

VANA PREMI



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HAPPY
Independence Day

Cottonia peduncularis
(Bee Orchid)

Photo: T.S. Prasanna Kumar, DyCF (Retd.)

JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FOREST OFFICERS, TELANGANA & ANDHRA PRADESH
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- ✓ TSFDC has introduced new commercial species with in the RRR region viz., Seethaphal, Sandal wood, Red sandal, Rose wood, Teak, Panasa, Bambusatulda, etc.,
- ✓ TSFDC has also taken up consultancy works for NTPC & RFCL and successfully raised multiple row avenue plantation along with Rajiv Rahadari Highway in Peddapalli District.

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Editorial:**Our Independence @ 75**

After years of struggle, India got its independence on 15th August 1947. Under colonial rule, we were left in a much worse state than the history books narrate. Ours is not a nation but a subcontinent. Though the British rule lasted little less than 200 years, our independence was not taken in one shot. It was a long stretch of fight because of the infighting among our own people. The collapse of the Mughal empire provided a lot of people with the greed and hunger for power. They sold their allegiance to the company to make personal fortunes. The colonial rule benefitted many princely states in power as ones who wanted to control their territories got the security from their challengers. There were some great rebellions too, but due to the absence of mass communication, the rebellions were uncoordinated.

Upper castes made use of the trade and education opportunities to grow — to become civil servants, army officers, entrepreneurs, and professors. With the global empire, there were new opportunities. They didn't want to disturb the apple cart. In the same way, many lower castes found a way to break the vicious cycle of caste and allied with the British. Many in the middle castes found new job opportunities in plantations across the world as workers and supervisors.

With so many groups personally benefitting from the Raj, it was hard to create enough momentum for freedom. It was the arrival of Gandhi that woke up all these groups to take up the fight. India's birth as an independent nation through a non-violent freedom movement led by Mahatma Gandhi and other great leaders was indeed unique. He united our nation consisting of thousands of castes/tribes/religions and linguistic groups. We weren't calling ourselves 'Indians' before rise of Gandhi ji. He gave us sense of unity, sense of being Indian rather than a member of particular group.

Gandhi Ji applied a vast repertoire of tactical weapons, as appropriate for the situation, during the freedom struggle such as fasts, non-cooperation, bandhs, mobilization of masses, spinning and khadi-revolution,

Quit India movement, negotiations and so on. But the key principle and philosophy underlying all these was Non-Violence! He believed in, practiced, and demonstrated the higher power, force, and practical value of righteousness! He was a saint, statesman and a soldier of peace and non-violence!

Apart from the trauma of the Partition, the new Indian Nation-state had to contend with a huge population steeped in poverty and illiteracy, and divided by the diversities of caste, community, culture, and language. The country inherited an economy in shambles, and most of the western powers were not willing to give India even a few years as an independent and united nation, and everyone was betting on the country collapsing into a civil strife, considering the size of the population and the degrees of diversity.

The establishment of a vibrant democratic polity by our founding fathers and the strengthening of those democratic values over the last seven and a half decades, has been one of India's greatest achievements. Given India's great diversity, in terms of geography, language, religion, culture and ethnicity, the country's journey towards development, prosperity and stability is a story of inspiration. After Independence, just like the phoenix, India rose from the ashes and made its place as a powerful, progressing country in the world. Further, we have a remarkable constitution which has stood the test of time since it was adopted in 1950.

We now know that parliamentary democracies are more stable and decisive because since powers are fused, executive-legislative clashes are rare. This system we adopted is a "stabilizer" in societies with sectarian divisions because coalition governments reflect social and political diversity. Parliamentary systems offer better protection against a bad and incompetent head of government.

75 years is a long time. The education system, official hierarchy, executive and judiciary systems etc. that

the Britishers have presented us are still considered by many as the steppingstones for the wonderful advancements in all the other fields. The achievements of India since 1947 are bright examples of our great potential.

At the time of independence, the average life span of an Indian was just 31 years. That was the average, the median was less than 28. That was a ripe old age to die. Today, it is 68. Literacy was just 10%. That is up to 68% now, including large states with low levels of literacy. We had frequent droughts and floods without the means to manage. Starvation deaths were common. A lot of this has been tackled. Water management systems, including giant ones like Bhakra and DVC, means that a lot of these problems get resolved.

Except for Tata Steel, few jute, textile and oil mills, there were no industries. Post-independence, we started on the process by setting up power plants, big steel plants, machine and equipment manufacturing, railways and roadways, shipping, aviation, atomic energy, space exploration and remote sensing, IT, telecommunication and many more. We set up institutes of higher learning like the IITs, IIMs, AIIMS and other engineering, Research, and medical schools of repute. As industrialization goes, there has been considerable progress in every sphere.

The biggest achievement has been the survival of democracy, of a republic, and it's getting deep roots. The wise men of the world had given India 10-15 years before collapsing into civil war and breaking up into multiple pieces. All the centrifugal forces viz., religion, language, caste, race, and a feudal society are there to cater to the fragmentation. But thanks to the early leaders, who tackled these head on. They abolished feudal land holdings and re-distributed it to cultivators. They kept religion away from governance. They provided advantages to lower castes & tribes who had been leading a sub-human existence for over a millennium. They created states based on languages, to enable people to express themselves in the only tongue they knew. And they kept English as a national language to provide an open door to communicate with

the world. And they did all these in the face of strong opposition from people who thought they knew better.

It is a big achievement for a very diverse, huge, populous country like India with many fault lines in society to have stayed a democracy for 75 years now. While other republics are republics only in name, India is marching on and getting stronger as a democracy.

Our Constitution, though with some basic design flaws, was made the way it was and amended many times, it has stood its ground against many challenges. There are good things like human rights, universal suffrage etc, derived from fabulous Indian works like the Artha Shastra - the original minimum government, maximum governance treatise.

Our history involves so many instances where we assimilated a foreign element and made it a distinct part of our own culture. Exposure to different invaders for centuries have left most of us beholden to the cultures and traditions of these invaders. The solution lies in rejuvenation and propagation the core Indian values of liberalism, change, right conduct, ahimsa, renunciation of selfish interests, logic, and recognition of multiple truths. Now, India is the 10th biggest economy in nominal GDP while it is 4th biggest in terms of purchasing power parity. By 2020 India is the 5th biggest economy in nominal terms and by 2050 poised to be either first or second. All this is possible with the policies of the visionaries in different political parties that were at the helm of the affairs and considered to be a big achievement for Indians worldwide.

We should be thankful to the British for the education system they developed here. We have thus inherited a language and did magic with it in our own ways. English is a language that belonged to the colonizer, but we used English to create its own branch of literary excellence. We not only produced a Munshi Premchand, Subramania Bharati, Rabindranath Tagore, Sadat Hasan Manto, Sri Aurobindo, Sri Vivekanda but also a Pandit Nehru, Nirad C. Chaudhuri, Mulk Raj Anand! We not only became employers of our colonizers by learning English, but we rebelled against imperialism using the same language, taking the message not just to

our countrymen but also to the world. The world is now a smaller and a globalized space, where knowledge of English is seen as a practical skill. That is why we Indians have an edge over others internationally, because our learning of English is historically more refined.

India adopted a policy of mixed economy for many years but never promoted privatisation. It was very late during the phase of the UPA in 1991 that we adopted LPG reforms (liberalisation, globalisation and privatisation) which changed everything.

India has become one of the leading nations across sectors such as IT, Fintech and space technology. India has a strong network of scientific and technological institutions as well as the third largest pool of scientific and technical manpower in the world.

Utmost importance was given to the manufacturing sector after freedom. Considering that almost 70% of Indians were engaged in agriculture for their livelihood, and lived predominantly in rural areas, we failed to have any vision for the growth or modernization of this vital agricultural sector. The country had to practically beg for food from the condescending western powers and had to wait for two decades before Sri Shastri and then Mrs Indira Gandhi ushered in the Green Revolution to ensure food self-sufficiency.

Our success story will be incomplete without the mention of the recent Covid-19 pandemic saga. India is a major vaccine producer in the world. India produces two Covid-19 vaccines – the Covishield (AstraZeneca) and the indigenously developed Covaxin. More are in the pipeline. Around 500 million vaccines have been administered in India. Through its Vaccine Maitri (or Friendship) outreach, India has donated and supplied 66 million vaccines to countries across the world. Since the pandemic, India has also supplied essential medicines to over 150 countries.

Coming to the other side of the coin- over the years we have created lots of Indias inside India. We have created new castes, new untouchables, new classes, and many things inside these new Indias like

differential treatment between religions, reservations for uplifting those depressed classes etc. New short-sighted leadership emerged as saviors of a particular divided group and keep the people divided all the time for their selfish gains. Today when we do not even cherish or respect what we have, rather we try to exploit it in any which way possible. Political parties and people who advocate communal divide for their selfish gains resorted to social media trolling one another thus spreading hatred and contempt among their brethren.

Another evil we are facing is corruption which has become rampant, and the pity is it has graduated to the level of acceptance in the society. People are still looting Indian people- the only difference after 75 years being they don't born in Britain but in India. India will become independent when we are free from corruption which has to be wiped off from the grass root level. Despite disturbing male-female ratio and stringent government measures, female foeticide is another evil in the society which has to be tackled. Dowry menace is getting worse in the middle-class families of our developing society.

Free quality education and equal opportunities to all has to be the first priority to tackle many evils in the society. To dispense with the reservations, it is better to set up lakhs of good quality free primary schools across villages, tribal areas, then secondary schools, colleges et al so that those people would get skills to compete in the market and not need reservations. Primary health reforms are yet to gain momentum and everyone in the society should get access to all kinds of treatments free of cost. Necessary budgetary allocations shall be made to these two important sectors (Education and Health) for the overall benefit of the society.

The day everyone has access to the rights that are their due, everyone is treated equal, the aged people are no more a burden but respected the way they should be, women are not exploited or treated as commodities, people are educated, healthcare is accessible to all, poverty is eradicated, and employment opportunities are available to all, it is on that day that India will be aimed at.

Everyone wants to see India become a place where people have freedom of expression, freedom of religion, free speech... We know the people are good but politics ruins lives of all. Some of the decisions of the shortsighted politicians basing on the religion do severely affect the lives of all and haunt us for a long time to come. Religion should never be part of politics because religion and faith are personal matter.

With thriving cultures and beliefs, India moves further, united, to new heights of success. In its 75 years of

independence, India has several achievements to its credit. It has built a modern economy (second fastest growing economy), remained a democracy, lifted millions out of poverty, has become a space and nuclear power and developed a robust foreign policy.

The bright side is with a very huge population with so many differences in culture, races, economical statuses and also religion, we are still a nation. That is unity in diversity!!

-Mohd. Thayyab

WELCOME TO WRITERS

"If you would not be forgotten, as soon as you are dead or rotten, either write things worth reading or do something worth writing." - Benjamin Franklin.

Please note that there are a lot of excellent, published authors in the world that did not start writing until they retired. But regardless of your age, you may have a great narrative. Some people write for the sheer joy of writing, and most just post the work online for the world to enjoy. You may be one among them; please check.

You may be a professional with vast experience in a particular field but have a good flair in an unconnected area- you are welcome to share your knowledge with the retired, working and the public as well. You are the one we need.

If you are not happy with the articles (content-wise or standard-wise) being published in Vana Premi month after month, just scribble your heart content to a good article and mail it to me preferably by the 5th of every month no later than the 10th -please note. You can add good photographs and drawings wherever you feel necessary.

Though all matters related to Forestry & wildlife, and Environment are generally preferred: seasonal articles, travel and vacation articles: health-related articles, personal grooming and professional articles dealing with senior citizens, home and family themes, puzzles, cartoons, trivia, jokes, quotes related to Forestry and services are not taboo and will be considered basing on the available space. Please leave the controversial topics on religion, politics, and personal defamatory criticism to the mainstream media.

- EDITOR, Vana Premi. (Email: thayyab@gmail.com)

*You may use your power to build walls...
or you may use it to break barriers.*

– Shahrukh Khan

Some Views on “Save Red Sanders - Need for a People’s Movement by Sri P. Mallikharjuna Rao, IFS (Retd.)”

R.G. Kalaghatgi, IFS (R): Very well written. All statements are facts. As you have opined, planting Red Sanders be it on private lands or forest lands, will not solve the problem as timber from plantations will not have good quality heartwood like the naturally grown trees. Yes, likely loss of coppice vigor is a concern. There is a need to promote seedling regeneration. Fire control and better protection are the approaches. Dribbling seeds from known better trees can also be tried. The National Biodiversity Authority has commissioned some studies including developing genome mapping of trees from various geographic areas of the Red Sanders belt in Andhra Pradesh. May be this will through insights on genetic diversity of this species. Studies are also commissioned on pharmaceutical, nutraceutical and cosmetic utilities from various parts of this species like bark, sapwood, leaves etc. This will probably provide some solace for plantation wood. But protection of natural stands is a matter of prime concern.

Well written article. Congratulations.

B. Muralikrishna, IFS (R): Nice article on RS protection.

PAV Udaybhaskar, IFS(R): Congratulations Mallikharjun! Very nice narrative of Red Sanders in all aspects. True that your initiative of few Base camps in Tirupati circle when you were circle Head was emulated by many other CFs and ultimately could get it's right place in Annual Budget plan of composite AP and new AP too. Results of base camps have also been acclaimed by entire department barring few occurrences of misuse.

However, lack of integrity in efforts by few members of FD from bottom to top in different manners apart from non-cooperation of few officers of neighborhood states like TN coupled with department of customs, police etc.

have manifested in multiplication of RS smuggling.

Our own department strength alone is not sufficient as we always limp for funds, manpower, support from top. PUSHPA movie has no bearing on RS smuggling as the activity is decades old. Movie should be seen as movie. Many movies depicted underworld DONs as Heroes of Mumbai in many movies and for that Maharashtra police never bothered.

As regards the People's movement, yes, it is highly desired from society and people. But is it possible? Even if yes, why, and why should people do? Let's be practical. What do the local people get back? RS wood is not useful other than as firewood as history of forestry spoke. It gets value only when it crosses international border. Like VSS usufruct benefits also won't go to them as no regular harvesting as in case of Teak, Sal etc. Ethically people should protect. The trees are distributed across vast extents and people cannot spare that much time to guard as time is money for everyone. It's a Nightmare to think that movement for RS protection will protect those trees. It's only by vigilance, protection, conservation, and replication by the highly sustainable efforts of the GOVERNMENT through the strategies of FD.

Appreciate your article once again Mallikharjun!

R. Hemanth Kumar, IFS , Dy. Director General of Forest, Regional Office, MoEFCC, Chennai:

Sir! A nice article on the control of smuggling of Red Sanders.

Your contribution in this regard as CF Tirupati and as Pccf AP is commendable.

I worked as Regional Dy Director Wildlife Preservation, South Zone at Chennai and caught, red sanders worth many Crores of rupees and dealt with a dreaded

sacked Police officer - turned red sanders smuggler—Musa. I know how this mafia works; they are miles ahead of various agencies working in the field to control smuggling of this sps.

Concerned in this field know the role played by the Malayalee tribes called Malaimakkal (now residents of T Nadu) in felling of red sanders, whose experiences in felling Sandal Wood trees as accomplices of Veerappan are being used by the syndicates.

Lots of Chinese people are involved in this trade and many were caught (about 55 people) too- interesting names like Zhang Jianlin, who in the guise of doing prawn feed import business, worked as mediator of Wang Xian Yu living in Fujian state of China and smuggled huge quantities of Red Sanders, similarly role played by smugglers like Yang Ping, is well known.

In this regard, I would like to request you to read a paper on Smuggling, titled 'Red sanders mafia' in South India: violence, electoral democracy, and labour Chapter by David Picherit an interesting reading, of course I am not vouching the contents of this explosive paper.

Chandan Mitra, IFS (R): Substance, writing skill everything is there in the article. To sum up it's an excellent article.

Hemanth Kumar, IFS: Some interesting information on Red Sanders as a species:

You rightly said that most of Red Sanders found in AP are from Coppice origin and are losing their vigor.

Survival of this species is dependent on massive plantations. As Red Sanders is a peculiar as it has a xenogamous seed production mechanism (where pollen from one flower transfer directly to the flower on another tree), which is dependent on the overall population size as well as the availability of superior pheno/genotypes for production of good quality seeds. Thus, the reduction in population size and lack of good quality individual plants puts the continued survival of the species at risk.

So, it is the right time for the AP FD to wake up and it

has to go for massive plantation of this species.

One more interesting point to mention is that, initially it was very difficult to raise seedlings from the seeds, a technique developed by one British Forest Officer by name Mr Yarde with certain improvements is still in use for raising seedlings of Red Sanders in the Nursery

Yadaiah IFS Rtd Guj: Very informative, sir good article.

P Mallikharjuna Rao IFS (R): Thanks. Good information. RS Taskforce was not created with my efforts. It was initiated by my seniors Sri BSS Reddy and Sri Muralikrishna. I feel RSTF needs to be reorganised and made as integral part of FD to focus on insitu protection and synergistic benefits.

PAV Udaya Bhaskar, IFS (R): Good information Mr. Hemant! Modes operandus of RS smuggling is dynamic with change of Dons and labor groups. Definitely international gangs are involved with local goons like MUSA you cited. In 2002 I raided his godowns in outskirts of Chennai with nearly 100 persons of uniformed personnel when I was Guntur circle head and Mr. Venkaiah who is no more and was a very dynamic DFO of Nellore. We seized 4 lorry loads of RS timber and converted sizes. By evening same day, he brought stay order from AMM court, and we seized and handed over to the local ACF who was initially very non cooperative. But one 75 batch officer who was CF, Chennai H.qtrrs helped local logistics and the CP then was also very cooperative on phone with me. We came back and filed a criminal case against Musa in Venkatagiri and he was summoned and imprisoned for 3 days but he secured conditional bail and released. Again, the same case was reopened in 2015 too. As you said he is a notorious fellow and assisted by his girlfriend who was more cunning and audacious too. I just narrated seeing mention of Musa in your post.

But regarding Mallikharjun post, main theme of his post is how to protect the RS. Government looks at it as Golden goose to cut and earn revenue after exhausting the Central godown stock. Smugglers also look at it same way to fell and steal from forest. FD gets

squeezed between government, smugglers, pseudo politicians, unsustainable policies, limited staff, funds crunch, public outrage etc. IS MOVEMENT IN PUBLIC to protect RS possible!

AK Maurya IFS: Congratulations Sir, it's really 1st hand write up for RS Protection. Having worked in Heartland of RS Forests in last decade of last century, as DFO Rajampet & facing day to day issue, face to face in field, with little field communication, having no mobile phones, but with primitive wireless, off & on, I add few points. Selecting RS trees, its dressing & transporting from deep forests to vehicle loading point, it was then taking at least 10 days. Labours were staying inside forests with their provisions & cooking. One may appreciate, such long illegal stay in forests can't happen without local staff help. I have initiated at least half century AoCs and dismissed/ comp retired half a dozen staff, in addition to 2 FROs level too, got dismissed finally by Govt. Staff too had petition monglers, (Bhanja Sir will corroborate) that I faced Vigilance inquiry by PK Sharma Sir , besides facing SC/ ST case from FRO. For RS Protection, our HR there needs to be strengthened with core honest members, otherwise all other measures are as futile as ever.

With respect to farmland Plantation, I beg to differ. RS is highly endemic sp. for reasons that it derives its basic properties from quartzite rocks, chief constituent of Sheshachalam ranges. Luckily, I'm Geology Student, worked in GSI too. These quartzite rocks (RS needs little soils from these rocks) contain Phenolic compounds, which impart core properties to RS Heartwood, which has been chemically analysed by ICFRE, so any RS, grown outside its endemic habitat, has no core property of RS. RS Heartwood & its grains develops due to extreme adverse conditions in its natural habitat, so RS grown in farmland will not develop its basic properties, for which it's valued. In fact, I am astonished that its natural regeneration is so profuse, why we're not encouraging it. RS Forests have local Boda grass,

which is very prone to fires when dries in summers, suppressing RS natural regeneration. Even after so much plunder, if RS is surviving, there's little credit to human beings, it's only because it's

1. Very Hardy
2. Vigorous Coppicer
3. Profuse Natural regeneration
4. Resilience from dying back due to fire

In fact, when World Bank Team leader (I think it was Irshad A Khan) visited Rajampet, I took him to RS naturally regenerated area, he was impressed & asked me to prepare a TP, which I got included in APFM. This TP is most cost effective as it just involves Fire Protection through removal of Boda Grass. AK Jain Sir, as DFO Cuddapah has published a paper also earlier in "Indian Foresters" on results of sample plots, with Boda Grass removal & Fire Protection. I think APFD may look into this TP & revive it with best cost-benefit ratio.

PAV Udaya Bhaskar, IFS(R): Don't know whether you are aware that some Real estate agencies print brochures to sell their layout plots with an added attraction of each plot will have 50 or 100 RS saplings planted which will give the buyer a million of rupees after 15 or 20 years. Many innocent buyers get cheated with that kind of promotion ads.

People like you must write an article enlightening the public on such cheating ads which make the buyers to pay additional amount than what it deserves. Your technical explanation will definitely enlighten the public. Please attempt.

AK Maurya IFS: Thank You, Sir. As DFO, I inspected many patta lands RS fellings. In fact, if inspected these logs, 10-15 days after fellings, one can't even recognize it as RS from surface structure. Some dealers at that time were purchasing it for making its chips and mixing it with Forest RS chips, to sell factories, using it to extract natural dyes.

(VanaPremi thanks Sri P.K. Sharma, IFS(R), Former PCCF&HoFF, Telangana for sharing the above postings for the benefit of the readers)

Minutes of 96th General Body Meeting

Association of Retired Forest Officers, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh

held on 26.06.2022 in the Conference Hall, 6th Floor, Aranya Bhavan, Hyderabad.

Welcome Address:

Sri B.M. Swami Dass, Secretary of the Association welcomed the members present, more particularly senior most members Sri J.V. Sharma, Sri K. Buchi Ram Reddy, Sri Sulthan Mohiuddin, Sri V.P. Adinarayana and others. Smt. R. Sobha, IFS, PCCF (Retd.) has taken the membership of the Association, and she being the first lady member of the association was welcomed by the participants of the general body meeting.

Shraddhanjali:

Led by Sri K. Buchi Ram Reddy, Senior member of the Association, the members paid tributes and observed silence for two minutes as a mark of respect to the departed souls as stated below.

Sl.No.	Name	Date of Expiry
1	T. Sankaraiah	09-02-2022
2	B. Rangaiah	07-04-2022
3	N. Vara Prasad Rao.	11-04-2022
4	Sardar Iqbal Singh, Treasurer of the Association.	14-04-2022
5	G.K. Reddy, IFS (Retd.)	14-06-2022
6	Pusa Ramesh	20-06-2022

Sri S. K. Das, immediate Past-President of the association addressed the members with the permission of the President. He said that, he could not welcome the newly elected President and the Body of the Association in the last General Body meeting. In this meeting, he welcomed the newly elected President Sri P.K.Jha and the Body and communicated his good wishes for successfully running the Association. He also appreciated the services of members of the past body.

Action taken report of Secretary:

The Secretary has submitted the action taken report on the decisions taken in 95th General Body Meeting held on 27.03.2022 and the Executive Committee meetings held on 03.04.2022, 08.05.2022 and 05.06.2022. It was decided to strengthen the Association by inviting Non-member Retired Forest Officers. The same is being implemented. It was also decided to strengthen the finances of Association by collecting Membership fee and advertisements for Vana Premi. Sri V.V.Hari Prasad, SFS (Retd.) has done good work in collecting advertisements and enrolling about (10) new members. The floral tributes were paid to the members who were recently expired. The Services of Sri S.K. Das past president and Sri Govinda Rajulu, past Secretary were appreciated. The Services of Sri Qamar Mohd. Khan, Editor Vana Premi were appreciated for successfully publishing Vana Premi many long years.

Felicitations to the Veteran Members:

Felicitations to the following senior members on completion of 90, 80 and 75 years.

Sl.No.	Name (Sarva Sri)	DOB
90 Years and above		
1	J.V. Sharma	20-06-1932
2	K. Buchi Ram Reddy	07-07-1932
80 Years and above		
1	V.P. Adinarayana	25-10-1940
2	Sulthan Mohiuddin	17-02-1942
3	S. Navratan Singh	22-06-1942
75 Years and above		
1	P. Ravinder Reddy	19-12-1946
2	C. Sudhakar Rao	04-03-1947
3	Qamar Mohd. Khan	11-05-1947

The above senior members were felicitated with Shawl and Flower Bouquet.

Sri S.K. Das, immediate Past-President was felicitated for his services to the association as President for many long years. He has successfully guided the Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Committee for properly running the Association. He also guided Vana Premi Editor and Editorial Board for successfully publishing the Vana Premi Magazine. He has also taken necessary precautions to run the Association and Vana Premi Magazine successfully in future also.

Sri A.V. Gondarajulu, immediate past-secretary of the association, was felicitated for rendering good services to the Association; he was prompt and meticulous in the activities of the Association.

Sri Qamar Mohd. Khan, Ex-Editor, VanaPremi was felicitated for his good services to the VanaPremi Magazine. He had successfully and continuously published the VanaPremi Magazine for many long years.

- ✓ The Executive Committee unanimously approved the name of Sri M.J. Akbar, IFS (Retd.) as Treasurer of the Association, which is vacant due to demise of Sardar Iqbal Singh, Treasurer. The General Body ratified the action of Executive Committee. The General Body of the Association unanimously elected Sri M.J.Akbar, IFS (Retd.) as Treasurer of the Association which is vacant.
- ✓ Sri N. Shyam Prasad, IFS (Retd.), Executive Member expressed that, he will not continue as Executive Member and resigned. In the Vacancy of the Executive Member, Dr Kota Tirupataiah, IFS (Retd.) was unanimously elected by the General Body as Executive Member.

Talk by Sri P.K. Jha, President on Retirement Financial Planning.

Sri P.K.Jha, President of the Association has presented a Power Point Presentation on Retirement Financial Planning. The entire presentation was depicted in (50) slides with clear analysis in excel sheets. He also guided the Retired Officers and Working Officers about Financial Investment Planning. He clearly explained

about the Rule of 72, Rule of 100 and about the Mutual Funds. He analyzed investments in Fixed Deposits in the Bank, Debt Funds, Gold Investment and Investment in BSE Index. Members present appreciated the talk and requested for Power Point Presentation slides.

Enhancement of the Printing Charges of Vana Premi.

M/s Venu Graphics, Hyderabad the printer of Vana Premi requested for enhancement of Printing Charges from existing Rs.22,000/- to 28,000/- (for 44 pages with 1200 copies) and Colour Printing of central page (for 4 Pages) from Rs.6,000/- to Rs.10,000/-. Negotiations were made with the owner of M/s Venu Graphics, Hyderabad by Sri Mohammad Thayyab, Editor, Sri D.Nagabhushanam, Associate Editor and Sri B.M.Swami Dass, Secretary and agreed the following enhanced rates considering prevailing market rates and conditions Rs.25,000/- (for 44 pages with 1200 copies) and Colour Printing of central page (for 4 Pages) Rs.7,500/-. The above enhanced rates are agreed unanimously by the Executive Committee. The General Body of the Association ratified the action of the Executive Committee for enhancement of the printing charges. The General Body of the Association approved the enhancement of the printing charges of M/s Venu Graphics, Hyderabad for Rs.25,000/- (for 44 pages with 1200 copies) and Colour Printing of central page (for 4 Pages) Rs.7,500/-. The above rates for VANAPREMI were unanimously approved by the executive committee earlier for being adopted from the month of July 2022 onwards. The general body ratified the decision taken by the executive committee in this regard

Vana Premi Website Re-designing and Upgradation charges:

M/s VSV Technologies, Hyderabad has requested for re-designing and upgradation of the website Vana Premi for Rs.20,000/-. On negotiations VSV Technologies, Hyderabad has agreed for Rs.10,000/-. The Executive Committee approved the same. The General Body of the Association ratified the action of the Executive Committee and agreed for payment of

Rs.10,000/- for re-designing and upgradation of the Vana Premi Website.

Engaging clerk cum computer operator:

The executive body has approved engaging Sri B. Balkrishna as clerk cum computer operator to assist VanaPremi and Association works (in the place of Sri Prasad, who expressed his inability to attend due to his old age and poor eye sight) with an honorarium of Rs 5000 PM. The general body ratified the decision taken by the executive committee in this regard.

Sharing of Experiences:

The Senior most Officers shared their experiences. Sri V.P. Adinarayana shared his experiences about the

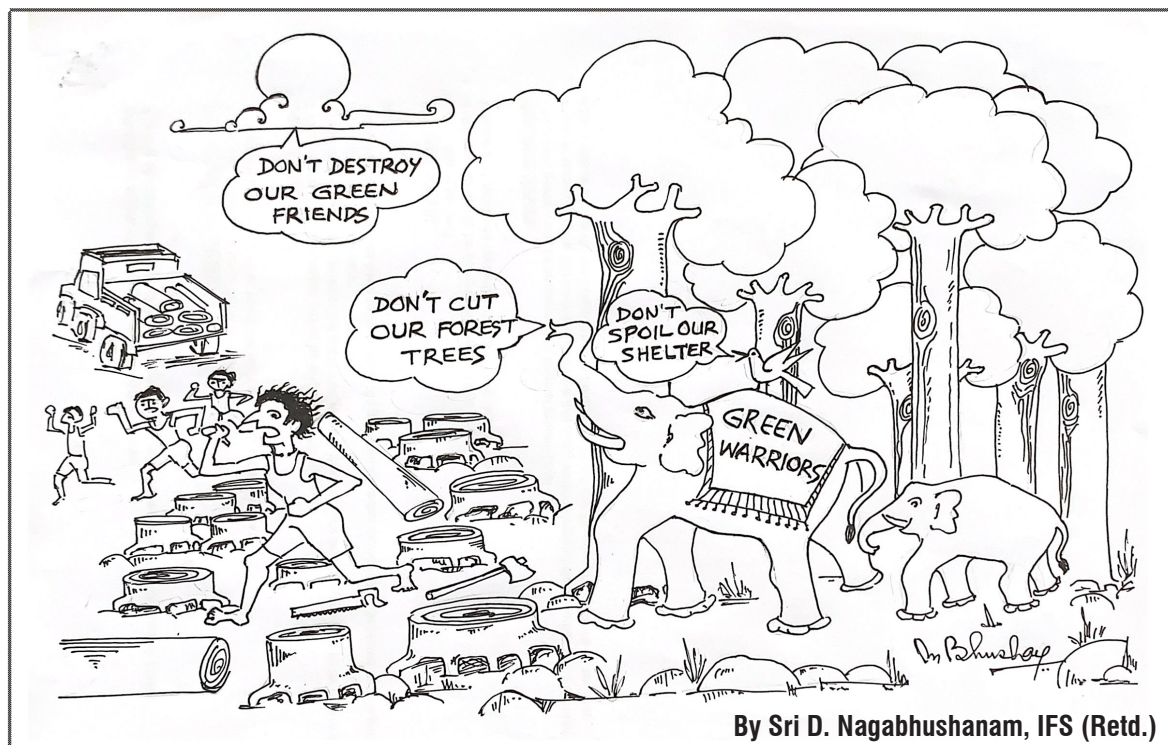
Red Sanders smuggling and detection. Sri J.V. Sharma shared his experiences on RoFR. He expressed problems on RoFR legal cases. Sri K. Buchi Ram Reddy shared his experiences in Forest Protection and preserving the Forests.

- ✓ Sri Sulthan Mohiuddin and Sri R.D. Reddy agreed to host the lunch for next General Body Meeting.
- ✓ Sri G.Krishna Murthy, SFS (Retd.), Vice President has given vote of Thanks.
- ✓ Sri T. Sambhoji Rao, DFO (Retd.) has hosted lunch.

-B.M. Swami Das
Secretary

You can only become truly accomplished at something you love. Don't make money your goal. Instead, pursue the things you love doing, and then do them so well that people can't take their eyes off you.

– Maya Angelou



By Sri D. Nagabhushanam, IFS (Retd.)



Quicker Result From Ethanol Blending: Green Hydrogen is A Distant Solution

B.K. Singh, IFS (Retd.)

Methyl alcohol is the main culprit responsible for hooch tragedies across the country every year. However, the heavier compound in the series ethyl alcohol is in every drink from beer to whisky. It's quite a good fuel that burns well and is better than petrol, diesel, and other hydrocarbons. Brazil has been producing it right from 1970 and has also been using it in fuel.

When ethanol is blended with petrol and burns with it inside an engine, it also produces CO_2 . Thus petrol and ethanol both produce CO_2 after burning. But ethanol's burning is cleaner since it contains oxygen and has less carbon. Moreover ethanol is not a natural resource like petrol, it can be produced sustainably. Further if it is made from sugarcane, the crop uses CO_2 from air to grow. Running cars from ethanol made from plants is like living on our own income while extracting hydrocarbon from the earth crust is like using a credit card. Petroleum inside the earth contains carbon that was trapped long before human existed, and it is this carbon that gets freed after burning.

The burning of fossil fuel after the industrialization commenced between 1850 and 1900 is responsible for accumulating 2400 Giga tonnes of CO_2 equivalent. 1000 Giga tonnes of CO_2 equivalent is responsible for increasing the temperature of the globe by $.45^\circ\text{C}$. CO_2 is a nonreactive compound and remains in the atmosphere for hundreds of years. The accumulated 2400 Giga tonnes of CO_2 equivalent has been responsible for warming the planet by 1.1°C so far. Scientists have been cautioning us for quicker transition to greener energy, to contain warming within 1.5°C . The latest Intergovernmental panel on climate change (IPCC) report has said that it is the last chance for world leaders to avert disastrous consequences from climate change by quickly finding replacements for fossil fuel. The report has added that global green house gas

emissions must peak by 2025 and not later.

On the sidelines of QUAD meet at Tokyo, India is among 13 "initial partners" that signed up Indo Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) to counter China's growing influence in the region. It is a fresh economic arrangement to resolve supply chain disruptions and boost clean energy transition. Prime Minister Narendra Modi who was in Tokyo for QUAD meet also addressed Indian Diaspora and reiterated that India has committed to meet 50% of our energy requirement from non fossil fuel sources by the turn of the decade. Our dependency on hydrocarbons will accordingly be reduced.

We are on course to do 20% ethanol blending in petrol by 2025, a target most developed nations will find hard to achieve. The pan India ethanol production in the country has been projected to go up from 700 crore liter in 2020 to 15000 crore liters in 2025. The country has projected technology for production of ethanol from nonfood feedstock. Nation wise educational campaign is launched to encourage use of water sparing crops such as maize to produce ethanol. The country has plans to roll out E10 (10% blending of ethanol in petrol) engine vehicles by April 2023 and E20 vehicles by April 2024.

In his inaugural address at World sustainable development summit organized by 'The World Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)' recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed concern of developing countries with regard to their inability to take expensive actions for climate mitigation without support. Developed countries are responsible for increasing the concentration of CO_2 in the atmosphere, which has already warmed the planet by 1.1°C from the pre industrial era. He reminded them of their unfulfilled promise of extending financial and technological

support to developing countries for taking adaptation measures. Further warming would impact the lives and livelihoods of population relatively nearer to equator. PM added that energy requirement of people of India is expected to double in next 20 years; denying it would be denying life to millions. The daily power demand of the country during the last week of April soared to 210 Giga watts when highest temperature was registered in several cities in north India. Sky rocketing coal prices due to Russian invasion in Ukraine has made matter worse and railways had to make way for coal transportation by suspending passenger trains.

Russian aggression on Ukraine and economic sanctions imposed by US and western world skyrocketed crude price to \$137 per barrel on 7th March, which later stabilized around \$100 per barrel. Indian PSUs, despite criticism in US congress that we will be at wrong place in history, have commenced importing cheaper crude from Russia. Any disruption in energy supply has potential to ruin the economy already crippled by corona pandemic. Gains in decarbonisation of economy in Western World, is also threatened by uncertain oil and gas supply.

PM has asked academic and research Institutions like TERI to come up with scalable solutions to realize the potential of green hydrogen. Earlier Mukesh Ambani announced an investment of \$ 75 billion in renewable energy infrastructure like solar panels, generation plants and electrolyzers. He has committed to transform all clean energy to hydrogen. Green hydrogen is produced through electrolysis of water using clean electricity. Other enterprises like Adani, Indian Oil Corporation and NTPC have also set plans for green hydrogen.

India's 85% energy need is imported, and PM has often emphasized the transition to cleaner energy and country should be net exporter of green hydrogen by 2047.

In the latest budget the Government has offered production linked incentive (PLI) to produce 5 million tonnes of green hydrogen by 2030. Solar and wind energy costs have been lowered and is now comparable to hydro electric costs, yet the renewable energy

cannot replace fossil fuel in some uses. Renewable energy to run industries such as fertilizer, steel, and cement and also the transport sectors like airlines and shipping is not viable. It is in these sectors; the use of green hydrogen is necessary to decarbonise the economy and move on the growth trajectory to achieve the country's commitment of net zero by 2070.

Green hydrogen has tremendous potential and can be stored and utilized for high intensity uses in fertilizer, cement, and steel industries. It is highly suitable as transport fuel and can be an answer to decarbonise shipping and airline sectors. PLI has also been offered in India's latest budget for battery swapping scheme needed for large scale acceptability of electric vehicles. The swapping would work for batteries for two wheelers, three wheelers and cars but it would not work for long distance movement of goods using heavy vehicles. Western countries are developing technologies for electrifying highways so that heavy vehicles can hook for power once they are moving in orderly fashion under the power line. Green hydrogen is the solution to fuel such transport vehicles as well. In other words, electric vehicle is only the stop gap arrangement till green hydrogen technology is finally researched and developed to the scale.

