

**GAZETTE DATE : 15/12/2022**  
**LAST DATE : 18/01/2023**

**CATEGORY NO: 515/2022**  
**(By-transfer Recruitment from Forest Officials)**

Applications are invited online only from qualified Forest officers namely Wildlife Assistant, Deputy Range Forest Officer, Section Forest Officer and Beat Forest Officer 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
3. **Scale of pay** : ₹ 55200 – 115300/-
4. **Number of vacancies** : 01 (One)

**Note:** The above vacancy is 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.

5. **Method of appointment** : Recruitment By-transfer from Forest Officers (Wildlife Assistant, Deputy Range Forest Officer, Section Forest Officer and Beat Forest Officer)

**Note:** If qualified hands for recruitment By-transfer from Forest Officers are not available, those vacancies shall also be filled up by Direct Recruitment.

6. **Age limit** : Must not have completed 40 (Forty) years as on 01.01.2022. Candidates born on or after 02.01.1982 are eligible to apply for the post with usual age relaxation to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe 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 Qualifications:-**

- A) Candidates must possess "a Degree in Science or Engineering from a University, Institution or Deemed University recognized by Government of India or Government of Kerala with at least one of the following subjects:-

**Science:** (Agriculture, Botany, Chemistry, Computer Application/ Computer Science, Environmental Science, Forestry, Geology, Horticulture, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics, Veterinary Science, Zoology)

**Engineering:** (Agricultural/ Chemical/ Civil/ Computer/ Electrical/ Electronics/ Mechanical)

- B)** Minimum five years service in Kerala Forest & Wildlife Department in the category of Forest Officers namely Wildlife Assistant, Deputy Range Forest Officer, Section Forest Officer and Beat Forest Officer and have been declared to be an approved probationer.

**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 and such of those qualifications which presuppose 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:-

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

**Note:** Minimum height and chest measurement 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.

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

(i)	<b>Ear :</b>	Hearing should be perfect
(ii)	<b>Eye :</b>	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)	<b>Muscles &amp; Joints</b>	No paralysis and all joints with free movements
(iv)	<b>Nervous system</b>	Perfectly normal. Free from any infectious diseases

**Note:** Physical measurement will be taken by the Commission prior to the Walking Test and Medical Standard Test. Candidates are well advised to ensure their physical measurement before they apply.

- 8.** 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 road distance of 16 (sixteen) kilometers within 4 hours on foot.

This test will be arranged 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 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 Forest 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.

**Note:** (a) Differently Abled candidates are not eligible to apply for this post.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

**13.** The candidates who have minimum service of five years in Kerala Forest & Wildlife Department in the category of Forest Officers namely Wildlife Assistant, Deputy Range Forest Officer, Section Forest Officer and Beat Forest Officer and have been declared to be an approved probationer in the respective category shall obtain a Service Certificate showing the service particulars of the applicant in the form appended from concerned authority.

**Note:**

Service certificate should be produced with the application for the post of Range Forest Officer under recruitment By-transfer from Forest Officers namely Wildlife Assistant, Deputy Range Forest Officer, Section Forest Officer and Beat Forest Officer

**SERVICE CERTIFICATE**

1. Name of Candidate :
2. Post now holding :
3. Scale of Pay & Pay as on the date of application :
4. Office in which now working (with Circle) :
5. Date of commencement of Service & Date of commencement of Probation :
6. Whether the applicant is a Probationer or Approved probationer or Full member of the service :
7. Details of service from date of entry in service to till date :

Sl No	Name of post held & Department	Scale of Pay	Period		Length of service			Date of Declaration of probation
			From	To	Years	Months	Days	
Total Service								

Certified that the above details in respect of Sri/Smt..... who is a Probationer/ Approved Probationer/ Full Member of the ..... (Name of service) have been verified by me with the Service Records of the candidate and are found correct. The candidate is eligible to apply for the post of Range Forest Officer under recruitment By-transfer from Forest Officers.

Signature

Name & Designation of the Head of Office

Place:

Date:

(Office Seal)

14. Candidates are requested to be present for the screening test, walking test, written test and interview at their own cost.
15. 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 Director of Forestry Education, Dehradun
16. On completion of Range Forest Officers Course in the Forest College, they shall undergo a practical training for one year in the Forest Department.
17. 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.
18. 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.
19. The period spent on training in the Forest College and practical training in the Forest Department shall be counted for leave and pension.
20. The selected candidates who do not complete successfully the Range Forest Officers Course will be reverted to the posts which they were occupying prior to their appointment by transfer.
21. 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 the 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.
22. The period of probation for the Range Forest Officers appointed 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.

23. Entrance and Training Rules (Revised) 2004 of Government of India and draft forms of agreement and bond to be executed are available for perusal at the office of the Additional Chief Conservator of Forests (Administration), Forest Headquarters, Thiruvananthapuram during office hours by the selected candidates.

24. **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 31.12.2012. Candidates who are creating profile from 01/01/2022 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 shall not 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.

- (D) 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.

25. Last date for submission of applications :- **18.01.2023** Wednesday upto 12.00 midnight.

26. Address to which applications are to be submitted: - [www.keralapsc.gov.in](http://www.keralapsc.gov.in)

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.

SAJU GEORGE  
SECRETARY  
KERALA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION