

# **Entrance and Training Rules (Revised)**

## **2004, For Forest Range Officers**

### **NOTIFICATION**

#### **SECTION- I**

#### **GENERAL**

The Central Government, after consultations with the States concerned, hereby make the following rules, namely:-

1. **Short Title and Commencement:** These Rules may be called as **Entrance and Training Rules (Revised), 2004 for the Forest Range Officers** .
  - i. Their jurisdiction extends over whole of India.
  - ii. These shall come into force with effect from the academic session beginning April 2005.
2. **Definitions:** In these Rules unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context: -
  - i. **"Commission"** means Public Service Commission of the State/ Union Territory or Union Public Service Commission as the case may be.
  - ii. **"College/School/institute"** means a Forest Range Officers Training College/school/institute run by Government of India or a state Government.
  - iii. **"Course"** means training programme of eighteen months duration leading to award of Certificate in Forestry at Forest Range Officers Training College/School/Institute.

- iv. **"Director, Forest Education"** means an officer authorized by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India to exercise control over the Forest Range Officers Training Colleges/schools/institutes in India.
- v. **"Examination"** means theory or practical examination or test included under Rules 17 to 25.
- vi. **"Faculty"** means (a) Director, Forest Education and any other officer in the Directorate associated with teaching and (b) Principal, Instructor, Assistant Instructor, Scientist and Physical Training & Games Instructor of the College/school/institute.
- vii. **"Government"** means the Government of India, State Government or Government of the Union Territory or Foreign Government, as the case may be.
- viii. **"Officer Trainee"** means a candidate who conforms to these Rules and deputed by the Sponsoring Authority.
- ix. **"Principal"** means the Principal of a Forest Range Officers Training College/school/institute.
- x. **"Rules"** means Entrance and Training Rules (Revised) 2004, for Forest Range Officers .
- xi. **"Sponsoring Authority"** means Government of State/Union Territory/Foreign country sponsoring a candidate.
- xii. **"Study tour"** means tour arranged during the course by the Principal outside the headquarters and excludes the journey time.
- xiii. **"Subject"** means an individual subject mentioned under Rule.



3. The Principal shall be overall in-charge of general administration, which includes organizing and conducting the training courses, discipline and control over accounts etc., subject to over all supervision of Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests.

## **SECTION II**

### **ADMISSION RULES**

**4. Categories of Candidates:**

There shall be two categories of candidates:

- (i) Candidates sponsored by the State/Union Territory.
- (ii) Candidates sponsored by a Foreign Country.

**5. Allotment of seats:**

The Director, Forest Education shall decide the number of 'Officer Trainees' for category (i) of Rule 4 to be admitted giving due regard to the requirements of sponsoring authorities. He shall communicate the number of seats allotted in the respective college to the sponsoring authority well in advance of the commencement of the course. In case of demand of seats belonging to category (ii) of Rule-4, the Director, Forest Education shall communicate such allotment to respective sponsoring Governments under intimation to Government of India. In case, any sponsoring authority is not in a position to utilize full number of seats allotted in a particular year, it will intimate the same to the Director Forest Education well in time.

**6. Selection:**

- (a) Selection of a candidate shall rest with the concerned Sponsoring Authority.



- (b) The selection procedure adopted by the Sponsoring Authority must conform to the minimum standards laid down under Rule 7 to 11 for the candidate belonging to category (i) Rule 4.
- (c) Candidates belonging to category (ii) of Rule 4 must conform to requirements of Rules 8 to 10.

**7. Age:**

The minimum and maximum age limit shall be as prescribed in the Recruitment Rules of respective Sponsoring Authorities.

**8. Educational qualification:**

Candidates must possess Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) in Science or Engineering of any recognized university with at least one of the following subjects: -

- i. Agriculture
- ii. Botany
- iii. Chemistry
- iv. Computer Applications/ Computer Science
- v. Engineering (Agriculture/ Chemical/ Civil/ Computer/ Electrical/ Electronics/ Mechanical)
- vi. Environmental Sciences
- vii. Forestry
- viii. Geology
- ix. Horticulture
- x. Mathematics
- xi. Physics
- xii. Statistics
- xiii. Veterinary Science
- xiv. Zoology.