Gas Authority of India Limited has announced mixing hydrogen into natural gas system at Indore. Under the project hydrogen blended natural gas reportedly will be supplied for retailing CNG to automobiles and piped natural gas to households.

However, there are some bottlenecks that are needed to be sorted out through research. The green hydrogen is more likely to leak because molecules are smaller, and it produces air pollution in the form of Nitrous Oxide when burned. Also, it is inflammable and carries economic and safety risks. The country should be cautious in announcing big investments on a technology which is still developing and is being researched.

Green Hydrogen comes from electrolysis of water using renewable energy. David Joffe the author of a report, on behalf of committee on climate change advising

Government of United Kingdom said that it is an option to decarbonise the difficult bits of the energy system, as we cannot electrify everything. UK's gas industry thought that the natural gas used for heating homes can be replaced by green hydrogen, but the report added that if it is used for heating homes, we get only 63% of heat energy of what we used for electrolysis. However, if electricity is used for driving heat pumps, we generate from 210 to 400% heat energy compared to electricity consumed, as the pumps extract heat energy already present in the air or ground in the vicinity of the building.

Research trend indicates that many technologies of green hydrogen are likely to compete, and we do not know at this stage as to which of these would be economical and secure. With the risk factors which may lead to industrial collapse and unknown areas how the green hydrogen technology will unfold in future, Government should fix a modest target in total energy requirement for the country. This would also ensure that in the event of any possible disaster the transport and industry sectors are not crippled.

Mukesh Ambani announced earlier this month to invest Rs 5 lakh crores (\$75 billion) in renewable infrastructures including generation plants, solar panels, and electrolyzers. The strategy entails transforming all the clean powers into hydrogen, the largest endorsement in next generation fuel. "Reliance is preparing itself to capture the entire value chain of green hydrogen economy" said Gagan Sidhu Director Center for Energy finance, New Delhi.

Green Hydrogen is made from water and clean electricity is crucial for world's emission reduction goals helping consumers and key industries like steel transitions to lower carbon fuel. PM has announced that major energy importer India will be global hub for production and export of green hydrogen. Other than India US, Brazil and China have also doubled their hydrogen strategy.

Besides Ambani in India, other enterprises like Adani, Indian Oil Corporation and NTPC have also set plans for green hydrogen. Ambani has vowed to produce green hydrogen at Rs 75 per Kg, more than 60% reduction from today's cost. This would require a dramatic drop in the cost of electrolyzers. To achieve round the clock supplies supplemental form of energy such as storage, or hydropower will be needed which may take the cost upwards beyond limit.

Present cost of producing green hydrogen is \$ 3 to 6 per Kg, which is quite unaffordable. Mukesh Ambani led RELIANCE is to repurpose a synthesis for producing blue hydrogen, costing \$ 1.2 to 1.5 per Kg. Though it is not the greenest form of fuel but can be stop gap arrangement till cost of green hydrogen comes down.

The planned investment in green hydrogen is quite big and require huge Government subsidy. If the program fails, critics will call it cronyism. Government must keep its financial commitment modest and leave the risks to industries.

(The author is former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) Karnataka and can be reached over Mobile:9449863501 and Email: bksinghretiredpccf@gmail.com).

What we're finding is it's not necessarily the reality that shapes us, but the lens through which your brain views the world that shapes your reality. And if we can change the lens, not only can we change your happiness, we can change every single educational and business outcome at the same time.

– Shawn Achor.

ANINDITA, THE UNPARALLELED

S.K. Das, IFS (Retd.)



*Oh, beauty unparalleled! You are beauty beyond
any faultfinding,
Only you can be the theme of this love-song.
Your sudden presence,
Leads me to the land of oblivion.*

*The dynamic curves of your body,
Your moving presence,
Your face, composed of centuries of beauty,
Your whole self-
Is a work of art – a masterpiece,
Rendered by the master.
Your elongated coal-black eyes are concentrated
dreams.
And long black plaits of curly hair,
Sport garlands of flowers with pride.*

*Always you passed by everyone,
And never you cast a Supercilious look on
anyone
None could be the focus of your attention,*

*I am not able to comprehend yet
Your heart swayed to whose rhythm.*

*It could have happened one day,
When I was looking at you, hypnotized,
And time stopped.
You turned around while passing
Came two steps forward towards me
Lifted those dream filled eyes,
And asked, "How are you doing?
It seems that I've not seen you for ages".*

*I don't know if it will ever happen,
And also don't think that I am day dreaming.
Anindita, both of us exist in the world
May we didn't speak to each other
But I'm convinced
Somewhere there is a bridge which connects us
by heart and soul.
Any formal acquaintance sinks into insignificance
before that.*

(The poet is former Prl. CCF and HoFF, Andhra Pradesh and the poem is taken from his collection of poems 'Kabitake Bhalobeshe', translated by Ms Chandana Khan, IAS (Retd.). Feedback -Mobile: +919550681964)

*"When you look at the moon, you think, 'I'm really small.
'What are my problems?' It sets things into perspective.
We should all look at the moon a bit more often."*

-Alain de Botton



Tales, true and simple:

Those Two NSCs

Mohammad Ahsan, IFS (Retd.)

Finally, Vishnu Prajapati, the salesperson at Narain Motors, at 4, Shahnajaf Road, Lucknow, handed me the keys of a brand new Ford Figo car I had just purchased. Before I could open its doors, he said, 'Sir, just a minute', and rushed to some inner cabin of the showroom. When he resurfaced on the scene, he was with a bouquet of red flowers. He very politely handed me the bouquet and congratulated me for buying a new car. I thanked him for his kind gestures. That was 26th June 2012, the eighty-seventh day of my retirement from the job. I was accompanying with my daughters Sana and Saman.

I started the car and pushed it to outside of the showroom. I and Sana then came back to showroom, located Vishnu once again, and asked, 'Vishnu, any idea when are we getting the RC (registration certificate) of our car?'

It was binding on the seller to get me the necessary RC for which they were charging us.

Vishnu was thoughtful for a moment, then said, 'Sir, day after. I believe you have given me all the necessary papers.'

'Of course, whatever the papers you had asked me.' I said.

'Sir, had you given me the two NSCs (national saving certificates) worth Rs 2000/?' He asked.

'Two NSCs? What for? You never asked me to do that.' I felt little irritated.

'Sir, let me check', He said, and once again disappeared in an inner cabin. This time he resurfaced with a file instead of a bouquet. He rummaged through the file and announced.

'Sir, you have to furnish them. Probably I had told you,

there seems to be some misunderstanding.'

My pleasant mood about owning a new car had turned sour. I said to myself, 'the chap is telling a lie.'

Then I said to him in a polite manner, 'Listen Vishnu, can't you manage them on my behalf. We have overpaid for the car. You people can adjust Rs 2000/ against the refund you would be making to me.'

He was hesitant. Then he said, 'Sir, I am not sure, and in any case, I would be needing your photographs.'

'You try it; I have already given you the photographs in excess.' I said, remembering I had given him one extra photograph a few days back - in fact the last from my collection - while going through the process of purchase.

'Ok Sir.' He said half-heartedly.

'Ok, I will call you day after.' I said.

Somehow, I was not very sure the chap would oblige me. His body language looked weak.

When I telephoned him in the evening of day after, he said, 'Sir, I can't help, the post office people want application form with your own signature, besides they want two photographs, address proof and photo ID.'

'What nonsense!' I said, and added, 'Why did you not tell me all this earlier, I have been driving my car for the last two days without a number plate. Lest police might not catch me, I am not driving it to main city area, confining myself only to Gontinagar.'

'Sir, I had told you, but you never cared to listen.' He said. I cut off the conversation.

He is only a conspirator in all this, I said to myself with a tinge of bitterness. So now I have to buy these goddamn

NSCs, there seem to be no option, and where on the earth is a post office in Gomtinagar; I wondered.

Gomtinagar was the locality where I had shifted to only a fortnight before after my retirement, after having lived at 17, Rana Pratap Marg, for about twelve years in a stretch. I had a kind of general ignorance about the geography of Gomtinagar area, and no means to know where the post office was, or from where I was to buy the NSCs next day.

Then I remembered my friend Phanish Sinha saheb, a retired bureaucrat of Irrigation department, who lived somewhere in Gomtinagar. He would be the best person to tell me where in Gomtinagar the post office is.

With this thought I rang up Phanish Sinha saheb.

Phanish Sinha saheb took a long time to pick up his mobile, probably at the last ring, and said

'I am at Delhi in a workshop right in the middle of a lecture, now that I have come out of the hall, kindly tell what is the matter.'

I felt very hesitant and wondered whether I should ask a person, about 500 km away from his home, in the middle of a technical lecture, such triviality as the location of a post office in Gomtinagar. Yet finding no option around, I stated the purpose in a tone of apology.

He said, 'There was the post office opposite Jaipuria School, but now I have read in some newspaper a few days back they have shifted post office to some other location.'

'Sir, any idea where to?' I carried on the conversation.'

'Probably somewhere near PICKUP Bhawan, I guess'. He replied.

I had no intention to irritate him by asking where the PICKUP Bhawan is. I thanked him for all the help and released a sigh of desperation.

I raked my mind to find someone else to guide me on procurement of those two NSCs. I remembered my friend Girish Shukla, another retired bureaucrat from Public Enterprises, who too had purchased a brand-

new Swift Dzire a fortnight back. I thought, he must be the best person to tell how to buy those damn NSCs. After all he too might have passed through the similar ordeal. I rang him up and asked about the matter. He said

'I had bought those NSCs from GPO (General Post Office), Hazratganj; GPO is a busy place, sometimes there is a long queue, and it takes time, better you take along someone to stand in the queue, and don't forget to take along necessary documents and photo ID.'

I felt frustrated. Hazratganj is a crowded place, and to find a parking there for an unnumbered car was hell of a job. I expressed my inner anger, 'And why the hell they want NSCs, what has this to do with RC?'

'Probably there is an order from the District Magistrate to Transport authorities making it binding for every buyer of car to purchase these NSCs to get RC.'

Girish Shukla is always very knowledgeable in these matters.

'Isn't very arbitrary and kind of extortion?' I felt angry.

'It is, but you can't help if you have to buy a car in Lucknow'. He said in a fact-of-matter tone.

How the times change, I wondered. There was a time when you just walked into any post office with a wad of currency notes, pulled up a simple form, signed up on the dotted line, and got your NSCs; and there were the agents who chased you to convince you could double up your money in six years by buying NSCs, these agents not only purchased them for you but offered handsome commission on them, and now you have to stand in a long queue with address proof and photo ID filling tedious forms to get them. NSCs were no more popular, nor did they double up your money in six years. Ah, still government wished people to invest for savings, either voluntarily or by coercion. Times have changed. I mused and mused. But still my problem was staring right into my face.

Then came to my mind Renu, an old reliable, an old colleague of my wildlife days. She must be of help as

she has a strong common sense; besides she too lives somewhere in Gontinagar.

I telephoned Renu and asked a very specific question 'Where can I get myself photographed to get two photographs.'

She gave me a graphic description of the location of a studio at Patrakar Puram where I could do that in ten minutes. Then I asked her about the post office. She replied, 'It is right opposite Jaipuriya School.'

I said, 'I have been told it has been shifted from there.'

She had no idea but asked me why I was seeking a post office. I told her of the accursed NSCs I was to buy but wished to avoid going to crowded Hazratganj.

She said, 'Sir, why don't you go to the small post office behind the fish market near your old Forest Office, there would be no queues there.'

I had no idea about this post office, and expressed my doubts if the small post offices really sold NSCs, and whether there was enough parking space for my brand new unnumbered car. She was sure they sold NSCs, and that despite the post office being in a very narrow lane I would be able to find space for parking.

Then I told Sana of my planning for the next day. I said, 'Look, in the morning first of all we go to studio and from there to Jaipuria School to find the Post Office to buy the NSCs; in case there is no Post Office, we go to fish market. Sana is a good company as she has lot of common sense and quick wit. I was hopeful Phanish Sinha Sir was misinformed, and post office was still there opposite Jaipuria, a known landmark.

Next morning photo session was no big deal. Then we proceeded to Jaipuria School. I was driving the car and Sana was looking for the post office on the other side of the road. Then we located a small board of a post office. I smiled with triumph and turned the car to the other side of the road. So, as I had guessed Sinha Sir was misinformed, I thought. Now I was on the gate of a small building having the sign board of the post office. Surprisingly the building looked deserted. Then I saw a small board right below the previous board. It said the

post office has been shifted to another place. It did not tell of the new location, neither did I care. I told Sana now we must go to fish market. I had already picked up my photo ID and address proof.

That small Post Office was really in a narrow lane behind fish market, and it was almost like walking on a tight rope in a circus driving through that narrow lane and parking in a small space beside the post office.

The post office had only three counters. I approached the extreme left counter and told the person there my purpose of visit. He pointed me towards the extreme right counter where two persons were already there in a kind of queue. When I had my turn, I told the person at the counter, 'Sir, I wish to buy two NSCs for Rs 2000/.' The man stared at me for a long moment as if disapproving of my intentions, and then pulled an old, crumbled form from the lowest drawer of his counter, pushed it towards me, and asked to fill it up. I asked Sana to do this for me. Once the form was filled and a photo pasted on the assigned spot on the form, I handed him the form. He examined it minutely and asked me to produce photo ID and address proof. I produced them too. Now he was looking at my photograph and trying to tally that with ID proof which was a voter ID. He looked at me the way police people look at some history-sheeted criminal, and pointing towards voter ID asked, 'Is it yours? It does not compare with your photograph.'

I saw through his mind and tried to explain, 'Sir, that ID is two years old, in that era of my life I was clean shaven and dyed my hair, now I have sported a beard and keep my hair natural.'

He seemed only half convinced, then he shot another question, 'You look educated, why did you not fill this form yourself?'

He seemed to have not liked Sana filling form on my behalf, and me only signing it.

'Sir, I suffer from writer's cramp, a disease often afflicting writers, I can't write a single thing with my hands although I claim to be a writer. I use a keyboard or a mobile phone to write, although the electric circuits in them affect my terminal nerves, and I feel handicapped

there too.' I tried to explain to him my malady in detail, and tried to win some sympathy. He was nonplussed.

'OK, get two photocopies of the Photo ID and address proof each, and be quick as lunch time is approaching.' He ordered.

I asked Sana to do that from a nearby photocopy shop.

Now he made me to sign them before him, scrutinized the form once again, and said,

'There seems to be an anomaly in address. As per voter ID the address is 402, Vishal-3; whereas in your application you have stated 3/402, Vishal. This is not acceptable.'

I tried to explain to him both meant the same thing. He said, 'I understand but you must write in application the way it is written in voter ID.'

I did that, and he made me now to initial the cuttings and overwriting.

Now he said, 'Come back at 4 p.m. in the evening and collect your NSCs.'

His words came like a thunderbolt.

I said, 'Sir we have an emergency and can't wait that much.' and tried to explain to him the intricacies of driving an unnumbered car and the perils we carried on our heads.

He said, 'Actually we have to get these NSCs from GPO, our stock is exhausted.'

I felt cheated and said, 'Sir, had I known this I would have gone to GPO itself, but I came to this post office thinking it would save my time.'

He looked slightly moved and said, 'Let me check the stock, 2000 is a small amount, maybe we have them worth that much.'

Five minutes later he was stamping my photograph

affixed on one of the two NSCs, each valuing Rs 1000/ each.

Now I and Sana rushed to Vishnu and pleaded with him to get me the RC from transport people as quickly as possible.

Three days later and after about half a dozen calls and reminders, finally Vishnu was there at our doors to deliver me the coveted RC. (21-2-2014)

Epilogue

I had almost forgotten about these two NSCs, had I not been rummaging through my almirah in search of some papers last year, October 2021 to be exact. For some time, I was in fix as to what to do with them – should I wait for their maturity or encash them immediately. I decided for latter action. And then, in one fine morning, equipped with all kinds of documents that I thought post office chaps might ask, and an application already neatly typed and signed I approached the same post office, and handed my application to the man at the counter. The man looked at it with some irritation, handed it back to me, and asked whether I had an Aadhaar Card and two sets of its photocopies. I handed him over the needed documents. He then took out an old calculator from his lowest drawer, made some calculations, wrote that on the back of each NSC, and asked me to sign as receipt. Then he drew from his topmost drawer some old dirty currency notes of different denominations, counted them cautiously, and handed me over the money. It was Rs 3470/- in all. I asked him what to do with this application I had brought along. He suggested me I could dump it into some dustbin as it was not needed.

In the evening I went to Sahara Mall, entered into Bata showroom, and asked the salesman to show me a good pair of walking shoes. The pair of shoes I selected cost me five rupees less than 4000/-. I felt happy as I had only to spare roughly 500/- from my purse. Rest had come from this pair of old forgotten NSCs. (30-6-2022).

(The author is former PCCF & HOFF, UP: Editor, Reminiscences of SORFO (Society of Retired Forest Officers, Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand) and author of many books. He can be contacted over phone: +91 9415409325 and Email: ahsaanluck@gmail.com)



Story of The Renewal of 99 Years Lease of The Singareni Collieries Company Limited

Paresh Kumar Sharma, IFS (Retd.)

Before I narrate the story of the renewal of the long-term lease of 99 years of the M/s Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. Or SCCL, let me first deal with the history of the SCCL. The SCCL traces its origin to a quaint historical event of 1870. A group of pilgrims on their way to the famous temple of Shri Ram at Bhadrachalam was camping near a village named Singareni. While lighting fire for cooking they were petrified when some stones caught fire. This strange occurrence was reported to the local authorities.

Dr. William King, an eminent Geologist of the Geological Survey of India, was asked to conduct investigations. In the year 1871, Dr. William King discovered coal near Yellandu in Khammam district. One of the important coal seams bore his name. He named the upper seam of the coal as Queen seam and the lower seam as King seam. His detailed studies revealed the presence of coal in the Godavari-Pranahita basin.

Discovery of Black Gold led to the formation of a mining company called The Hyderabad (Deccan) Company Pvt. Ltd. in 1886, which was incorporated in England. In 1889, the company commenced its mining operations in Yellandu area of Khammam District.

On 23rd of December 1920, the name of the mining company was changed to the Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) under the Hyderabad Companies Act as a public limited company. It acquired all the assets and liabilities of the Hyderabad (Deccan) Co. Ltd. Best & Co. acted as Secretaries and Selling Agents. Interestingly, the SCCL was registered in the London Stock Exchange in the same year.

In 1945, the Nizam of Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali Khan, purchased majority of the shares and the SCCL. Thus,

SCCL became the first State owned mining company in the country. From 1945 to 1949, the Hyderabad Construction Co. Ltd. was acting as Managing Agent. In 1949 this function was entrusted to Industrial Trust Fund by the then Government of Hyderabad. After independence and merger of the Hyderabad State into the Union of India in 1956, the Govt. of India took over 49 percent of the shares and the Govt. of AP continued with 51 percent of the shares. The SCCL thus enjoyed the distinction of being the only Joint venture government coal mining company, a PSU in the country.

