

ACTION HISTORY OF RTI REQUEST No.FSOID/R/X/26/00001**Applicant Name** Kumar Bhaskar Kalbande**Text of Application** Please provide reply on the points pertaining to FSI.**Reply of Application** Please find attachment for information sought.

SN.	Action Taken	Date of Action	Action Taken By	Remarks
1	RTI REQUEST RECEIVED	25/03/2026	Nodal Officer	MOENF/R/E/26/00368
2	REQUEST FORWARDED TO CPIO	27/03/2026	Nodal Officer	Forwarded to CPIO(s) : (1) Sugandha Srivastava
3	REQUEST DISPOSED OF	24/04/2026	Sugandha Srivastava- (CPIO)	

[Print](#)

Respected CPIO, FE Division, MoEFCC, New Delhi,

With reference to the MoEFCC Order/Letter F.No. 12-7/2025-FE (E-259843) dated 13-03-2026, which disposed of my representations in compliance with the Hon'ble High Court at Bombay, Nagpur Bench in WP No. 4441/2025, please provide certified copies of the following information/documents:

1. Information regarding File Noting and Approvals:

- a) Please provide a certified copy of the complete Notesheet of MoEFCC File No. 12-7/2025-FE (E-259843) from its inception to the date of final disposal, including the processing of my representations and the examination of the FSI report.
- b) With reference to Paragraph 10 of the order dated 13-03-2026, please provide the specific Name and Designation of the "Competent Authority" who granted the final approval for the disposal of these representations.

2. Information regarding FSI Reports and Correspondence:

- a) Please provide a certified copy of the "factual report" submitted by FSI, Dehradun to the Ministry, as explicitly mentioned in Paragraph 2 of the referenced order.
- b) Please provide a certified copy of the Covering Letter and any associated annexures through which the Director General, FSI, Dehradun forwarded the aforementioned factual report to the MoEFCC.
- c) Please provide a certified copy of the specific report submitted by FSI which "categorically states that there has been no corruption involved," as relied upon in Paragraph 6.

3. Information regarding Deputy Rangers' Recruitment Records:

Please provide certified copies of the complete recruitment records submitted to the Ministry, specifically including:

- a) The Experience Certificates submitted by Shri Ashutosh Singh, Shri Parikshit Agarkar, Shri P K Garg, Dr. Salman Khan, and Dr. Chandramohan K. at the time of their recruitment as Deputy Rangers.
- b) The Educational Qualification certificates submitted by the aforementioned five individuals.

4. Information regarding the Verification Process & Conflict of Interest:

With reference to Paragraph 5(i) of the order, which states the certificates were "verified and found to be authentic," please provide:

- a) The Name, Designation, and Office of the specific authority who originally *issued* the experience certificates for Shri Ashutosh Singh, Shri Parikshit Agarkar & Shri P K Garg

- b) The Name, Designation, and Office of the specific FSI authority who *conducted the verification* and submitted the report declaring these specific certificates as authentic.
- c) A certified copy of the actual Verification Report confirming the authenticity of these certificates to MoEFCC.
- d) A certified copy of any MoEFCC or DoPT rule/guideline that permits an officer (e.g., a Regional Director) to officially verify and validate an experience certificate that they themselves originally issued, during a vigilance inquiry.

5. Information regarding Equivalence of Experience:

- a) Please provide a certified copy of any official notification/guideline equating the contractual, non-field experience of a "Technical Associate" (engaged for Forest Cover Mapping) with the mandatory field experience required for a Deputy Ranger.
- b) Please provide a certified copy of the file noting where the MoEFCC considered the official stance of FSI—as sworn in the Hon'ble High Court in WP No. 4316/2024, which formally states contractual Technical Associates have no parity with field-based Junior Technical Assistants—before concluding that the "Technical Associate" experience of the aforementioned candidates met the Recruitment Rules.