9. (a) The minimum standards for height and chest girth for candidates of category (i) of Rule 4 shall be as follows: -

	Height (cm)	Chest girth (cm)	
		Normal	Expansion
Male candidate	163	84	05
Female candidate	150	79	05

The following minimum height standards may be allowed in case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Tribes and races such as Assamese, Bhutanese, Garhwalis, Gorkhas, Kumaonis, Ladakhese, Mizo, Naga, Nepalese, Sikkimese and those from Arunachal Pradesh, Lahaul & Spiti, Meghalaya:

**Male candidate                      152 cm.**

**Female candidate                145 cm.**

- (b) Male/ Female Candidates must pass a physical test covering a distance of 25/ 16 Kms. within four hours on foot, respectively.
- (c) Candidates of category (ii) of Rule 4 should conform to the standards mentioned above.

#### **10. Health Certificate:**

- (a) Sponsoring Authority shall arrange for medical examination by a Medical Board for candidate of category (i) of Rule 4. Medical Board shall issue health certificate and also certify that the candidate is fit to undertake strenuous outdoor work in Forest Department.

Candidate of category (ii) of Rule 4 shall be required to produce the health certificate issued by the competent authority.

#### **11. Competitive Examination:**

Candidate of category (i) of Rule 4 shall be selected on the basis of competitive written examination and interview to be conducted by



the Commission. The Commission shall prepare merit list on the basis of total of marks obtained in written examination and interview.

**(a) Written examination**

The written examination shall be held in the following manner:-

**Compulsory Subject:**

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1. General Knowledge                       | 100 marks. |
| 2. English (essay and précis writing etc.) | 100 marks. |

**Optional Subjects:**

3. Any two subjects out of the following - 200 marks (each)
- i. Agriculture
  - ii. Botany
  - iii. Chemistry
  - iv. Computer Applications/ Computer Science
  - v. Engineering (Agriculture/ Chemical/ Civil/ Computer/ Electrical/ Electronics/ Mechanical)
  - vi. Environmental Science.
  - vii. Forestry
  - viii. Geology
  - ix. Horticulture
  - x. Mathematics
  - xi. Physics
  - xii. Statistics
  - xiii. Veterinary Science
  - xiv. Zoology

(The standard of these subjects shall be that of a Bachelor's degree)

**Note:** No candidate shall be allowed to take more than one subject of the group (i) Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering and Veterinary Science (ii) Chemistry and Chemical Engineering (iii) Computer



## SECTION III

### THE COURSE

**14. Duration:**

The duration of the course shall be of eighteen months. There shall be a term break of 30 days during the course. Principal may fix time of term break. The period of term break shall count towards earned leave.

**15. Subjects:** The subjects to be taught during the course are:

#### FIRST PHASE

S. No.	Subjects
1	General Botany/ Mathematics
2	Applications of Modern Tools and Technology
3	Silviculture - I
4	Silviculture - II
5	Forest Resource Assessment
6	Forest Survey
7	Forest Engineering
8	Adverse Influences on Forests
9	Forest Utilization - I

#### SECOND PHASE

S. No.	Subjects
1	Forest Policy and Law
2	Ecology and Environmental Sciences
3	Forest Utilization - II
4	Forest Resources Management
5	Natural Resource Management
6	Forest Economics



- 7 **Biodiversity Conservation and Management**
- 8 **Joint Forest Management, Rural and Tribal Development**
- 9 **Human Resources Development and Management**
- 10 **Forest Accounts and Procedures.**

16. **Study tours and field exercises:**

In addition to the subjects enumerated above, study tours and field exercises shall be conducted during the course as decided by the Principal. Study tours will cover the practical aspects of training. Field exercises on road alignment, engineering, working plan and ecological census techniques shall also be conducted during the course. In addition training in weapons, motor mechanics and first aid shall also be imparted.