The controlling interest of the Company devolved on the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Thus, the SCCL became a Government Company under the Companies Act in 1956. The company's accredited function was to explore and exploit the coal deposits in the Godavari valley coalfield, which is the only repository of coal in South India.

An area of approximately 54000 Ha, including forest & non-forest area, was included in the Lease hold of the SCCL. Of this about 25000 Ha was Forest Land. Major chunk of the Forest area under SCCL lease was falling in the Kothagudem Forest Division, which was about 17400 Ha.

As narrated earlier, I had joined the Kothagudem Division in the month of May 1986. The SCCL was in touch with the Forest Department with regard to the renewal of the license for the Saw Mill which was engaged in the cutting of logs and poles needed in the underground mines as Props etc. A Forest Officer in the rank of Divisional Forest Officer used to be posted in the SCCL on deputation basis by the Govt to look after forestry operations. Besides procurement of Timber, he

used to be in charge of the plantation activities as well.

I went through the file of the SCCL in my Division. To my surprise I found out that the mining lease of the SCCL had expired in 1985, but the Company was going ahead with the mining operations without renewal. Lots of water had flown in R. Godavari since the sanction of the original lease in favour of the Hyderabad (Deccan) Company Ltd in 1886. Company had changed hands, became a PSU and the country had become an independent nation and above all the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 had been enacted. But the SCCL did not take action to get the mining lease renewed. I inspected the mining areas, both underground as well as the open cast and the mined areas.

I found that there were violations of the Terms & Conditions of the Lease Agreement. It was not expected from a Govt. company. I believed that the Govt. company would be working meticulously and timely without giving scope for pointing out fingers by any agency. Alas! This was not to be the case here. The biggest violation was carrying out mining operations beyond the lease period; without its renewal. In fact, even the action for renewal of the mining lease had also been not initiated even after 2 years of the expiry of the Lease.

Therefore, I was forced to issue a Show Cause Notice to the SCCL as to why the mining activities should not be stopped forthwith. This made the Company to wake up from the deep slumber. The Chairman & MD of the SCCL Sri Govind Rajan, IAS, had been to Australia to study the functioning of the Long Wall etc. employed in the coal mining. He was intimated about the SCN by a Telex message, who in turn contacted the Govt and the PCCF in the matter requesting for not halting the mining operations; I came to know later on. The PCCF intimated me through a Telegram "Not to take precipitous action on the SCCL" and the Addl. CCF talked to me over phone. He intimated that he would be coming to Kothagudem the very next day to have the first-hand information about the entire issue. I prepared a detailed report on the violations and carrying out the

mining operations even after expiry of the lease.

Next day Dr. AVRG Krishna Murthy, IFS, Addl. PCCF arrived in Kothagudem. I explained to him the entire issue along with records and handed over my report to him. He called the concerned officers of the SCCL and caused enquiry. The SCCL Officers could not give satisfactory explanation for carrying out the mining operations beyond the Lease period. He instructed them to prepare and submit proposals for the renewal of the leases under operation in consultation with the DFO at the earliest. However, he assured them that the ongoing mining operations would not be halted.

The Addl. PCCF returned to his HQ. After appraising the PCCF a report was submitted to the State Government. The later in turn made a report to the Govt. of India in the matter. The GOI on receipt of the report decided to appoint and send one man Committee to Kothagudem to look into the matter. Accordingly. Sri AR Maslekar, IFS, the Commissioner arrived in Kothagudem to look into the matter. He convened a meeting of the FD & SCCL Officials, wherein I presented my case. I had made out a point that the entire area of the Original Lease should not be renewed in view of working in only about 10% of the leased area of 1886 Lease to Hyderabad (Deccan) Mining Company. The SCCL should apply for the barest minimum area for grant/ renewal of lease which they propose to work in the coming 10 or 20 years. This was agreed upon by the Chairman of the Committee, accordingly he informed the representatives of the SCCL. The SCCL was on the defensive and requested him not to take or recommend punitive action against the SCCL or its Officers as it was PSU and serving the country and to grant reasonable time for obtaining the required permissions from the MoEF, GOI, under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

After the departure of Sri Maslekar, the SCCL team came into action. The concerned General Managers met me whom I explained the procedure for obtaining the requisite permissions under FC Act. I provided the formats connected for the purpose of mining, the guidelines and also explained how to fill the same.

Contd.. on page No.28



Forestry For Socio Economic Benefits A Pathway To Save The Forest

P. Mallikharjuna Rao, IFS (Retd.)

It is a good learning and enriching experience to see some posts of forest WhatsApp groups where there is a lot of exchange and sharing of views, ideas experiences relating to forestry which can provide valuable guidance to the serving foresters and policy makers. On reading these messages, one can find two contrasting and divergent schools of thought on forest management approach among the members. Some are of strong opinion that forest management should aim at improving productivity and contributing significantly to economic development of the country. They suggest measures to promote commercial logging & wood trade, private participation in forestry, wood supplies to industries etc., Contrary to this, a few argue that striving for conservation, restoration and sustainable management of forest ecosystem for providing environmental stability and multiplicity of other benefits including livelihood support to the local communities should be the prime agenda of forestry. They justify this approach on the grounds of contemporary understanding about key role of forestry being played in biodiversity conservation, environmental amelioration and provision of wide range of ecosystem services. I know the members sharing both these views are knowledgeable, technically sound and having good reputation. I am venturing to write this article to discuss and share my views though my academic knowledge and technical know-how in forest science is limited. There is no dispute regarding the need to keep the ecological services at the pre-eminent place in forest management strategy. But when it comes to the dimension of economics, there are two options. One is commercial utilisation (timber production, logging, trade, supplies to industries etc.) and another is socio economic usage (subsistence and basic needs, livelihoods to local communities). This article is an attempt to explain regarding the need to give preference to socio economic usage mode for

good forest management.

Commercialisation and industrial promotion – Experiences:

In recent times, there is a strong articulation of views and persuasive efforts to influence policy reforms in favour of production forestry (timber production), promotion of industries and introduction of private participation in forestry. They support this proposal on the basis of fall in wood production, rise in imports and good potential to create large scale employment. This proposal looks pragmatic, novel and progressive if one ignores the past experiences in this line of forestry and do not make deeper analysis of the concerns expressed. Commercialisation and supplies of forest products to industries is not a new concept and it was a dominant feature of forest management strategy until enunciation of National Forest policy, 1988. Timber extraction and commercial usage of forest is as old as the scientific forestry that began 160 years ago in British India for which purpose it was introduced. Industrial usage of wood and forest products got accelerated after 1st and 2nd world wars. At the time of independence, several wood/forest based industries such as charcoal making, saw mills, packing cases manufacturing, boat building, textile auxiliaries, ammunition boxes, sports goods, paper and pulp, rosins, sandal wood oil etc., were functioning with supplies of raw materials on concessional rates from the forests. Promoting forest based industries got further fillip with launch of 2nd Five year plan which laid thrust on rapid industrialisation for economic development. Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) supported Pre-investment Survey of Forest Resources (PISFR) taken up during late 1960s prompted to set up several wood based industries in private sector. Industries were encouraged to setup the units with back-up of promotional measures

such as special incentives, raw material supplies at concessional rates etc., Most of these industries were subsequently wound up after experiencing serious damage to forests and depletion of raw materials. There are no evidences to show that these industries contributed significantly to economic development of the nation and provided gainful employment to the people. But rather they were found to cause huge damage to the forest resources with resultant adverse effects on ecology and livelihoods of forest dependent communities. When we look at the experiences in the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh the story is no different. Four major wood based industries at Eturnagaram (Rayon factory), Rampachodavaram (Plywood factory), Kurnool (Paper mill) and Bhadrachalam (Paper mill) were established during mid 1970s based on the pre-investment survey report. Anecdotal evidence suggests that there was an unprecedented over exploitation and serious depletion of resources in surrounding forests and ultimately leading to closure of these units. One unit at Bhadrachalam could survive due to reasons of timely adaptation and shifting the raw material dependence from natural forest to farm forest lands. If someone takes up specific research on adverse impact of industries on health of forest, the accurate picture will come into light. Even otherwise there are no case studies to illustrate that forest improvement and industrial usage of forest resources progressed in a mutually beneficial manner in our country. There are several studies in other parts of the world showing negative impacts of industries on forests. For instance, one such research study conducted on impact of industries on natural forests in Nigeria revealed that promotion of forest industries caused destruction of forest cover, loss of biodiversity, migration of wildlife, ecological imbalance, soil erosion, floods, desertification and disruption of hydrological cycle (World forest congress report, 2003, FAO).

As regards the potential for production forestry and private participation, the experience of Forest Development Corporations (FDCs) can give a true prediction. The average productivity of forest area of about 1.44 million hectares dedicated for production forestry /mainly wood production managed by FDCs is

as low as 0.77 cum per hectare per annum (Sri Hemant Kumar, IFS). FDCs generally function like private organisations with reasonable degree of autonomy, sufficient finances and requisite operational flexibility. Forests of good quality and with fertile soils were mostly taken over by them. They had the experience of almost half a century. In spite of all this, the performance is not satisfactory. This provides a good lesson that it is wrong to presume that the degraded forests by bringing under the purview of production forestry under the management of Public Private Participation (PPP) mode or otherwise can give better results.

Expressing the concerns of import bill and potential to create employment is nothing but an overemphasis of the issue. It is mentioned that the present annual import bill of wood and wood products is about Rs 45,000 to 50,000 crores. In general, the price of final product includes different costs of wood, other raw materials, processing charges, logistic charges, profit margins etc., If the average wood cost is taken as 40 % of the price of the product, the import bill on actual wood component would be around Rs 18,000 crores which is not a matter of serious concern. If saving of foreign exchange is the motto, it is not right to focus on the import bill on wood and wood products which is significant and constitutes only 0.05 % of the aggregate import bill of Rs 35.86 Lakhs crores of the country (2021). Further the job creation through wood based industries is no match with the livelihoods strengthened through support to wood based traditional craftsmen (about 50 million people) and forest dependent communities.

Socio economic usage of forest- Need for preferential treatment:

Forests have been meeting the basic needs of the local people through the supply of food, fodder, fuel wood, manures, and medicines since time immemorial and much before the establishment of Forest Departments in the country. Various non wood products from forests such as leaves, fruits, seeds, gum, honey, resins, waxes, dyes, medicinal herbs contribute significantly to the subsistence and livelihood requirements of

the tribes and forest dependent people traditionally. Now with the changing times new avenues like eco-tourism can be added to the list. Forest ecosystems contribute to rural economy by supporting agriculture (soil fertility and water availability), animal husbandry (fodder), micro enterprises, artisanal activities/woodcrafts (raw materials) and ecotourism. About 400 millions of people are estimated to have different degrees of dependence on forests in the country (TERI, 2015). The role played by forests in socio economic context are income security (supplementary incomes), employment creation (part time), nutritional security (supplementary nutrition) safety net cushion (food and income during disasters and calamities) and social justice (poor and marginalised sections are dependants). Research studies suggest that the traditional forest utilisation and harvesting practices adopted by forest dependent communities in the past were on the principles of conservation and sustainable management. However with the change of times and increasing alienation of the communities from forest governance, the issues of poor conservation, no resource augmentation, excessive, destructive and unsustainable harvesting methods etc., have crept in. It is therefore a fact that the large number of people are utilising the forest/forest resources unabatedly and there have been issues of unscientific forest management and depletion of resources. In spite of this scenario, there are no conscious efforts on the part of professional body of foresters to facilitate sustainable forest management. When timber production was the main plank of forestry, the Forest Service and forest organisations did exemplary work in developing robust silvicultural systems and their successful execution. But such kind of attention and efforts are never put to fulfil the mandate of meeting basic and livelihood needs from the forestry. It is therefore necessary to develop holistic forest management methods covering entire value chain of products/services covering pre harvest (conservation, restoration and augmentation of forest resources), harvest (optimum, regulated and sustainable harvesting) and post-harvest (storage,

processing, value addition and marketing) stages and execute them appropriately. This kind of forestry is mutually advantageous as people are assured of sustained flow of benefits and the forests secures the care and protection of communities. There are several examples within and outside the country showing good results of forest improvement and perceptible positive changes in the flow of socio economic benefits when such kind of forestry is practiced.

Dichotomy of approaches – Need of the hour:

Following independence and more so after abolition of estates, almost all the areas comprising of natural forests were brought under the Government fold. With growth of social forestry one can see now the substantial extent of areas outside conventional forests with tree growth and they are termed as agro-forest/private forests/Trees outside Forest (ToF). Hence there are two types of forests based on the ownership. First, the notified forests mostly of natural forests and are under the state/public ownership. These forests are generally multi layered structure of flora and fauna with wide range of products and services. Second, the plantations/forests raised in farm lands or private lands are under private ownership. With mostly of mono culture type these are suited to commercialisation and industrial development. The timber centric management which was the main element of traditional forest management started by British India is now relevant to these plantations. It is a universal principle that the forests under state ownership should be useful to the public at large in general and marginalised groups of forest dependent communities in particular whereas the private forests/ agro-forests can be for commercialisation and benefitting the land owners. It is therefore rational to have two different approaches and mandates to these two type of forests. The forests (state owned and natural) should be managed for socio economic benefits of local communities in addition to wide range of ecosystem services. On the other hand private plantations can be managed for commercial interests and industrial promotion. This dichotomy of approaches draws good support from the National Forest Policy, 1988 also.

While discussing about the experiences of Industries in the previous paras some negative effects of industrialisation on forests are mentioned. The intention is not to point out and blame any industry for this. The fact is that the objectives and principles of sustainable forestry and successful management of industry do not go in harmony and are always in conflict each other. Sustainable forest management is rational utilisation of resources while retaining/improving the balance between ecological, economic and socio-cultural aspects. It puts restrictions in the form of harvest within the boundary of incremental production and regeneration potential. Industries with the goal of maximum outputs with minimum efforts cannot strictly adhere to these principles while sourcing the raw materials. On the other hand it is feasible to integrate community livelihood enhancement activities into the frame of conservation and sustainable forest management. Wood based industries have shown great success to utilise the products of agro-forestry with monoculture of short rotation crops after 1980s. The contribution of ITC, Bhadrachalam Paper Boards Ltd., in promoting agroforestry in South India by way of developing new clones, supplying quality planting material, extension support and assured buyback arrangements is worth mentioning here. Several other wood based industries such as WIMCO, Plywood industries of Yamaunanagar, Haryana etc., are playing important role in providing marketing support to agro-forestry produce. It is therefore necessary to promote industries to facilitate agro-forestry growth while keeping the forests exclusively to meet the basic needs and livelihoods of the local people.

Conceptual clarity - Required:

Productivity of forest has become a buzzword in recent times. By placing the 'productivity' at prime place, the timber production tends to get priority over the other objectives pertaining to ecological and socio economic aspects. It would be useful to introduce various appropriate indices such as biodiversity index, climate change mitigation capacity, livelihood enhancement potential etc., in addition to productivity to measure the quality of forest.

Forests perform protective and regulatory roles such as biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, watershed protection, flood protection, cyclone / tsunami mitigation, soil conservation. It is essential to give precedence to the protective and regulatory role of the forests as they are invaluable and irreplaceable over productive functions which can be secured through alternative sources.

There is one argument that the wood usage should be encouraged as it is renewable, eco-friendly and high carbon storage. This may not be relevant to Indian context as the removals of wood is more than annual incremental production and also there is scarcity of wood. It is therefore necessary to encourage substitutes to the wood. The industries producing substitutes deserve more support and encouragement.

Way forward:

The National Forest Policy, 1988 which lays much needed thrust on environment stability and ecological balance on one hand and socio economic benefits to the local communities on the other brought about good changes in many aspects of forest management and tremendous expansion of agro forestry and Trees Outside Forests (ToF). However the forest service has failed to internalise the whole concept and to take serious steps to strict implementation of the policy in true spirit. Had the forest service and forest organisations executed the 1988 forest policy sincerely many of the field problems now associated with Forest Rights Act, 2006 could have been averted. If Government were to bring a new policy, it would be better to improve and strengthen the existing one instead of replacing it with the new draft forest policy, 2018 which is a shifting away from community oriented and eco centric approach of forest management to the regressive mode of production forestry, private participation and promotion of forest industries. Development of site specific appropriate silvicultural practices and management methods and their strict execution to ensure conservation, restoration sustainable harvesting and effective delivery of socioeconomic benefits on sustainable basis is the need of hour. There is an urgent need to bring in reforms and overhaul the content, rules and mandate

pertaining to trainings, research, management systems and operating procedures to support and facilitate this kind of big change. It is time for the forest service to raise to the occasion and shed the timber obsession and opt for the forestry for protective functions instead

of production aspects and give more focus on socio economic benefits to local communities rather than the commercial interests so as to save the forest for larger interest of ecological security, socio economic prosperity and sustainable development of the country.

(The author is former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) Andhra Pradesh and can be reached over mobile: +919989171958 and by email: pmk rao72@gmail.com)

You Can Reduce Carbon Footprint of VanaPremi

I convey my best wishes to all the subscribers of VanaPremi, who are enjoying the content month after month from the magazine's inception two decades back. I am indebted to the readers who give unconditional support with their suggestions and support in all forms. The magazine is also released every month on the website for global access.

There is a felt need to reduce the carbon footprint in every possible way in our day-to-day life. As you know, printing has its share in contributing to the increase of greenhouse gases. Hence, it is decided to send a digital copy of VanaPremi every month to the subscribers who opt out of the physical magazine (hard copy). Please mail your consent to the editor (thayyab@gmail.com) so that the printed copy is dispensed with, and the digital copy will be sent through email every month.

Editor, VanaPremi.

Continuation from page No.23

They were fully convinced that permission for diversion of forest lands for the entire forest area under previous Lease cannot be granted under the FC Act and hence were prepared to submit separate proposal for each of the mining project, be it Underground mine or Opencast mine.

Accordingly, the General Managers of Kothagudem and Yellandu area of SCCL started preparing and

submitting the proposals for each mine separately. These were scrutinized thoroughly keeping in view the concerned guidelines and submitted to the GOI through proper channel. These were sanctioned with about 20% of the original Lease area of forest lands (3301 Ha out of 17403 Ha). Rest of the forest lands (14102 Ha) were surrendered to the Forest Department for protection and development.

(The author is former PCCF & HOFF, Telangana and can be reached over mobile at +91 6300030519 and e-mail at pareshvyas22@gmail.com)

We produce black - But our views are Green



Cultivation near Reclaimed Dump



Settling pond / Summer storage tank



Eco-Friendly Park



Award in recognition of eco-friendly measures

- Pollution control and Soil Conservation Measures.
- About 5.50 crore saplings were planted in Singareni spread over area.
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- Avenue plantation in colonies and roads.
- Eco-friendly parks developed in colonies.
- Sand manufactured from OB.
- STP/ ETP at all Colonies / Establishments.
- Efforts of Singareni were rewarded by State and National level awards.



Colonies surrounded by greenery



Reclaimed OB Dump



THE SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY LIMITED

(A Government Company)

96th General Body Meeting of the Association of Retired Forest Officers, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh held on 26.06.2022

Photos: Smt R. Sobha, IFS (Retd.)



Sri PK Jha, IFS (R), President addressing the General Body.



Members attended for 96th GB on 26.06.2022



Sri SK Das, IFS (R), Immediate past President addressing the GB.



Felicitations to Sri SK Das, IFS (R), Immediate past President



Felicitations to Sri JV Sharma, IFS (R)



Felicitations to Sri K. BuchiRam Reddy, IFS (R)



Book on Sri K. BuchiRam Reddy, IFS (R) by Sri D. Nagabhushanam, IFS (R)



Felicitations to Sri Qamar Mohd. Khan, Ex-Editor, VanaPremi.



Felicitations to Sri A.V. Govindarajulu, immediate past Secretary



Felicitations to Sri V. P. Adinarayana



Felicitations to Sri C. Sudhakar Rao



Felicitations to Sri Sultan Mohiuddin, IFS (R)



Felicitations to Smt R. Sobha, IFS (R),
the first and the only lady member



Felicitations to Sri Navratan Singh



Falicitations to Sri Qamar Mohd. Khan for
his unparalled services as Editor



Talk by Sri P.K. Jha, IFS(R), President
on Retirement Financial Planning



Sharing of Experiences
Sri VP Adinarayana



Sharing of Experiences
Sri JV Sharma, IFS,(R)

**90th Birthday celebrations of Sri K. Buchi Ram Reddy, IFS (R),
Founder Editor of VanaPremi on 07.07.2022**



Sri C. Madhukar Raj, IFS (R)
wishing KBR



Association members attended the 90th Birthday
Celebrations of KBR (seen with Mrs KBR)

The Association of Retired Forest Officers of Telangana and AP wishes Sri J.V. Sharma, IFS (R)
and Sri K. Buchi Ram Reddy, IFS (R) many more happy returns of the day.



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Mr. D.B.S. Rao,
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GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH ANDHRA PRADESH STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD GUNTUR



Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board have been playing a key role in Conservation of Biodiversity in Andhra Pradesh since its inception in 2006.

The mandate of the Board is to advise the Governments at various levels on matters related to Biodiversity Conservation. The three main functions of the A.P. State Biodiversity Board are -

1. Conservation of Biological Diversity
2. Sustainable utilization of the Biological resources
3. Fair and equitable sharing of biological resources among all stake holders.

- APSBB have recently constituted 14,157 BMCs (Biodiversity Management Committees) at all level bodies of the state (13 @ Zilla Parishad Level, 661 @ Mandal level, 120 @ Municipality or Municipal Corporation level and 13,363 @ Grama Panchayat level) and prepared PBRs in electronic method for the first time in India.
- Massive awareness & publicity activities have been taken up in the last 2 years to promote Biodiversity in the state of A.P. through short-films, publications, workshops & seminars online & offline.
- APSBB initiated Core Activities Action Plan (CAPPs) for Operationalization of 10,000 BMCs through a special software platform developed.
- 661 NGOs appointed as Mandal Biodiversity Coordinators for supporting APSBB/BMCs in implementation of CAPPs.
- Rs 11.25 crores of ABS funds released directly to LBF (Local Biodiversity Fund) accounts of BMCs through online platform.



Dr. B.M.K. Reddy, ARS (retd.)
Chairman,
APSBB, Guntur

Come & Join Hands in
Biodiversity Conservation

Dr. D. Nalini Mohan, IFS,
PCCF & Member Secretary,
APSBB, Guntur

Why Elephant Tusker's Ambushes are Fatal?

B M T Rajeev, IFS (Retd.)



Wildlife Service in elephant country on foot is always with "holding heart in the mouth".

Background:

Moving around or walking or patrolling on foot against the poachers and smugglers in protected areas (PAs) ie national parks or wildlife sanctuaries or conservation reserves or forests in the elephant country is always dangerous. To accomplish patrolling for protection of wildlife in elephant country has a set of rules to be followed. Such rules are one should have knowledge over.... the area, elephants behavior, should walk in silence with eyes and ears open, look for the presence of elephant/s in front & sideways, should wear dull coloured or Khaki dress (except white&red), have a lati or scaring gun in hand and should not use body spray-scents, not to smoke/sing/talk and should be bold to stand on foot.....if not, any one or group should move with a leader having all the above knowledge in the front by following his guiding with signals... These guidelines are unwritten rules in the elephant country like Tiger Reserves-Bandipur, Nagarahole, BRT Hills and WLSs like Mudumalai (TN), Wynad (Kerala) etc. The behaviour of elephants is...they have sensitive nose and ears..... but weak eyes-with colour blindness, thick and sensitive skin for fire/Sun and better taste buds among the five sensitive organs of a living being. They are good in standing silently to hear or smell the intruder and quick in retaliation when apprehended by detecting an intruder to their privacy....chase fast the intruder especially man-for first 50 m like a sprinter and chase up to 100m and gradually stop and then give up. Elephants in the herd do only mock charge... but the mother elephant with calf and the bulls are most dangerous in charging and ambushing for attack. These have to be learnt by listening to the experienced in the field or by reading.

I was posted to a range in Badipur TR (BTR) in January, 1978 with hqr at Gundlupet. One week earlier, a Conservator of Forests-Mr Nair, IFS from FRI-(wildlife), Dehradun came to Bandipur as a guide to check the progress of a Scholar doing research on wild dogs in the field of Bandipur TR. Both of them went on foot early in the morning for the study of wild dogs and came across a huge tusker in an open area in the tourism zone. The tusker took note of the intrusion of 2 men by lifting its trunk and taking smell-a caution for the intruders to keep away. But the CF took out his camera to frame it, while the researcher was observing both. In a flash of the moment the wild tusker-elephant ambushed the camera man, lifted him high, smashed and kicked him to death and the researcher ran to his life. By the time he reached Bandipur campus and brought a rescue team... the CF-Nair was no more alive. This was an inviting news for me when I joined BTR-the wooden coffin made to send his body remained in my office to remind us-since his family made other arrangements.

When I went first to Chickabargi, Forester's hqr in BTR-the Forester-Anantharamu had a heart rendering story-that he had one son and a daughter and he was living in the official hqr in the outskirts-forest area adjoining to Forest Rest House in the BTR. A year back his son went to fetch water to a water hole in the forest 500m away from the FRH and he was trampled by an elephant near the water hole-a tragedy that disgusts him. In spite of it, he continued to serve in the same place till his retirement in '80s. These incidents used to always remind me while going on Patrolling in BTR on foot.

Incidence: We were sunk with series of elephant poaching cases in the monsoon of 1978 in BTR, after opening fire on elephant poachers in Sept, 1978 in the interior forests along Kerala border- AM Gudi RF of BTR and arrest of a gang and recovery of ivory concerned

to all cases from Kerala led for stoppage of poaching. Our constant vigil against elephant poaching with regular perambulation and patrolling activities and managing staff to stay in hqrs... ensured no repetition of elephant poaching in BTR. As a routine course, I planned for a patrolling along the interstate border from Chammanahalla to Moolehole on 2nd Saturday in Sept, 1979 and informed the Forester-Kalegowda to be prepared. But I went on Friday itself for patrolling the border... the Forester was found gone home for bringing ration to attend the programme on Saturday as he was in the interior border area. With the staff available at Chammanahalla Section Hqrs with Forest Rest House- I did border patrolling on foot with staff in the Tri-junction area of 3 states- Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu via Mavinahalla for more than 15 km on foot up to Moolehole and returned to Gundlupet in the evening by jeep. The Forester who returned to hqrs in the evening was disappointed for having missed the visit of his boss to his section.

The forester repeated the patrolling with staff on 2nd Saturday in the same interstate-border route-walking in a file- Forester with the Gun in the center, tribal watchers in the front and staff behind him. While descending to a deep valley, a well built tusker suddenly came across them and had ambushed the guide-Mada, watcher in the front. The Forester opened fire with a DBBL gun- two rounds of O.22 cartridges-(fit for scaring elephants only) on it But tusker charged on the watcher-Mada in the front and chased him for 50 m distancecaught him, thrown, kicked and trampled him to ground in a flash of moments..., due to which the stomach of the victim was said to be ripped open and the tusker left the scene after further opening of two more rounds of gun shots by the Forester after reloading it –the victim cried for water-to which his relative Kala- FG in the team rushed and gave water and saw him breathed last. ..

I got this shocking bad news report with the above details from the Forester at 3.00 Pm, rushed to the Police Station, Gundlupet-taluka hqrs and lodged a complaint. With the police-Gundlupet, reached the spot at the tri-junction of three states by 6.00 PM. The Police

Inquest was- the PSI- Diwakara Shetty stood right on the spot-above the dead body- drew the sketch of the position of the dead body with reference to all natural features and the location of the spot. Then he said, we have to rush back to the jeep as it is becoming dark and we can play with humans and not with wild animals. Then we returned with the dead body for the Post Mortem to Gundlupet and handed over the remains to the victim's family. The compensation for the loss of life due to the act of wild animals was only Rs.2,000/- we paid it to the family of the poor watcher and forgot the incident-as there was no value for human life then.

(The compensation for elephant trampling deaths went on with the time... Rs 25,000/ in 1994-when I was DCF, BTR was abused and garaoed at the spot by a mob refusing the low compensation for an elephant trampling case of a farmer in his land. It was reported to the govt to rise it to Rs1.00 lakh on par with the compensation to the natures' victims of Lathur earthquake of 1993 being paid in the border villages of Karnataka @ 1.00 lakh per head and it was agreed and enhanced to Rs 1.00 in 1995; then..Rs 3.00 lakh in 2014, to Rs 5.00 lakh in 2016, and to Rs 8.00 lakh in 2020- to Rs 10.00 L in 2021 and it is Rs 15 L in 2022)

This incident of elephant ambush at tri-junction went on daunting in me for long as I have narrowly escaped from the tragedy by preponing my visit by a day ahead.... by mere luck-if not-who knew what was in store for any in that group . The life of the men in forest service- on foot in the elephant infested forests is a matter of chance/luck.

In 2002, I was made to face the wrath of a mob in an elephant tusker's trampling death of a priest in a mango orchard in the outskirts of Bengaluru even though it was not my jurisdiction but I was in Bannerghatta NP from where the elephant had depredated.

Very recently a young IFS officer S.Manikandan, DCF, Nagarahole TR was ambushed, trampled & killed by a tusker which was silently waiting by the side of a track while victim was in file of staff on the way for inspecting

Contd.. on page No.40

Green Quiz- August 2022

Quiz Master: Dr K. Tirupataiah, IFS (Retd.)

(Quiz Master is the Defending Champion of the QUIZ competition held as part of All India Forest Sports Meet at Raipur, Chattisgarh, January 2019)



1. As per 2021 air pollution report, Which place in India is recorded as the most polluted place in the World for PM2.5?
2. On what aspect/item did India refuse to pledge at the COP26 ?
3. What was the theme of this year's Environment Day?
4. This city in Belgium, the Capital of Innovations, is Car-free. The most favoured mode of travel is by Bicycle.
5. The following pledge is taken at a church in England's district, "Will you safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the Life of the earth?". To which the person to be baptised would say, "With the help of God, I will"? Name the district.
6. In which European country a water battery capable of storing electricity equivalent to 4.0 lakh electric car batteries is being built?
7. This soil bacteria is found to create an explosive molecule (energy) when it eats sugar. It is being explored as a source of alternate fuel? Which bacteria?
8. By what name are the Dolphins that do acrobatic marina displays called?
9. A glacier on the highest mountain in Italian Dolomites (the Italian Alps) that recently collapsed due to high temperatures killing number of people. Name the mountain?
10. What is the term used to describe the condition of worrying about the climate and nature crisis?
11. What form of art does R. Bhawin Kumar use to sensitise local communities on Fauna of Eastern Ghats?
12. What is the number of people reported to have migrated due to climate change in India as per UNHCR?
13. Which Indian state announced to buy back single-use plastic through eco-clubs of schools @ Rs.75/kg?
14. Which Indian state is experimenting to use a Siren system (using Infra-red radiation) to detect movement of an Elephant herd near National highways as an alerting mechanism?
15. Millipede is one with 1000 legs. But, anything with more legs has been called millipede. The true millipede with more than 1000 legs was found for the first time in a drill hole 60 M below ground. It was named Eumillipas Persephone. Name the country where it was found?

(Answers on Page:37)

(The Quiz Master presently works part-time as Chief Consultant (Trg) at Dr.MCR HRD Institute of Telangana

Note:- contributions are invited from member/readers. Select questions (with answers) would be published in this article along with those from Quiz Master. Questions with answers may be mailed to: kota_86@rediffmail.com.



Do We Have Any Alternative To LPG

Dr Uma Shankar Singh, IFS (R), D.Sc.,

Forest is an extremely important sector around which our lives move around, forest does not need us but we need forests more than anything else. Despite of the fact that more than Rs 12,000 crore was spent on near universal access to LPG connections, we are witness to six lakh death every year due to air pollution in Indian kitchen. Over half of rural India continues to primarily rely on burning solid fuels for cooking, increasing the likelihood of illnesses, including ischemic heart disease, cataract and lung cancer and evidences have shown that on account of Covid-19 the risk of lungs ailment has gone up multi fold.

HOUSEHOLD LPG CONNECTION

The policy is not consistent on any of the priority areas therefore, we are not able to achieve what we should have achieved with the passage of time in last eight years. A study was done by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) and published in the year 2020 which reveals that LPG is the primary cooking fuel in more than 70 per cent of Indian households, and 85 % households have LPG connections. However, 54% of the Indians still rely upon the traditional source of energy and continue to use solid fuels such as firewood, dung cakes, agriculture residue, charcoal, and kerosene, either exclusively or with LPG therefore, increasing the exposure to indoor air pollution. Is this not a contradiction that Ujjwala scheme has reduced our dependence from the fuelwood? The CEEW findings are from the India Residential Energy Survey 2020, conducted in collaboration with the Initiative for Sustainable Energy Policy in FY 19-20 in nearly 15,000 urban and rural households across 152 districts in 21 most populous states.

WHAT ARE ALTERNATIVES?

A. ELECTRICITY

Now let us understand the alternatives. Can electricity be alternative? The answer is No. Electricity may not be an immediate answer for obvious two reasons:

1. The rural households that normally get electricity connections under rural electricity scheme have maximum electricity load of only 500 MW however, induction stoves are made up of at a load factor of 1500 MW therefore, if a sizeable number of households start using induction plates then there will be significant issues in reliability of supply due to distribution transformer failures. The transformer is bound to trip because most of the Indian households have the same cooking time and it could lead to further stress on the electricity distribution system. Large investments in distribution network augmentation, along with efforts at better peak load management will be needed before electricity can become a technically viable option in rural areas. Let us also understand that Indian electricity tariff is the costliest in the world therefore, even if the above issues are addressed properly, the issue of affordability will remain a concern. Most of the Indian states have subsidized the electricity consumption up to the 100 units per month however, beyond 100 units, consumers have to pay about Rs 7-8 per unit used. Except in states where subsidies are extended beyond 100 units, induction-based cooking alone would drive up the monthly electric bill by at least Rs 500-600 which would be unaffordable for many poor households. This will be proper to understand that the requirement of rural household are usually met within 100 units/month.

B. BIOGAS

Despite over 30 years of various programmes, biogas usage has not picked up, and is unlikely to do so. The central government expenditure on biogas programmes has been on a steady decline, from Rs 137 crore in 2009-10 to Rs 36 crore in 2019-20. Although biogas may remain active in pockets, it is hard to imagine it as the dominant alternative to LPG.

C. PIPED NATURAL GAS (PNG)

Piped natural gas (PNG) could be an alternative to LPG in densely populated urban areas in the coming years but it's a distant dream because its density has a very small foot print even in most of the important urban townships, leaving aside rural areas. But it is not designed to supplement the cooking needs of rural India as network expansion costs could be prohibitive. Even if this is addressed, India has limited reserves of natural gas. Therefore, large-scale usage of PNG would require imports which would make PNG unaffordable.

LPG IS THE ANSWER

We all know that Ujjwala scheme was started in the year 2016 but this has also not been able to make a dent. Despite India's efforts to augment LPG distribution network by adding 12 new bottling plants (with an added capacity of 6,200 thousand metric tons per annum) and about 9,000 new distributors, the rise in its prices has led to decline its growth in Ujjwala scheme. An RTI reveals that in the last financial year, 90 lakh beneficiaries of government's flagship welfare scheme Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana did not refill their cylinders and over 1 crore beneficiaries refilled their cylinders only once. The government has stopped its subsidy in this scheme therefore, the beneficiaries are not able to fill LPG cylinders for the second time. But having looked at

other alternatives, and the only immediately available option to address the household air pollution challenge is LPG. However, budgetary allocations to LPG have been rapidly shrinking in the recent past and this may have a cascading impact on the rural economy. The outlay for LPG direct benefit transfers has come down from about Rs 31,400 crore in 2018-19 to only Rs 4,000 crore in the budget for 2022-23. There have been significant efforts to augment the domestic LPG distribution network ever since this scheme started and having already made the investment into domestic LPG, and given the difficulties in scaling up alternatives in the near to long term, the only immediately available option to address the household air pollution challenge is LPG. However, budgetary allocations to LPG have been rapidly shrinking in the recent past despite pre-election promises in some states to supply free LPG cylinders seem to acknowledge LPG affordability as an issue. Therefore, a coherent, targeted approach backed by requisite financial and institutional support is desirable in order to address this endemic problem. One way to achieve this is to resume LPG subsidies and rationalise them. For example, a tapering subsidy could be provided only to consumers with historically low consumption. In addition, revising LPG prices could be limited to twice in a year to provide price certainty in the context of volatile oil markets. The price of LPG has been rising since November 2020; a 14.2 kg cylinder in Delhi now costs Rs 949, Rs 355 or nearly 60 per cent costlier. Steady increase in crude prices due to the recovery in demand following the easing of Covid restrictions, slow restoration of production by oil exporters, and the Russia-Ukraine war have contributed to rising prices.

(The writer is former PCCE, UP and a prolific writer. He is currently guiding many PhD students in Ranchi university. Feedback: mobile:9450877777 and email: umashankar.87@gmail.com)

ANSWERS: 1. Bhiwadi, Rajasthan, 2. Stop deforestation, 3. Only One Earth, 4. Leuven, 5. Oxford district, 6. Switzerland, 7. Streptomeces, 8. Spinner Dolphins, 9. Marmolada mountain, 10. Eco-anxiety, 11. Puppetry & cartoons, 12. 05 Million, 13. Himachal Pradesh, 14. Odisha, 15. Australia.



‘Forest’ Cannot Be Defined?

Dr. Akula Kishan, IFS(Retd.)

Introduction

The definition of ‘Forest’ remains elusive, and a comprehensive definition could not be arrived at as was in the case of definition of ‘Property’ in Constitution of India.