6. Information regarding Rules and Advertisement:

- a) Please provide a certified copy of the specific Recruitment Rules for the post of Deputy Ranger relied upon by the Ministry as stated in Paragraph 5(ii).
- b) Please provide a certified copy of the original official Recruitment Advertisement published by FSI under which these four individuals were recruited, showing the mandatory experience criteria.

7. Information regarding Vigilance Division Concurrence:

Given that the disposed matter pertains to Vigilance Complaint No. 40221/2023, please provide a certified copy of the file notings or official concurrence from the Vigilance Division (AVU) of MoEFCC approving the findings of the FSI report and the closure of this complaint.

I am an Indian Citizen. I am ready to pay any additional legal charges

फा.सं. 12-7/2025-एफ ई (ई – 259843)
भारत सरकार/Government of India
पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
(वन स्थापना प्रभाग / Forest Establishment Division)

4th Floor, Block-3, CGO Complex.
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi -110 003.
दिनांक/ Dated : As per e-signature

To,
Shri Kumar Kalbande,
Balaji Appt Flat No. 16-5-A,
Atrey Layout, Pratap Nagar,
Nagpur, Maharashtra.

Subject: Disposal of representations in compliance with directions of Hon'ble Court in WP No. 4441/2025 – reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the order dated 25.11.2025 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Nagpur Bench in the matter of Writ Petition No. 4441 of 2025, wherein this Ministry was directed to *treat the the Clause (i) of the prayer as a representation of the petitioner and consider the same with the documents filed along with the petition and take a decision on the same as regards to take appropriate action on Vigilance Office Officer Memorandum OM No. 11013/02/2024 dated 30.07.2024 and Vigilance Complaint No. 40221/2023 dated 26.12.2023.*

2. In compliance with the aforesaid directions, the matter has been examined in detail by this Ministry. The records and factual report submitted by the Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun have been carefully examined in the Ministry.

3. The examination of the official records revealed that you were transferred from the Forest Survey of India's Regional Office (Central), Nagpur to Regional Office (Eastern), Kolkata vide order No. 7-4/2010-Admn./1224 dated 30.07.2021 and were accordingly relieved by the Regional Director, Nagpur. However, you did not join at Regional Office (Eastern), Kolkata the new place of posting. It may also be noted that the departmental proceedings were conducted against you on the charge of obtaining Government employment by submitting a fake experience certificate. Upon conclusion of the disciplinary proceedings, the competent authority imposed the penalty of dismissal from service vide Office Order No. 7-8/2021-Admin-338 dated 26.08.2025.

4. With regards to allegations made in the Vigilance Complaint No. 40221/2023 dated 26.12.2023 which was forwarded to Forest Establishment

Division vide OM No. 11013/02/2024 dated 30.07.2024 regarding corruption and irregularities in the recruitment of certain Deputy Rangers, namely Dr. Chandramohan K.; Shri Ashutosh Singh; Shri Parikshit Agarkar and Dr. Salman Khan the matter has been examined on the basis of the recruitment records, educational qualifications and experience certificates of the aforesaid officials as furnished by the Forest Survey of India(HQ), Dehradun.

5. On examination of the report submitted by Forest Survey of India it is found that:

- i. The educational qualifications and experience certificates submitted by the above officers at the time of recruitment as Deputy Ranger were verified and found to be authentic and genuine.
- ii. Each of the above officers possessed the prescribed educational qualifications and the requisite experience as per the Recruitment Rules applicable at the relevant time.
- iii. No procedural irregularity, misrepresentation, or corruption has been found in their recruitment process.

6. The report submitted by FSI further categorically states that there has been no corruption involved at any stage in the selection of the Deputy Rangers and that the allegations made by you are baseless and unsupported by documentary evidence.

7. No substantive evidence has been produced by you to establish that or misleading experience certificates were considered in the recruitment of aforesaid officers or that any malpractice occurred in the selection process.

2/3

8. In view of the above facts and after due consideration of your representations, the records available, and the report of the competent authority, this Ministry concludes that the allegations raised by you do not merit further action. The recruitment of the concerned Deputy Rangers was carried out in accordance with the applicable Recruitment Rules and prescribed procedure.

9. Accordingly, your representations stand disposed of in compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Court in WP No. 4441/2025.

10. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,

Digitally signed by
Sulagna Saha
Date: 13-03-2026 (Sulagna Saha)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
E-mail: fe-mefcc@gov.in
Tel No.: 011-24360413

Copy to:

1. DG, FSI for information please.

संख्या-13-7/2025-प्रशा0-1117
भारत सरकार
भारतीय वन सर्वेक्षण
डाकघर-आई0पी0ई0, कौलागढ़ मार्ग
देहरादून-248195

दिनांक 23 अप्रैल, 2026

सेवा में,

लोक सूचना अधिकारी
भारतीय वन सर्वेक्षण
कौलागढ़ मार्ग, देहरादून।

विषय:- RTI under the Right to information Act, 2005.

संदर्भ:- पत्र संख्या:-13-4/2025-आर0टी0आई0-901 दिनांक 01.04.2026.

महोदय,

उपरोक्त विषय के संदर्भ में यह सूचित किया जाता है कि Shri Kumar Bhaskar Kalbande, Maharashtra के आर0टी0आई0 आवेदन पत्र संख्या:-Registration No. Registration No. FSOID/R/X/26/00001 दिनांक 25.03.2026 के द्वारा मांगी गई संबंधित सूचना उपलब्ध रूप में प्रशासन अनुभाग से प्रेषित की जा रही है।

भवदीय,

Digitally signed by
Sampath Sundaramurthy
Date: 23-04-2026
12:44:25

(एस.संपत)

उप निदेशक (का0 एवं प्रशा0)

संलग्नक:-उपरोक्तानुसार

अंगुली
23/4/26

RTI cell.

(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Between 18 and 27 years of age. (Relaxable for departmental candidates upto 40 years.) Note The crucial date for determining the age limit shall be as advertised by the Staff Selection commission.	Essential: (i) 12 th class pass or equivalent from a recognized Board or University. (ii) Skill test norms: Dictation: 10 minutes @ 80 words per minute 50 minutes (English) 65 minutes (Hindi) on computer.	Not applicable.	Two years.	By direct recruitment.

(11)	(12)	(13)
Not applicable.	Group 'C' Departmental Promotion Committee (for considering confirmation) consisting of: - 1. Director General, Forest Survey of India, Dehradun - Chairman, 2. Joint Director, Forest Survey of India, Dehradun - Member, 3. Deputy Director (Personnel and Administration), Forest Survey of India, Dehradun - Member, 4. Under Secretary, Forest Establishment - Member. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Not applicable.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
3. Deputy Ranger.	35* (2018) *Subject to variation depending on workload.	General Central Service, Group 'C', Non-Gazetted, Non-Ministerial.	Level 4 in Pay Matrix. (Rs.25500-81100)	Not applicable.

(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Between 18 and 27 years of age. (Relaxable for departmental candidates upto 40 years.) Note 1: - The crucial date for determining the age limit shall be the closing date for receipt of applications from candidates in India (and not the closing date prescribed for those in Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Ladakh Division of J&K State, Lahul and Spiti District and Pangi Sub-Division of Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands or Lakshadweep). Note 2:- In case of recruitment to through the Employment Exchange, the crucial date for determining the age limit shall be the last date upto which the exchange is asked to submit the names.	Essential: (i) 12 th class pass or equivalent qualification from a recognized Board or University. (ii) two years' experience in forest survey or working plan organisation or forest resources survey work in State forest department. Desirable: Experience in forest survey or mapping or work related to working plan.	No.	Two years.	Fifty percent by promotion falling which by direct recruitment and Fifty percent by direct recruitment.

(11)	(12)	(13)
Promotion: Matriculate Fieldman with a minimum of eight years' regular service in the grade. Non-Matric Fieldman with eight years' regular service in the grade and subject to their qualifying written and trade test to be specified by the Director General, Forest Survey of India, Dehradun. Note 1: Where juniors who have completed their qualifying or eligibility service are being considered for promotion, their seniors shall also be considered provided they are not short of the requisite qualifying or eligibility service by more than half of such qualifying or eligibility service or two years, whichever is less and have successfully completed their probation period for promotion to the next higher grade along with their juniors who have already completed such qualifying or eligibility service. Note 2 : For the purpose of computing minimum qualifying service for promotion, the service rendered on a regular basis by an officer prior to 1st January, 2006 or the date from which the revised pay structure based on the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission has been extended, shall be deemed to be service rendered in the corresponding pay or pay scale extended based on the recommendations of the Pay Commission.	Group 'C' Departmental Promotion or Confirmation Committee (for considering promotion or confirmation) consisting of: - 1. Director General, Forest Survey - Chairman, of India, Dehradun 2. Joint Director, Forest Survey of - Member, India, Dehradun 3. Deputy Director (Personnel and Administration), Forest Survey of India, Dehradun - Member, 4. Under Secretary, Forest Establishment - Member. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Not applicable.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4. Lower Division Clerk.	18* (2018) to *Subject variation depending on workload.	General Service, Central Group 'C', Non-Gazetted Ministerial.	Level 2 in Pay Matrix. (Rs.19900-63200)	Non-Selection.

(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Between 18 and 27 years of age. (Relaxable for Government servants upto 40 years in accordance with the instructions or orders issued by the Central Government). Note 1: The crucial date for determining the age limit shall be as fixed by the Staff Selection Commission. Note 2: In case the	(i) 12th Class or equivalent qualification from a recognized Board or University. (ii) A typing speed of 35 words per minutes in English or 30 words per minutes in Hindi on computer. (35 words per minutes and 30 words per minutes	Yes, to the extent indicated in column (10).	Two years.	(i) Eighty-five percent by direct recruitment. (ii) Ten percent of the vacancies shall be filled from amongst the Group 'C' Staff in the grade pay of Rs. 1,800 who Possess 12th Class pass or equivalent qualifications and have rendered three years' regular service in the grade, on the basis of departmental qualifying examination. Note 1: The maximum age limit for eligibility for examination is

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जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
भारतीय वन सर्वेक्षण
केन्द्रीय अंचल, केन्द्रीय कार्यालय परिसर
ब्लॉक -ए, सेमीनरी हिल्स, नागपुर-440006
दूरभाष नं. 0712-2510432, फेक्स नं. 0712-2510194



Government of India
Ministry of Environment,
Forest & Climate Change
Forest Survey of India
Central Zone, CGO Complex
Block A, Seminary Hills, Nagpur-440006
Email cznagpur@fsi.nic.in, rdez@fsi.nic.in

File No. F-123-72/Part-4/1039

Dated 06/01/2026

To,

The Director General
Forest Survey of India
Kaulagadh Road,
Dehradun-248195

Sub: Corruption in selecting the Dy. Rangers by considering misleading/false experience certificate of Forest Survey of India, Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change- regarding

Ref:-

1. HQ, Letter Nos. 13-6/2024-Admin-3126 dated 17.11.2025 and 13-6/2024-Admin-3272 dated 26.11.2025
2. This Office Letter No. F-123-72/Part-4/995 dated 24.12.2025

Sir,

With reference to email dated 06.01.2026 received from Deputy Director, FSI, HQ, Dehradun on the subject cited above and in continuation of this Office Letter No. F-123-72/Part-4/995 dated 24.12.2025, please find enclosed herewith the input details on the subject cited above in respect of Dr. Chandramohan K., Deputy Ranger for further action at your end.