17. **Examinations:**

There shall be two examinations each held during the First and Second Phase. The schedule of examination will be decided by the Principal.

Maximum marks for each subject shall be as follows: -

**FIRST PHASE**

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Subjects</b>	<b>Theory</b>	<b>Practical</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	General Botany/ Mathematics	100	0	100
2	Applications of Modern Tools and Technology	150	50	200
3	Silviculture –I	150	50	200
4	Silviculture – II	200	0	200
5	Forest Resource Assessment	150	50	200
6	Forest Survey	150	100	250
7	Forest Engineering	100	100	200
8	Adverse Influences on Forests	150	50	200
9	Forest Utilization –I	150	50	200
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1300</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>1750</b>



## SECOND PHASE

S. No	Subject	Theory	Practical	Total
1	Forest Policy and Law	250	0	250
2	Ecology and Environmental Sciences	200	0	200
3	Forest Utilization -II	150	0	150
4	Forest Resources Management	200	0	200
5	Natural Resource Management	150	50	200
6	Forest Economics	200	0	200
7	Biodiversity Conservation and Management	200	50	250
8	Joint Forest Management, Rural and Tribal Development	150	0	150
9	Human Resources Development and Management	150	0	150
10	Forest Account and Office Procedure	100	0	100
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1750</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1850</b>

18. Any 'Officer trainee' who fails to obtain at least 50% of the total marks in a subject listed in Rule 17 shall be considered to have failed in that subject.
  
19. No 'Officer Trainee' whose attendance at the College falls below 80% shall be permitted to appear in the Examination. If an 'Officer Trainee' misses more than 10% of any tour he/ she shall have to repeat the missed portion unless exempted by the Principal. If an 'Officer Trainee' fails in not more than three subjects, he/she shall be required to appear in supplementary examination(s) in the paper(s) he/she has failed. The supplementary examination(s) shall be conducted by the Principal at the end of the First Phase or Second Phase, as the case may be. Marks originally obtained in such subjects shall only be counted towards merit. If he/she fails in more than three subjects or again

in supplementary examination, even in one subject, he/she may be required to repeat the full academic year course.

**20. Re-examination:**

An 'Officer Trainee' may be allowed to appear in re-examination if he remains absent with prior permission of the Principal due to any of the following reasons:

- a. Bereavement/ serious illness of parents, brother, sister, wife, son, daughter.
- b. Hospitalization/ confinement to bed.
- c. To attend court/duty in the interest of Government.

Marks obtained in such an examination shall count towards merit.

**21. Study tours and field exercises assessment:**

There shall be three study tours during First Phase and two study tours during Second Phase. Total number of days dedicated for tours shall be 145. Performance of the 'Officer Trainee' during study tour and field exercises shall be assessed in the First and Second Phases in the following manner:

<b>Tour/Field Exercises</b>	<b>Max. Marks (each tour)</b>
(I) Tour examination	80
(ii) Tour journal	50
(iii) Quiz test	20
(iv) Tour symposium	20
(v) Botanical collection	30
<b>Total:</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Total marks in five tours</b>	<b>1000</b>



Assessment in respect of field exercises shall be made towards the end of First and Second Phase. Allotment of marks for field exercises shall be as under:

<b>Field Exercise</b>	<b>Phase</b>	<b>Max Marks</b>
i. Nursery, Plantation and Cultural operation	I	40
ii. Mensuration	I	40
iii. Marking and logging	I	20
iv. Road Alignment	I	50
v. Engineering	I	50
vi. Working Plan	II	150
vii. Ecological Census Techniques	II	50
<b>Total</b>		<b>400</b>

## 22. Study tours:

If an 'Officer Trainee' fails to appear in any tour examination/ quiz test/ symposium or does not submit tour journal and botanical collection he/she shall be awarded zero marks in the concerned item. In case the absence is due to the reasons mentioned in Rule 20, the 'Officer Trainee' shall be awarded average of the marks obtained in previous tour examinations.