As per Chapter IIIA of State Forest Act of both Telugu States, the definition of Forest in Scheduled Areas is as follows:

“28-A(a)- ‘forest’ includes waste or communal land containing tree growth and shrubs, pasture, pasture land and any other class of land declared, by the Government in this behalf by notification in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette, to be forest;”

‘Forest land’ is defined in Forest Rights Act, 2006 as follows:

“2(d) ‘forest land’ means land of any description falling within any forest area and includes unclassified forests, undemarcated forests, existing or deemed forests, protected forests, reserved forests, Sanctuaries and National Parks “.

International Scenario

The definition of forests in international forums as well as other countries is as follows:

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO; 2000): Land with tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10 % and area of more than 0.5 ha. The trees should be able to reach a minimum height of 5 m at maturity in situ. May consist either of closed forest formations where trees of various storeys and undergrowth cover a high proportion of the ground; or open forest formations with a continuous vegetation cover in which tree crown cover exceeds 10 %. Young natural stands and all plantations established for forestry purposes which have yet to reach a

crown density of 10 % or tree height of 5 m are included under forest, as are areas normally forming part of the forest area which are temporarily unstocked as a result of human intervention or natural causes but which are expected to revert to forest.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC; 2002) A minimum area of land of 0.05–1.0 ha with tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10–30 % with trees with the potential to reach a minimum height of 2–5 m at maturity in situ. A forest may consist either of closed forest formations where trees of various storeys and undergrowth cover a high proportion of the ground or open forest. Young natural stands and all plantations which have yet to reach a crown cover of 10–30 % or tree height of 2–5 m are included under forest, as are areas normally forming part of the forest area which are temporarily unstocked as a result of human intervention such as harvesting or natural causes but which are expected to revert to forest.

United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UN-CBD; 2010) A land area of more than 0.5 ha, with a tree canopy cover of more than 10 %, which is not primarily under agriculture or other specific non-forest land use. In the case of young forest or regions where tree growth is climatically suppressed, the trees should be capable of reaching a height of 5 m in situ, and of meeting the canopy cover requirement.

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UN-CCD; 2000) Dense canopy with multi-layered structure including large trees in the upper story.

International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO; 2002) A land area with a minimum 10 % tree crown coverage (or equivalent stocking level), or

formerly having such tree cover and that is being naturally or artificially regenerated or that is being afforested

FAO definitions: (Global Forest Resources assessment 2010) –

Forest- Land spanning more than 0.5 ha with trees higher than 5 metres and canopy cover of more than 10 percent, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ. It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or urban land use.

National Definition of Forest- Pakistan

A minimum area of Land of 0.5 ha with a tree crown cover of more than 10% comprising trees with the potential to reach a minimum height of 2 meters.

This will also include existing irrigated plantations as well as areas those have already been defined as Forests in respective legal documents and expected to meet the required thresholds as defined in the National Forest Definition of Pakistan.

United States of America - Forest land, as defined by the U.S. Forest Service, includes land at least 10 percent of which is stocked by trees of any size, or land formerly having had such tree cover that will be naturally or artificially regenerated. Forest land includes transition zones such as areas between heavily forested and non-forested lands that are at least 10 percent stocked with forest trees and forest areas adjacent to urban and built-up lands. (USA-FED-DA-ERS 2003)

China: Forest means a land having Minimum Area 0.67 ha., Min. Crown Cover of 20% and a Min. Tree Height 2m.

Australia: Forest is a land area, incorporating all living and non-living components, dominated by trees usually having a single stem and a mature or potentially mature stand height exceeding 2 metres, and with existing or potential crown cover of over storey strata about equal to or greater than 20%. This definition includes native forests and plantations and areas of trees that are sometimes described as woodlands.

Canada: Forest land—Areas of land where tree canopies cover more than 10 percent of the total area and the trees, when mature, can grow to a height of more

than 5 metres. Does not include land that is predominantly urban or used for agricultural purposes.

Brazil: Forest is defined as an area of land greater than 1 hectare, with more than 30% canopy cover and a minimum tree height of 5 metres.

Indian context – over the years

Sri B.H.Baden Powell in his 'Manual of Jurisprudence for Forest Officers' (1882) has narrated the difficulties in arriving at definition of Forest.

The Indian Forest Act,1865 contained a definition as follows.

"Government Forest" was defined to be land covered with trees, brushwood or jungle declared to be Government Forest under the Act.

The definition was found to be imperfect since if a forest is a land covered with trees, brushwood and jungle and declared as such under the Forest Act,1865, the land which is not covered with trees etc., even when declared under the Act, would not be legally forest, and forest law cannot be applied to such land. Several propositions were made on description of forest but not definition of forest. In the year 1849 it was construed that forest can be defined as lands whose principal products consist of timber trees or firewood.

In early historical times, a forest was treated as a place where beasts were protected. In fact the word 'forest' was derived from the words 'ubi fera stat' or "ferarum statio" meaning the place of wild beasts.

It was perceived that even if forest definition is given, it would not be applicable to forest law, due to the differing interests and rights in lands.

It was felt that all estates developed under the procedure prescribed by the Act will then be naturally and unmistakably subject to its provisions, without any need for definition of Forest.

The Godavarman case:

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 12.12.1996 in WP No. 202/95, has defined the words "Forest", and "Forest land" occurring in Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act,1980 as below.

"The word "forest" must be understood according to its dictionary meaning. This description covers all statutorily recognised forests, whether designated as reserved, protected or otherwise for the purpose of Section 2(i) of the Forest Conservation Act.

The term "forest land", occurring in Section 2, will not only include "forest" as understood in the dictionary sense, but also any area recorded as forest in the Government record irrespective of the ownership."

Conclusion

An all-encompassing definition of 'forest' wasn't possible for India because the country had 16 different kinds

of forest. A tract of grassland in one State might qualify in one region as forest, but not in another. However, once a State applied a criteria, it couldn't be reversed.

The onus on the States to define forests is also significant, environmentalists have pointed out, because the States often claim that they are helpless in preventing encroachment because a patch of land in question hadn't been notified as forest. A recent instance was the felling of trees in Mumbai's Aarey Colony, which officially isn't classified as 'forest.'

Till the time a consensus can be arrived at on definition of forest, the definition provided for by the Apex Court may be useful.

(The author is Retired Conservator of Forests, Telangana State, authored many books on Forest and allied Acts, Forest Code and drafted various amendments. Currently he is working as Legal consultant to the AP Forest Department and a practicing Advocate in the AP High Court.)

Every education system in the world is being reformed at the moment, and it's not enough. Reform is no use anymore, because that's simply improving a broken model. What we need...is not evolution, but a revolution in education. This has to be transformed into something else.

– Sir Ken Robinson.

Continuation from page No.34

an accidental fire burnt area in March,2014.

Foresters on foot in elephants' country are at the mercy of fate and they walk with "heart in mouth".

Why the tuskers are more dangerous for the human? It can be interpreted as....and not more. The herd of elephant is secured as they are more in number for self-defense under the leadership of elders and they don't attack leading to fatal.... whereas in the case of isolated mother & calf-nursing mother attacks the intruder- man or animal or vehicle to drive away with the fear of danger to its calf from the intruder..... whereas the tusker moves alone or in twos as they are

thrown out by the herd due to their sexual misbehaviors and targeted by poachers for ivory theft-have fear for men, the reasons, the moment they see any intruder especially- man to their territory, they feel he is an enemy and attack, ambush to chase him out or kill him in self-defense. The tuskers on musth (in heat) behave unpredictable behavior and attacks man or animals whichever comes across it. The Elephant's eyesight is weak, and it targets one object that it notices first might be the reason for it to chase one man in a file of men to attack and kill...or a man or an animal in file or heard it targets to chased and attack.

(The writer is former Wildlife Warden, Bandipur TR and a freelance writer on Wildlife, Forestry & Environment. He can be contacted over mobile: +919632781811 and email: bmt.rajeev.ifs@gmail.com).

Vision India

V. V. Hariprasad



*I am a proud Indian
And cherish the rich heritage
And past glory of India
Where
zero was invented as a mathematical concept
Bhaskaracharya calculated the time
Taken by earth to orbit the sun
Susruta was recognized as father of surgery
Budhayana was the mathematician
To first calculate the value of "Pi"
And Charaka was considered
As father of medicine.
All kudos to the persons of eminence and chivalry
who paved the way glorifying India's past?*

*But nowadays in India I bemoan
The appalling plight of masses afflicted by penury
The ubiquitous and incorrigible corrupt practices of
bureaucrats*

*The avaricious political pygmies
The vicious circle of their political manoeuvres and
dexterity.
Luring the ignorant masses through their fiscal
profligacy
The growing religious fanaticism and bigotry
And above all
The prevailing unhindered mobocracy.*

*But I envision a great India and eagerly look forward
where
Hungry masses are not to be seen
No illiteracy can be found
Personal integrity is prevalent among one and all
population explosion is curtailed
And development in the real sense
Takes roots in the society
Throughout the country
Proliferating equity among all citizens of India.*

(The writer is a retired D.Y.C.F., an advocate, former consultant of IFB Govt. of India and a visiting faculty of Central university Hyd. and can be contacted at: vvhp53@gmail.com and mobile 7893673767)

*Every child deserves a champion: an adult who will never
give up on them, who understands the power of connection
and insists they become the best they can possibly be.*

– Rita Pierson



Green Crown on the Globe

Nagabhushanam Dasari, IFS (Retd.)

Noticed deviation in the melody voice of Cuckoo's
Visualized drastic depletion in the habitat of
sparrows
Frog, dog, millipede, snake eventually
the bats were not left from eating habit of human race
No Abnus fruits were traced with gun-barrel eyes
What will happen to the mighty lion species?
The birth rate of glorious tigers is completely
declined
Is there any increased count of any wildlife
with crores worth projects?
Is there any steps to curtail the vulture species
from the edge of extinction?
Thousands upon thousands of increasing
Human birth figure per minute like
a pile of weeds the earth could not bear

Polluted smoke emission of factories
chopping the throat of rainy clouds
Mischievous disposal of venomous chemical waste
destroying health of mother land
causing incurable cancerous diseases.
Rules and regulations succumbed with glaucoma
The heads of the hillocks were cut off,
and the mountains were plundered
Swallowed the water storage space of ponds

Harassment of female tiny children
like wild animals with spoiled relations
There is no protection for shade giving trees
from the cutters who mint money
Cutting the legs of immovable trees
To increase their own land space
Where is the need to put fire to green forests
make into ashes and to produce
filthy films to inspire the smuggling activity?

Six feet of space sufficient to an individual,
but engulfed the whole land without a trace
also making plans for encroaching planets
If the human race only wanted
the power of reining entire world
Definitely nature buries everyone
inside the earth with her strong foot
Pathetic days are very near!
As per the disclosure of Brahman
the time of destruction is nearby
No fear symptoms in mankind
even after disastrous Corona eruption
Why intellectuals are not bothering about future
The worst deeds of literates spoiled the entire globe
And converted into garbage ground
Entire world body is bed ridden
duly attacked with psoriasis and paralysis
All the life corridors have collapsed
and were closure to death.

Every particle of clay is waiting for affectionate touch
Every green leaf sheds tears in soaring temperature,
The ground cracks eagerly looking for the taste of
moisture
Lonely trees with despaired looks for their protection
hands
Awake at least now!
Leave behind dull intoxicated sleep
Don't set fires to forest cover assure meager
quantum water,
Do not allow to graze cattle and browse goats
Be patient and watch silently
Question me if new forest would not be generated
Like pleasant dawn in the sky and green crown on
the globe.

(The poet is a retired CF, Telangana, artist, painter and cartoonist and can be contacted over email: dasari.nagabhushanam@gmail.com and mobile no: 80965 11200)

Ideas and Innovations (Part-1)

Fertile Area for Forestry Extension**Dr K. Tirupataiah, IFS (Retd.)**

From the hot bed of left-wing extremism in Nizamabad, I landed up in Ananthapur for my first, and what would be the last, District posting. I was quite raw in terms of experience and on top of it, I was succeeding an officer who was most loved over there- both for his forestry work as well as for his gentleman conduct. There was definitely doubts within me and among others whether I would be the right replacement there. My only experience of Ananthapur prior to my posting as District Forest Officer (probably the only position in the state which was not called Divisional Forest Officer) was a visit to SV Puram to visit parents of my batchmate while doing range training at Velugodu, Kurnool district. It took some time for me to get accustomed to the work culture and activity in such a large district.

As soon as I got a hang of the work, I realized that most of the work there is related to forestry extension/social forestry. Having had a Doctoral degree in Agricultural Extension, it gave me some sense of confidence to look out for strategic ideas. I must say that I had probably the best guides in my first district and I always remain indebted to them for bearing with me, a raw rookie on many counts. Some of the extension activities that I would like recount here are as under:

A Manual for Forestry Extension

Late eighties and early nineties were the time of Social Forestry with Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) assisted social forestry at its peak. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry) somehow came to know that I had extension background. He called up one day and requested that we may attempt a manual of social forestry for Andhra Pradesh. It was a great opportunity to draw important aspects of Agricultural Extension and aspects from manuals of Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). We drew up a large number of modules that started from individual

households and went up to block plantations, village woodlots, etc. The CCF (SF), a towering person, was also very tall in his appreciation of the work done.

All credit goes to my first CF, who also worked as DFO Ananthapur earlier, for a comprehensive understanding and experience of implementing various social forestry modules in the field. I must thank him and all field staff who shared their experience of the merits and demerits of each of the innovative modules. It was amazing to see how much practical adaptation evolved over a period of time to make maximum use of the scarce rainfall there.

Aerial Seeding

The soils of Ananthapur district are, in general, very refractive. The district receives the second lowest rainfall in India (first being Jaisalmer) with an average of about 520 mm rain/annum. Added to that, when it rains it pours. The result is that water does not get time to percolate and improve soil moisture. Quick run-off and flash floods are a common and surprise factor. The geography of the district, especially the forest area, is so rolling with steep rocky hills. Taking up plantation in such areas is near impossible on account of inaccessibility.

The Conservator of Forests, an Innovator and entrepreneur at heart, came up with the idea of aerial seeding of hardy species in such areas. Rigorous study was required to understand the dormancy, viability, etc of various seeds. Again, my agriculture background and education came in handy. We set up a huge mission that had seed collection/procurement teams, seed storage, treatment plant, chemicals and all required things. My agricultural Scientist (Plant pathology) wife also contributed her part in seed treatment and other aspects. It was a great learning experience under the

leadership of the CF for everyone as it was done in a most enjoyable atmosphere.

Once the seeds were treated and ready, they were transported to Puttaparthi where an air field was being prepared as part of building an airport by the Airports Authority of India. The runway wasn't yet ready but it was adequate for a small plane to take-off and land. Necessary aircraft hiring and operating permissions were obtained in double quick time. The assistance of an Indian Air Force Pilot working as ADC to the President of India of India need to be particularly mentioned here. That was my first experience of getting in to a plane (of any type). The whole experience was unique and at the same time a first of its kind. Some

forest blocks in and around Penukonda were fenced with what is popularly called "Ananthapur Wall", a wall built with locally available loose boulders running in to kilometers at a stretch. These areas were found ideal for aerial seeding since the walls acted as natural protection from grazing. Select pilot sample plots were laid and measurements from fall of seeds, germination, growth, etc were measured and recorded. For given conditions, the results were quite encouraging.

While the district had hardly a little over 1.0% of geographical area under forests, I felt that practically the whole geographical area of the district was available for extension/social forestry (to be continued).

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During a prank, a student stuck a piece of paper on his classmate's back that read "I'm Stupid". The student asked the rest of the class not to tell the boy.

Intermittently, the students began to laugh on and off at the boy.

That afternoon in maths class their teacher wrote a difficult question on the board in which no one was able to answer it except the boy with sticker.

Amid the unexplained giggles, he walked toward the board and solved the problem.

The teacher asked the class to clap for him and removed the paper on his back.

She told him "It seems that you didn't know about the paper your classmate had placed on your back."

Then teacher looked at the rest of the class and said: "Before I give you a punishment, let me tell you 2 things".

"Firstly, throughout your life, people will always put labels on you. If your classmate knew about the paper, he wouldn't have stood up to answer the question".

"Secondly, it's clear that he doesn't have a loyal friend among any of you to tell him about sticker".

It doesn't matter how many friends you have it is the loyalty you share with your friends that matters.

If you don't have friends who you can depend on when your back is turned, friends who watch over you, protect you and who genuinely care about you, you are better off being alone.

Credit: Life Journal

Stream-flow Forecasting- Effective Reservoir Management

Dr B. R. Raghotham Rao Desai, IFS (Retd.)



Introduction:

A stream being a small narrow river, precise forecasting of its flow is of utmost importance for adequate management of water-resources-systems as well as for mitigation of natural disasters (such as droughts and floods). Such forecasts are vital for the effective reservoir-management (through operation of water-supply utilities) and optimal reservoir operations, involving multiple objectives of irrigation, hydropower generation, and sustainable development of water resources. This is the main reason that 'accurate stream-flow forecasting' has been, of late, gaining attention worldwide for the past few decades---- there being as a consequence, an enormous growth and development of a wide variety of methods (that are applied) to stream-flow forecasting:-

- a) Physical (or process-based) methods: Methods such as 'soil and water assessment tool' define stream-flow as a function of hydrological process (such as rainfall, physiographic features, etc) in a deterministic manner, but there is difficulty in their implementation. On the other hand,
- b) Statistical (or data-driven) methods: describing stream-flow in a probabilistic or stochastic (i.e., random probability distribution, but not predicted precisely) manner, addressing the uncertainty in observed data---- requiring minimum information, while having rapid developmental time ---- performs more economically (than the process-based methods).

Despite the strengths and weaknesses of both the varieties, (b) is preferred over (a) under the data-scarcity conditions ---- looking at difficulty in developing a good hydrological model and robustness of the statistical methods.

Fact file:

Of various statistical methods for the said forecasting,

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latter one is the most widely used conventional method in the past few years, mainly due to its excellent forecasting capabilities, inclusion of richer information on time-related changes, & a systematic and standard methodology (involving identification, estimation and diagnostic check).

Prior to the said modelling, normality, homogeneity, and stationarity are examined (in 40 years stream-flow series) and deterministic components of periodicity and trend are identified and removed. Then, residual series is used for developing stochastic (i.e., having pattern not predicted precisely) models and estimating model parameters. Once validated, the model is used for forecasting.

Conclusion:

Undoubtedly such results are useful for the planners, water managers and policy makers in formulating appropriate strategies for sustainable management of stream-flow in semi-arid climate in particular----the findings of study would be useful in reservoir operation policies (such as in estimating the reservoir release amount) based on the reservoir's current status.

Stream-flow forecasting being an important component of water resource system control and a challenging task for water resources engineers & managers, is often used for flood warning purposes. Precise prediction is essential for many activities such as flood and drought control, reservoir operation, water supply planning & hydro-electric power generation.