Your's faithfully

(Shivanand S. Talawar, IFS)
Regional Director

Dr. Chandramohan K., Deputy Ranger was recruited as Deputy Ranger in the year 2018 as per RRs 2018 in Forest Survey of India, Northern Zone, Shimla and transferred to Forest Survey of India, Central Zone, Nagpur in 2019. Essential and Desirable Qualification for the post of Deputy Ranger as per RRs 2018 is:

Essential:

- a. 12 class pass or equivalent qualification from a recognised Board or University.
- b. Two years experience in Forest Survey/Working Plan Organization / Forest Resources Survey work in State Forest Department.

Desirable:

Experience in forest survey or mapping or work related to working plan.

Dr. Chandramohan K. possesses following Educational and other Qualification:

- a. 12th Pass, B. Sc. (Botany, Zoology and Chemistry), M. Sc. (Botany),
- b. He has worked as Field Assistant in the Forest of Adilabad and Karimnagar districts for the Vegetation Carbon Pool Project during 2010-2011 at Department of Botany, Kakatia University, Warangal, AP (experience certificate dated 07.03.2011 is enclosed). He has working knowledge in identification of forest tree species and was actively participated in the field work.

Further, he has more than 2 years experience (01.07.2011 to 31.07.2013) as Research Assistant in the office of State Silviculturist, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh Forest Department (experience certificate is enclosed). During his tenure he has actively participated in identification, collection and preservation of Herbarium under the project "Ex-situ Conservation of Eastern & Western Ghat Flora". He has established single-handedly an Arboretum of Western Ghat of 100 species and a Liana Garden (woody climber species) of 120 species in the Conservation Park of wild species in Dulapally, Hyderabad. He has extensively covered many parts of deciduous forests of Telengana State while collecting live specimens.

He further worked as Research Fellow since 07.08.2013 on the project, "Flora of Satkosia Tiger Reserve, Odisha" for his Ph. D. work in Botanical Survey of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Hyderabad (experience certificate dated 19.04.2017 is enclosed).

The vast experience of Dr. Chandramohan K. in Forestry sector is very much useful for discharging the duties during routine National Forest Inventory work which is one of the most important mandate of Forest Survey of India, as objective number 2 of Forest Survey of India.

Moreover, while doing B. Sc. (Botany, Zoology and Chemistry) and M. Sc. (Botany) (copies enclosed), he learned various important forestry related courses like (Botany, Zoology, Environmental studies, Biodiversity, Taxonomy, etc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rajendra Singh', followed by the date '02/07/2016'.

(Regional Director)

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जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
भारतीय वन सर्वेक्षण
केन्द्रीय अंचल, केन्द्रीय कार्यालय परिसर
ब्लॉक -ए, सेमीनरी हिल्स, नागपुर-440006
दूरभाष नं. 0712-2510432, फेक्स नं. 0712-2510194



Government of India
Ministry of Environment,
Forest & Climate Change
Forest Survey of India
Central Zone, CGO Complex
Block A, Seminary Hills, Nagpur-440006
Email cznagpur@fsi.nic.in, rdez@fsi.nic.in

मिसिल सं० ई-123-72/भाग-4/ 995

दिनांक 24.12.2025

सेवा में,

महानिदेशक,
भारतीय वन सर्वेक्षण,
कौलागड़ रोड़,
देहरादून-248195

विषय: Corruption in selecting the Dy. Rangers by considering misleading/false experience certificate of Forest Survey of India, Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change reg.

संदर्भ: HQ letter no. 13-6/2024-Admin-3126 dated 17.11.2025 and 13-6/2024-Admin-3272 dated 26.11.2025.

