

GAZETTE DATE : 29.09.2023
LAST DATE : 01.11.2023

CATEGORY NO: 296/2023

Applications are invited from qualified candidates for selection to the undermentioned post. Applications must be submitted online only through the official website of the Kerala Public Service Commission after "ONE TIME REGISTRATION".

1. Name of Department : Kerala Forest & Wildlife Department

2. Name of Post : Range Forest Officer

Note: Differently Abled candidates are not eligible to apply for this post.

3. Scale of pay : ₹ 55200 – 115300/-

4. Number of vacancies : 03 (Three)

Note: (i) The above vacancies are provisional subject to change according to the allotment of seats by the Director of Forestry Education, Ministry of Forests & Environment, Government of India and also due to arising of more vacancies. The Ranked list of selected candidates published by Kerala Public Service Commission in pursuance of this notification shall cease to be in force after one month from the date of commencement of training (Forest Range Officers course) or three months from the date of coming into force of the Ranked List whichever is later.

(ii) The selected candidates shall be required to undergo Range Forest Officers Course in any one of the institution under the Director of Forestry Education for a period as prescribed by the Government of India from time to time and one year practical training in the Forests & Wildlife Department. The selection will be subject to the decision of the Director of Forestry Education, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India in regard to the conduct of the course.

(iii) The name, age, qualifications, etc., of this post has been prescribed as per G.O(Ms).No.652/62 Dated 29.11.1962, G.O.(P).No.73/2010/F&WLD Dated 21.10.2010 (SRO.No.986/2010), G.O.(P).No.80/2014/F&WLD Dated 10.09.2014 (SRO.No.571/2014), G.O.(P).No.8/2016/F&WLD Dated 01.07.2016 (SRO.No.456/2016), G.O.(P).No.13/2016/F&WLD Dated 11.11.2016 (SRO.No.693/2016), Entrance & Training Rules (Revised), 2004 for the State Forest Service Officers (Rule 4 to 11) issued by Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests.

5. Method of appointment : Direct Recruitment

6. Age limit : 19-31. Only candidates born between 02.01.1992 and 01.01.2004 (both dates included) are eligible to apply for this post with usual relaxation to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Communities.

[For other conditions regarding the age relaxation please see Part-II, Para 2 of the General Conditions of the Gazette notification]

7. **Qualifications:** :

I) Educational Qualification:-

A Degree in Forestry from Kerala Agriculture University or any equivalent Degree from any University, Institution or Deemed University recognized by the Government of India or Government of Kerala for this purpose.

Note: (a) KS&SSR Part-II Rule 10 (a) (ii) is applicable.

(b) In addition to the qualifications prescribed in the Notification, the qualifications recognized by executive orders or standing orders of Government as equivalent to a qualification specified for a post, in the special rules or found acceptable by the Commission in cases where acceptance of equivalent qualifications is provided for in the rules and such of those qualifications which pre-suppose the acquisition of the lower qualification prescribed for the post, shall also be sufficient for the post. The copy of the Government Orders declaring equivalent/ higher qualifications shall be produced as and when required by the Commission.

II) Physical Qualification:-

A) Minimum physical standards as prescribed below:-

	For Men	For Women
(i)	Height – 163 cm	Height – 150 cm
(ii)	Chest – 79 cm (normal) Chest expansion: 5 cm	

Note: (i) Minimum height and chest measurements for Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe candidates shall be relaxed by 5 cm and 2.5 cm respectively. The minimum chest expansion of 5 cm shall however be applicable for them also.

(ii) Physical measurement will be taken prior to the Walking Test. Candidates are well advised to ensure their physical measurements before applying.

B) Both the male and female candidates must possess the Medical Standards prescribed below.

(i)	Ear :	Hearing should be perfect
(ii)	Eye :	Must be certified to possess visual standards specified below without glasses
	(a)	Distant vision 6/6 snellen
	(b)	Near vision 0.5 snellen
	(c)	Colour vision Normal
	(d)	Night Blindness Nil

- (iii) **Muscles & Joints** No paralysis and all joints with free movements
- (iv) **Nervous system** Perfectly normal. Free from any infectious diseases

8. A screening test will be conducted as the first stage of selection for this post. The selection will be finalized by conducting Physical measurement, Walking Test, Descriptive Test & Interview.

9. **Walking test:-**

Male candidates must qualify a physical Walking Test covering a distance of 25 (twenty five) kilometers within four hours on foot.

Female candidates must qualify a physical Walking Test covering a distance of 16 (sixteen) kilometers within 4 hours on foot.

This test will be conducted by the Kerala Public Service Commission.

10. **Competitive Examination:**

Candidates qualified in the Walking test will have to appear for a Written examination conducted by Kerala Public Service Commission on the following subjects.

Compulsory Subjects

- (a) General Knowledge 100 marks
- (b) English (Essay and Precis writing etc) 100 marks

Optional Subjects

- (c) Any two subjects out of the following 200 marks each

Science (Agriculture, Botany, Chemistry, Computer Application/ Computer Science, Environmental Science, Forestry, Geology, Horticulture, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics, Veterinary Science, Zoology) and **Engineering** (Agricultural/ Chemical/ Civil/ Computer/ Electrical/ Electronics/ Mechanical)

[The standard of these subjects shall be that of a Bachelors Degree]

Note: No candidate shall be allowed to take more than one subject of the following groups.

- (i) Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering and Veterinary Science.
- (ii) Chemistry and Chemical Engineering.
- (iii) Computer Application/Computer Science and Computer Engineering.
- (iv) Electrical Engineering and Electronics Engineering.
- (v) Mathematics and Statistics.

Note: Optional subjects selected for examination should be specifically noted on the application, if not, the application will be summarily rejected.

11. **Interview:-**

Those candidates who are qualified in the walking test and written examination will be required to present themselves for an interview at the time and place fixed by the Commission.

12. Health Certificate:-

A Health Certificate, in the form given as **APPENDIX-I** of this notification, in original signed by a Medical Officer not below the rank of a Civil Surgeon, testifying the candidates hearing and General Physical fitness for strenuous outdoor work in the Forests & Wildlife Department and showing two identification body marks should also be produced as and when called for. The height and chest (both normal and expanded) measurements should also be distinctly recorded on the certificate.

Link:

[HEALTH CERTIFICATE - APPENDIX - I](#)

Note: The selected candidates will be sent by the Department before a Medical Board to issue a health certificate and to certify that the candidate is fit to take strenuous, outdoor work in the Forests & Wildlife Department for onward transmission to the Director, Forestry Education, Government of India, Dehradun.

13. Candidates are requested to be present for the screening test, walking test, written test and interview at their own cost.
14. Ranked List of the qualified candidates will be published and selection will be made from the list. Candidates thus selected by the Kerala Public Service Commission on the basis of the Screening test, Walking Test, Written examination and Interview shall be able to join the Range Forest Officers Course at any one of the State Forestry Service Colleges under the Director of Forestry Education, Dehradun.
15. On completion of Range Forest Officers Course in the Forest College, they shall undergo a practical training for one year in the Forest Department.
16. During the period of Range Forest Officers Course in the Forest College as well as practical training in the Forest Department, the selected candidates will be paid basic pay and other admissible allowances.
17. The cost of training including travelling allowances at the rates admissible to them for journeys or tours performed by them in connection with the training shall be borne by the Government. Caution money and mess deposit, if any, have to be deposited by the candidate on joining the college.
18. The period spent on training in the Forest College and practical training in the Forest Department shall be counted for leave and pension.
19. The selected candidates who do not complete successfully the Range Forest Officers Course will be terminated and will be discharged from the service.
20. The candidates finally selected for the course will be required to execute an agreement on stamp paper worth Rs.500/- binding themselves to serve the Government after completion of the course for a minimum period of 5 years. The selected candidates are further required to furnish two solvent sureties, solvent to the extent of Rs. 3,00,000/- or permanent Government servants of Gazetted

rank. In the event of failure in the examination and causing any loss to Government thereby or otherwise, they should refund the amount to cover liquidated damages at the rate of interest of 6% per annum on the amount spent on their behalf by Government.

21. The period of probation for the appointed Range Forest Officers shall be two years on duty within a continuous service of three years from the date on which he/she joins after successful completion of training in the Forest College.
22. Entrance and Training Rules (Revised) 2004 of Government of India and draft forms of agreement and bond to be executed are available for perusal, by the selected candidates, at the office of the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Administration), Forest Headquarters, Thiruvananthapuram during office hours.
23. **Mode of Submitting applications:**