Prior to applying stochastic modelling, a stream-flow time series is required to be decomposed into suitable and well-defined components that are either deterministic (normality, stationarity, homogeneity, periodicity and trend) or stochastic. The deterministic components are identified, detected, quantified and then removed from the series, and the residuals are used for developing stochastic models.



Criminal Justice and Fundamental Rights

V.V. Hariprasad, M.S(IS), M.A, M.Phil, LL.M, PGDEM, PGDCL& IPR, PGDCJ & FS

The state shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India. (Article 14). The principle of equality enshrined in the preamble and especially stated in article 14 is the foundation of the rule of law. Equality before law was one of the demands of national struggle for freedom. The people fought against discrimination, disqualification, or disability on unreasonable grounds like gender difference.

Civil Liberties and personal liberty

While Article 19 of the constitution of India explains civil liberties, the article 21 provides a guarantee for personal liberty and the life. Apart from the rights listed under article 19 the residuary personal liberties are provided by article 21. Article 21 is complementary to article 19. It is significant to note that the personal liberty is equated with life. The whole of Indian penal code, Indian evidence act and criminal procedure code are the instruments to protect the life and liberty through the prosecution and the hierarchy of courts. The system of criminal justice is founded on rule of law and constitutionalism.

Life and liberty

No person shall be deprived of life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.

To arrest and punish with imprisonment and death penalty, if needed, is provided by detailed procedure under three major criminal acts. The law referred under Article 21 is the combination of these three enactments with entire system of administration set into motion by prosecution based on the impartial, objective and independent investigation. Following due process, the courts have to examine the laws and the procedures from the standpoint of unreasonableness, fairness and justness. The law made by legislature is subject to judicial scrutiny on the touchstone of the Constitution. Thus, "the procedure established by law"

means law which is either upheld or not declared to be unconstitutional by the judiciary. Four conditions have to be fulfilled before any, law or order deprives a person of his right to life and liberty:

1. There must be a valid law
2. Law must lay down the procedure
3. The procedure must be right, just and fair
4. The law must meet the requirements of Article 14 and 19 also

Thus article 21 is controlled by article 14 and article 19.

Criminal justice In India

The Constitution of India enshrined this principle of criminal justice in fundamental rights chapter. "No person accused of any offence shall be compelled to be a witness against himself". But the protection in India is narrower than that is available in USA, which extends protection to the witnesses also. In India the protection is provided only to the accused and not to the witness, which means that a witness can be compelled to give self-incriminating statements.

The Supreme Court did not accept the contention that the guarantee against testimonial compulsion is to be confined to oral testimony at the witness stand when standing trial for an offence. The guarantee was, thus, held to include not only oral testimony given in Court or out of Court, but also to statements in writing which incriminated the maker when figuring as an accused person. The Court went on to observe that to be witness means "to furnish evidence" and includes not only oral testimony or statements in writing of the accused but also production of a thing or of evidence by other modes.

The Court observed in State of Bombay v. Kathikalu

"To be a witness" may be equivalent to "furnishing evidence" in the sense of making oral or written statements, but not in the larger sense of the expression so

as to include giving of thumb impression or impression of palm or foot or fingers or specimen writing or exposing a part of the body by an accused person for purpose of identification.

The constitution makers though intended to protect an accused from the hazards of self-incrimination, they could not have intended to put obstacles in the way of efficient and effective investigation into crime and of bringing criminals to justice. The taking of impression of parts of the body of an accused person very often becomes necessary to help the investigation of a crime.

There are three characteristic features of this principle.

- I. That the accused is presumed to be innocent.
- II. That it is for the prosecution to establish the guilt.
- III. That the accused need not make any statement against his will

Protection against arrest:

The powers of police to arrest are subject to certain restraints, which are primarily provided for the protection of the interests of the person to be arrested and also of the society at large. Imposition of these restrictions can be considered as the-recognition of the rights of the arrested person.

Arrest and detention in police lock up may be traumatic for a person. Arrests can not be made simply because it is lawful for a police officer to arrest. Every arrest must be justified. No arrest can be made in a routine manner, without a reasonable satisfaction reached after investigation as to the genuineness and bona fide of a complaint and a reasonable belief both as to the person's complicity and even so as to the need to effect arrest.

Article 22 guarantees the minimum rights to arrested persons, Following safeguards are available:

1) Right to know the grounds: A person is not to be detained in custody without being informed as soon as may be of the grounds of arrest. [Art 22(1)]. Failure to inform will entitle the arrested to be released".

- a) Section 50(1) "every police officer or other person arresting any person, without warrant shall forthwith communicate to him full particulars of the of-

fence for which he is arrested or other grounds of arrest".

- b) Section 55. When a subordinate officer is deputed by a senior police officer to arrest a person under Section 55, such subordinate officer shall before making the arrest, notify to the person to be arrested the substance of the written order given by the senior police officer specifying the offence or other cause for which the arrest is to be made. Non-compliance with this provision will render the arrest illegal.
- c) Section 75: When arrest is to be made under a warrant, Section 75 provides the 'police officer or other person executing a warrant of arrest shall notify the substance thereof to the person to be arrested, and if so required, shall show him the warrant". If the substance of the warrant is not notified, the arrest would be unlawful.

Precious right: Timely information of the grounds of arrest serves him in many ways. It enables him to move the court for bail or prepare for the defense. If the arrest made without warrant by a magistrate under Section 44, the case is not covered by any of Sections 50, 55, 75 nor by any other provision in the Code requiring the Magistrate to communicate the grounds of arrest to the arrested person, the magistrate is bound by Article 22(1) to disclose the grounds.

- 2) Information regarding the right to be released on bail: Section 50(2) provides for it.
- 3) Right to consult a legal practitioner: A person shall not be denied the right to consult, and to be defended by a legal practitioner of his choice. [Art 22(2)1] Right to consult lawyer of his choice begins right from the time of arrest. Arrested person has a right, upon request, to have someone informed and to consult privately with a lawyer. (These rights are inherent in articles 21, 22, and Section 303 of CrPC)
- 4) Right to be taken before a magistrate without delay: A person arrested and detained in custody is to be produced before the nearest magistrate within a period of 24 hours of his arrest excluding the time necessary for the journey from the place

of arrest to the magistrate's court: [Art 22(2)], Sections 56, and 76.

- 5) Right of not being detained for more than 24 hours without Judicial scrutiny: No such person is to be detained in custody beyond this period without the authority of a magistrate. [Art 22(2)]. Section 57 also provides for it.
- 6) Right to be examined by medical practitioner: Section 54 provides for it. These safeguards under Article 22 are necessary because of the right to life and liberty is guaranteed under Article 21.

Right to Know the Grounds

The Supreme Court formulated following guidelines regarding arrest with a purpose

to enforce the safeguards guaranteed under the Constitution in the case of *Shri D.K. Basu v State of West Bengal*”:

1. Arresting or interrogating officer should wear clear identification and name tags with their designations. Those particulars have to be recorded in a register.
2. Officer should prepare a memo, which has to be attested by one witness, countersigned by arrestee containing date and time of arrest.
3. Arrested person shall be entitled to have one friend, or relative or other person being informed as soon as practicable about his arrest, place of detention.
4. If the next friend lives outside the district or town, the time, place of arrest and venue of custody of an arrestee must be notified by police through the Legal Aid Organization in the District and the police station of the area concerned telegraphically or otherwise within a period of 8 to 12 hours after the arrest.
5. Arrested must be made aware of this right to have someone informed.
6. Entry must be made in the diary at the place of detention along with the name of next friend of arrested and names and particulars of the police officials in whose custody the arrestee is.

7. On his request, the arrestee has to be examined at the time of his arrest any major or minor injuries present on his body and must be recorded as in memo which must be signed both by the arrestee and the police officer affecting the arrest and its copy provided to arrestee.
8. Arrestee should be subjected to medical examination every 48 hours of his detention by a doctor on the panel approved by Director Health Services of the State or Union Territory.
9. Copies of all documents should be sent to concerned magistrate for record.
10. Fact of arrest should be informed within 12 hours, to police control room. which has to display it on conspicuous notice board.
11. Failure to comply with the requirements render the official liable for departmental action and also for punishment for contempt of court and the proceedings of contempt of court may be instituted in any High Court.

A person cannot be arrested merely on the suspicion of complicity in an offence. There must be reasonable justification in the opinion of the officer effecting arrest that such arrest is necessary and justified. The Supreme court reiterated the *D.K. Basu* principle in *Joginder Kumar* case also.

Right to defense

The due process of law clause in the Constitution of United States, a rule is provided that in a criminal case where the defendant is unable to employ a counsel and is himself incapable of adequately defending himself because of ignorance, feeble mindedness illiteracy, etc., it is the duty of the court, whether requested or not, to assign a counsel for him.

Such a duty is not imposed on the State in India.

In *Janardan Reddy v State of Hyderabad*, the Supreme Court ruled that right to be defended by a lawyer of his choice does not include a guarantee of an absolute right to be supplied with a lawyer by the State. Then the Article 39A was added to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment. Section 304(1) is added to Cr.P.C. which says: “Where in a trial before the court of ses-

sion, the accused is not represented by a pleader, and where it appears to the court that the accused has not sufficient means to engage a pleader the court shall assign a pleader for his defense at the expense of the state.

Conclusion

The former Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission, Justice J.S. Verma, had observed in the context of need for creating a better understanding and awareness about human rights, thus:

"While human rights awareness and sensitivity has grown by leaps and bounds over the last few decades, their actual application and realization at the ground level has been rather modest. The gap between grow-

ing awareness and sensitivity vis-a-vis practical application has therefore been recognized as the central obstacle in the substantive realization of human rights. A very important link in this process is equipping the grass-root level judiciary"

The aforesaid underscores the need for developing human rights awareness and sensitivity, not only amongst the investigation and prosecution officials, but even the members of the primary judiciary. Since the roles played by diverse agencies in the criminal justice processes are inextricably bound-up with each other, the present compilation has tried to address all of them combinedly, though the focus remains to be on the judiciary.

(The writer a Retired DyCF and a guest faculty of cyber laws and IPR in the Central University of Hyderabad, a practicing advocate and also a permanent member in Telangana High court Bar Association. He can be contacted on vvhp53@gmail.com or through 7893673767)

Negativity and Patriotism

Our Neo-Patriots say "You are negative" for speaking the truth and would prefer to be fed a number of positive lies or half-truths.

Go to Japan and tell a Japanese his product is inferior to one being made in Germany, he will get the details and modify his designs.

Go to China and tell a Chinese his product is inferior to one being made in Japan, he will go to Japan, steal the product, steal the design and re-engineer the whole thing in 3 years.

Go to India and tell an Indian that his product is inferior to one being made in Germany and he will ask you to shut up, then he will tell you not to compare the two countries, he will make excuses about funding, money and he will say we all have to start somewhere (yes we do...we have to start somewhere if you have a unique product, not when you have a product 5000 companies manufacture at a quality ten times better than yours)

And then you are labelled "Pessimistic" and "Negative" and eventually as "Anti - National"

So Japan and China surge ahead while India remains behind boasting of its Bajaj Chetak when the world is on BMW and Harley Bikes.

So instead of the Corruption and this and that etc. – one could say the biggest reason would be our - ATTITUDE PROBLEM. We are so scared of competition that we keep hailing mediocrity and keep hailing mediocre people are heroes.

Everything else comes later.

If Attitude were different, Indians can achieve much more and corruption and everything else cannot keep us down.



Foot Patrolling- An Essential Element In Forest Protection

M. Ram Mohan

Forest Protection is the mainstay of the Forest Department. Forest protection ensures good health and wealth of forests and wildlife. Uniformed field officers, in-charge of specified areas of forests, are primarily accountable for protection of forests. Forests are treasure trove of natural resources that harbour innumerable precious animate and inanimate things which can neither express their grievances nor protect themselves from various quarters. Here comes the role of the foresters who are entrusted with the yeoman responsibility of protecting the forests. The in-charge field officers patrol the forests regularly moving from one corner to another duly covering vulnerable places of the forests to prevent or control the illicit removal of forest produce and encroachments. Patrolling on foot, often called foot-patrolling, has been the time-tested mode of patrolling and considered to be the best of all kinds of practices employed for protecting the forests.

As often enunciated by ace foresters, a forester must possess a strong pair of legs and a strong sense of observation and hearing which would enable the officer to move on foot in the forest and notice the things. A few kilometers of foot patrolling of forests by the field forester gives one a broad idea of the forests and such repeated patrolling, over a period of time, encompassing all the area gives a comprehensive understanding of the forests and the issues, if any.

Foot patrolling gives one the basic knowledge of various flora, fauna, terrains, boundaries, soils, water holes, salt lick areas, timber bearing areas, availability of various seeds, NTFP areas, nalas, vulnerable areas, cart tracks, routes, direct and indirect evidences of wildlife, biotic interference, seasonal variations, etc. Foot patrolling also gives one a chance to closely and thoroughly inspect the forests and the areas of incidence of offenses that occur in forests even in

the remote areas. Foot patrolling holds indispensable place in forest protection and having immense value in knowing the issues oneself regarding forest protection especially, tree felling, encroachments, extension of encroachments, mining and poaching which are considered to be the core challenges the forests face. Walking on the forest boundary and the forest line along the encroached forest lands gives the forester an actual picture of the ground realities of the forest boundary or line.

As one moves slowly in the forest, the foot patrolling gives the field-man an opportunity to observe the surroundings keenly and comprehend the things. A real forester never fails to notice and appreciate the marvels of nature - vivid colors of foliage in different shades, various forms of trees, varied colors and fragrances of blooming flowers, oozing gums, presence of colorful birds and their calls, uninterrupted collective loud and shrill sound of cicadas, crickets, squeaking sounds of squirrels, etc., to observe a few - while moving in the forest. Nature is such a wonderful creation that it is so secretive and will be unraveling the mysteries gradually that in every trip of foot patrolling, one can come across newer things, experiences, despite the individual may have prior knowledge of the paths or places. The nature appears in versatile hues in variable seasons and at different times. Usually, the mornings and evenings would be abuzz with the activity of various animals and birds. Morning time would be calm and serene, therefore, one feels pleasant, unwearied and gives one a chance of observing the direct and indirect evidences of wildlife in the undisturbed vicinity. One should be calm and composed and avoid loud talk while moving on foot.

Company of one or two persons, including a person who is well acquainted with forests and terrain, during

foot patrolling would be better and help the individual to understand and broaden his or her horizons regarding nature. It will be proper to have two members at least in the team of foot walkers, as the forest area would usually be remote area or having wildlife movement or going to get no help in case of emergency, etc. The junior officers would benefit immensely during foot patrolling, if they accompany the seasoned foresters. A nature enthusiast, accompanied by a person having well acquaintance with the area, would gain knowledge immensely and come to know many a thing during interaction and benefit mutually and such repeated interactions would pave way strengthening the bond of trust and enhancing confidence levels in the subordinate field staff which would augur well for the forests. Ample time that one spends during foot patrolling, which is not possible otherwise, would help the individual to observe and comprehend the phenomena in the nature. No person will ever miss cherishing the direct sighting of wildlife and noticing their indirect evidences such as foot marks, scrapes, rake marks, quills, feathers, fecal matter, etc., which one come across during foot patrolling.

The distance to be covered in the foot patrolling would often be of a few kilometers which requires a good amount of energies - need more while trekking hilly areas- for the walker. It is more energy consuming to do foot patrolling in slippery soils, such as black cotton,

choudu, during monsoon time. But, it is quite necessary to do foot patrolling during monsoon time as the paths leading into and inside the forests become impliable for vehicles, even for two-wheelers. Moreover, it is very important to do foot patrolling more in rainy season, as the smuggling activity will be more in vulnerable areas, as the mobility of forest staff will be less or rare. Taking it as an advantage the smuggling, often tree felling, takes place.

One shall not ignore to eat good amount of food before embarking on foot patrolling and also carry water and food along. A forester on foot shall not forget to wear a pair of good gripped field shoes and cloths that blend with the surroundings and better to be in khaki/ camouflage dress with cap and carry a camera and a rain coat in rainy season. A strong stick in hand would be helpful for support while doing foot patrolling during rain and in hilly terrain. The foot walking foresters shall also carry the things required in the field such as, tape, bill hook, paint, map, gps, etc., and other information required for inspection, if any. Though the foot-patrolling would be exhausting and tiresome, it is the best, indisputable and time-tested way employed, for protection of forests, which shall not be neglected. A real forester rejoices each step and every trip of foot patrolling and ever be cherishing the moments spent in the lap of the nature.

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“Human relationships are rich and they’re messy and they’re demanding. And we clean them up with technology. And when we do, one of the things that can happen is that we sacrifice conversation for mere connection. We shortchange ourselves. And over time, we seem to forget this, or we seem to stop caring.”

- Sherry Turkle



Osteoporosis - Part III (POROUS BONES AND JOINTS)

Dr. N. V. Jayanth Babu

PLANT BASED REMEDIAL MEASURES FOR OVERCOMING - OSTEOPOROSIS (stage I to stage III.)

ITEM - I. (Contd.)

2. Intake of *Glycyrrhiza glabra* is to be ensured as this plant contains Glycyrrhizin a key component.
3. Intake of *Vitex agnus castus* balances hormonal imbalance
4. *Trifolium petense* contains phyto estrogenic isoflavones for curing osteoporosis
5. Horse tail equisetum of equisetum family contains collagen a key protein present in ligaments, bones and cartilage. It also contains silica which helps to fix calcium for repairing bone tissues.
6. The species *Fucus vesiculosus* is useful for osteoporosis as well as for Rheumatoid arthritis for internal, as well for external applications.
7. *Trigonella foenum-graecum* - Fenugreek / Menthi. Daily intake of menthi leaves by adding in our diet contributes a lot for regularising the imbalance of the Hormones and for preventing osteoporosis in both men and women
8. *Basella alba*, Bachhali, Family:Basellaceae Strengthens bones.

ITEM - II

DIET RECOMMENDED TO BALANCE HARMONES IN OSTEOPOROSIS

1. Pine apple. 2) Avocado. 3) Green tea. 4) Alfa-Alfa. 5) Coriander

ITEM – III

Several plants are having the medicinal properties to prevent and for addressing osteoporosis successfully in the early stages. Few of such plant species are indicated for appreciation.

* ***Withnia somnifera*:** Family Solanaceae: Aswagandha, helps to increase Testosterone levels in men, increase in muscle size and strength, physical energy, stamina and endurance levels which are very much useful in overcoming Arthritis. It is useful for boosting immunity, combats against neuro-degenerative diseases and acts as Anti-inflammatory. Aswagandha reduces and stabilises blood sugar levels. These facts were confirmed from the research studies conducted on Weight- Lifters, Athletes and other targeted groups of people practicing high impact sports, over a period of time. Aswagandha extract 250 mg with the support of Magnesium reduces negative effects of functioning of Adrenal glands to reduce stress and anxiety and also regulates Thyroid hormone.

