-Based CSR Engagement:** Companies will fund specific projects in areas such as afforestation, wildlife protection, and water conservation, with their contributions tied to Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) that outline financial needs, timelines, and expected outcomes.
- **Corporate Partnerships:** The Foundation will engage with corporate CSR heads and industry associations such as FICCI, CII, Nasscom, and CREDAI to secure long-term commitments and foster strong partnerships for recurring funding.

Philanthropic Donations and Grants

- **Philanthropic Contributions:** In addition to CSR funds, the Foundation will attract philanthropic donations from individuals, trusts, and foundations committed to environmental sustainability and social impact. Such contributions may be received in cash or kind or combination of both. These contributions will allow for greater flexibility in funding projects that may not qualify for CSR funding but are essential for holistic environmental management.
- **National and International Grants:** The Foundation will actively pursue grants from national and international organizations, including UN agencies, development banks, and global environmental funds. These grants will enable the Foundation to scale successful projects, support research initiatives, and implement large-scale conservation efforts.

Carbon Credits and Green Credits

- **Carbon Credit Trading:** The Foundation will develop carbon sequestration projects through afforestation, reforestation, and conservation initiatives, allowing corporations to offset their carbon emissions. These carbon credits will be tradeable in both domestic and international carbon markets, providing a sustainable revenue stream for the Foundation.
- **Green Credits:** The Foundation will explore the development of green credit systems, where companies earn credits for participating in environmentally sustainable activities. These credits can be monetized or used to meet ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) compliance requirements, incentivizing corporates to continue their investments in environmental projects.

Social Impact Investments

- **Impact Funds:** The Foundation will seek social impact investors who are interested in funding projects that deliver both financial returns and social-environmental benefits. By demonstrating a measurable impact on climate resilience, biodiversity, and community development, the Foundation will attract investors looking for blended value returns.
- **Public-Private Partnerships (PPP):** Through strategic public-private partnerships, the Foundation will collaborate with government bodies and private investors

to co-fund large-scale initiatives. These partnerships will leverage public funds and private capital to expand the reach and impact of environmental sustainability projects.

Crowdfunding and Community Funding

- **Crowdfunding Platforms:** The Foundation will explore crowdfunding as a means of raising funds from individuals and small businesses interested in contributing to specific environmental projects. This approach will help engage a wider audience, especially for localized projects such as water body restoration, tree planting, or wildlife protection.
- **Community Contributions:** Involving local communities in contributing financially or in-kind (e.g., labour or resources) to the projects will enhance their ownership and long-term sustainability. Community funding can be particularly impactful in rural development and conservation initiatives where local engagement is critical.

Government Schemes and Subsidies

- **Government Schemes:** The Foundation will work closely with state and central government departments to leverage various government schemes and subsidies for environmental projects that align with national policies, such as climate action, biodiversity conservation, Wildlife Conservation Plans, and water resource management.
- **Subsidies for Renewable Energy:** To promote the adoption of renewable energy solutions such as solar and wind power in forest-fringe communities, the Foundation will seek government subsidies and incentives under schemes like the KUSUM Scheme and other renewable energy promotion programs.

Sustainable Tourism Revenues

- **Eco-Tourism Projects:** The Foundation will develop eco-tourism initiatives within protected areas, generating revenue from tourism activities while promoting conservation. Profits from eco-tourism will be reinvested into the Foundation's projects, ensuring a continuous funding stream that supports both environmental sustainability and local economic development.
- **Partnerships with Tour Operators:** Collaboration with tour operators and hospitality companies will help fund conservation efforts through a portion of the revenues generated from eco-friendly travel experiences.

Corporate Sponsorships for Research and Innovation

- **Sponsorship for Research Programs:** Corporates interested in innovation and research can sponsor specific research initiatives related to climate resilience, sustainable technologies, forests and biodiversity management. Sponsorship will cover research grants, technology development, and pilot projects.

- **Innovation Hubs:** Establishing innovation hubs within the Foundation, supported by corporate sponsorship, will facilitate research and the adoption of emerging technologies such as GIS, AI, and drones in environmental conservation.

International Environmental Funds

- **Access to Global Funds:** The Foundation will pursue funding opportunities from global environmental funds such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF), and Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN). These funds are designed to support large-scale environmental initiatives that contribute to global sustainability goals.
- **Partnership with International NGOs:** Partnering with international NGOs will open doors to joint funding opportunities, where projects can be co-funded to maximize impact and share resources effectively.

ESG Consulting Services

- **Sustainability Consulting Services:** The Foundation will offer **Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) consulting services** to corporations, helping them design and implement sustainability strategies that align with global best practices. This includes advising on corporate responsibility, carbon footprint reduction, and the integration of **sustainable business models**.

8. Transparency and Accountability

The Foundation will implement a robust system of checks and balances to ensure that its projects are managed ethically, efficiently, and in full compliance with regulatory and CSR guidelines.

Key Principles of Transparency and Accountability

Open Reporting Systems

- **Annual Reports:** The Foundation will publish comprehensive Annual Reports detailing all projects, financials, milestones, and outcomes. These reports will be accessible to all stakeholders, ensuring full transparency about how funds are utilized and what impact is being achieved.
- **Financial Transparency:** Detailed financial reports will be published regularly, including CSR fund allocations, expenditures, and audit results. The use of funds will be tracked in line with the Companies Act, 2013, and all financial reports will be accessible to both donors and the public.

Real-Time Project Updates

- **Dedicated Website:** The Foundation will maintain a dedicated website that provides real-time updates on project progress, fund utilization, and

key milestones. This online portal will serve as a central hub for all stakeholders to access project-related information, ensuring continuous engagement and visibility.