महोदय,

विषयांकित संदर्भ में श्री कुमार बी. कालबाड़े द्वारा दर्ज की गई शिकायत के संबंध में इस कार्यालय से मांगी गई रिपोर्ट आपकी आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु पत्र के साथ प्रेषित की जा रही है।

संलग्न: उपरोक्तानुसार।

भवदीय,

शिवानन्द 23/12/2025

(शिवानन्द. एस. तलवार, भा.व.से.)
क्षेत्रीय निदेशक

Report on complaint made by Shri Kumar Kalbande to CVC, New Delhi regarding corruption in selecting the Dy. Rangers by considering misleading/false experience certificate at Forest Survey of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Allegation was made by Shri Kumar Kalbande against the Forest Survey of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kaulagarh Road, Headquarter Dehradun and Regional Office (Central), Nagpur for corruption in selecting the Deputy Rangers by considering misleading/false experience certificate and recruiting four officials, namely Shri Ashutosh Singh, Shri Parikshit Agarkar, Dr. Salman Khan and Dr. Chandramohan K, Deputy Rangers in Forest Survey of India, Central Zone, Nagpur and Northern Zone Shimla (Dr. Chandramohan K. initially recruited in Northern Zone Shimla in 2018 and transferred to Nagpur in 2019), asserting that they submitted false experience certificates at the time of their recruitment as Deputy Rangers.

In this regard, it is very necessary to mention the history of Shri Kumar Kalbande as he is a regular complainant who was transferred from Forest Survey of India, Central Zone, Nagpur to Forest Survey of India, Eastern Zone,, Kolkata vide order No. 7-4/2010-Admn./1224, dated 30/07/2021 of office of Director General, Forest Survey of India. In pursuant to the Transfer Order, he was relieved by the Regional Director, Forest Survey of India, Central Zone, Nagpur, vide Order No.-35 dated 30/07/2021. He did not join his new place of posting in FSI, Eastern Region Kolkata. Further, he has been dismissed from the service vide Office Order No. 7-8/2021-Admin-338 dated 26.08.2025 on the ground of obtaining employment by submitting fake experience certificate.

It is pertinent to mention that Shri Kumar Kalbande had been filing RTIs, First Appeals, Second Appeals, Public Grievances and Appeals thereof since August, 2021. So far, he has filed 175 RTIs, 67 First Appeals, 12 Second Appeals in Hon'ble CIC and 48 Public Grievances & 25 Appeals thereof in FSI, HQ, Dehradun. Apart from this, he has filed 60 RTIs, 41 First Appeals and 10 Second Appeals in Hon'ble CIC related to FSI, Regional Office (Central), Nagpur. Further he has filed numerous baseless and false complaints to Hon'ble President, Prime Minister Office, Ministers, VIPs, Court of Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), National Commission for Backward Classes, National Human Rights Commission etc. which have been suitably replied. The Information Commissioner has made strong observations vide Order dated 19/02/2024 against him for his meaningless repeated RTIs. In the said Order the Hon'ble Information Commissioner is stated that *the conduct of the Appellant in the present matter, to say the least, is questionable an is not appreciated*

"Accordingly, the appellant is cautioned and admonished wherein he should keep in mind that the RTI Act should be used judiciously, sensibly and responsibly so that purpose of the RTI Act would not be defeated. The Commission leaves it to the concerned disciplinary authority for any consequent action in the matter." (copy enclosed).

Further, it is pertinent to mention that most of RTIs filed by Shri Kumar Kalbande under RTI Act, 2005 and Public Grievances have been related to complaints made by him to various Authorities/Departments/Ministry's of Government of India. As a result, the public authorities (CPIO/FAA) and the Officers/Officials of the organization have been continuously engaged in providing responses/reply to him at the cost of other mandates of this organisation.

In view of the above facts, it can be seen that the present allegations made by Shri Kumar Kalbande against the Forest Survey of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kaulagarh Road Dehradun and Regional Office (Central), Nagpur for corruption in selecting the Deputy Rangers by considering misleading/false experience certificate is one more such allegation in a row leading to the defamation of the reputed organization. Further it is stated that the entire selection process for Deputy Rangers has been completed by the Staff Selection Commission, WR, Mumbai and the alleged offices have role in selection process limited to raising the requisition to SSC.