* ***Tinospora cordifolia*** and other species are *Tinospora crispa*, *Tinospora sinensis* of Family Menispermaceae - Tippa teega- An immune booster- capable of curing around 300 ailments, is also capable of curing osteoarthritis, preventing osteoporosis and tightening / shrinking of stretched out Ligaments. Tinospora extract 250 mg., together with Aswagandha 250 mg once in a day gives relief to the bones and joints.

* ***Moringa oleifera*** of Family Moringaceae, Drum-stick / Munaga, Miracle tree and a super food which contains 92 nutrients like Calcium, Potassium, Zinc, Magnesium, Iron, Copper, vitamins A, B1, B2, B3, B9, C, D, & E, along with high concentration of 46 antioxidants, 36 anti-inflammatory ingredients and a variety Proteins. MORINGA IS VERY GOOD FOR TREATING OSTEOPOROSIS OSTEOARTHRITIS. 100 grams of dried leaves powder of Moringa contains

1500 to 1800 mg. of calcium 20 mg of iron, 30 grams of protein, 1600 mg of potassium, Zinc 240 mg, magnesium 473 mg, protein 24 mg., copper 0.9 mg play a key role in addressing inflammation in osteoarthritis, and osteoporosis very much effectively. Makes bones much healthier and stronger. It is Anti-Fungal, Anti-viral, Anti-Bacterial, Anti-inflammatory and Anti-Cancerous. Increases blood cells count prevents Anaemia and Sickle cell disease. Improves eye health, protects against kidney disorders and stomach complaints. Helps arteries from thickening and protects from cardiovascular diseases. Useful in treating Asthma, oedema and mood disorders. Decreases blood sugar levels, Cholesterol and Hypertension. A VERY GOOD Immune booster. Dosage 10 grams of shade dried clean leaves powder per day or 100 grams of green leaves 100 grams per day.

- * **Sesbania grandiflora** –Avisa - Agathi – Agasthya – Humming bird tree, Family Fabaceae.

One of the 7 indicative plants of saptarshi mandal. There are totally 22 species of sesbania and only 11 species among them are used for edible purpose. The edible parts of sesbania are, soft and tender leaves, flowers, tender pods (without petioles and stamens,) which are boiled and deep fried, made in to curry by mixing with garlic and grated coconut and eaten. 100 grams of green leaves contain Immense amounts of Calcium ie., 666 mg to 1130 mg., protein 8 grams, Phosphorous- 80 mg, Iron 4 mg, selenium 2 grams, Zinc valuable in fortifying the bones and reduces the risk of Osteoporosis and Arthritis especially in the old age. REGULAR ADDITION OF THIS NUTRIENT DENSE LEAVES PREVENT FRAGILE BONES, IMPROVES BONE MINERAL DENSITY AND SUPPORT BONE HEALTH. Sesbania repairs the damage caused to islet cells of pancreas, decrease the levels of glucose in blood, cholesterol, triglycerides, and high blood pressure. Useful in Curing migraine, Alzheimer, sinus, respiratory disorders, prevents and manages colon and lung cancers. Used as anti-dote to addiction of tobacco and cigarette

smoking. Contains high levels of antioxidants, also anti-microbial, anti-fungal and anti-tuberculosis properties. A very good immune booster. Dosage: 5 grams of shade dried leaves powder per day or cleaned green leaves and flowers @ 25 grams per day.

- * **Asparagus racemosus** of Family Asparagaceae: Satavari - It is proven in the researches that, this plant reduces inflammation in joints in particular osteoporosis, rheumatoid arthritis, and osteoarthritis, and osteoporosis. Acts as a rejuvenating tonic, astringent, aphrodisiac, and revitalizer. It dilates blood vessels reduces blood pressure and useful in weight loss in obese people.

- * **Cissus quadrangularis**: Nalleru : Family : Vitaceae, Grape vine Family. Telugu : Nalleru

Latest researches revealed that *Cissus quadrangularis* a power-packed plant rich in vitamin 'C' and plenty of antioxidants that provides us several health benefits. It strengthens our bones and prevents degradation of bone matter and bone loss. Intake of *Cissus quadrangularis* stimulates the production of osteoblasts that help in formation of new bone. Very much useful for treating Osteoporosis. It blocks the gene expression in genes that are responsible in increase of the storage of fats in our body. Reduces inflammation. Boosts up immunity. Aids in dental care. Heals wounds. Proven to be useful in fighting against diabetes. Protects our cardiovascular system and controls elevated blood pressure. Prevents heart attacks and strokes. Contributes to weight loss by suppressing appetite. Stimulates metabolism to burn fats in our body as well L.D.L cholesterol. *Cissus quadrangularis* can keep cortisol levels down and testosterone levels up which may contribute to boosting up muscle strength and increase in volume of muscles. Hence is very much useful for athletes. *Cissus quadrangularis* is useful in treating joints pain, swollen and stiff joints, haemorrhoids, gout, asthma, and allergies.

Intake of *Cissus quadrangularis* 500 mgs of tablets 3 times per day for 6 weeks helped to cure fractured jaw bones including reduction in pain and swelling.

Cissus quadrangularis, *Moringa* and all the plant products mentioned herein are available in open market and also in Amazon in the form of dried leaves, powders, tablets and capsules.

- * ***Cannabis sativa*** and ***cannabis indica*** of *cannabaceae*: cannabinoid cannabidiol (CBD) present in this plant makes bones much stronger and accelerates healing of bone fractures and osteoporosis. The CBD also helps to heal the unabsorbed cartilage, increases the strength of healed Femurs, therapeutic value to spinal cord injuries, as it lessens the loss of bone mineral that occurs in these injuries. (Ref: Endoca, European Journal of Pharmacology, International Immunopharmacology). It can also reverse the aging of Brain and capable of eliminating Neuro toxins from the brain completely when taken orally mixing with some other plant leaf powders like *senna alexandrina*. To be taken as medicine under the supervision and guidance of a doctor.

- * ***Centella asiatica*** of Family - *Apiaceae*. *Saraswathi* *aku*, *Mandukaparni*. A perennial herbaceous creeper. The leaves are used in preparation of chutney powders soups salads and in preparation of medicines. This herb is useful in curing osteoarthritis and osteoporosis. The dried leaves powder 100 g contains Calcium 1495 mg., Zinc 2.3 mg, Vit. A - 498.4 mcg, Vit. C 15.4 mg, Vit.K 468.59 mg., Protein 14.8 g, Iron 23.8 mg, Carotenes 32.03 mg, Dietary fibre 7.37g. Free radical scavenging activity is very high i.e., FDL at 84 %, Poly phenols, Antioxidants i.e., 80% along with other valuable medicinal properties. This plant is having Anti inflammatory effect on swollen and painful joints. This can efficiently reduce cartilage erosion and discomfort

in ailments of Arthritis. Relieves aching muscles. It possesses cognitive - enhancing and antioxidant properties. This plant is a blood purifier, memory booster, acts as brain tonic, regulates blood sugar, improves circulation and reduces swellings. Tones up skin health, prevents nerve disorders, and also useful for curing Asthma, stomach ulcers, bronchitis, Anxiety, Depression, emotional disorders, Insomnia, Lupus, psoriasis, female genito-urinary tract ailments and Alzheimer. The leaves powder can be used for value addition in smaller quantities in every day curries, owing to the presence of the rich nutritional values and high Antioxidant properties. Dose: Shade dried plants powder 3 grams per day and green plants 10 grams per day.

TREATMENT FOR OSTEOPOROSIS IN ALLOPATHY

DIAGNOSIS: Basing on the advice of an Orthopaedic Doctor cum Specialist, tests are to be conducted covering all the relevant parameters for ascertaining the stage of osteoporosis. DXA or DEXA scan is the most common way to measure bone density, bone loss, calcium loss in bones, vit. D, hormones, enzymes and proteins.

For intake of all the foods and supplements to control osteoporosis are advised.

MEDICATIONS

Initially the following Tablets, injections, infusions are given for osteoporosis.

- 1) Aledronate (Fosamax) pill given once in a week
- 2) Risedronate (Actonel) Tablet given once in a week or once in a month.
- 3) Ibandronate (Boniva) I. V. Infusion given once in a month or quarterly.
- 4) Zoledronic acid (Reclast) I.V. Infusion given once in a year.

(To be concluded)

(The writer is Retd. Divisional Forest Officer and can be contacted over +91 94402 66618 and email: nagireddy.jayanthbabu@gmail.com)

Reality of Life

Hari Kumar Jha, IFS (Retd.)



Do you know what normally happens after your funeral?

In a few hours the cry sound will be completely stopped.

Family will be busy ordering food from hotels for relatives..

Grandchildren running and playing.

Some men would go to the tea shop for walk before going to bed.

Your neighbour will be angry, thinking that your people may have thrown the Ritual leaves close to their gate.

A relative will talk to your daughter on the phone about not being able to come in person due to an emergency situation.

At the next day's dinner, few relatives get reduced, and few complains not having enough salt in the curry.

Foreign relations would have secretly planned tourism, as if they had never looked so far on the way there.

A relative may be complaining about funeral that he has spent a few hundred rupees more on his share.

The crowd will slowly begin to dissolve ..

In the coming days

Some calls may come to your phone without knowing you are dead.

Your office will be rushing to find someone to replace you.

One week later, after hearing the news of your death

Some Facebook friends may search with curious sadness to know what your last post was.

In two weeks, your son and daughter will return to work after their emergency leave get over.

By the end of the month, your spouse will be watching a comedy show and laughing.

In the coming months, your close relationships will return to the cinema and the beach.

Everybody's life will go back to normal

Just as there is no difference between a withered leaf of a big tree and what you live and die for, it all happens so easily, so fast, without any movement.

Rains have started, the election is coming, the crowds on the buses are as usual, an actress is getting married, the festival is coming, the World Cup cricket is going as planned, the flowers are in full bloom, and your pet gave birth to next puppy.

You will be forgotten by this world at an astonishing pace.

In the meanwhile, your first-year death anniversary will be celebrated in a grand manner.

In the blink of an eye

Years have passed and there is no one to talk about you.

One day, just looking at old photos, one of your close friends may remember you,

In your hometown, of the thousands of people you've become acquainted with, only one person may remember and talk about sometime.

You may be living elsewhere, as someone else, if reincarnation is true.

Otherwise, you will be nothing and will be plunged into darkness for decades.

Tell me now...

People are waiting to forget you easily

Then who are you running around for?

And who are you worried for?

For most part of your life, say 80%, you think about what your relatives and neighbors think about you..

Are you living a life to satisfy them? NO USE

This is reality of LIFE

Life is only Once, just live it up Fully....,

(The writer is former Prl. CCF of Karnataka Cadre; retired on superannuation on 31st July, 2022)



Birthday Greetings

We wish the following born on the dates mentioned

“A VERY HAPPY BIRTH DAY”



S.No.	Name of the Member	D.O.B.	S.No.	Name of the Serving Officers	D.O.B.
Sarva Sri			03.	Smt. M. Revathi	09-08-1970
1.	A.V. Joseph	05-08-1956	04.	Ps. Srinivasa Murthy	14-08-1962
2.	P. Rajendranath	10-08-1953	05.	Sivala Ram Babu	21-08-1980
3.	M. Mohan Rao	12-08-1952	06.	Smt.Sunita J.MaheshBhagwat	26-08-1970
4.	L.R. Sekhar	13-08-1953	07.	S.Srikanthanatha Reddy	25-08-1974
5.	K. Suryanarayana	15-08-1952	08.	B. Srinivas	02-09-1962
6.	V. Kishan	16-08-1950	09.	V. Ram Mohan	06-08-1967
7.	M. Pradyumna Reddy	23-08-1955	10.	A. Narsimha Reddy	08-08-1983
8.	Dr. N.V. Jayanth Babu	23-08-1953	11.	T. Venu Babu	09-08-1969
9.	A. Sudhakar	24-08-1948	12.	A. Rama Murthy	10-08-1969
10.	D. Basavasankar Rao	25-08-1955	13.	P.B. Narayana Kumar	13-08-1979
11.	P. Vishweshwaraiah	27-08-1951	14.	Smt. I. Pushpa Sowjanya	13-08-1981
12.	C. Muralidhar Rao	28-08-1941	15.	S. Venkatesh	15-08-1977
13.	P. Ranga Raju	30-08-1952	16.	Smt. P. Sunitha	15-08-1980
14.	T.V. Ranga Rajan	31-08-1935	17.	M. Venu Madhav Rao	16-08-1967
15.	M. Narasimha Reddy	02-09-1954	18.	D. Veena Vani	16-08-1981
16.	Dr. K. Tulsi Rao	03-09-1954	19.	Ch. Sivaiah	20-08-1967
			20.	S. Rajasekhar	20-08-1970
S.No. Name of the Serving Officers D.O.B.			21.	I. Kasi Viswanatha Raju	20-08-1967
Sarva Sri			22.	S.M. Hussainy	20-08-1961
01.	Syed Maqsood Hussain	07-08-1967	23.	Smt. P.N. Adilakshmi	23-08-1970
02.	Ananth Shankar	07-08-1988	24.	Smt. E. Harika	24-08-1984
			25.	P. Anil Kumar	30-08-1965
			26.	K. Ashok Kumar	31-08-1976
			27.	N. Siva Kumar Sangala	31-08-1975
			28.	M. Ravi Prasad	04-09-1966
			- Secretary		

Any Omissions and Commissions in the Names / Dates may kindly be informed to the Editor over WhatsApp or Email.

LEGAL NOTES**Bobbadi Appa Rao Vs. Asst. Treasury Officer, Visakhapatnam & Ors.
(A Pension Matter)****K. Buchi Ram Reddy, IFS (Retd.)**

The petitioner is a retired Tahsildar. He was born on 20.08.1952. Having joined the government service, he retired on superannuation on 21.08.2010 and was drawing his pension. He applied for additional 10% grant of pension in terms of G.O. Ms. No. 6 Fin. (Pension-I) dept. dated 12.01.2019. But the Respondent-1, in Lr. No.1327/A4/ATO/1327 dated 26.10.2021 rejected the claim of the petitioner as he has not reached 70 years and therefore, he is not entitled to 10% increase in his pension.

Aggrieved by the letter of the Asst Pension Officer, the petitioner filed Writ Petition No. 26092/2021 in the High Court of Andhra Pradesh. The case is heard by the Hon'ble Justice N. Jayasurya.

It is submitted by the counsel for the petitioner that the petitioner is governed by the A.P. Revised Pension Rules 1980, and he is entitled to the benefit of the additional pension in terms of the aforesaid G.O. As he entered the 70th year on 20.08.2021, he claimed the additional quantum of pension. It is laid down in the said G.O. that the additional pension of 10% is allowed to the service pensioners / family pensioners in the age group "From 70 years to less than 75 years". It is submitted that the expression "From 70 years" would have to be construed as from the beginning of 70th year and the stand taken by the first respondent is not sustainable.

It is further submitted that on interpretation of the first respondent, it would defeat the very purpose of granting additional quantum of pension to the aged pensioners as the same would provide some succor to the aged pensioners to meet their financial needs.

The learned counsel for the petitioner placed reliance on the judgment in Virendra Dutt Gyani Vs. Union of India decided by a DB of the Gauhati High Court on 15.03.2018 in W.P. No. 4224 of 2016. This judgment is confirmed by the Supreme Court in SLP No. 18133/2019 dated 08.07.2019. The learned counsel also cited judgments by single Judges of the Karnataka High Court in W.P. No. 18753/2011 dated 11.04.2012 and W.P. No. 505189/2014 dt. 13.09.2014. The learned counsel prays that the petition be allowed.

The Government Pleader in his reply arguments referred to the recommendations of the X Pay Commission wherein it was proposed inter alia a 15% Additional Quantum of Pension to those who crossed 70 years. This was of course not agreed.

The Court was confronted with the problem: the scope and meaning of the word "from". In this connection, the court referred to the decision of the Gauhati High Court. The question, as to whether the Petitioner (A Retd. High Court Judge), would be entitled to additional quantum of pension vis-à-vis, the expression "from 80 years as appearing in Sec. 17.B. of the High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act 1954 was examined. The court also referred to the dictionary meaning of the word "from" and opined that the word indicates the starting of 80 years. The reasoning of the High Court Bench applies to the present case.

In view of the above factual and legal position the court felt that the writ petition deserves to be allowed. Accordingly, the writ petition is allowed. The impugned letter dated 26.10.2021 is set aside and the respondents are directed to release 10 % additional quantum of pension with effect from 20.08.2021 i.e. on the entering the age of 70 years and continue to pay the same as provided in the G.O. dated 12.01.2022.

The writ petition is thus allowed with directions on 20.01.2022.

OBITUARY



Sri P. RAMESH (10.10.1959 - 20.6.2022)

Sri Poosa Ramesh, Retd. Dy CF expired on 20.6.2022 due to abrupt pancreatic carcinoma. Sri P. Ramesh was born on 10th October 1959. His mother was Smt Eswaramma and father Sri P. Kanakaiah, Retd. Executive Engineer, R&B. He was the 3rd son amongst his brothers with an elder sister. His elder brother is Dr P. Suresh Kumar, MS Ophthalmologist, 2nd brother is Late P. Kishore Kumar, Sub-Inspector of Police, who died in Naxalite blasting during a combing operation. His younger brother is

P. Umesh, working as AO in the SP office Mancherial.

After his selection as Forest Apprentice by the APPSC, he was sent to SFRC, Coimbatore, to undergo FRO training in 1986. After training, he worked as ARO at Bhadrachalam and as Forest Range Officer at Mobileparty, Mulugu, Bhupalpally North, Mahabubabad, Kodimyal, and FSP Warangal. He was promoted to ACF in 2008 and Dy.CF in 2017. He worked as DFO FSP Warangal, DFO Karimnagar East, DFO Kaghaznagar, and DFO Jagityal, where he retired.

He was married to Smt P. Madhavi and blessed with a Son, Mr P. Rajesh, who is working as a software engineer in the USA and a daughter, Mrs Dr Deekshitha, Dental Surgeon. Both the children got married and were well settled.

Sri P. Ramesh was a sincere, hard-working, and highly committed officer and appreciated all the officers he had worked with and, more so, subordinate officers. He was an excellent human being and an affectionate friend with a positive attitude.

He was known for his courage, straightforwardness, keen observation, a good network for forest protection and exceptional knowledge of forest and wildlife laws. He was awarded auxiliary increment by head office for his extraordinary salvage of teak timber by dare encounter with timber smugglers during 1990. He is an ardent lover of birds, and he used to go for Birding, and he was able to identify 100 plus birds in their wild habitat. He was elected president of Retired Forest Gazetted Officers of erstwhile Warangal circle. He played hockey for the national from forest department and was a good disciplinarian and received appreciation from all the department's senior officers and Heads of the department.

His death is mourned by his wife, two children, relatives, and a host of his batchmates, sub-ordinates who worked with him and a host of admirers in all fields.

May his noble soul rest in peace!

- K. Purushottam

"What we once enjoyed and deeply loved we can never lose, for all that we love deeply becomes part of us" – **Helen Keller**



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