- Project Dashboards: Interactive project dashboards will provide visual representations of progress on key projects, displaying timelines, deliverables, and financial tracking. Corporate partners and the public can monitor the status of their funded projects in real-time.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework

- Continuous Monitoring: The Foundation will implement a comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework to track project progress and ensure goals are being met. The M&E system will include regular site visits, data collection, and the use of technological tools such as GIS mapping and remote sensing for environmental monitoring.
- Third-Party Evaluations: Independent third-party evaluations will be conducted periodically to assess the effectiveness, impact, and sustainability of key projects. These evaluations will provide an unbiased review of the Foundation's work and ensure accountability at all levels of project execution.

Financial Audits

- Annual Financial Audits: The Foundation's financial accounts will undergo rigorous annual audits by CAG-empanelled auditors or other independent auditors. This ensures that all funds are being used appropriately and in alignment with the objectives set forth by the Governing Body and corporate partners.
- Internal Audits: Regular internal audits will be conducted to ensure that financial management processes are adhered to. These audits will assess compliance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act and other relevant financial regulations.

Governance Accountability

- Board Oversight: The Governing Body will play a key role in overseeing the Foundation's activities, ensuring that all decisions are made transparently and with the consent of all stakeholders. Half-yearly reviews will be conducted to evaluate the performance of the Foundation's initiatives.
- Executive Committee Reporting: The Executive Committee will report regularly to the Governing Body on project execution, fund utilization, and challenges encountered. This continuous oversight ensures alignment between operational activities and strategic goals.



Stakeholder Engagement

- Corporate Partner Updates: Regular reports will be provided to corporate partners detailing how their contributions are being utilized and what impact has been achieved. These updates will include financial summaries, project milestones, and performance against ESG targets.
- Community Feedback Mechanism: The Foundation will establish feedback channels with local communities and other key stakeholders to ensure that projects are being executed in a way that meets local needs and expectations. Community involvement will be integrated into the project evaluation process to assess social impact and effectiveness.


Public Access to Information

- Open Data Policy: The Foundation will adopt an Open Data Policy, making all non-sensitive project data available to the public. This will include environmental data, progress reports, financial summaries, and research findings.
- Public Consultations: Regular public consultations and stakeholder meetings will be held to ensure that all voices are heard in the decision-making process. This will enhance the Foundation's accountability to local communities and stakeholders.

Grievance Redressal Mechanism

- Grievance Reporting System: A Grievance Redressal system will be established, allowing stakeholders, including corporate partners, community members, and government agencies, to report concerns or complaints. The Foundation will commit to resolving grievances in a timely and transparent manner.
- Anonymous Reporting: An anonymous reporting mechanism will also be available to encourage accountability within the Foundation's internal operations, ensuring that employees and stakeholders can report unethical behaviour or mismanagement without fear of retaliation.

Sustainability of Projects

1. Post-Project Evaluation: After the completion of a project, the Foundation will conduct thorough post-project evaluations to ensure that the objectives have been met and that the project delivers sustained benefits to the environment and local communities.
 2. Sustainability Plans: The Foundation will create sustainability plans for all projects, ensuring long-term environmental and social impact. These plans will outline how projects will be maintained and funded beyond the initial implementation phase.
- 

Public Disclosure of Partnerships and MoUs

- Transparent MoUs: All Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) and partnership agreements between the Foundation, corporate partners, and government bodies will be publicly disclosed. These documents will outline the roles, responsibilities, and financial commitments of each party involved, ensuring that there is clarity on how projects are executed and funded.

Bank Account of Foundation:

- The Foundation shall open a Savings Bank Account (with Flexi account) in any of the Nationalised or Scheduled Banks in the joint name of the Chairperson of the Executive Committee and Nodal officer of the CSR cell and it shall be jointly operated by both.

The Karnataka Forest, Wildlife & Climate Change Mitigation Foundation offers a structured, multi-stakeholder approach to addressing environmental and climate challenges in Karnataka. By aligning CSR contributions with the state's environmental goals and SDGs, the Foundation will drive impactful projects that deliver measurable benefits for Karnataka's forests, wildlife, and communities. This participatory governance model ensures that all stakeholders have a voice in decision-making, making KFWCCMF a transparent and effective platform for corporate involvement in Karnataka's environmental future.

K. Susheela 27/11/2024
(K. SUSHEELA)

Deputy Secretary to Government
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department.

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27/11

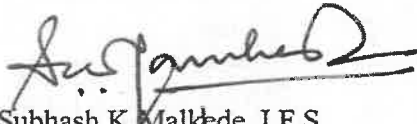
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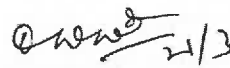
Shri. Eshwar B. Khandre
Hon'ble Minister, Forest Ecology and
Environment Dept.
Government of Karnataka



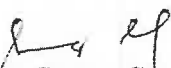
Shri. Anjum Parvez, I.A.S
Additional Chief Secretary,
(Forest, Environment and Ecology
Department)



Shri. Subhash K. Malkede, I.F.S
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Wildlife



Shri. B.P. Ravi, I.F.S
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Evaluation, Working Plan, Research,
Training and Climate Change)



Smt. Seema Garg, I.F.S
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Development



Shri. Prabhakar Chandra Ray, I.F.S
Principal Secretary (Forests)



Shri. Vijay Mohan Raj, I.F.S
Principal Secretary
(Ecology and Environment)



Shri. Ritesh Kumar Singh, I.A.S
Principal Secretary,
Finance Department



Shri. Dr. S. Selvakumar, I.A.S
Principal Secretary,
Commerce and Industries Department



Smt. Meenakshi Negi I.F.S
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Head of Forest Force), Aranya Bhavan,
18th cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru