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"MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANO"
A HEALTHY MIND IN A HEALTHY BODY.

JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FOREST OFFICERS TELANGANA & ANDHRA PRADESH

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The background features a vibrant green color scheme with decorative elements. In the top right corner, there are stylized green leaves and a ribbon-like shape. In the bottom left corner, there is a branch with several green leaves, some of which have small white dew drops. The overall design is clean and modern, with a focus on natural, organic shapes.

**Vana Premi welcomes
the Participants of the
XVII S.F.R.C. alumni
Meet & their spouses to
Hyderabad,
and wishes them
all success.**



The Gas Forest Musium is located in Forest College, Coimbatore and established in 1902 by Mr. H.A. Gas,Conservator of Forest Coimbatore Circle.

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Associate Editor : V.V. Hari Prasad

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EDITORIAL

Southern Forest Rangers College Coimbatore:

India is one of the ten most forest-rich countries of the world along with Russia, Brazil, Canada, United States of America, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Australia, Indonesia and Sudan. Together, India and these 9 countries account for 67 percent of total forest area of the world. There have been many departments of Government working in various countries ever since man took to living in well-organized communities looking after communications, planning, industry, minerals, agriculture, housing, irrigation, defense, etc. but a Government organization devoted to the proper management of forest is of comparatively recent origin in any country. Forests play a major role in maintaining the Environment and food and water security of the country. Forestry is the art of sciences of, managing forests, tree plantation wildlife and related natural resources. In 1855, the Governor of Madras, Lord Harris, requested Dr. Hugh Francis Cleghorne when he was working as Professor of Botany in Madras Medical College to undertake the task of building a Department of Forests. On the request of Governor he toured Burma and other parts of the country and submitted his report for the formation of Forest Department. The Tamil Nadu Forest Department was established as the Madras Forest Department in 1855 by Dr. Hugh Francis Cleghorne, "the father of scientific forestry in India". He was a medical doctor turned botanist turned forester and forestry was his

passion. The Imperial Forest Department was established in India in 1864.

In 18th century, the Coimbatore region came under the Kingdom of Mysore. After defeating Tipu Sultan in the Anglo-Mysore Wars, the British East India Company annexed Coimbatore to the Madras Presidency in 1799. In 1865, Coimbatore was established as the district headquarters of the newly formed Coimbatore district and in 1866 it was accorded the municipality status. Sir Robert Stanes became the first Chairman of the Coimbatore City Council. From the early days Coimbatore was very famous for educational institutions like Agriculture College, Airforce Administrative College, Women's College, Coimbatore Medical College, Forest College and many more. Today there are seven universities in Coimbatore. Thus Coimbatore is hub for education. Coimbatore is also industrially well developed.

The then Southern Forest Rangers College, Coimbatore was started in the year 1912 as Madras Forest College in the old municipal hospital building with 31 trainees, and this was renamed as Southern Forest Rangers College on 1st April 1955. After Government of India took over the College an emblem was to be designed, and the senior students of 1954-56 batch were given this task to design the emblem for which a cash prize was announced. Emblem designed by Sri. T. Narayan Swamy was selected and he was awarded a cash prize. This Emblem was adopted for college Blazer and

Magazine. Mr.F.A.Lodge, Conservator of Forests, Western Circle, Coimbatore, was responsible for the establishment of this college with Cowley Brown as its founder Principal and other three Instructors one of them was Sri K.R. Venkatramana Ayyar. Mr. F.A. Lodge has expressed his vision, in a letter to the then Governor of Madras State, in which he desired to have a Forest College in Southern India by taking into account the hardships faced by the trainees in the Himalayas, while training at Dehradun. The relevant portion of the letter of historic interest, dated 11th December 1907, is reproduced. .. "before long it will be found that the Dehradun College cannot take in enough men to supply the needs of all India, it will then be necessary to open a separate college for Southern India rangers to which men from Madras, Mysore, Travancore, Hyderabad and Bombay can be sent for their training and no more suitable position for such a college can be found than the vicinity of the Agricultural College shortly to be opened near Coimbatore...." Five years down the line, his constant efforts paid off and resulted in the establishment of the Madras Forest College in 1912 for total 50 trainees including senior and junior classes together. Mr. Cowley Brown Principal got the foundation of the new college building laid by His Excellency, Lord Pentland, the Governor of Madras, on 9th April 1913. At the foundation laying ceremony, the then Governor remarked "....I can now at least claim to understand something of the need of scientific instruction within the reach of the men in the forest service of this Presidency, instead of

sending them to learn their first lessons in forest work in strange forests under different conditions...."The whole campus layout reflects Mr. Cowley Brown the first Principal's vision. With his knowledge of architecture, he had personally supervised the construction of the buildings. Two years later, this building was opened by Lord Pentland, on 14th October 1915. Till this the college was functioning in old municipal hospital building. This new building was 2 miles away from Coimbatore town when it was inaugurated. The road adjacent to the college building was named after its first principal as 'Cowley Brown road', though the name of the road still remains the same but the area is now known as Ratna Sabhapathi Puram (R. S. Puram) as now a colony has come up by name R. S. Puram adjacent to Cowley Brown road.

The majestic Forest College building with its unique red-brick finish represents an elegant Indo-Saracenic architecture and even today, stands as a prominent landmark in Coimbatore city. During the World War II, the college remained closed for six years from 1939 to 1945. During this period it was used to house World War II evacuees from as far away as Greece, Malta and Burma. Sri C. R. Ranganathan restarted the Madras Forest College after World War II in the year 1945. It is the second oldest forestry training institution in the country after Dehradun. The Government of India took over the college administration on 1st July 1948. The

entire campus was handed over to the Government of India. The Government of India conducted 'Two Year' training course to 31 batches between 1948 and 1979. It was later modified into 'One Year' condensed course in 1980. From 1912 to 1988 totally 3579 Forest Range Officers from different states and countries, were trained by Madras Forest College and Southern Forest Rangers College together. The trainees included not only from India but also from Ceylon (Sri Lanka), Afghanistan, Uganda, Malaya, Ghana, Fiji, Laos, Sierra Leone, British Guyana, etc. The students were exchanged under Colombo Plan. Between 1948 - 1951 totally 54 ACFs were also trained by Madras Forest College.

Between 1912 and 1939, the college was administered by eminent British officers like Mr. Cowley Brown, Mr. C.E.C. Fischer, Mr. CC. Wilson and Mr. P.W. Davis, who were its principals. Mr. J.H. Longrigg, who was its eighth principal, was also the last British officer who held the post of the principal of the institution and he headed it from 1937 to 1939. (Please see page no 58) He was succeeded by Sri C.R. Ranganathan, the first Indian principal. Mr. Cowley Brown is having the privilege of working as Principal twice. Please see the list of Principals on page number 17

The Government of India, decided to transfer the responsibility of training the Range Officers to the concerned State Governments and unfortunately SFRC at Coimbatore alone was closed on 1.4.1988. The Government of Tamilnadu revived training activities in SFRC, Coimbatore in January 1990 and named it as

Tamil Nadu Forest Academy. The Tamil Nadu Government has initiated several programmes. Tamil Nadu Forest Academy, now imparts professional training in forestry to Rangers and senior categories. A number of short term, refresher and theme-based service courses have been introduced to upgrade their knowledge, to build up their technical and administrative capacities, for meeting new challenges. This SFRC building was constructed 100 years back and during 2012. Tamil Nadu Forest Academy celebrated its Centenary Celebrations i.e., 100 years of service in Forestry Training (1912 - 2012) and many officers who passed out from this college attended the celebrations.

SFRCians have started annual meet of alumni in one of the States every year and this year they are meeting at Hyderabad from 24th to 27th October. Whatever we SFRCians are today is only because of our training in SFRC and all our instructors including Principals. I am proud to mention here that I underwent training in this prestigious college during 1968-1970. I salute all the Principals and instructors of Southern Forest Rangers College. It is not me alone but all the trainees who have undergone training in this prestigious college feel very proud to be Students of this college. To describe the SFRC in short, training at Southern Forest Rangers College has made all of us "Jack of all and master of few"; and "it has twisted our flesh into muscles" to face the challenges not only during our service period but also throughout our life. **QMK**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I am sure most of 'Vana Premi' readers concur when it is stated that 'Special Issue on Wildlife, 2016' has come up beyond one's expectations, what with an impressive 3-page Editorial, and with fine renderings of the subject by several writers from A.P., U.P., Telangana, Goa, Karnataka, Delhi etc., as a result of the strenuous efforts made to pursue potential-writers to contribute. Further, one cannot miss to observe that the quality of composing / editing has improved considerably because of the enormous labour gone into and investment of attention made at the press preceding the actual printing, when compared to what it was hitherto. The enthusiasm being shown towards its publication sets an example for others in the profession to follow. May the dedication be continued to be shown in the months & years to come and may the Journal's circulation increase, catering to the multiple tastes of the large readership!

Dr. B. Raghotham Rao Desai

SIR,

For the Vana Premi of Oct. 2016, my first appreciation goes to Sri A.V. Joseph for his graphic and gripping description and sustained effort organized by him in trapping of

"THE ICRISAT PANTHER". I sincerely urge him to set apart some time in his retirement to contribute articles from out of his vast and rich experience for the benefit of the readers of Vana Premi.

I appreciate the 'gentleman' Sri J.V. Sharma for his article, 'The Gentleman Tiger'. He is a prolific writer and his articles are appealingly informative; his thoughts emanate from his heart.

The articles by Sarva Sri R.K. Rao, R.S. Bhadauria, Nagabhushanam, C.A. Reddy, Raghotham Rao, and N. Shiva Kumar highlight the importance of wildlife as an asset to human beings and the problems created by destruction of their habitat. The suggestions of the authors for resolution of the conflicts are worthy of implementation.

The wise words of Sri Aseem Shrivastava in his article, "A Dumb Primate" stating that, "*it is time that technologically desensitized 'civilization' wakes up from its ecological idiocy before its follies wipe us all out*".

The articles by Sarva Sri Hari Prasad, Rajeev and Naveen Kumar are interesting.

The 'vyaghrasan' on the front cover page is a rare picture; the pictures on the rear cover page do not disclose 'Monkey Business'. The special issue of Vana Premi of Oct. 2016 on wildlife and your editorial on the whole are very welcome.

K.B.R. Reddy

Dear Sir,

ICRISAT PANTHER by Sri A. V. Joseph is an interesting article about the experience of a very senior Forest officer in dealing with an eluding leopard taken shelter in the campus of ICRISAT with human habitation for 5 months in the recent past, 2014. The man-leopard conflicts are common in Karnataka since turn of the 21st century and dealt successfully with baiting dogs in automatic cages. Its presence need not be feared unless it attacks human openly and declared as man-eater/ takes shelter in the house as it is shy and eluding. The Karnataka Forest Dept. would have guided it to be trapped easily and early. For e.g: I was told by the Police Sub-Inspector that he saw the leopards roaming in Huliurdurga town in KunigalTq. near Bengaluru- a town very close to forest during night and lift the sleeping dogs; never attempted to harm human and he has no problem because of them. This sort of problems in dealing with wild animals needs to be referred to all neighboring states for help so that any state with expertise will lend the solution to solve it early.

B. M. T. Rajeev

Dr. APJ ABDUL KALAM 85TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY: INDIA REMEMBERS 'MISSILE MAN'

Former Indian president Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam was an inspirational figure who had made it a mission in life to ignite young minds and advocated an action plan to turn India into a "knowledge superpower." Born on October 15 1931 to a Tamil Muslim family of Rameshwaram, Kalam sold newspapers to supplement his family's income. But he was a bright and hardworking student with a desire to gain knowledge. He later went on to study aerospace engineering in Madras Institute of Technology.

Kalam began his career with Aeronautical Development Establishment of the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) as a scientist. But he soon found himself working on India's first Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-III) under the guidance of renowned scientist Vikram Sarabhai. He later worked on the development of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).

Kalam was later appointed the chief executive of Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP), where he was instrumental in developing missiles like Agni and Prithvi.

He later was appointed as the Chief Scientific Adviser to the prime minister and the secretary

of the Defense Research and Development Organization. Kalam was honored with the country's highest civilian award, Bharat Ratna. Kalam, famous as "Missile Man" and India's top nuclear scientist became the 11th president of India when the NDA government headed by Atal Behari Vajapayee came to power.

He used his office to address children and interact with them. He always asked children to dream big and those dreams might someday transform into reality. He also encouraged them to ask questions and write to him and his office would duly reply to most of the letters.

Post-presidency, Kalam became a visiting professor at IIM, Shillong, IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Indore and IISC, Bangalore.

Kalam died of cardiac arrest when he was delivering a lecture at IIM Shillong on July 27 2015.

Meanwhile, India has started the construction work at his memorial, coinciding with his 85th birth anniversary. A team from the DRDO held discussions with local officials regarding the memorial and an amount of Rs 50 crore had been allocated for it and a knowledge center. Following his demise the Tamilnadu Government announced that Kalam's Birthday October 15th would be observed across the state as "Youth's Renaissance Day" .

FORESTS OF TELANGANA

By
S.D. Mukherjee

The importance given to trees by the Govt. of Telangana has created a massive awareness on tree plantation and its benefits to one and all. The ultimate target of the Govt. is to bring 33% of the land area of Telangana under tree cover, including the forest area by planting 230 crores of seedlings. As per the India State of Forest Report, 2015, issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), the actual condition of forests in Telangana is as follows:

S.N	Forest Type	Area(Sq.km)	% of Forest Cover	% of State Geographical Area
i.	Very dense forest (Density > 0.7)	513	2.88	0.45
ii.	Moderately dense forest (Density 0.4-0.7)	12712	58.88	11.07
iii.	Open forest (Density 0.1 to 0.4)	8366	34.74	7.28
	Sub-Total (i+ii+iii)	21591	100.00	18.80
	Tree cover outside forest areas	2549		2.22
	Total forest and tree cover in the State	24140		21.02

The above figures reflect the fact that state of Telangana is not only deficient in forest and tree cover but also most of its forest areas are having very poor density of forest cover. The State of Forest Report is also supported by the "The Telangana State and Forest Report to 2014, the first report produced by the Forest Department after the formation of the new state. It gives the precise locations of the forest cover change assessed up to compartment level. Key results from the "Telangana State of Forest Report 2014. State of Forest 2011 and 2012 gives the following condition of forest:

Forest Type	2011	2012	Difference
Very dense forest	502.35	502.35	Nil
Medium dense forest	9063.02	9052.41	10.61
	9235.86	9209.91	25-94

Hence there is loss of forest cover of about 36.55 Sq.km. About 26.02 Sq.km of forest is lost due to encroachment. Most negative change was found in Khammam district due to encroachment of 14.45 Sq.km.

The figures clearly indicate that tree plantation outside the forest can make some difference but

the thrust has to be put to improve the existing forest, stop the destruction and encroachment on forest land. Therefore, forest protection has to be the core focus of the Government Forest Department has to be geared to achieve of the goal of improving the forests. During 1980's the forest were severely damaged through large scale felling of trees and encroachment for cultivation with the support of naxalite who were residing in the forest. At that time, some of the interior forest areas were un-approachable due to threat of the naxalite and non-cooperation from the local people.

In 1988, National Forest Policy was revised and people's participation in the protection and development of forest was incorporated in the forest policy. As a result of its Joint Forest Management (JFM), programme was initiated in 1990's. Andhra Pradesh was able to successfully implement JFM during the period 1994-2000 under the World Bank Forestry Project. During this period, great effort was put to join hands with the people living in and around the forest, especially the tribal people providing them employment opportunity through forestry works, giving them the share of forest produce grown with their co-operation and through better collection and marketing of non-timber form product for the benefit of the local people living on forest fringe village. Forest had improved and encroachments were stopped effectively. However with the implementation of Forest Right Act 2006, the situation has altered. Most of the forest encroachments have been regularized giving Patta to the tribal cultivating the forest land and now more and more area for giving individual land rights are coming. There is also an incident of forest encroachments. As per the information available following is the position.

S.N	Individual Claims								
	District	Claims received	Extent (in Ac)	Distributed	Extent (in Ac)	Rejected (in Ac)	Extent	Pending (in Ac)	Extent
1	Adilabad	56358	223789	37181	135311	19089	86522	88	1956
2	Hyderabad	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Karimnagar	5016	11105	1720	2905	3296	8200	0	0
4	Khammam	67790	289914	31961	114082	35309	173059	520	2773
5	Mahabubnagar	1356	4797	932	2214	348	2582	76	1
6	Medak	3369	4718	2269	1963	1100	2755	0	0
7	Nalgonda	9440	19977	4510	9637	4930	10340	0	0
8	Nizamabad	11442	24002	2934	5343	8508	18659	0	0
9	Rangareddy	2644	9705	715	1212	1588	3732	0	0
10	Warangal	32775	84617	14016	41315	18759	43302	0	0
	Total	190190	672624	96238	313982	92927	349151	684	4730

The Table shows 96238 individual have been given patta on 313982 acres of forest land. This has

created numbs by small pockets of cultivation disturbing the forest eco-system. In addition to this there is encroachments on forest land as per details given in the below table.

S.No	District Name	Total Geographical Area	Total Forest Area	Forest Area under encroachment	% encroachment to Forest Area
1	Adilabad	1612750	710130	85523	12.04
2	Khammam	1318017	599526	108194	18.05
3	Warangal	1283192	402345	57883	14.39
4	Mahabubnagar	1847413	304285	1383	0.45
5	Karimnagar	1185511	236128	9878	4.18
6	Nizamabad	796835	176842	10751	6.08
7	Medak			8845	9.18
8	Nalgonda			4087	4.60
9	Hyderabad and Rangareddy			8059	10.62
	Total			294603	10.95

The combined effect of giving patta on forest land and encroachment on forest land, the forests are getting totally disturbed. Moreover, this is leading to fragmentation of forest land. A fragmented forest is vulnerable to further destruction and major disturbance to wild life. As per the India State of Forest Report 2015, the following information is provided on the fragmentation of forest in Telangana State.

S.No	Path Size Range in Sq.km)	No. of Patches	Area(Sq.km)	%
1	<=0.01 <=1.0	8074	747	3.47
2	>1.0 <=10	343	979	4.53
3	>10 <=100	71	1896	8.78
4	>100 <=500	16	3950	18.89
5	>500 <=1000	6	4448	20.6
6	>1000 <=5000	2	4455	20.63
7	>5000 <=10000	1	5116	23.7
8	>10000	0	0	0.00
	Total	8513	21591	100

Giving this scenario, it is necessary that the whole issue of forest protection and development is examined for sustainable situation.

The experience of working in the forest department prior to JFM and subsequently has given a

clear understanding that department also cannot reverse the trend of destruction. There is no choice but to depend on people's participation in the protection of development of forests.

In the light of this background it is absolutely necessary for the State of Andhra Pradesh to improve its forests by checking the process of degradation and increasing the density of forest.

As the forest is an open property and very poor people, majority of them being tribal, living in forest fringe villages are depend on it, it is necessary to involve them in the protection and development of forests. Andhra Pradesh forest department had successfully demonstrated in the nineties by improving the forests with the help of the local people under the Joint Forest Management (JFM) programme. However, the JFM needs up gradation based on the changed circumstances.

The foremost among them is the implementation of Forest Rights Act in a manner that would be a win-win situation both to the beneficiaries and the forests. The people must feel that the administration is for their better livelihood. It must be appreciated that poverty is the biggest enemy of the forests and therefore poverty eradication should be linked with the health of the forests. Keeping these into consideration the following steps are suggested to achieve the desired result.

The Forest Officers may be made responsible for the development of forest fringe villages along with protection and development of forests. Forest officer may, therefore, be mandated to oversee and review all the developmental works in the forest fringe villages. They should be empowered to correspond with the district officers of the different development departments to inform them on State of the projects under implementation and request for urgent action wherever there is a shortfall. It should cover all the ongoing programs including health, education, sanitation, women and child welfare, midday meals, housing for the poor, public distribution system, drinking water, agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation, all employment oriented schemes, roads, transport, tribal welfare programmes of the Tribal Welfare Department and any other program that is being implemented in the forest fringe villages.

1) The Forest Officer may keep the collectors informed about the progress of the developmental programmes in the forest fringe villages and requested to look into the bottle necks, if any. District collectors may invite the district Forest Officer (DFO) during the review meetings with the district officers giving an opportunity to give the status of the different schemes in the forest fringe villages. Similarly, the DFO should be invited by the P.O. ITDA while reviewing the tribal development programmes. The DFO should also keep the senior officer of the department informed of the progress so that, if need be, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests can move the matter to the concerned head of the departments to resolve the issues that are not being attended.

- 2) Once the villagers come to know that the Forest Officers are there to help them for a better livelihood and they need not run from pillar to post to get their dues from the government, they will have faith on the forest officer. They may come forward to help the forest department in the protection of development of the forest. Development from forest fringe villages will also check the menace of naxalism that is now the biggest threat in the development process.
- 3) A large number of tribals cultivating in the forest areas have been given patta under the Forest Rights Act (FRA) of 2006. These patches of cultivation are spread out all over the forests with the potential of its further spread. The movement of the people cultivating on such patches of forests is causing fragmentation of forest land. Forests and wildlife cannot be saved in a fragmented forest. It is, therefore, necessary that all such patches of cultivation are shifted to the forest fringe areas. The forest department should prepare a GIS map showing the location of these cultivation patches and propose the nearest fringe villages for exchange of border forest land with the land inside the forest. Once the cultivation areas are brought on the fringes of the forest it will be good for the beneficiaries as they would be closer to the villages where all government facilities and market is available. Their crop will be saved from the wild life. At the same time the forest department can clearly redefine the forest boundary by excluding the area under cultivation and protect the boundary and the forests. Unless it is done the forest cannot be saved and wildlife cannot be survived.
- 4) The biggest threat of the forests and wild life is from forest fires. Forest fires not only add to atmospheric pollution but it burns all the young seedlings. The burning of leaves reduces the chances of forming humus from the decomposition of the leaf litter which is greatest factor for the improvement of the soil and absorption of rain water. This cannot be achieved without the Cooperation of the local people who have to be given incentive to protect the forest from fires.
- 5) Similarly, grazing is the next major threat to the forests. Over grazing compacts the soil and helps in the runoff of rain water rather than its absorption. Moreover, the hard soil does not permit the natural seed to germinate. It also damages to be young regeneration both due to trampling and also by eating away the young shoots. It also competes with the food of the herbivorous wild life. Hence grazing has to be controlled with the help of local population.
- 6) In the forest areas there has to be greater emphasis on natural regeneration of forests in comparison to plantation programme. The extensive soil and moisture conservation works on the principle of watershed from ridge to the base has to be carried out to make the forests conducive from natural regeneration; such activities will also provide employment opportunities to the local population.
- 7) So far under the FRA stress has been given to give individual land rights. There is very little progress on giving the community rights to the fringe villages. Urgent action is needed to give

community rights by reviving the Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMC). Plans should be drawn to regenerate the community forest lands with the help on JFMC. There should be stress on increasing the trees that provide non timber forest products (NTFP) such as Tamarind, Amla, Mango, Reetha, Myrobalans, trees yielding gums, Mahua, Cheeronji, medicinal plants with plenty of biodiversity in the selection of species.

8) On the land given under FRA the beneficiaries should be guided to plant horticulture and such forest species that can give them higher income as compared to dry land agriculture. They can even plant fast growing species to meet the demand paper and plywood industries. They may also be encouraged to grow coffee and pepper where the climatic and geographical location of their land is amenable.

9) Forest department should have network of demonstration plots with combination of species that can give regular income and better income than the dry agriculture. All such plots should be raised with the association of the villagers.

10) Minimum support price should be given to the NTFP collected by the people with linkages with value addition and market tie-up.

11) On par with the government initiative to involve police to check the smuggling of Red Sanders, similar approach should be taken to protect the forest from encroachments, smuggling and poaching in all the district of Andhra Pradesh.

12) The initiative must be taken by the PCCF and Head of the Forest Force. He should take the leading role as the Forest Department follows its leadership and acts according to his interest. PCCF should also take up extensive tour to meet the field officers and speak to them to provide the required leadership to revive the improved pattern of JFM.

13) A State level committee should be formed to periodically review the progress of the development of forests. The committee may be headed by the Chief Secretary of the State. The other members should be secretary forest, secretary Tribal Welfare, Secretary Revenue, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF), some prominent NGO, and any other member desired by the government. EPTRI would be happy to participate in such meetings, if desired. (The author is a retired PCCF of Andhra Pradesh, and his e-mail ID is sdmukherji@gmail.com)

***“Dream, Dream Dream, Dreams transform into thoughts.
And thoughts result in action.” - APJ Kalam***

***“Great dreams of great dreamers are always
transcended.” - APJ Kalam***

LIST OF PRINCIPALS OF SOUTHERN FOREST RANGERS COLLEGE, COIMBATORE

1.	Mr. F.L.C. Cowley Brown IFS	1912-1915
2.	Mr. C.E.C Fischer IFS	1915-1917
3.	Mr. F.L.C. Cowley Brown IFS	1917-1920
4.	Mr. C.C. Wilson IFS	1920-1923
5.	Mr. W.G. Dyson IFS	1923-1924
6.	Mr. C.R.F. Williams IFS	1924-1930
7.	Mr. J.C. Wrench IFS	1930-1933
8.	Mr. P.W. Davis IFS	1933-1937
9.	Mr. J.H. Longrigg IFS	1937-1939
10.	Mr. C.R. Ranganathan IFS	1945-1947
11.	Mr. S.K. Basu IFS	1947-
12.	Mr. A.A Khan IFS	1947-1950
13.	Mr. Y.M.L. Sharma IFS	1950-1955
14.	Dr. D.A. Rama Rao MSF, Ph.D.	1955-1959
15.	Mr. K.A. Bhojashetty. IFS	1959-1962
16.	Mr. M.B. Peter IFS	1962-1970
17.	Mr. A.M. Mahmood Hussain IFS	1970-1976
18.	Mr. K. Shanmukhanathan IFS	1976-1980
19.	Mr. P. Bhaskaradoss IFS	1980-1982
20.	Mr. JagjitLamba IFS	1982-1984
21.	Mr. M.L. Ramprakash IFS	1984-1986
22.	Mr. S. Jogaiah IFS	1986-1988
23.	Mr. B.R. Bhaskar IFS	1988. (College closed by GOI and taken over by Tamil Nadu Government on 7-2-1990)

(This information was contributed By Sri. Govindarajulu of 1966-1968 batch from Andhra Pradesh and Sri Habeebullah of 1984 batch from Tamil Nadu. Vana Premi thanks them)

WIT AND WISDOM

By
C. Muralidhar Rao

About Childhood

1. "A baby is God's opinion that the world should go on"
2. "When I was born I was so surprised I did not talk for a year and a half"
3. "The hardest job kids faced today is learning good manners without seeing any"
4. "the trouble with children is that they are not returnable"
5. "Youth Is that period when a young boy knows everything but how to make a living"
6. "Children need love , especially when they do not deserve it"
7. "children are no things to me molded , but are people to be unfolded"
8. "We cannot always build the future of our youth, but we can build our youth for the future"
9. Many Ideas grow better when transplanted into another mind than in the one where they spring up"
10. "Your children need your presence more than your parents"
11. "Level with your child by being honest .Nobody spots a Phony quicker than a child"
12. "A happy childhood has spoiled many a promising life"
13. "Beware of him who hates the laugh of a child"
14. "If you want children to keep their feet on the ground put some responsibilities on their shoulders"
15. "Never help a child with task at which he feels

he can succeed"

16. "I am gonna put a curse on you and all your kids will be completely naked"

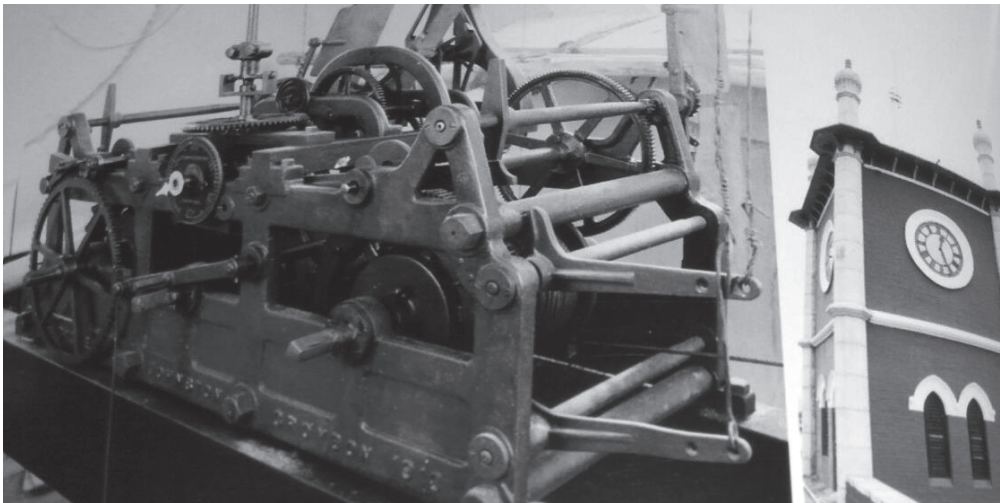
About Education

1. "If you think education is expensive try ignorance"
2. "The fool wonders the wise man ask"
3. "Some people drink from the fountain of knowledge, Others just gargle"
4. "It is a miracle that curiosity survives formal education"
5. "The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity"
6. "It is possible to store the mind with million facts and still be entirely uneducated"
7. "Highly educated bores are by far the worst , they know so much in such fiendish detail to be boring about"
8. "The immature mind hops from one thing to another , the mature mind seeks to follow through"
9. "Men are born ignorant, not stupid. They are made stupid by education"
10. "Education is when you read in fine print. Experience is what you get if you don't"
11. "Education is the period during which you are being instructed by somebody you do not know , about something you do not want to know"
12. "those people who think they know everything are a great annoyance to those

of us who do"