- (A) Candidates shall register as per 'ONE TIME REGISTRATION ' system on the Official Website of Kerala Public Service Commission 'www.keralapsc.gov.in' for applying for the post. Candidates who have registered shall apply by logging on to their profile using their User- ID and password. Candidates shall click on the 'Apply Now' button of the respective posts in the Notification link for applying for a post. The photograph uploaded in the profile of the candidate who have already registered should be taken after 31.12.2013. Candidates who are creating profile from 01/01/2023 onwards must upload photograph which is taken within six months. Name of the candidate and date of photograph taken should be printed legibly at the bottom portion. The photograph once uploaded meeting all requirements shall be valid for 10 years from the date of uploading. There is no change in other instructions regarding the uploading of photographs. No application fee is required. Candidates are responsible for the correctness of the personal information and secrecy of password. Before applying for a post, candidates must ensure correctness of the information in their profile. They must quote the User- ID for further communication with the Commission. Applications once submitted will be received as provisional and particulars cannot be deleted or altered after submission. **Candidates are advised to keep a printout or soft copy of the online application for future reference. Candidates can take the printout of the application by clicking on the link 'My applications' in their profile. All correspondences with the Commission, regarding the application should be accompanied with the print out of the application.** Applications submitted not in accordance with the conditions of the notification will be summarily rejected if non compliance with the notification is found in due course of processing. Original documents to prove qualification, experience, community, age, etc., have to be produced as and when called for.
- (B) If written/OMR/Online Test is conducted as part of this selection, candidates possessing requisite qualification as per Para 7 above alone shall submit a Confirmation for writing the examination through their One Time Registration profiles. Such candidates alone can generate and download the Admission Tickets in the last 15 days till the date of Test. The application of candidates who do not submit confirmation within the stipulated period, will be rejected absolutely. The periods regarding the submission of confirmation and the availability of admission tickets will be published in the examination calendar itself.

Information in this regard will given to the candidates in their respective profiles and in the mobile phones registered in it.

- (C) Candidates who have AADHAAR card should add AADHAAR card as ID Proof in their profile.

24. Last date for submission of applications :- **01.11.2023** Wednesday upto 12.00 midnight.

25. Address to which applications are to be submitted: - www.keralapsc.gov.in

26. Special Instructions to Candidates:-

- (A) In the case of difference in caste/ community claimed in the application and that entered in SSLC book, the candidate shall produce a Gazette notification in this regard, along with Non Creamy Layer Certificate/ Community Certificate at the time of Certificate Verification.
- (B) Candidates are required to acquaint themselves with the instructions given in the notification as Part-II, General Conditions before submitting application for the post. Applications which are not submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions laid down in the General Conditions are liable to be rejected.
- (C) Appropriate disciplinary action as per Rule 22 of the Kerala Public Service Commission Rules of Procedure shall be initiated against those candidates who submit applications with bogus claims of qualification regarding education, experience etc., and are liable to be disqualified for being considered for a particular post or debarment from applying to the Commission either permanently or for any period or the invalidation of their answer scripts or products in a written/ practical test or the initiation of criminal or other proceedings against them or their removal or dismissal from office or the ordering of any other disciplinary action against them if they have already been appointed, or any one or more of the above.

(For details including photo, ID card etc., refer the General Conditions given in Part II of the Gazette Notification)

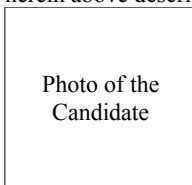
HEALTH CERTIFICATE

[to be obtained from a Medical Officer not below the rank of a **Civil Surgeon**]

I have this day, medically examined Sri./Smt..... (Name & Address) and found that he/she has no disease or infirmity, his/her hearing is perfect, his/her muscles and joints are free from paralysis and all joints are with free movements and his/her nervous system is perfectly normal and free from any infectious diseases which would render him/her unsuitable for Government Service. He/She is free from physical defects such as knock- knee, flat foot, varicose vein, bow legs, deformed limbs, irregular and protruding tooth, defective speech and hearing. His/Her age, according to his/her own statement is and by appearance is His/ Her standards of vision are as follows:-

I. STANDARDS OF VISION (without glasses)		
	Right Eye	Left Eye
1. Distant Vision	.....Snellen	.....Snellen
2. Near Vision	.....Snellen	.....Snellen
3. Field of Vision	.....	.....
[Specify whether Full or Not (Entry 'Normal', 'Good', 'Average' etc., will be inappropriate here)]		
4. Colour Blindness	.....	.....
5. Squint	.....	.....
6. Any morbid conditions of the eye or lid of either eye	.....	.....
II. HEIGHT	.....cm	
III. CHEST (male only)	Normal :cm	
	Expanded :cm	
IV. IDENTIFICATION MARKS		
1.		
2.		

He/She is Physically Fit, and have hearing; and general physical fitness for strenuous outdoor work for the post of Range Forest Officer in the Forests & Wildlife Department. I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the applicant Sri/Smt..... is the person herein above described and that the attached photograph has a reasonably correct likeness.



Signature
Name & Designation of the Medical Officer

(The signature of the Medical officer shall be affixed on the photograph leaving the face clear).

Place:
Date:

(Office Seal)