## 23. Viva-Voce:

At the end of Second Phase each 'Officer Trainee' shall be required to undergo Viva before a panel of experts who shall evaluate knowledge of the trainee. There shall be a maximum of 200 marks for viva-voce.

## 24. Conduct marks:

Based on overall conduct, each 'Officer Trainee' shall be awarded conduct marks out of maximum of 250 marks at the end of the



course. Allocation of these 250 marks will be based upon five criteria, each consisting of 50 and shall be given by every member of the faculty including the Principal to each candidate. The Principal and the faculty shall have similar weightage. The final conduct marks will be the average of the marks given by the Principal and the faculty members. The criteria shall be –

- (a) Attendance
- (b) Discipline
- (c) Interpersonal relations with peers
- (d) Interpersonal relations with faculty
- (e) Extra curricular activities

**25. Abstract of marks for the course**

S. No.	Item	First Phase	Second Phase	Total
1.	Written Examination	1750	1850	3600
2.	Tour Examination	600	400	1000
3.	Field Exercise	200	200	400
4.	Viva-voce	--	200	200
5.	Conduct marks	--	250	250
<b>Total</b>		<b>2550</b>	<b>2900</b>	<b>5450</b>

**26. Final order of merit:**

At the end of the course, a list shall be prepared showing final order of merit based on the marks obtained in examinations and on assessments as per provision in Rule 16 to 25.

**27. Certificate:**

Following category of Certificate shall be awarded to the successful 'Officer Trainee' at the end of the course:

1. **Honours' Certificate:** An 'Officer Trainee' who has obtained



75% and above of the total number of marks provided he has cleared all subjects in first attempt.

2. **Pass Certificate:** An 'Officer Trainee' who has obtained (i) not less than 50%, or (ii) more than 75% and above of the total number of marks, but not cleared all subjects in first attempt.
27. The prizes may be awarded to the meritorious 'Officer Trainee' according to the guidelines framed for award of such prizes.
29. **Progress Report:**  
Report on performance and conduct of each Officer Trainee shall be issued by the Principal during and / or at the conclusion of the course and sent to the Sponsoring Authority.

## **GENERAL RULES**

### **(SECTION -IV)**

30. **Tuition Fee:**  
The amount of tuition fee, stipend, tour expenses, caution money and equipment allowance may be determined from time to time as considered necessary by the Director Forest Education in consultation with the Principals. The Sponsoring Authority shall pay such amount at the time of admission of the candidate.
31. **Salary:**  
The Sponsoring Authority shall transfer the amount equivalent to the salary of 'Officer Trainee' to the Principal on time.
32. **Orders and directions of the Principal:**  
In order to smoothly conduct the training courses, to control and manage the day-to-day business, and to deal with any matter concerning training, and the conduct of trainees, the



Principal may, in addition to and in keeping with the provisions of these Rules, issue Standing Orders and directions in any suitable form. Such orders and directions which may be on subjects like hostel accommodation, dress, equipment, use of spectacles, breakage, mess regulations, physical training and games, sports and extra curricular activities, regulations of visitors in the hostel, keeping of animals and motor vehicles, illegal possession of arms, and any other issues considered relevant by the Principal, shall be binding on all the 'Officer Trainees' attending the course

33. **Absence:**

(i) **From Training:** No 'Officer Trainee' shall leave the headquarters without prior permission of the Principal nor shall any 'Officer Trainee', while in camp, leave the camp headquarters without written order of the Officer-in-Charge who shall intimate such absence to the Principal, if it exceeds 2 days.

(ii) **From the hostel:** No 'Officer Trainee' shall be allowed to be absent from the hostel after 10 p.m. without permission of the Principal or his nominee designated as House Tutor.

34. **Discipline and Control:**

(a) Without prejudice to any of the conduct rules and other rules that the concerned sponsoring authorities may have stipulated for compliance by the 'officers trainees', violation or non-compliance by an 'Officer Trainee' of any of the provisions of these rules/orders and directions issued under Rule 32 would invite disciplinary action by the Principal, which may include warning, deduction of conduct marks and imposition of fines. Decisions of the Principal in such cases shall be final and



binding upon the 'Officer Trainee' concerned.