With reference to grievance No. DOPAT/E/2023/0002219 dated 14/02/2023 (Annexure - 1) filed by Shri Kumar Kalbande in Department of Personnel and Training-Staff Selection Commission(SSC) for selection of Deputy Rangers candidates namely Shri Ashutosh Singh, Shri Parikshit Agarkar and Shri P. K. Garg on false and misleading experience certificate, it is stated that the Under Secretary (SSC), in his reply dated 22.03.2023 to said grievance, has already mentioned that the Recruitment to various posts by Selection is done as per the requirements/requisitions raised by the User Departments. The terms and conditions relating to recruitment including and not limited to eligibility, essential qualifications, experience, scrutiny of documents etc is done as per requisition submitted by respective User Department.

The complainant filed an appeal, No. DOPAT/E/A/23/0000483 dated 06.04.2023 in respect of above reply to which a similar reply was given to the Appellant on 14.05.2023.

Further, the contention of Shri Kumar Kalbande that vide Letter No. 3-12/2013-Admin-2685 dated 20/10/2023 that Shri Ashutosh Singh was transferred in public interest and promoted without any vigilance clearance is false and baseless. The vigilance clearance and integrity certificate was issued by the Regional Director on 10.07.2023 in favour of Shri Ashutosh Singh during his promotion (copy enclosed).

Shri Kumar Kalbande had filed 3 RTI Applications No. FSOID/R/E/23/00077 dated 07.09.2023 to CPIO, FSI, Dehradun, FSOID/R/E/23/00078 dated 07.09.2023 to CPIO, FSI, Nagpur and FSOID/R/E/23/00079 dated 07.09.2023 to CPIO, FSI, Bangalore mentioning the reference of WP No. 23695 of 2022 (GM-RES) which states that the information of the colleagues can be given and sought following common information.

1. Please provide the list of name of all the Deputy Rangers recruited since the establishment of Forest Survey of India Dehradun, Forest Survey of India Central Zone Nagpur and Forest Survey of India Southern Zone Bangalore.
2. Please provide true copy of experience certificate of Deputy Rangers recruited since the establishment of Forest Survey of India Dehradun, Forest Survey of India Central Zone Nagpur and Forest Survey of India Southern Zone Bangalore.
3. Please provide total amount of salary and other financial benefits gained by Deputy Rangers including pensions since the establishment of Forest Survey of India Dehradun, Forest Survey of India Central Zone Nagpur and Forest Survey of India Southern Zone Bangalore. Provide true copies of all the related documents along with note sheets.

In reply to above RTIs, CPIO, FSI, Bangalore, vide letter dated 09.12.2023 has provided the relevant information to the Applicant and CPIO, FSI, Nagpur, vide letter dated

06.10.2023 has also provided the information of point no 1 & 3, however the information on point no 2 has not provided as the information of the third parties stand exempted from disclosure under section 8 (1) (j) of RTI Act, 2005. It is pertinent to mention that the Order dated 22th August, 2023 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka at Bengaluru in WP No. 23695 of 2022, wherein at point no.3, page no. 4, it is stated that *"an employee has to have full service particulars of other employees working under the same employer especially when dispute arises relating to confirmation, seniority, promotion or the like"*. Here in the case of Shri Kumar Kalbande, no such type of dispute has arisen. However, in the light of said Hon'ble Court Order, the available information on point no. 2 in respect of CPIO, FSI, Nagpur is being provided herewith (copy enclosed).

Shri Ashutosh Singh and Shri Parikshit Agarkar were working as Technical Associate in Forest Survey of India, Dehradun (from 18.03.2011 to 15.03.2015) and Forest Survey of India, Central Zone, Nagpur (from 01.04.2012 to 04.02.2018) respectively. The essential qualification for recruitment of Technical Associate as per notice for recruitment of the purely contractual posts of Technical Associate in 2022 is B. Tech/M.Sc./M.A./M.C.A/Post Graduate.