13. "The trouble with learning from experience is that you never graduate "
14. "The average Ph. D. Thesis is nothing but transference of bones from one graveyard to another"
15. "You can never learn less, you can only learn more"
16. "Learning is not compulsory neither is survival"
17. "Education is not preparation for life , education I life itself"
18. "A sense of curiosity is natures original school of education"
19. "Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one"
20. Sex education may be a good Idea in the Schools, but I don't believe the kids should be given homework."
21. "Education is learning what you did not even know you don't know"
22. "Try to learn something about everything about something "
23. "some people talk in their sleep lecturers talk while other people sleep"
24. "It is the province of knowledge to speak and it is the privilege of wisdom to listen"
25. "The highest result of education is tolerance "
26. "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach him how to fish and you feed him a lifetime"
27. "It is necessary for us to learn from others mistakes you will not live long enough to make them yourself"
28. "It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it"

(The author is a retired CCF from Andhra Pradesh)



TIME MACHINE : CLOCK TOWER

"MEN MAY COME AND MEN MAY GO : BUT I GO ON FOR EVER"

Courtsey : Tamil Nadu Forest Academy Souvenir

THE SFRC AND WHAT IT MEANS TO US

By
J. V. Sharma

Our esteemed Editor Qamar insisted that I should write an article only on SFRC for November 2016 issue. My pleadings that I am not well equipped to enter the academic arena did not deter him. He has ample reason for his insistence; the XVII version of the SFRC Alumni Meet is scheduled for 24th to 27th October 2016 at Hyderabad in Telangana State and the November issue of *Vana Premi* should be out in the hands of the participants by that time.

Coming to the task on hand; questions that arise are why the alumni seem so attached to their alma mater even after several decades when they have nothing to do with the education they received or anything connected therewith. Even when their age does not permit them, to move out of their homes, they venture to purchase risk attending Alumni Meets travelling long distances and putting up with inconvenience they could as well avoid. As far as forestry profession is concerned, SFRC Alumni Meets are perhaps the oldest. The concept seems to be emulated by some other sections of the fraternity in the form of re-union of batch/batches and some on their own and some others on State patronage. All the same, there is that urge to meet and remember the college days which they evidently cherish.

They next question that arises is; what is it so special about college days which makes you remember till your memory fails? The answer is simple. Though you happened to go to Forest College from different backgrounds, the college transformed you into an entity confident of identity, purpose and achievement. That you lived by the bread earned through service to forest department is aside; most importantly, every minute you spent in active service is backed by something you happened to acquire, directly or indirectly, as part of curriculum or not.

This is not to say that this phenomenon is uniformly the same of all institutions. Fact remains that institutions evolve with passage of time and endowed with distinct kind of ethos. This will vary from institution to institution. It is in this context, the SFRC stands out.

Established in 1912 with the name and style as Madras Forest College, it was meant to train Forest Rangers of Madras Presidency and some other States of the South. Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) deputed candidates regularly for training to MFC. But this regional consideration got obliterated over the years and I had seen trainees from NEFA (now Arunachal Pradesh) and heard of some from African countries. MFC was the second institute to train Range Officers, next only to the one at Dehradun which was established even earlier. Foresters all over the country believed that if Dehradun was Kashi (Benaras), Coimbatore is Mecca for foresters.

Finally, it comes to as to what is that we learnt at Forest College which had since become an inseparable trait of our psyche?

Origins make indelible impact on institutions. Forest education and Forestry institutions were

consequential to introduction of scientific forestry in India. Once Forest Department was established by Dr. Brandis and the necessary operational muscle was provided by Dr. Schlich and the forest areas were inventoried, scientific management of forests had to follow. This required personnel adept in related operations. So, the requirement of forests warranted training institutions and raw hands had to be trained and transformed into competent work force.

A measure of what SFRC means to its Alumni can be sensed from the script of obeisance paid by me and four other fellow-SFRCians on 21st July 2006 to our revered Instructor in SFRC, Mr. K. K. Nair on the occasion of his '*Sathabhishekam*'. We travelled to Calicut for the occasion when we were all past 70. An excerpt of the text prepared by me for the occasion is reproduced below:

"It is sacrilegious on our part to extol all your great traits as they are too numerous for pupils to attempt. We can only narrate our experiences. We have been the beneficiaries of your knowledge, erudition, grace, magnanimity and conduct. Sir, we learnt a lot more from your behavior and bearing as well. There was a message and instruction even in your silence."

"Your care and concern for your wards was only to be seen to believe. For trainees away from their homes, you played the role of the parents. You were the first to reach a student if he was sick or in problem. You were firm without being harsh. As for punctuality and discipline, the words came to be regarded as metaphor for Nair. In respect of teaching, you made it your religion. You were never content until the most disinterested in the class learnt it by heart. Your untiring efforts, to secure a place of pride for Forest Education in India, are too well-known."

"Trainees joining the Forest College are like unruly wild colts. You transformed them into Champion race horses, who on reaching their respective States, won race after race, in real life. You were a master-sculptor who molded some finest specimens out of ordinary clay."

"We are your pupils still. We learnt not only the forestry but everything that goes to be a good forester from you. Whatever success we made in life, we owe it to you."

Here it was Mr. Nair. I am confident that every alumnus will name one specimen of the above description a cumulative effort of all such eminent personages contributed to the great SFRC ethos. I was in the College only for two years and it is not possible for me to know the names of all the architects of the tradition evolved. Illustrious names down the line starting from the first Principal Cowley Brown played stellar role and scripted the history called Madras Forest College which was rechristened as Southern Forest Rangers College in 1955. A. A. Khan, Y. M. L. Sharma, Dr. Rama Rao, Bhoja Shetty, is only few names that readily come to my mind. As we adore Mr. Nair, I had seen a SFRCian from far-flung Madhya Pradesh eulogizing the great qualities of Mr. Venkataramanan. Names of such great men make a legion. They and their ilk are demigods to their pupils. SFRC is therefore a priceless edifice which we consider a place of worship.

While the literary meaning of 'education' is instruction, strengthening of powers of body, mind and culture, 'training' means practical education in any profession, art or handicraft, a course of diet and

exercise for developing physical strength, endurance and dexterity. It is evident that education is a holistic picture of instruction and training provides the muscle and shape. In the context of Forest Education, it is a combination of both. Basic objective of forest education was not only to equip the forester with academic knowledge on forests but also to prepare him mentally and physically to shoulder the challenges of profession, adequately and efficiently. It therefore needs to be understood that the content of forest education and the curriculum is prone to vagaries of changing circumstances.

The training module introduced by Cowley Brown when he started the Madras Forest College may have thus undergone several changes since then. It was colonial rule and there was no room for other stakeholders to influence the government in matters related to forests. Administration and power flowed from top to bottom just by gravity. There was fear for law. Days were such that the administration did not need to invoke law at all most of the time. Mere a word was enough to get things done in the way the government wanted. Population was far less and people were very poor. Most of the land was under tree cover and there was no perceptible threat to forests or forest produce. The only forest produce most of the people wanted was firewood. Money was in short supply and affluence was pretty low. Many did not have the capacity to go for decent dwellings. Liberal use of timber in construction of houses was unknown. Thus the major challenge before the forest department was to consolidate the forests and protect them. Other activities, even if there were any, were local, incidental and minimal. Course content must have been tailored to suit the needs of the time.

Things started changing soon thereafter. A plethora of activities started looming large. Forests as source of revenue gave rise to their exploitation programmes. Scientific management adopting silvicultural systems became a necessity. Enrichment of the forest growth had also necessitated raising plantations of valuable species. Poor, degraded and depleted areas required afforestation. Added to these activities of substantial interest to forests, are the challenges of forest protection and encroachments, the worst challenge however being political interference and lack of political will on crucial issues. Challenges are piling up with solutions in short supply. But the hard fact is the forester does not have the escape route and he has to face the challenges day in and day out. It is not clear whether the present day training modules, syllabi and schedules provide an effective answer to these challenges.

It must go to the credit of older generation for their vision and wisdom. Challenges or no challenges, the training institutes prepared their wards for almost any and every conceivable situation. At least that was the situation when we were in the college. They made us so tough mentally and physically that we are able to stand firm and resolute even till date. When scores of subjects were taught in Forest College, I often wondered whether they were all necessary at all. The curriculum included not only subjects like botany, silviculture, forest management directly related to forestry but many others like survey, engineering, law, entomology, mycology, use of fire arms, first aid etc. also. Above all the training process devised aimed at making the forester tough, hardy and fearless. They were all indeed necessary for the simple reason the forester should never be found wanting in any crisis situation.

The SFRC made us what we are today and we owe everything to it. (The author is a Retired DCF of Telangana State and his e-mail ID is jvsharma32@gmail.com)

ESPRIT DE CORPS

By
K.B.R. Reddy

Alumni Meet has become order of the day. I know personally that in a few cases, alumni of various institutions in the country, with a view to zealously participate in the celebrations, flew into India from far off places. SFRC Alumni is no exception; participants come to the venue of celebration from far off places – some by flights and some other by trains.

I feel excited at the prospect of the XVII SFRC Alumni Meet being hosted, for the first time, by the SFRC Alumni of Telangana state in Hyderabad. In this context, I am reminded of the French expression, ESPRIT DE CORPS, meaning in English SPIRIT OF THE BODY - Body here means a Group. The phrase, ESPRIT DE CORPS (Spirit of the Body) gives us a powerful message. The expanded meaning of the phrase, according to the Oxford English Dictionary is: "feeling of pride, care and support for each other, etc. that are shared by the members of a group," Collins English Dictionary gives a meaning of the expression which is still more interesting. According to it, esprit de corps means. "Consciousness of, and pride in belonging to a particular group". The 'spirit' is further explained as the feeling of camaraderie among members of a group or organization.

Hindi translation of the words is, "*DAL BHAVANA*". I get a flash-back of the Hindi translation, to a 1957 film song:

Hum Panchi Ek Dal Ke, Ek Dal Ke

Sung SungDoley, eh Sung SungDoley

Will it be true to say that, if somebody refers to us as birds of the same feather or chips of the same block? Coming from different places, belonging to different faith and culture, and speaking different languages meet at one place, that is The Southern Forest Rangers College, our Alma Mater. In no time we make friends with each other and get transformed as chips of the same block and birds of the same feather to get together. During training, after passing out of the College, in the service of the forest department in different states and after retirement, we realize that Unity is Strength. Needless to say we were, and are bound by a strong esprit de corps; Loyalty, Enthusiasm and Devotion to duty have been our companions. We remember with great reverence our Alma Mater, the SFRC, for the training we received. We learnt many subjects of the science of forestry which kept us in good stead during the rest of our life. The instructors, who were hard task-masters, infused in us enthusiasm, inculcated discipline, emphasized the importance of punctuality and a spirit of co-operation and sportsmanship. The SFRC Alumni Meet each year offers to us an opportunity of rendezvous in each state by turn. I do hope that the spirit for a get-together will continue for many years to come.

Coming back to the French phrase, it looks to

me that, it was originally coined for CORPS, which word denotes a branch of the army assigned to a particular task like Medical Corps, Signals Corps, Corps of Engineers, etc. Troops will have to display a great sense of duty and devotion to protect the country against any external aggression, tackle internal rioting, help civilians in distress etc. Eventually, the word came to be used in civilian life too, like National Cadet Corps, Press Corps etc. In any case groups require

cohesion, unity, solidarity, sense of duty and devotion to a cause. All of them are essentially required to an organization, association, or any like body. I hope the spirit will be carried in every Meet of the SFRC Alumni. Let us strive to live up to the spirit of the motto of our Alma Mater which we have adopted for the SFRC Alumni, and that is ***mens sana in corpore sano***. (The author is a retired DCF of Telangana State and his E-mail ID is

MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANO (IN ORIGINAL LATIN)

orandum est ut sit mens sana in corpore sano.
*forte posce animum mortis terrore carentem,
 qui spatium vitae extremum inter munera ponat
 naturae, qui ferre queat quoscumque labores,
 nesciat irasci, cupiat nihil et potiores
 Herculis aerumnas credat saevosque labores
 et venere et cenis et pluma Sardanapalli.
 monstro quod ipse tibi possis dare; semitacerte
 tranquillae per virtutem patet unica vitae.*

Roman poet Juvenal

MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANO (ENGLISH TRANSLATION:)

You should pray for a healthy mind in a healthy body.

Ask for a stout heart that has no fear of death,
 and deems length of days the least of Nature's gifts
 that can endure any kind of toil,

that knows neither wrath nor desire and thinks
 the woes and hard labors of Hercules better than
 the loves and banquets and downy cushions of Sardanapalus.

What I commend to you, you can give to yourself;
 For assuredly, the only road to a life of peace is virtue.

SHOULD BRITAIN REMAIN IN EUROPEAN UNION OR OPT OUT?

By
Dr. B. Raghotham Rao

[Personal impressions gathered during a recent visit to Great Britain (in April-May, '16)]—

This is also the election of Mayor for London [in which a Muslim of Asian origin (for the 1st time ever) was contesting against an ethnic Jew] were the raging issues at that time.

Background: Britain's paths to influence in the world, including its special relationship with the United States, were "played out" — just one avenue remained: positive engagement with Europe, the only obstacle it had was British recalcitrance! It appeared so to us when we were there a couple of months ago, even after 40 years of European Union Membership.

The campaign for opting out has a vision of Britain at its patriotic best, when it stands alone — a 'race' apart, an 'island' unto itself — and 'fiercely independent' of Europe. The other campaigners would like to talk of a Britain that is outward-looking and at the heart of Europe. We did not miss to note two colliding anxieties: the fear of job losses if Britain 'leaves', and the fear of high migration if it 'remains'! Perhaps it finds hard to relinquish an imperial past, and a future role it is reluctant to embrace.

We felt that it is not too late to make a positive

case for Britain's future in Europe — the 2014 Scottish Independence Referendum is a stark reminder of the dangers of excessive negativity. Reaffirming Scotland's status as part of the U.K. required a patriotic vision and a positive, forward-looking mission statement — the same should hold true in this referendum too on 23rd June, 2016. Our opinion is that traditional patriotism and modern realities need not be at odds — in an interdependent world, each country must strike a balance between the autonomy it desires and the corporation it needs. In the European Union, Britain can play a constructive role without either subjugating its identity to a European super state or lurching backward into a "Little England" mindset — destiny and reality appears to be in leading Europe's next stage of development.

Strategy suggested: No two opinions if it comes to honour British exceptionalism, just like America rightly claiming to be an exceptional country. But it should also be noted that great ideas which once inspired Europe seem to have lost their attraction, only to be replaced by the bureaucratic technicalities of its institutions — the idea of Europe having

become 'elderly and haggard'.

Perhaps a British-inspired agenda can help reinvigorate the Continental Soul and promote the Union that the international community needs: a global Europe no longer self-absorbed & inward-looking, but focused on building powerful and productive diplomatic & trading relationships throughout the world.

For example:

(i) Let us consider the problem of terrorism: the multinational operations of the Islamic State can probably be countered only by cross-border security cooperation. And Britain being the home to one of the world's most respected intelligence-agencies, makes it well-placed to lead a more professional pan-European effort on intelligence-sharing and surveillance.

(ii) Its history of engagement with West Asia and Africa also perhaps positions Britain to shape an European-led modern version of the Marshall Plan that would combine diplomacy, aid and economic incentives to address the causes of instability in those regions. A fast-growing population in West Asia and North Africa must have future defined not by the choice between tyranny & terrorism, but by opportunity & hope.

(iii) With British encouragement, Europe can lead the world in confronting climate change — a reformed European energy market, recalling the Union's postwar origins (as a coal and steel community) could possibly integrate

abundant British wind & wave power into a Continental low-carbon energy-grid.

(iv) The choice is between a moment of pride and a new future built together: if Britain is clever, it will remain a member of the EU, because it will recognize that the future of the West is at stake.

(v) And as far as India is concerned, it is one of the largest investors in UK compared with any other country in Europe. Things will change once UK exits EU — Britain becoming less attractive destination as India can't do business for whole Europe from there, as also for the reason that business hates uncertainty.

Conclusion: Europe can perhaps be an engine of global growth if its digital, information-technology and service-industries are opened to cross-continental competition, uniting the Union's brightest scientific & academic minds to create the world's largest research hub and conclude a better, more transparent trade-deal with the USA: and Britain can become a key-player!

Happiness is what man aspires to live, his every motive and action being driven by an eternal pursuit to live a happy life. Yet paradoxically it has been established that the more he chases after happiness the less of it he finds. Though on the face of it this seems to be a cruel aspect of life, the fact of the matter is that, this reality is man's own making.

The modern, know-it-all man, with his superior intelligence, has come to believe that happiness is a commodity, in scarce supply and this can be bought only by those with the necessary purchasing power. To give himself the required funds to buy this commodity, he has cocooned himself into a narrow little corner of life, forgetting the people around him, absorbed in a world of his own, eternally engrossed in trying to earn sufficiently to afford buying happiness. This preoccupation has sadly blinded him from the actual places where he could find happiness. And what are these actual places? Exotic holiday locations? Secluded deserts and misty mountain tops? All-night casinos and swanky malls? By jetting out of European Union as about half the population of Britain is thinking? Though these places and methods offer some escape from the wearisomeness of life, none of them are

repositories of the lasting happiness man is hankering for. True happiness is found when one is engaged in the building of strong family ties and human bonds.

Can a Britain that accomplishes as above, will make any of its citizens 'less British', as a result? Never! Further, the prospect of losing EU-research-funding is a key-risk to UK-science — Science thrives on permeability of ideas and people, and flourishes in environments that pool intelligence, minimize barriers, and are open to free exchange and collaboration. For Britain in its post-imperial era, engagement is its oxygen, cooperation it's imperative, and leadership its destiny. And the Continent's future lies not in a United States of Europe, but in a United Europe of States. (The author is a retired DCF of Karnataka State and his e-mail ID is raghothamrao@rediffmail.com)

INVITATION

The Association of Retired Forest Officers of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad Congratulates who are retiring from service on attaining the age of superannuation on the date 30-11-2016. The Association cordially invites them to join the Association of Retired Forest Officers to keep in touch with their old colleagues and to keep themselves occupied.

1. Sri. PAU Udaya Bhaskar 30-11-2016
2. Sri. T.P. Thimmareddy 30-11-2016

A Personal request to all the Retired Forest Officers who have not joined the Association to kindly join the Association. Please contact the following for further details

Sri. B.M. Swami Das Secretary

Mobile No 9000817781

Sri. A.V. Govindarajulu, Joint Secretary cum Treasurer **Mobile No. 9440764611**

MINUTES OF THE 81ST GENERAL BODY MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FOREST OFFICERS OF TELANGANA AND ANDHRA PRADESH HELD ON 25-09-2016

Sri B.M. Swami Dass Secretary of the association welcomed the ladies and members to the 81st General Body meeting of the association. Sri. S.K. Das President, Sri. T. Narayan Swamy Vice President, Sri. A.V. Govindarajulu Joint Secretary cum Treasurer, and Sri. Qamar Mohd. Khan were requested to occupy their seats. Sri. S.K. Das President was requested to preside over the meeting. The agenda was placed before the president with a request to conduct the proceedings.

Sharadhanjali:

K. Koteswar Rao Divisional Forest Officer Retd. Passed away on 04-08-2016. His Date of Birth is 15-07-1933 and P. Laxma Reddy Passed away on 05-08-2016 His Date of Birth is 13-05-1929. Sri. K. Buchi Ram Reddy spoke about them and their services rendered to the forest department and to the society.

Bereavement Smt. S. Padmaja wife of Late Pandu Ranga Reddy Rtd. Conservator of Forest passed away on 15-08-2016. Smt. Suguna Reddy wife of Sri. Lohit Reddy Rtd. Divisional Forest Officer passed away on 21-09-2016. Smt. J. Pramila Devi wife of Late J. Prabhakar Rao Rtd. Divisional Forest Officer passed away on 04 -09-2016.

The entire congregation stood and observed silence for two minutes in memory of the above.

Action Taken Report of the Secretary :

The action taken report of the secretary on the decision taken by the Executive Committee meeting on 10-08-2016 and 80th General Body

Meeting held on 26-06-2016.

In the previous General Body Meeting the life time membership subscription fee to the new members was enhanced to Rs. 5,000/- for membership in the association. Similarly life time subscriptions for Vana Premi Journal was enhanced to Rs. 5,000/- to the desiring members. Due to escalation charges of paper and printing the cost of publishing charges were increased the rate to Rs. 22,000/- for 1200 copies, each copy 44 pages was approved by the General Body. The same is being implemented.

Amendments to Rules and Requisition of the Association :

Amendment to Rule 13 Clause (iii) of Rules and regulations of the Association of Retired Forest Officers Telangana and Andhrapradesh. Life time Subscription to Vana Premi may be voluntary if the member desires. Accordingly following amendment is proposed to Rule 13 Clause (iii) "Every member of the Association shall pay Rs. 5000 (Rupees Five Thousands only) or as fixed by the Editorial Board from time to time towards Life Time Subscription for Vana Premi at the time of joining the Association." "shall" is amended as "may" This amendment is placed before the General Body for its conformation. The members present in the General Body unanimously confirmed the amendment "shall" is amended as "may" in the said rules. Amended rule 13 Clause (iii) is "Every member of the

Association may pay Rs. 5000 (Rupees Five Thousands only) or as fixed by the Editorial Board from time to time towards Life Time Subscription for Vana Premi at the time of joining the Association”.

Decision on Felicitations to Members :

The Proposal resolved by the executive committee to felicitate the members on attainment of age 80 years, 85 years and 95 years was placed before the General Body for approval. The General Body unanimously approved the proposal in addition to the earlier decision to felicitate the members on attainment of 75 years, 95 years and 100 years. Hence in the future the members will be felicitated on attainment of 75 years, 80 years, 85 years, 90 years, 95 years and 100 years. This decision was unanimously approved by the members present in the 81 st General Body meeting.

Felicitations to the members who attained 75 years :

The members who attained 75 years of age were felicitated with a Shawl and Flower Bouquet in the General Body by the President Sri. S.K. Das and Vice President Sri T. Narayan Swamy of the association. Following members have attained 75 years of age.

1. Sri. N. Linganna D.O.B. 01-07-1941
2. Sri. M. Padmanabh Reddy D.O.B. 14-07-1941
3. Sri. C. Muralidhar Rao D.O.B 28-08-1941
4. Sri. A.H. Quraishi D.O.B. 07-09-1941
5. Sri. V. Kishan Reddy D.O.B. 20-09-1941

The above senior members who were felicitated, responded and shared their life time experiences in the department with members present in the meeting. They thanked the association for the felicitations.

Talk by the Chief Guest: - Dr. B. Ramulu M.D. (General Medicine) General Physician, spoke on health issues of elderly persons. His talk was very interesting thought provoking and practically applicable to members of the association. He spoke in detail about Heart Problems, Hypertension, Dyslipidemia, Coronary Heart Diseases, Diabetes, Obesity, Arthritis, Osteoporosis, Respiratory Diseases, Influenza and Pneumonia, Substance Abuse, Falls, Depression, Dementia, Oral health care, Cancer, Poverty. The members were deeply involved in the lecture and benefited by his lucid talk. The Chief Guest patiently answered all queries of members during the interactive session.

The new member Sri. Tirupal Reddy was welcomed into the association who was attending the association meeting for the first time. All the members welcomed him with a big applause.

Vote of Thanks:- Sri. AV. Govindarajulu, Jt. Secretary cum Treasurer proposed vote of thanks to ladies and members who attended the meeting. Special Thanks were extended to Sri.Y.Ram Mohan Rao Member of the Association for hosting the lunch to all the members on the occasion of birthday celebrations of his grand children. He also thanked all the persons who assisted in successful conduction of the meeting.

The next General Body meeting will be held in December - 2016

Secretary

THE WORLD'S LARGEST TREES

By
M. Padmanabha Reddy

I joined the forest college (S.F.R.C) in November, 1964. After a month of classroom lectures we were taken to field visit. Our first camp was 'Sativayal' on the foot hills of Western Ghats. We were there for about 2 weeks. One day we were taken to Tamilnadu, Kerala border where a giant Teak tree was standing tall as a centre of attraction in the surrounding forests. The tree is locally called Kanne Mara (Virgin tree). The instructor accompanying the class asked us to assess the height and the volume, we tried various methods and estimated the height about 130 feet and volume of the Teak tree about a thousand cubic feet, rarely one finds such giant Teak trees in India. The tree has a clean bole (without branches) for about 60 feet from ground, little buttress and without dead branches. It is an ideal plus Tree. A platform was constructed around the tree for the people to sit and spend some time admiring the tree.

In the second year in S.F.R.C. while on North India tour we visited a timber depot at Ballarsha (Maharashtra). There, in the depot two huge teak logs are neatly polished and kept as exhibits. The depot incharge explained to us that few years back due to intense gale the two huge trees growing side by side, locally called Ram-Laxman were uprooted. The main logs were carefully brought to depot and put on exhibition. The cut ends of the logs were neatly polished and the annual rings were clearly visible. From the centre to end we could count above 600 rings indicating the age of the tree. From the centre a red line was drawn to the end and marked the historical events like "Panipath wars," coronation of Shivaji, Independence of India etc. It was like a calendar linked to annual rings of the teak tree.

In the year 1995 I was posted as Divisional Forest Officer (D.F.O.) Mahaboobnagar. Abetting the town, there existed a big Banyan tree locally called Pillala Marri spread over an area of 5 Ac., the age of the tree was recorded as about 800 years. I found that children are damaging the tree by chiseling their names etc. on branches of the tree. To protect it from vandalism, I have constructed a compound wall all-round the tree with a gate. I have constructed a platform around the tree and put a board stating "A WISH TREE - Pray it and not damage". To propagate the progeny of Pillala Marri healthy branches of 2 feet length and thumb thickness were cut and planted along the approached road to the tree. Out of 10 branch cuttings 8 responded and sprouted. Recently (in 2016) I happened to go to Mahaboobnagar and took time to visit Pillala Marri. Two things attracted

my attention, the crown of the tree which was well within the compound wall when I constructed it about 20 years back has extended, and the branches have crossed the compound wall by about 10 feet on east and western sides. Another interesting thing is the branch cuttings planted about 20 years back have grown into medium size trees. The 40' width approach road has covered by the crown of the trees. For a movement I was happy that by any chance the Pillala Marri (mother tree) dies its progeny is well preserved and growing vigorously like mother tree.

In Forest College we are taught that after certain period trees stop growing. Something like culmination of Mean and current annual increment which decided the rotation period. Pillala Marri at the age of 800 years is still growing vigorously.

I happened to visit U.S.A. in June 2016, during my visit my son who is working in San Jose took me to Sequoia National Park. The park is located about 7000 feet above sea level. The center of attraction in the park is the world's biggest tree, Sequoia Dendron Gigantea (Red wood tree) named as the President. With 247 feet height and 27 feet diameter it was thought to be tallest tree in the world, but recent studies show that 'Eucalyptus regimens' in Australia are taller than the President. But the height is not everything; The President is far more massive than any living tree in the world. Its trunk is rusty red thickened with deep layers of furrowed bark of about one foot thick which protects the tree from extreme climatic conditions including fires. The bark is infused with tannic acid and other chemicals that protect against fungal rot, the wood-boring beetles hardly reach the heart wood.

The natural habitat of giant Sequoias is on a slender 250 mile long corridor on western slopes of the Sierra Nevada (California). No other species surpass it in volume of the wood. Fortunately the wood of the giant Sequoias was so brittle that trunks often shatters when they hit ground on cutting and what remained had little value as lumber. In 1890 the Sequoias forests areas were declared as National park which saved many giant Sequoias. This park is well maintained and a tourist place for nature lovers.

The statistics of the President (Sequoias Dendron Gigentrium) Source: National Geography

Height	:	247 feet
D.B.H.	:	27 feet
Total Volume	:	54,000 Cubic feet
Age	:	About 3,200 years.

Limbs	:	The four largest limbs range in diameter from 5 to nearly 7 feet. The largest is about 60 feet long
Total number of branches:		534
Leaves	:	2 billion
Cones	:	82,000 each size of chicken egg) and holds about 200 seed
Shape	:	The President reached its current height well over a thousand years ago but continued to expand in volume of wood. Its crown growing more intricate.
Scars	:	Fire damage extends 50 feet up. The top 40 feet of the main trunk struck lightning has been dead for more than a thousand years
Groves	:	Sequoias rarely grow in pure stands, but by sheer size they dominate their groves, which hold a variety of tree species. A few Kms. North another massive tree which is locally called Sherman is another attraction
General		

Recent studies indicate the giant trees all over the world are still growing and many of them have developed resistance to fires, insect attack extreme climate conditions etc.. The scientist believes that they may survive the impending climate changes due to global warming and experiments are going on.

Note: If the reader interested as to how the tree was measured and photographed visit "Largest trees on earth –type in Google". National Geographic live – Super trees: climbing Giant Sequoias – a short video film of 6 minutes duration will be absorbing.

Happiness is not something you postpone for the future; it is something you design for the present. Jim Rohn

The educated differ from the uneducated as much as the living from the dead. Aristotle

MY SELECTION AS FOREST APPRENTICE AND ENTRY IN TO THE S.F.R.C.

By
V.SANTHASEELA BABU

It was in the year 1968 while I was working as Untrained Assistant in Z.P. High School, Chenna Raju Palli, Penugonda Taluq of Anantapur dist., my father who was working as Deputy Post Master, Anantapur Head Post Office sent me a Press Clipping brought to him by my younger brother SripathyBabu containing an advertisement issued by the A.P.P.S.C. for the recruitment of Forest Apprentices in A.P. Forest Department and asked me to consider for applying for the same. Immediately I applied for the same. Sometime after I stopped working in the school, around July, 1968 I received a call from the A.P.P.S.C. directing me to appear for a walking Test of 25 km to be completed within 4 hours and on successful completion of the same to appear for the written test in General Knowledge, Mathematics, English Essay Writing and English Dictation.

Thereupon everyday in the morning I started practicing walking on Anantapur-Garladinne Road gradually increasing the distance day by day and trying to pick up the speed to match the prescribed time limit. In the evenings I used to go to the Library and go through the general Knowledge books and literature related to current topics. At home I was practicing and refreshing my knowledge in Mathematics. By the month end or so I proceeded to Hyderabad and attended the Walking Test of 25 kms., to be completed within the time limit of 4 hrs. The test was conducted in the Race Course at Secunderabad. We were asked to walk in the Race Course by fixing about 10 rounds or so which equaled to 25 Kms. I think the participants were around 500 in number. The Department had provided Glucose, Lemons, Lime juice and water for the participants. While walking the first 6 to 7 rounds I did not feel tiresomeness. But as I was nearing the completion it was becoming very heavy and difficult. The same case was with the other participants also. But with a strong will power I pursued my walking to the last and I finally succeeded in completing the test within about 3.30 hrs. Subsequently we were asked to attend for the written examinations at the Institute of Engineers, Khairtabad in General Knowledge from 10 am to 12 noon and English Essay Writing from 2 pm to 4 pm on 5th August 1968 and in Mathematics from 10 am to 1 pm and English Dictation from 2 pm to 3 pm on 6th August 1968. Accordingly I attended for the examinations on 5th and 6th August 1968 and did well in the exams and returned to Anantapur. Here I would like to inform the readers that I have preserved the Question Papers of those exams conducted by the Southern Forest Rangers College, Coimbatore till now and I am herewith appending all those

question papers, except the Dictation Examination paper, with this article for the information of the readers of Vana Premi.

By the end of September 1968, I received a communication from the A.P.P.S.C, vide their letter dt.26-09-1968, directing me to appear before the Commission, for Oral Examination, at 10 am on 08-10-1968, with all the original certificates, and also, a certificate to prove that I have passed B.Sc. 1st year. My father took me to the D.F.O, Anantapur and introduced me to him and sought his guidance and advice for preparing for the oral examination. The DFO had briefly explained to me about the various Soil Moisture Conservation works and afforestation works taken up in the District because of the low rain fall that is being received in Anantapur District and wished me that I should successfully come out in the Interview.

I proceeded to Hyderabad sufficiently in advance and located the "Gadwal House", Nampally, Hyderabad in which the office of the A.P.P.S.C.is located. In my application I have mentioned my place of birth as "HOSPET, Bellary District, Mysore State" and that I will be considered as a native of Mysore State and the chances of my selection were bleak even if I fared well in the oral examination. I was prepared to overcome this in the interview.

On the designated day i.e. on 8th October 1968, somewhere in the afternoon my turn came for the oral examination. I was dressed in a white Pant tucked in with a white shirt and a Blue Tie around my neck and I was wearing Black Shoes. . As soon as I entered the interview hall I found about 5 persons sitting there and I wished them. I was asked to take my seat. The Chairman initiated the interview which was as follows:

Chairman You are Mr. Santhaseela Babu?

Myself Yes Sir.

Chairman You belong to Anantapur?

Myself Yes Sir.

Chairman But in your application you have mentioned your place of birth as Hospet, Mysore State?

Myself Yes Sir. My Grand Father, after his retirement as Station Master, had settled at Hospet and my mother was taken there for delivery and I was born there.

Chairman (He laughed at my answer and looked to the other members and all of them have smiled) How is that you studied in Nizamabad?

Myself Not only in Nizamabad Sir, I studied in Anantapur and Kurnool Districts and also. I did my HSC at Sirpur-Kaghaznagar, my P.U.C. at Khammam and my B.Sc. degree at Nizamabad. My father is a Central Govt. Servant and wherever he was transferred

we were going with him

Chairman

Oh! I see. Because your father was a Central Govt. servant and worked in those places, you had to pursue your studies in all those places. He then looked at one of the APPSC Members and said "Mr. Ramalinga Reddy, you can take up now."

Mr. Reddy

Mr. Babu, what, in your opinion, are the dangers to the Forest?

Myself

Illegal cuttings, Fires and Animals Sir.

Mr. Reddy

How do fires affect the forests?

Myself

Fire will burn the trees and young seedlings and kills the wild animals sir.

Mr. Reddy

There are so many Industries depending on the forests. Can you name some of the Wood based Industries?

Myself

Yes sir. Paper Industry, Match Industry; Ply wood Industry, and Rayon Industry.

Mr. Reddy

OK. Mr. Babu will you tell me the location of Damodar Valley Corporation?

Myself

Excuse me Sir. I cannot say the exact location of the Damodar Valley Corporation. But it is a joint undertaking by the West Bangal and Bihar Governments.

Mr. Reddy

Yes it is located on Damodar River flowing in West Bengal and Bihar States and because of the ravaging floods caused by this river, the Govts. of both the states have jointly formed the Damodar Valley Corporation and have constructed several dams on this river and its several tributaries and tamed the flow of the river. After this question the Member looked at the Chairman and the Chairman looked at another member of the Board and said "Mr. Rao, you can go ahead now." I thought he must be the Chief Conservator of Forests as I knew the name of the CCF was Mr. P.S. Rao.

Mr. Rao

Mr. Babu, you say that you are from Anantapur. Your Anantapur district is experiencing so many difficulties because of the low rain fall and adverse climatic conditions. What is your assessment of the overall situation in your district?

Myself

Yes sir. Because of the low rainfall in our district the crops are suffering from dearth of water and the farmers are not sure of the returns of their investments. But this year there have been good rains received and the majority of the tanks are with sufficient water resources and the situation is better Sir.

Mr. Rao

Of course this might be an exceptional year. But can you tell me what measures you can suggest for permanently eradicating famine in your district?

Myself

(Recollecting the points that were briefed by the DFO, Anantapur the other day). Yes Sir. By taking up Soil Moisture Conservation works and digging tube wells and

taking up intensive tree planting we can overcome the adverse natural conditions.

Mr. Rao

What are the Soil Moisture Conservation works?

Myself

Constructing Contour Bunds and digging Contour trenches Sir.

Mr. Rao

What are Contours?

Myself

Places of equal heights on the ground Sir.

Mr. Rao

Then what are Contour bunds and Contour trenches.

Myself

Digging trenches along the contours is contour trenching Sir. Forming bunds with dug up soil along the contours is Contour Bunding Sir.

Mr. Rao

Yes. Identifying and marking the contour lines on the ground and digging the trenches along those contour lines is called Contour trenching and forming the bunds with the dug up soil on the upper side of the trench is called contour bunding. This will reduce the velocity of water and the water is absorbed by the soil and ground water table is improved and the soil erosion is prevented.

Then he looked at the Chairman and the Chairman said "Mr. Babu, Thank you. You can go now".

I stood up and wished all of them with folded hands and said "I shall take leave Sir". When I stood up, one of the members who was silently observing all the Interview process till then, asked me "Mr. What is your Height?" Then I replied "My height is 6 feet Sir". Then he looked at the Chairman and other Members and I could notice that all of them were smiling. Then I came out of the room by wishing them again.

Within a week of the conclusion of the Oral Examination, I received a letter dt. 13-10-1968 from the Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad informing that I have been finally selected by the A.P.P.S.C. for appointment as forest Apprentice in AP Forest Subordinate Services and that I have to undergo training in the Southern Forest Rangers College at Coimbatore during 1968-70 which is to commence from 01-11-1968.

I was requested to produce the following documents for my appointment as Forest Apprentice:

(a) 2 Surety bonds each for a sum of Rs. 3,000/- on the basis of Immovable Property from persons certified to be solvent by the Revenue authorities not below the rank of a Tahsildar. The surety bonds should be executed by the sureties separately before a Gazetted Officer of Forest Department.

a) An agreement bond on stamp paper valued Rs.1-50NP, undertaking to serve in the AP Forest Department for a period of 5 years after successfully completing the training at the Southern Forest Rangers College, Coimbatore. The agreement bond should be executed before a Gazetted Officer of the Forest Department.

The above documents were asked to be submitted at any cost before 25-10-1968 to the Chief Conservator of Forests and the orders for deputing to the training will be issued only after receipt of the above documents along with a Certificate of Physical Fitness issued by a Civil Surgeon.

MY parents and family were very happy to see the orders and within a couple of days we completed all the formalities and submitted the above documents duly executing them before the District Forest Officer, Anantapur. The DFO was very happy that I was selected and especially when I informed him that the points briefed by him to me were of great help while answering the questions asked by the CCF during my Interview. I thanked him whole heartedly for the same. The District Forest Officer was Mr. S. Nagarathnam.

Finally by 27th of October 1968, I received the orders from the CCF vide letter dated 25-10-1968 appointing me as Forest Apprentice in AP Forest Subordinate Service with effect from the date of joining in the Forest College and deputing me to 1968-70 Rangers' Course in SFRC which is to commence from 01-11-1968.

The list of candidates selected for 1968-70 Rangers' Course was also communicated in these orders and the list is reproduced below.

S.No	Name
1	Sri. S. Ramkumar Naik
2	Sri. T. Shambhoji Rao
3	Sri. C. Joseph Berchy
4	Sri. P. Ravinder Reddy
5	Sri. Qamar Mohammed Khan
6	Sri. V. Venkat Rajam
7	Sri. Syed Sajid Ali
8	Sri. K. Muralidhar Rao
9	Sri. K. Sudhakara Reddy
10	Sri. P. Subhas Chandra Bose
11	Sri. K. Prabhu Prasad
12	Sri. V. Santha SeelaBabu
13	Sri. Sudhakara Rao
14	Sri. N. Venkateswarlu
15	Sri. M. Radhakrishna
16	Sri. Shaik Noor Ahmed
17	Sri. Shaik Mohammed Rahamthullah

I boarded the train at Anantapur on 30th October 1968 to go to Coimbatore via Bangalore. In my compartment, among others, there was a fair looking and smart co-passenger sitting by my side. After some time, we entered into conversation and I was told that he was also going to Coimbatore to join SFRC. I was pleasantly surprised with the acquaintance and he was no other than Mr. Qamar Mohammed Khan, the present Editor of 'Vana Premi'. Both of us reached Coimbatore in the early hours of 31st October and went to the SFRC campus. Thus I entered my Alma mater "The Southern Forest Rangers College, Coimbatore" on 31-10-1968 and completed successfully my 2 years training in Rangers' Course with Higher Standard Certificate by 31-10-1970. I have dealt with my detailed memoirs in SFRC in the article "MY SFRC DAYS-A MEMOIR" published in Vana Premi Issue of November 2010.

The Question Papers in the Qualifying Examination conducted for the selection of Forest Apprentices for 1968-70 Rangers' Course are appended herewith:

SOUTHERN FOREST RANGERS COLLEGE, COIMBATORE

QUALIFYING EXAMINATION FOR

1968-70 RANGERS COURSE

SUBJECT: GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Time: 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

Date: 5th August, 1968 Max. Marks: 100

Note:- 1. Answers must be in English. 2. Answers must be brief.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Explain the following terms and give one example each :-
(i) Archipelago (ii) Isthmus (iii) monsoon | 6 |
| 2. Which are the two seas connected by
(i) Panama canal (ii) Suez canal | 4 |
| 3. Where do the following people inhabit, as a general rule.
(i) Eskimos (ii) Bedouins (iii) Red Indians (iv) Gurkhas | 4 |
| 4. Where are the following
(i) Gold Mines of India (ii) Pearl diving centers of India (iii) Diamond mines. | 3 |
| 5. What are the names of the airports at
(i) Delhi (ii) Bombay (iii) Calcutta (iv) Madras | 4 |
| 6. Who was the first European King to invade India? | 1 |
| 7. Why did America enter in World War II? | 2 |
| 8. What is the designation of the head of the state and who is now in that post of the following countries? | 4 |

- (i) Russia (ii) Australia (iii) Indonesia (iv) Nepal
9. What were the reasons for India-Pakistan clash in 1965? 2
10. What are the broad policies of Indian Constitution? 2
11. Who is the name of present cabinet minister for education in India? 1
12. Who was Martin Luther King? 1
13. Which are the political parties of India that have formed governments without coalition with other parties in the various states of India now ? 2
14. What are the two international events that took place in Madras during the beginning of the year 1968 ? 2
15. What is meant by the following? 4
- (i) Status quo (ii) Ex tempore (iii) De novo (iv) Bon voyage
16. In what fields the following are famous? 4
- (i) Rukmini Arundale (ii) Florence Nightingale (iii) Madame Curie (iv) Helen Keller
17. What are the following in literature? Give one example each. 4
- (i) Biography (ii) Classics
18. Who are the creators of the following characters? 4
- (i) Perry mason (ii) Kabuliwala (iii) Three Musketeers (ii) Donald Duck
19. What are the following famous for? 4
- (i) Hollywood (ii) Ajanta (iii) Mahabalipuram (iv) Hampi
20. What does the following mean in sports or games? 4
- (i) LBW (ii) Maiden over (iii) Cannon (iv) Joker
21. Who were the Captains of Indian Teams in 2
- (i) 1964 Olympic Hockey Team (ii) 1967 Test Cricket
22. What is meant by devaluation? What is the present equivalent of an American dollar and a British pound in rupees now? 4
23. What is a mammal? Give the name of a mammal that lays eggs. 2
24. What is meant by barometric pressure? What are its uses? 3
25. What is re-inforced concrete? What are the proportions of the various Ingredients generally used in concrete? 3
26. Which is the biggest and the oldest iron and steel factory in India? Where is it situated? 2
27. What are the following? 4
- (i) Fokker Friendship (ii) Royal Enfield Fantabulus (iii) Studebaker Commander
(iv) Tata Mercedes

28. What are the expansions of the following? 4
 (i) C.I.D. (ii) L.I.C. (iii) P.T.I. (iv) U.G.C.
29. What service can you do to the nation if you become a Forest Ranger
 (Answer in not more than ten lines) 4
30. Give the names of 10
 (i) A Volcano (ii) The longest river of the world
 (iii) Inventor of Penicillin (iv) The Famous British pop singers
 (v) The World Heavy Weight Boxing Champion
 (vi) First woman Prime Minister of a country
 (vii) India's leader in the freedom fight (full name)
 (viii) England's Prime Minister now
 (ix) First Lady of America
 (x) The first surgeon who did the successful heart transplant.

SOUTHERN FOREST RANGERS COLLEGE COIMBATORE
QUALIFYING EXAMINATION FOR 1968-70

RANGERS COURSE

SUBJECT: MATHEMATICS

Time: 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

Date: 6th August, 1968

Max. Marks: 200

(Minimum required for Pass 80 marks)

- Note:- 1. Complete working of the problems should be given.
 2. Rough working if any should also be in the answer books and these should be clearly marked as such.
1. (a) Divide 784946 by 358. What is the quotient and what is the Remainder?
 (b) A boy had to divide 76428 by 123. He copied a figure wrong in the Divisor and obtained as his quotient 611 with remainder 53. What Mistake did he make? 10
2. (a) A carriage wheel is 8 feet 3 inches in circumference : how many revolutions does it make in travelling 7 miles 1,331 yards?
 (b) A collier cuts out an average of 3 tons 5 cwts. of coal per day. How many trollies carrying 13 cwts., will he fill in a working month of 27 days? 10
3. A gang of men began laying a section of railway, 67 miles 500 yards in length, on the morning of January 1st and just finished by the end of the month. What was the average advance per day in feet. Had the length of the section been 67 kilometers 500 meters and the daily advance 2 kilometers 17 meters, how much would have remained to be laid in meters, at the end of the month? 10

4. A garden contains 16 flower beds, a lawn, and gravel paths. The whole Area of the garden is 1,300 sq. yards; the area of each bed is 50 sq. yards 5 sq. feet and the paths take up 241 sq. yards 1 foot. What is the area of the lawn? 10
5. (a) Find the cube root of the cube number 3652264
 (b) Find the H.C.F. of 506 and 1863. 10
6. (a) Find the L.C.M. of 299, 221 and 759.
 (b) Reduce $\frac{2277}{2369}$ to its lowest terms. 10
7. (a) Simplify $8\frac{13}{15} + \frac{4}{39} - 3\frac{7}{10} - 2\frac{7}{16}$ 10
- $3\frac{3}{4} - \frac{11}{12}$
- (b) Simplify _____ $\frac{4}{15} \times 1\frac{7}{8}$ of $\frac{8}{21}$
8. A man travelled 1,560 mile by sea, rail and bus. The distance by bus was one third that of by rail, the distance by rail one third that by sea. The charges at sea were 7 paise per mile, and by rail 12 paise and by bus 5 paise. Find the average cost permile for the whole journey. 10
9. A battalion, after $\frac{5}{16}$ of its whole strength had been disabled, had 748 men left fit for duty. In a week's time 816 men were reported fit for duty. By what fraction of its full strength was the battalion still short ? 10
1. A passenger train moving at the rate of 45 miles an hour, overtakes a mineral train, one and half times as long and moving on a parallel line at the rate of 27 miles an hour, and passes it comple-tely in 25 seconds. How long would the passenger train take to pass completely through a station 165 yards in length? 10
2. Three wheels carry teeth whose numbers are proportional to the diameters of the wheels; the diameters being respectively 12 cms., 17 cms., and 20 cms. If the first wheel works into the second, And the second into the third, how many revolutions will the third wheel have made when the first has made 130 ? 10
3. There are two casks of spirit, containing 25 percent and 15 percent respectively of water. If 2 gallons of the first are added to 3 gallons of the second, what percentage of water will there be in the mixture ? If a quart of water is now added, find, to the nearest integer, the percentage of spirit in the final mixture. 10
4. Find the difference between the Simple and Compound interest on Rs.3,600/- for two

- years at four and one fourth percent. 10
5. The base of a right prism is a triangle whose sides are or 1 foot 9 inches, 1 foot 8 inches and 1 foot 1 inch; if the height is 8 feet find the whole surface and volume. 10
6. Two men A and B travel in opposite directions along a road 180 mileslong, starting simultaneously from the ends of the road. A travels 6 miles a day more than B, and the number of miles travelled each day by B is equal to double the number of days before they meet. Find the number of miles which each travels in a day. 20
16. Can you draw a triangle with sides 13 cms., 16 cms. And 17 cms.? Explain the problem.10
17. Find the slant surface and volume of a pyramid 21 inches high Standing on a square base whose side is 40 inches. 10
18. Reduce to the lowest terms $\frac{x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x}{7x^3 - 18x^2 + 6x + 5}$. 10
19. Solve $x^2 + xy + xz = 42$, $xy + y^2 + yz = 70$, $xz + yz + z^2 = 84$ 10

SOUTHERN FOREST RANGERS COLLEGE COIMBATORE

QUALIFYING EXAMINATION FOR 1968-70

RANGERS COURSE

SUBJECT: ENGLISH ESSAY

Time: 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. Date: 5th August, 1968 Max. Marks: 200

Note:- Credit will be given to good hand writing, correct spelling and proper punctuation.

WRITE an essay in ENGLISH on any ONE of the following topics not Exceeding 800 words or four fools cap pages of ordinary hand writing.

1. The Wild Life of India
2. Influence of Cinema on Modern Society
3. India after Independence, her achievements and failures
4. Influence of Religion on mankind through the Ages.

(Editor's Note; Readers are requested to note the pains taken by the author to preserve the question papers of exam conducted about 48 years ago and other orders. The author is a Retired Dy.C.F of A.P. and his e mail ID is vssbabu@gmail.com. Readers are also requested to try to solve the question papers and see how many marks they get.)

Birth Day Greetings

We wish the following born on the dates mentioned
“ A very Happy Birth Day ”

S.No.	Name of the member	D.O.B.			
	Sarva Sri		10.	Sanjeev Kumar Gupta	26-11-1970
1.	P.S.Sankar Reddy	09-11-1936	11.	P.Raghuveer	30-11-1960
2.	C.Sivasankara Reddy	10-11-1951	12.	Anoop Singh	01-12-1965
3.	G.K.Reddy	12-11-1931	13.	K.Lohitasyudu	01-12-1957
4.	K. Prabhakar Rao	12-11-1950	14.	D.Bheema	15-11-1967
5.	C.Madukar Raj	19-11-1951	15.	D.V.Reddy	15-11-1964
6.	D.Nagagopala Rao	23-11-1952	16.	G.Mukund Reddy	16-11-1978
7.	K.Venkat Ramudu	23-11-1948	17.	K.Kamalakar	22-11-1958
8.	K.Murali Krishna Rao	29-11-1940	18.	V.Prabhakar Rao	26-11-1964
9.	A.H.Moosvi	05-12-1936	19.	K.Damodar Reddy	28-11-1967
10.	P.K. Sharma	01-12-1956			

S.No.	Name of Serving Officers	D.O.B.
	Sarva Sri	
1.	T.P.Thimma Reddy	06-11-1956
2.	Pushkar Srivatsava	07-11-1957
3.	Alanchong Teron	08-11-1976
4.	Elusing Meru	11-11-1957
5.	A.K.Srivatsava	13-11-1957
6.	P.Ram Mohan Rao	15-11-1962
7.	P.A.V.Udaya Bhaskar	21-11-1956
8.	Anand Kumar Jha	25-11-1969
9.	Kanwar Jeet Singh	25-11-1959

Secretary



AN ALUMNUS REMINISCES....

By

V.V.Hari Prasad

That was the day in the last week of November 1975 that I boarded the train in Secunderabad to proceed to Coimbatore to join SFR College having been selected as forest apprentice.

Less said the better to talk about my knowledge about forests in general and the wild life in particular at that point of time as I was a student of Physical sciences. I was born brought up and educated in one of the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh where we very rarely used to come across forests worth mentioning. I never knew the duties to be discharged by any forest officer. My perception about animals got widened after I watched the films "*Mera Nam Joker* of Rajkapoor and *HathiMeraySaathi* of Rajesh khanna probably in early seventies. Such being the scenario I was proceeding to join one of the most prestigious forest colleges of India to be trained as a forest apprentice in the process of eking out my livelihood.

From the railway station of Coimbatore I proceeded by an auto to SFRC passing through the road abutting central theatre which later on became one of the thronging places to number of my batchmates , while enjoying the ambience of a beautiful city endowed with criss-cross roads and huge structures.

When the gate of SFR College was opened and my auto entered the premises I noticed well laid roads with greenery and abundant tree growth on both the sides and the roads leading to the

main building of the college, a mammoth structure constructed before independence during the British regime. In a concrete jungle of that huge city the premises with its abundant tree growth and huge old structures with a historical background gave the onlookers not only the feeling of a micro climate but also the ambience befitting its name as a Forest training institute of national repute . This institute imparted training to forest officers who have been instrumental in shouldering the responsibilities of conserving the national wealth of flora and fauna of this great nation along with other trained officials of India a country which is recognized as one of the mega bio-diverse countries of the world. This is the college which molded forest officers and laid the foundation of knowledge with regard to forest and its abundant wealth. At that point of time I never knew that a few decades later the forest officers belonging to the alumni of SFRC would become heads of forest department of Andhra Pradesh by joining Indian Forest Service later.

The following day after attending to the required mandatory procedure for getting me admitted into the college I was allowed to attend the morning P.T the next day. There I came across junior PT.I Sri.Emmanuel whose penchant for speaking in different languages be it Telugu, Hindi, or English with an inimitable

style of Tamil slang used to look not only amusing but also indicative of his assertive attitude exhibiting the authority he was vested with in disciplining the trainees most of whom were fresh from either colleges or universities.

The morning PT which required the trainees to be at the grounds by 6.00 A.M sharp compelled one of my batch mates hailing from Andhra Pradesh to go to bed with his P.T dress on so that he could rush to the grounds immediately after waking-up and answering the calls of nature sticking on to punctuality thereby avoiding the punishment, being inflicted on the late comers. This is an occasion for me to bring back to my memory a great personality Sri.JohnJoseph IFS the then house tutor of our batch. As a student of the college where I did my graduation I never knew the concept of "house tutor" and the authority he could exercise over the trainees. Before personally meeting, Sri John Joseph, IFS an embodiment of military discipline I used to listen to the narrations rendered by my batchmates depicting how tough it would be to face him even with a request for sanctioning one day casual leave. The question put to and the advices rendered by him to any trainee in the process of disciplining used to resemble the ways adopted by a military colonel in imposing discipline on his soldiers. For the first time in my life I began to feel the pinch of "Military discipline" in approaching him and getting even the casual leave sanctioned by him which was a mammoth task. Trainees used to avoid seeking for even half day casual leave having been scared

of putting up with the onslaught of his verbosity where in the words of admonishing were released like those of bullets from AK-47 rifle. His attitude towards us made us tough, disciplined and steadfast not only in conserving forest wealth but also in putting up with difficulties in our day to day lives later.

I still remember that day when Sri. John Joseph bombarded one of our batch mates from Andhra Pradesh in the class room with his admonishing eloquence whom he noticed the previous day outside the premises of SFRC walking on the road with a casual ware and with his *Chappals* on without adhering to the dress code and without bothering to wear the shoes supplied to him even while leaving the college premises befitting the stature of a forest college student. That was the type of discipline that was enforced upon resulting in grooming the forest officers of different states of India most of whom proved them-selves to be true custodians of national wealth, the forests during their respective careers. Being a tennis player and a tennis captain in the 2nd year of our training period I used to have a good rapport with him as I was provided with an opportunity of playing tennis with the lecturers .While penning this article What else I could do for Sri.John Joseph IFS who reached the heavenly abode in the recent past, except for wishing his soul to rest in peace.

This is also the time for all of our batch mates to peep into the past and recollect the days of training that was imparted to us by eminent

foresters like Sri. Hari Krishnan IFS, an embodiment of knowledge and Sri Subbarayulu Naidu IFS a soft spoken but a determined officer both of whom retired as Principal Chief Conservators of Forests of Tamilnadu forest department some time later.

The memories in the context of our first forest tour to Sadivayal and the experiences of orienteering at Topslip are worth recollecting. On the day of orienteering one of the our batch mates from Andhra Pradesh was chased by a wild gaur and a pit in which he fell while running to save himself from the attack of that wild animal probably saved his life to make him later as one of the most successful foresters in the department who subsequently earned accolades from the higherups where ever he worked.

Though I used to stay in the pitched tents as a "President's scout" in my school days when on camp it made me feel thrilled to stay in the tents day and night in the midst of deep forests in the process of our training through forest tours. The tours be it to Sadivayal, Top Slip, Banari, Nilambur, Thekkadi, or Kottayam to name a few made us tough and inquisitive about forests while creating lot of awareness about forest and its wealth. We toured different states in the process of getting exposed to different forests in the country. Those states include Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. In tours while receiving the hospitality extended by the forest officials of those states we used to rate them keeping the

quality of hospitality in view. At that point of time Andhra Pradesh was rated as one of the best states in extending hospitality to the budding foresters of our country who were on tour.

The camp fires in the nights organized probably one day before the last day of our tours used to bringout the hidden talents of our batch mates in terms of acting, singing and dancing as well. In the annual college day celebrations though I was adjudged as the "best actor of SFRC Coimbatore" in the year 1977 in a play let called "PAGA" by the committee comprising the judges having been constituted from those who were not well versed with Telugu, as one among the audience I was spell bound by the performance of "DANDIA RAS" by my Gujarati batch mates and "BHANGDA" by my batch mates of other states.

Mr.Ong from Malaysia (he left in the middle of the course) Mr.Gatachew Desta from Ethiopia from our batch and Miss.Marama from Fiji islands from our seniors underwent training in Southern Forest Rangers'College.

When "Gunjkar" from Maharastra the "Milka Singh" of our batch came first in marathon we were surprised in noticing the stamina of our batch mates like Abdullah and Kareem from Kerala who were probably in their late thirties at that point of time taking part and competing in the marathon along with us most of whom were in their early twenties.

