

**Report of the Committee Constituted by the Govt. of India *MOEF* On
*Improvement in the Service Conditions
of Range Forest Officers***

March 1997

Chairman : Sh. SK Pande Additional IG (Forest)

Recommendations

- * Minimum Qualification Should be graduate (Science) & Recruitment should be done through Public Service Commission.
- * Training Period of RFO Should be treated as Service & they must get salary not the stipend.
- * The RFO pay scale should not be less than their counter parts in Police (Inspectors) & Revenue (Tehsildars) departments . They Should be given the uniform pay scale of Rs. 2000-3200 in all States & Union Territories.
- * The Cadre Management of RFO & lower Functionaries should be taken up seriously by each state Govt. Each direct recruit should get minimum two chances of promotion preferably first promotion after rendering 10 years of service & second after 20 years of total Service.
- * Time bound promotional scale should be introduced. Pay Scale of the next higher post should be given after completion of 10 years.

Recommended Promotional Scales

RFO	After 10 Years	After 20 Years
2000 -3200	2200 - 4000	3000 - 4500

- * Incentives to RFO & Other should be given to staff on special duty like research, working plan, Training etc.
- * RFO should be declared gazetted officer.
- * Financial powers should be delegated to RFO.
- * RFO's managing the strategic ranges must be provided Jeep. Protection & Management of Forest in the Present day is unthinkable in the absence of fast mobility.
- * In sensitive areas RFO should be provided revolver & lower staff 12 bore gun.
- * State Govts. should try the scheme of forest station at par with police stations.