- (b) In cases where violation or non-compliance of the Rules or any of the orders issued under Rule 32 is of serious nature, and the Principal considers that the provisions of the disciplinary action he is authorized to take under sub-rule (a) are inadequate and inappropriate, he may refer the matter to Director, Forest Education, under intimation to the concerned sponsoring authority, recommending reversion of the 'Officer Trainee' to his/her sponsoring authority.
- (c) Director, Forest Education, after due consideration of the report made by Principal, may order reversion of the 'Officer Trainee' concerned to his/her sponsoring authority. An order of reversion under this sub-rule by the Director, Forest Education may be appealed against within the time specified in the order, and the appeal shall lie with the Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, whose decision on such appeal shall be final.

35. **Leave:**

The 'Officer Trainee' may be governed by Leave Rules as applicable to the college

36. **Removal from the college:**

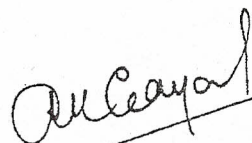
The Principal may order removal of an 'Officer Trainee' from the College for gross breach of discipline, chronic indebtedness or moral turpitude.

37. Any dispute arising in contravention to any of the provisions laid down in part or whole of these Rules shall be subject to the sole arbitration of Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India,



whose decision shall be final and binding on the parties concerned.

38. Any dispute arising in contravention to any of the provisions laid down in part or whole of these Rules shall be subject to decision of the Court of Law having jurisdiction over the college.



(A K. Goyal)  
Deputy Inspector General of Forests (RT)

F. NO. 3-17/99-RT (II)  
21st June 2004



सत्यमेव जयते

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Government of India  
Ministry of Environment & Forests

Paryavaran Bhawan  
CGO Complex, Room No. 506  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110 003.

No. 3-17/99-RT

Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup> 2004

To

The Forest Secretaries/PCCFs  
All States/UTs

**Sub: 'Notifications of the "Entrance and Training Rules" for the State Forest Service Officers and the Forest Range Officers and issue of guidelines in respect of the training of the Foresters and Forest Guards by the State Forest Departments-reg.**

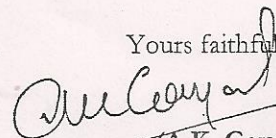
Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Ministry's letters of even no. dated 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2003 and subsequent reminders dated 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2003 forwarding draft rules and guidelines as mentioned above, for comments of the State/UT Governments. After consideration of the comments received from State/UT Governments, the Government of India have notified the *Entrance and Training Rules* for the State Forest Service Officers and the Forest Range Officers vide numbers **3-17/99-RT (I) dated 21<sup>st</sup> June 2004 and 3-17/99-RT (II) dated 21<sup>st</sup> June 2004, respectively** which would be applicable from the academic sessions starting April 2005 onwards. The State/UT Governments are requested to kindly make necessary modifications/amendments in their rules/procedures concerned for selection of the candidates for the State Forest Service as well as Forest Range Officers for the courses beginning April 2005. **The Government of India have also decided that new academic session for the Forest Range Officers would now start during the month of April instead of November.** Hence, selection may kindly be made accordingly. The copies of the rules are enclosed.

2 Further, in order to maintain uniformity and professionally train the new entrants to deal with the emerging needs/trends in forestry and wildlife, the Government of India after making necessary consultations with the State/UT governments, have formulated certain guidelines for the training of the foresters and forest guards and the state training institutions imparting such trainings. The State Governments are requested to kindly follow the guidelines issued by the Government of India in respect of training of foresters and forest guards by making necessary changes in the existing pattern of training/facilities in the training institutions, wherever required.