Sports and games constituted part of our

regular training programme in SFR College. Being a tennis player I used to go and play tennis with lecturers like Sri John Joseph, Sri Hari Krishnan and Sri Subbarayudu Naidu. some of my batch mates from Andhra Pradesh used to throng in the "Third Court for Football" Which was not frequented by the inspecting lecturers and where they could play football probably not sticking on strictly to the rules and regulations meant for football players even in terms of number of players to take part in that game.

"Chintamani" one of the co-operative society based run grocery stores/super bazaar located nearby to our college premises used to give lot of relief in the evening to the trainees of SFRC who were put to rigorous training schedule from dawn to dusk. Most of us used to go there apparently in the name of shopping but definitely for heaving a sigh of relief keeping us away from "hostel" resembling military barracks and also for having the glances of city ambience and also the beauties that throng in there.

To its credit SFRC has produced stalwarts among forest officers of the then Andhra Pradesh and present Telangana states. One of our batch mates who later joined SFSCollege Coimbatore in the same forest premises Sri.K.Bhoopal Reddy, IFS is presently working as Special Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Telangana. One of our batch mates Sri.K.Tulasi Rao a wild life Conservationist who was presented with Young Scientists award and Rajeev Gandhi award by "President of India" to name a few of the awards

he received is presently working with UNDP an offshoot of United Nations Organizations in pursuit of conservation of bio-diversity.

When I received "VANAMITRA" a state level award in 2000 instituted for the first time by the then Andhra Pradesh Government from the hands of former Chief Minister of combined Andhra Pradesh state I bowed down my head with utmost respect and gratitude to the great institute called "Southern Forest Rangers" College".

The two year rigorous training made us earn our livelihood, molded us to be tough perseverant, sustained in us the spirit of Conservation of our biodiversity and inculcated a sense of responsibility as a citizen of this great country where the birth of a nature lover and its worshipper called Mahatma Gandhi took place. I would sum up by quoting Mahatma Gandhi who said "earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs but not every man's greed"

I am sure that, that all those who were trained in Southern Forest Rangers'college Coimbatore or other forest training academies or institutes of this great nation continue to strive hard either in service or retired for conserving the valuable ecosystems and bio diversity of this great mega bio-diverse country in the process of passing on the great wealth bequeathed by us to our posterity, (The author is a retired Dy.CF of A.P and his e-mail ID is vvhp53@gmail.com)

NEWS AND NOTES

Intruder into lions' enclosure convicted:

Mukesh, a Rajasthani laborer working in L& T Metro Rail Works, was convicted and sentenced to undergo four months imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100.00 by the Court of Judicial First Class Magistrate at ErramManzil, Panjagutta, Hyderabad on September 29, 2016 for the offences of trespass into the lions' enclosure and teasing animals in the Nehru Zoological Park. Mukesh jumped into the moat and crossed over to the lions' enclosure on May 22, 2016. Seeing the unseemly act of the intruder, R. Papaiah, the alert animal keeper, with his presence of mind and tact, saved the intruder from being killed by the lion Krishna and lioness Radhika. Papaiah was promptly and ably assisted by his colleague, Basheer, in this rescue operation. When asked as to why he behaved so foolishly, Mukesh said, "I wanted to shake hands with the lions". Mukesh was found fully drunk; he was sent to the Bahadurpura Police Station with a report of the incident by the Asst. Curator, Muralidhar for necessary legal action. An F.I.R was registered and the crime was investigated under the supervision of D.C.P Sathyanarayana.

The saviours Papaiah and Basheer were sanctioned cash award of Rs. 10,000.00 each for their meritorious work from the fund created by KVS Babu Memorial Award for Excellence in Zoo Management. The cash award was disbursed to the recipients on October 6, 2016 by Sri A. K. Srivastava, the Chief Wildlife Warden of Telangana state, at a special function got up in the Zoo Park to celebrate the 65th Vanya PraniSaptah coinciding with the 53rd Zoo Day. The function was attended among others by Dr. K. Padma

Rayulu, nephew of the late Sri K,V.S. Babu. (Contributed by Sri KBR with thanks)

Jharkhand teacher saving trees by tying

Rakhis to them: -Hazaribagh: A teacher named MahadeoMahto from Doodhmatiya in Jharkhand's Hazaribagh district started a campaign on Friday to celebrate environment week. During the campaign, people were asked to tie Rakhis or a protective thread to save trees. The people of Hazaribagh gathered to protect and create awareness about environment with Mahto. Villagers from Jharkhand and other nearby areas engaged in various activities to make the environment green. This campaign is becoming increasingly popular in the region. First, only the people of that village was involved, later on other villages joined in it too, and MahadevMahato started pushing the campaign from one district to another. Mahato has iconic status due to his constant involvement with environmental causes. Therefore, an environment fair is held on October 7th every year in the area. People gather and attend this fair in thousands. A cycle rally was held on the occasion on Friday to create awareness. Men, women and children from the nearby villages offer prayers and worship the trees by tying a sacred thread to the trees to protect them. (ANI)

Why hang around waiting a bus when you can jetpack to work? Stuff of James Bond

fantasy: - It's the stuff of Hollywood movies but commuting to work using a jetpack could very soon be reality. The world's first publicly available jetpack is set to take to the skies next year, and has been put through its paces over

the Thames in London.

A throwback to Sean Connery's James Bond in the 1965 movie Thunderball, the modern-day pack is being developed by US company JetPack Aviation. It has launched its first equity crowdfunding round on Seedrs, seeking to raise £300,000 to invest in further research and development for its JB-10 JetPack and VTOL aircraft.

It wants to open JetPack 'Top Gun' camps across Britain where members of the public can strap on a pack and take to skies over beauty spots.

Company founders David Mayman and Nelson Tyler have worked together for the past decade to make the JB-10 JetPack a reality. Slated for public launch in 2017, the JB-10 has a proven track record and is regularly demonstrated to huge public acclaim by aviation buff Mayman.

The company insists the latest incarnation of the pack is "not just a gimmick but has a solid technological and scientific background behind it". Powered by two turbine jet engines, flights can last about 10 minutes reaching speeds of 60mph.

Designer Nelson Tyler has been a successful and highly recognized inventor and product developer for 55 years and among many accolades has won three Academy Awards for technical achievement.

"A lot of us spent time in our youth fantasizing about what it would be like to follow Buck Rogers up into the air with our very own jetpacks," said Mr. Mayman, CEO at JetPack Aviation.

"We are getting a lot closer to launching a commercial product but there is still much further that we can take our design and ideas, so we want to give the crowdfunding community a once in a lifetime opportunity to invest in turning

a dream into reality."

JetPack Aviation were the people behind the world's first civilian RocketBelt, as flown at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games opening ceremony.

5 best wildlife sanctuaries in India: -

There's no better way to watch animals in their natural habitats than in sanctuaries. Unlike in the zoos where animals are caged and put up for public viewing, national parks and sanctuaries provide safe havens for wild animals. India's wildlife network has some 514 wildlife sanctuaries that also include 99 national parks, 4 community reserves and 41 conservation reserves. The entire network covers an area of almost 15,600 sq km. These sanctuaries and national parks are also a dream-come-true for wildlife photographers who can capture majestic beasts in their natural habitats. So, as we celebrate Wildlife Week, here's doffing our hats to five of our best-known sanctuaries and national parks. We start with:

1. Jim Corbett National Park, Uttarakhand; The oldest national park in India, Jim Corbett National Park was established in 1936 to protect the endangered Bengal Tiger. It is today a gem in Uttarakhand's and indeed India's crown. With close to 500 species of plants and a wide variety of fauna, Jim Corbett is the best place you can take your family this winter.

2. Kaziranga National Park, Assam; Best known for its one-horned rhino, Kaziranga National Park is home to two-thirds of the world's one-horned rhinos. It is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Still need reasons to visit it?

3. Gir Forest National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary, Gujarat; The last home of the Asiatic lions, Gir Forest National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary in Gujarat is considered one of the most important protected areas in Asia.

4. Bandhavgarh National Park, Madhya Pradesh; - Located in the Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh, Bandhavgarh National Park is known for its large biodiversity, large breeding populations of leopards and deer call it home. Over 80 species of butterflies and a number of reptiles too can be found here. But the park's major attraction is, of course, the tiger.

5. Ranthambore National Park; -How can any list of national parks in India ever be complete without Rajasthan's Ranthambore? Spread over 392 sq km, Ranthambore National Park is perhaps Rajasthan's most popular wildlife sanctuary. Ranthambore is also the place where history, wildlife and nature come together. For in the heart of Ranthambore National Park is the 10th century Ranthambore Fort and scattered nearby are ancient temples and mosques, crocodile-filled lakes and cenotaphs.

Rasoi On Wheels - Feeding Fresh Food to 30,000 Underprivileged People Every Month.: - Rasoi On Wheels' kitchen is buzzing with activity at 5 a.m. cooks whipping out dishes to feed a thousand people. Every morning at 9 a.m. their van readies with the food which goes out for delivery to slum schools, orphanages, old age homes, outside AIIMS hospital, slum clusters and other places in Delhi and Gurugram. ROW was started by AtulKapur and his partner ManikaBhadwar to feed underprivileged people every day. AtulKapur who also is a partner in QBA restaurant says "Manika is the marketing force behind it and her passion & dedication

towards the project has contributed significantly to its success. A dedicated kitchen team ensures good quality, hygienic, nutritious & tasty meals, no different what we eat, is prepared and distributed". The menu includes rice and *rajma, roti*, vegetables, mixed *dal, purihalwa, vegetable pulao/biryani, veg chowmein, thalis* and many more. One can pick from the menu which starts from Rs.31 and order food for distribution. Atul says "People can buy food from us and distribute it either themselves or take our help. However, we insist that they be involved in the distribution as well".

The entire project is funded by Atul, Ashim and ManikaBhadwar; they invested in setting up the kitchen, vans, equipment and other sundry items needed to run a large scale kitchen. Atul shares "The concept was born out of the *langar / bhandara*. There are many people with good intentions to serve the poor but despite the desire; the sheer enormity of the task prevents them from taking that one step. RasoiOn Wheels provided the solution by bridging the gap & making it easier for good souls to contribute & not shy away from it due to logistical issues. We provide all support & get them closer to the receiver. ROW has no support from any organization, except that of the good people who are coming forward to support this initiative".

Talking about the challenges faced, Atul shares that there are not many except the commotion that happens often when their van reaches a location as people tend to snatch and grab the meal boxes instead of lining up for the same. He says" It is difficult to make people stand in a queue and take their meal boxes". Atul says about involving people in the initiative "We lay

importance on getting people to be involved with the distribution & be personally present with kids & not just finance it. It is our "individual social responsibility". Atul, Ashim and Manika are surely rolling the right wheels.

Kerala Govt. Will Now Pay Residents for Plastic Waste and Recycle It to Make Roads.

Brilliant!: - In order to curb the increasing amount of plastic bags and other products disposed of in civic spaces across Kerala, the Clean Kerala Company will now collect shredded plastic from residents and municipality authorities for road construction. The Clean Kerala Company is an organization formed under the State Local Self-Help Government and it has been involved in statewide waste management initiatives like converting solid waste to CNG, collecting and recycling e-waste, organizing plastic collection drives, etc. Products made of thermosetting plastic are often some of the most dangerous because they do not decompose and emit toxic fumes when burnt. It is important to find a sustainable alternative to disposing plastic, which is why the state government has issued orders appointing CKC as the nodal body for collecting shredded/granulated plastic: -Using plastic waste for laying roads reduces road fatigue and improves the quality of roads; they are more resistant to cold weather and rainfall. The entire process of creating the mixture to lay such roads is simple — the aggregate mix is heated at 165 degree Celsius and is transferred to the mixing chamber while bitumen is heated to 160 degrees Celsius. Shredded plastic waste of a particular size is added to the aggregate and is mixed with bitumen. The resulting mixture is used for laying roads. According to reports Kabeer B. Harun,

Managing Director of CKC said that the municipalities and residents can give away plastic products that have been passed through a shredding machine to CKC that will buy them for Rs. 15 per kilo. The state government has also issued orders to every local body, directing them to use plastic in at least 10% of the roads laid in the areas under its jurisdiction. To lay these roads, contractors will have to approach CKC, which will then issue a supply order allowing them to purchase granulated plastic for Rs. 20 per kg. According to the CKC website, it was formed with "the objective of ensuring hygiene management of the state through the adoption of innovative and scientific methods and proven technology, adhering to the concept of active participation of the public and private sectors." Kabeer also told Manorama News that CKC has proposed to set up three recycling parks across Kerala in Kozhikode, Ernakulam and Thiruvananthapuram.

They're not surgeons. But this father-son duo helped 100 blind women in Telangana

see again: - This is a story of how a father-son duo used crowd funding to secure cataract surgeries for restoring the vision of 100 blind women in rural Telangana. As a school student Sathvik Reddy did not know how to extend his support to social causes, apart from donating money to individual charities and NGOs. But, during his summer holiday in 2016, his father Srinivas Reddy suggested that he start volunteering at a social service organization. When he enrolled at HelpAge India as a student volunteer, Sathvik did not realize that his life was about to change in so many unforeseen ways. According to him, "We went around slums like Borbanda near Hyderabad to assist old

people. I met an old couple and, unfortunately, the wife was blind. After speaking to her for a while, I found out that her children thought she was a burden."

According to a [survey](#) from 2007, around 37 million people around the world suffer from a visual impairment and over 15 million of these people are in India. This makes India home to the largest population of blind people in the world. [View photos](#)

The Washington Post reports that "uncorrected refractive errors," such as near-sightedness and farsightedness, are the leading cause of blindness in most of the world. But, in developing countries, blindness mostly stems from cataracts, a visual impairment that clouds the lens of the eye.

Sathvik's experience with people from rural backgrounds who are afflicted with blindness made him realize that a simple cataract surgery worth Rs. 2,000 could restore vision for a majority of them.

When he started attending Sri Chaitanya Jr College, the classes ate into all his time. He wanted to go house-to-house to collect funds for cataract surgeries but his 13-hour study schedule did not permit any time for social service. So he approached his father, who suggested they tie-up with a crowd funding platform in order to ensure donations are collected in a streamlined and transparent way. Srinivas says, "When Sathvik was interning with HelpAge, he informed us about rehabilitation programmes for elders like geriatric treatment, free cataract treatment, and a care center for senior citizens. Since he was most keen on helping blind people, we decided to go ahead with the cataract cause. We tied up with

Operation Eyesight (India), an international organization that aims to restore sight in developing countries and their partner hospital St Gregorios Balagram." This is how the father-son duo started running a campaign to eliminate curable blindness among 100 women in Telangana on 'Fuel a Dream' (FAD) in June.

Surprisingly, the campaign did splendidly well; they managed to collect Rs. 2, 28, 000. This enabled them to secure cataract surgeries for all the women in their target group.

Asked if there was a particular reason why they picked women for the sight restoration operations in the campaign, Srinivas said, "We observed that women were the most vulnerable population because firstly they are the last people to receive any kind of care or treatment at home. Women are expected to be hospitable and act as a helping hand. When these women lose vision in both their eyes, they become dependent on others and cannot perform many household chores. We've noticed that blind women are often deserted by their families and have to fend for themselves." Enthused with their success in restoring vision to a minor population of underprivileged women, the father-son duo, in October, launched another campaign on Fuel A Dream. But, this time, they aim to rid a whole village of blindness.

This campaign aims to raise money for both men as well as women, and Srinivas says, "We want to go village by village and eliminate cataract-led blindness so that these villages can be tagged as being "blindness free."

It is essential to keep in mind that cataracts can be cured only through surgery. To help provide

eye-care services and bring vision to the lives of 50 underprivileged men and women in Telangana, to donate write the address RE-VISION;HELP US and then click on RE-VISION: HELP US RESTORE VISION FOR 50 POOR BLIND

These countries consume highest volume of alcohol: - According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the biggest drinkers amongst developed economies are in Europe as per the most recent figures in recent years (200-2013 or nearest years)

Among the 34 OECD nations, Lithuania was the largest consumer with adults consuming an average of 14 liters of alcohol a year. Austria, Estonia and Czech Republic followed up closely. India came in at Number 32 among the 34, indicating that alcohol consumption is a lot lesser while compared to Europe.

Alcohol consumption rises with increase in standard of living in an economy. It is also highly culturally influenced. Hence alcohol consumption is lesser in countries such as India, Indonesia, Turkey & Israel, where religious reasons limit alcohol consumption.

Data from World Health Organization shows that alcohol accounts for nearly 6% of global deaths. The report is also a warning that hazardous drinking and heavy periodic drinking are on the rise, especially in women and young people.

Every country has terrible air pollution, but these are the world's worst : - Air pollution from industrial activity isn't just an

environmental concern—it's a major public health problem, too.

In a report released Tuesday (Sept. 27), the World Health Organization (WHO) found that 92% of the population breathes air with unhealthy levels of pollutants. WHO collected air quality data from 3,000 locations across the globe and looked for concentrations of fine particulate matter, including sulfates, nitrates, mineral dust, and black carbon, which are less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter—about 1/1000 of a millimeter, or the width of a credit card. Both indoors and outdoors, these particles work their way into the lungs when we breathe, and can cause cardiovascular disease like lung cancer, stroke, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

According to the report, one in every nine deaths per year—about six million can be attributed to breathing in unhealthy concentrations of these particles. Of course, within a country there can be a wide range of air pollution levels from location to location, and these measurements tended to be much higher in cities and lower in rural areas. "Safe" levels of fine particulate matter, according to WHO, are about 10 micrograms of particles per cubic meter, but most countries far surpassed those levels. The highest is in Saudi Arabia (108 Micrograms per cubic meter) and the lowest is Australia, Fiji, and Micronesia (6 Micrograms per cubic meter). India is having 62 Micrograms per cubic meter)

LEGAL NOTES

Salman Khan Vs State of Rajasthan

Salman Khan, the cine actor, was involved in three cases of poaching in a village in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan state. It is alleged that he shot a black buck on the intervening night between 1.10.1998 and 2.10.1998. The Forest department booked a case against him (C.C. No. 66/2011 of 1999). In the course of investigation of the poaching case, one Harish Dulani, appeared before the forest officials and informed them that there had been two more killings of deer on 26.9.1998 and 28.9.1998.

Upon the information furnished by Harish Dulani, the Wildlife Conservator of the area, Lalit Kumar Bora, passed on the information to the Additional Superintendent of Police. The police registered two cases, C.C. No. 207/1999 and C.C. No. 206/1999. In CC No. 207/1999, the accused Salman Khan was convicted and sentenced to one year's imprisonment. Against the conviction, Salman Khan filed an appeal which was referred to the High Court of Rajasthan. The matter was heard in Crl. A. No. 53/2012 and the appeal was allowed and the accused was acquitted of the charge.

In CC No. 206/1999, the charge was killing deer which constitutes an offence punishable under Sec. 51 of the Wildlife Protection Act. Salman Khan was convicted by the C.J.M., Jodhpur and sentenced to undergo simple imprisonment for five years and to pay a fine of Rs. 25,000/- Crl. A. No. 50/ 2006 was dismissed by the Sessions Judge, Jodhpur on 24.8.2007. Against the judgment of the Sessions Judge, which confirmed the conviction passed by the C.J.M., Crl. R.C. No. 905/2007 was filed in the High Court, while CC No. 66/2011 reported by the Forest

Department was still pending.

The following is the synopsis of the judgment of the High Court of Rajasthan by the Hon'ble Justice Ms. Nirmaljit Kaur in Criminal Revision case 905/2007 allowed on 26.07.2016. Courtesy: LIVE LAW.in "Rajasthan High Court has acquitted Salman Khan in *Chinkara* poaching Case by allowing his Criminal Revision Petition filed against the Judgment of Sessions Court which affirmed the order of Conviction and sentence passed by Chief Judicial Magistrate, Jodhpur. The CJM had convicted him under S.51 of Wild Life Protection Act and sentenced to undergo 5 years' simple imprisonment along with fine of Rs.25,000/- and in default of payment of fine to further undergo 3 months simple imprisonment. In the second case i.e. Criminal Case No.206/1999 which pertains to FIR No.163/1998, Salman Khan was convicted for five years for the alleged hunting on 28.09.1998. The appeal preferred against the said conviction, too, has been dismissed by the Sessions Court vide judgment dated 24.08.2007.

The allegation against Salman was that he involved in poaching of two black-bucks near Jodhpur in October, 1998. The case was registered by Luni Police station in Jodhpur alleging that arms used by the actor during the poaching incident had expired licenses and so he used them illegally. Justice Nirmaljit Kaur started the discussion by drawing attention to the principles of judicial understanding which we all know but are often overlooked. The Bangalore Principles of Judicial Verdict, 2002 stipulates that "A judge shall exercise the judicial

function independently on the basis of the judge's assessment of the facts and in accordance with a conscientious understanding of the law free of any extraneous influences, pressures, threats or interference, direct or indirect from any quarter or for any reason." These principles ensure the undesirable truth that a court must adopt and as President Roosevelt, the 26th President of the United States, put it that, "*while no man is above the law, no man is below it either and the status of any man should neither stand to benefit him or harm him in any manner*". A dispassionate measurement of law and facts is accordingly called for in all cases".

Acquitting the Accused, the Court held as follows: "The prosecution also admits that they did not know and nor could make out as to which weapon was used by the accused. PW-34 Lalit Kumar Bora has stated in no uncertain terms that he could not arrive at the conclusion that the deer was hunted by an air rifle or any other firearm. Similarly, PW-35 Ashok Patni, the third Investigating Officer of the Rank of Additional Superintendent of Police, too, has admitted that he cannot make out which weapon was used for killing the deer. PW-26 Boraj Singh, S.H.O. who filed challan, too, admitted that he could not conclude as to which weapon was used. Hence, it is not understood as to how the Magistrate came to the conclusion that air gun was used in killing a deer especially in view of the discussion above.

The prosecution has tried hard to convince this Court that fatal injuries can also be caused with an air gun. However, those are freak incidents where the aim is from close quarter by putting weapon so close that it is touching the skin. Learned counsel for the State referred to the

literature of Air weapon fatalities as authored by C.M.Milroy, J.C. Clark, N.Carter, G.Rutty, N.Rooney to substantiate that even an air gun injury can be fatal. However, the said study of five cases of fatal air gun injury as identified by Department of Forensic Pathology and Histopathology, are the cases of firing at contact range to commit suicide; one person shot himself in the head, the other in the chest i.e. after the air gun was placed on the skin itself. The Investigating Officer, Lalit Kumar Bora (PW-34) admitted that he could not arrive at any conclusion with respect to the weapon, whether the hunting was by air rifle or by igneous weapons, and further admitted that it is true that in this case neither the FSL nor medical report nor postmortem is available to match the use of weapon with the injury or to state that any such weapon has been used. Thus, the prosecution has totally failed to prove the use of either fire arm or even the air gun as recovered from accused-Salman in the alleged killing of the deer.

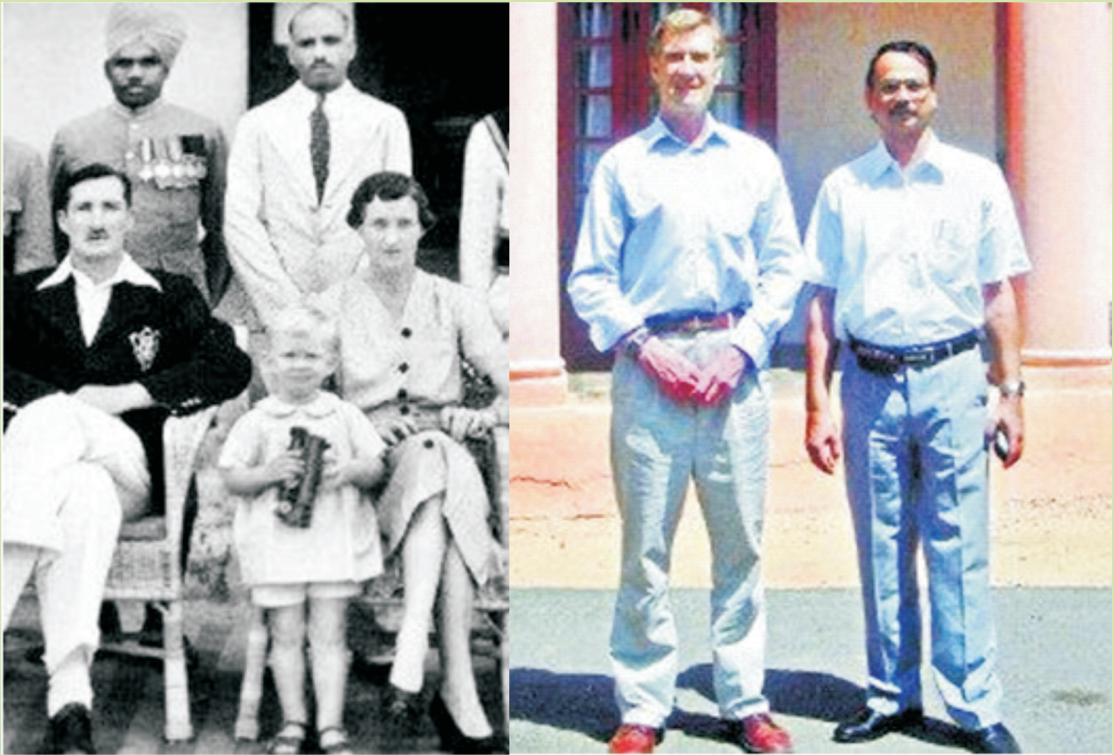
The prosecution exhibited documents Exh.P/18A which is recovery memo of knife and Exh.P/98 which is the statement of Salman Khan under Section 27 of the Evidence Act with respect to recovery of knife in FIR No.162/1998. However, the court below did not take the same into consideration as the knife was not recovered in the present case. The carcass of the deer was never recovered in this case and hence, there is no medical evidence that the said deer was killed by knife or the said knife was used as suggested. There is no evidence to establish the said theory. It is necessary to match the recovered weapon with the injuries, which is totally missing herein.

The argument of the learned counsel for the prosecution that the petitioner involved in this case was involved in another case or two and therefore, he is sure to be involved cannot be taken note of by this Court. In this case, as indeed an accused in every case can be held guilty only by cogent admissible evidence which points to his guilt or innocence. The background and antecedents are not a relevant factor and these facts assume significance only after the finding of guilt is arrived at on the basis of the evidence and that too only when the length of sentence has to be determined. In the detailed discussions above, this Court has already held that the statement of the eyewitness Harish Dulani cannot be read against the petitioner. He did not make himself available to cross-examine by the counsel of Salman Khan. The findings recorded by the trial court that Harish Dulani was not examined by the counsel of the petitioner in spite of being present is not only pervert as held above but contrary to the record. Proceedings under Section 344 of the Cr.P.C. were initiated against Harish Dulani for making the false statement. The circumstantial evidence collected is both inadequate and weak. The recovery of blood stains and tyre molds which is surrounded with suspicion was collected after 12 days of the incident from the place which is frequented by other vehicles and known for being used by military vehicles can hardly be called an incriminating circumstance. In the absence of any recovery of the carcass, absence of postmortem and absence of medical evidence as to the cause of death, there is no proof with respect to the kind of weapon, if any, used for killing, whether it was killed by a weapon

at all or simply hunted and killed by some other carnivorous animal. Besides, as in the earlier Appeal No.53/2012 (Salman Khan Vs. State of Rajasthan) decided by this Court, in the present case also, the evidence collected is highly doubtful and suspicious. No pellets were found when the gypsy was searched on 07.10.1998 but they were suddenly found on 12.10.1998. No weapons were found when the room was searched on 10.10.1998 but surprisingly were recovered from the same room on 12.10.1998 while lying around openly. The pellets recovered from the gypsy do not match with the ones recovered from either the room of Salman Khan or Saif Ali Khan, and in any case, the recovered pellets are used only for hunting small animals like a rabbit or a bird. Under these circumstances, it would be highly unsafe to place reliance on such kind of evidence which is surrounded with suspicion and doubt. Even the prosecution has admitted that they were not able to establish the weapon used for alleged hunting, leading to the acquittal of the petitioner Salman Khan of the offence under Section 27 of the Arms Act by the court below. In view of the above, the Revision Petition filed by Salman Khan is allowed. The judgment and order dated 10.04.2006 passed by CJM, Jodhpur in Criminal Case No.206/1999 to the extent which, the petitioner was convicted and sentenced for the offence under Section 51 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act as well as the judgment dated 24.08.2007 passed by S.J Jodhpur in Crl. A. No.50/2006 to the said extent of conviction of Salman Khan is set aside." Thus the conviction and sentence awarded to the petitioner finally ended up in his acquittal. **KBR**



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DOWN MEMORY LANE: Chris Longrigg (the child), son of a former principal of the Southern Forest Rangers College, J.H. Longrigg (seated left) and Mrs. Longrigg in a photo taken in 1939 on the Coimbatore Forest Campus. (Right) Chris Longrigg (Child in the left Photo) now 70 years old an Engineer, with the Ex-Director of the Tamil Nadu Forest Academy Mr. A.S. Jafry, during his visit to India on 19-02-2009.



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Please see the page no. 48

The Lions and the intruder



Mukesh, the intruder



Papaiah, the Saviour

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