3 The receipt of the document may kindly be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

  
(A.K. Goyal) 21.06.04

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (RT)

Encl. as above



(TO BE PUBLISHED IN PART II, SECTION 3, SUB-SECTION (i),  
EXTRAORDINARY GAZETTE OF INDIA)

F. No. 3-17/99 - RT (Pt)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment & Forests

Parivaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodi Road,  
New Delhi - 110003

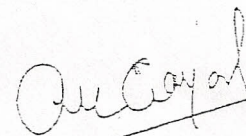
Dated: January 10, 2006

**NOTIFICATION**

With the approval of competent authority, the following amendments (as reflected in column - 3) to Rule 4 and Rule 9 - a, of the Entrance and Training Rules (Revised), 2004 for the Forest Range Officers notified vide gazette notification GSR No. 466 (1) dated 22.7.2004, have been made.

Existing Provision	Amended Provision
2	3
Category of candidates: There shall be two categories of candidates: (i) Candidate sponsored by a State/Union territory	Category: There shall be two categories of candidates: (i) Candidates sponsored by the State/Union Territory including Autonomous District Council/Forest Corporation and Public Sector Undertakings sponsored through the Central/State/UT Governments concerned.
(ii) Candidate sponsored by a foreign country	(ii) Candidates sponsored by a foreign country
Minimum standards for height and chest girth for a candidate of category (i) of Rule 4, shall be as under: Height (cm) Chest girth (cm) Normal Expansion Male candidate 163 84 05 Female candidate 150 79 05 The following minimum height standards may be allowed in case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Tribes and races such as Assamese, Bhutanese, Garhwalis, Gorkhas, Kumaonis, Ladakhese, Mizo, Naga, Nepalese, Sikkimese and those from Arunachal Pradesh, Lahaul and Spiti and Meghalaya. Male candidate 152 cm. Female candidate 145 cm.	Minimum standards for height and chest girth for a candidate of category (i) of Rule 4, shall be as under: Height (cm) Chest girth (cm) Normal Expansion Male candidate 163 79 05 Female candidate 150 74 05 The following minimum height standards may be allowed in case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Tribes and races such as Assamese, Bhutanese, Garhwalis, Gorkhas, Kumaonis, Ladakhese, Mizo, Naga, Nepalese, Sikkimese and those from Arunachal Pradesh, Lahaul and Spiti and Meghalaya. Male candidate 152 cm. Female candidate 145 cm.

This will come in force with immediate effect.



(A.K. GOYAL)

DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF FORESTS (RT)

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F. No. 3-17/99-RT (pt.)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment & Forests  
(Research & Training Division)

Paryavaran Bhavan  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road  
New Delhi-110510

Dated, the 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.

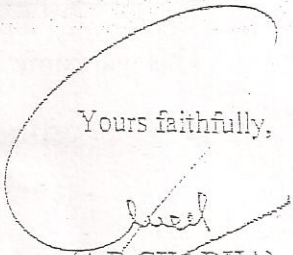
**NOTIFICATION**

With the approval of the competent authority, the following amendment to Rule 11 of the Entrance and Training Rules (Revised), 2004 for the Forest Range Officers, notified vide Gazette Notification GFR No. 466(E) dated 22.07.2004, has been made:

Rules	Existing Provision	Amended Provision
11	Competitive Examination	
	<del>Candidate of category (i) of Rule 4- 'Candidate sponsored by the State/Union Territory, shall be</del> selected on the basis of competitive written examination and interview to be conducted by the Commission. The Commission shall prepare merit list on the basis of total of marks obtained in written examination and interview	Candidate of category (i) of Rule 4 shall be selected on the basis of competitive written examination and interview to be conducted by the Commission or any other authority duly authorized by the State Government. The Commission or any other authority duly authorized by the State Government shall prepare merit list on the basis of total of marks obtained in written examination and interview. In all cases norms prescribed for educational qualification etc are strictly adhered.

2. This will come in force with immediate effect.

Yours faithfully,

  
(A.R. CHADHA)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (RT)

(अतुल राज चड्ढा / A. R. CHADHA)  
उप महानिरीक्षक / Dy. Inspector General  
पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय  
Min. of Environment & Forests  
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली  
Govt. of India, New Delhi