The experience certificates in respect of Shri Ashutosh Singh, Shri Parikshit Agarkar and Dr. Salman Khan who were nominated by the Staff Selection Commission, Western Region, Mumbai for recruitment in the office of the Regional Director, Forest Survey of India, Central Zone, Nagpur in the year 2015, 2018 and 2018 were verified by the office and found to be genuine i.e., they were validly issued by the respective Employers and were not forged documents. The experience detailed in the certificates was confirmed to be factual.

It was found that the documents and experience certificate are authentic and upon comparison with the experience prescribed in existing recruitment rules of Deputy Ranger and the nature of the work experience detailed in the genuine experience certificates is very well related to the mandate of Forest Survey of India (FSI), which is a premier national organization under the union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, responsible for assessment and monitoring of the forest resources of the Country with main objectives are (copy enclosed):

1. To prepare State of Forest Report biennially, providing assessment of latest Forest Cover in the country and monitoring the changes in these.
2. To conduct inventory in forest and non-forest areas and develop database on forest tree resources.
3. To prepare thematic maps on 1:50,000 scale, using aerial photographs.
4. To function as a nodal agency for collection, compilation, storage and dissemination of spatial database on forest resources.
5. To conduct training of forestry personnel in application of technologies related to resources survey, remote sensing, GIS, etc.
6. To strengthen research & development infrastructure in FSI and to conduct research on applied forest survey techniques.

7. To support State/UT Forest Departments (SFD) in forest resources survey, mapping and inventory.
8. To undertake forestry related special studies/consultancies and custom made training courses for SFD's and other organisations on project basis.

Details of Educational and other Qualification for the post of Deputy Ranger in respect of Shri Ashutosh Singh, Shri Parikshit Agarkar and Dr. Salman Khan who were recruited as Deputy Rangers in Forest Survey of India, Regional Office (Central), Nagpur as per RRs 2000, RRs 2015 & RRs 2018 respectively, their essential qualifications, experience certificates and the duties to be assigned to them at the time of their Recruitments are as under:

1. **Shri Ashutosh Singh:** He is recruited as Deputy Ranger in the year 2015 as per RRs 2000, Educational and other Qualification for the post of Deputy Ranger as per RRs 2000 is:

- a. 12 standard or its equivalent or trained Forester or trained Forest Guard from the Regional Forestry School.
- b. Should have at least 2 years experience in Forest Survey/Working Plan organization/Forest Resources Survey work in State Forest Department.

Shri Ashutosh Singh possesses following Educational and other Qualification:

- a. 12th Pass, B. Sc. (Bot, Chem and Zoo), M. Sc. (Env. Sc.), P G Diploma (RS&GIS).
- b. More than 2 years experience as a Technical Associate in Forest Cover Mapping of India, CEC Aravalli Mining Mapping Project, Inventorization & Monitoring of Biosphere Reserves in India, Decision Support System, Oil Block Assessment Project, Density and Change in the Forest Cover of Tiger Reserves in Shivalik Gangetic Plain Landscape, Project "e-Green Watch and REDD+ Project at FSI, Dehradun (copy enclosed).

The experience of Shri Ashutosh Singh in Forest Cover Mapping is useful for discharging the duties in biennial assessment of Forest Cover in the Country and monitoring the changes therein which is one of the most important activity/mandate of Forest Survey of India, mentioned above as objective number 1 of Forest Survey of India. It also involves field work and ground truthing of the forest patches which is an integral part of Forest Cover Mapping work.

2. **Shri Parikshit Agarkar:** He is recruited as Deputy Ranger in the year 2018 as per RRs 2015, Essential and Desirable Qualification for the post of Deputy Ranger as per RRs 2015 is:

Essential:

- a. 12 class pass or equivalent qualification from a recognised Board or University.
- b. Two years experience in Forest Survey/Working Plan Organization / Forest Resources Survey work in State Forest Department.

Desirable:

Experience in forest survey or mapping or work related to working plan.

Shri Parikshit Agarkar possesses following Educational and other Qualification:

- a. 12th Pass, B. Sc. (CHE, BTH & BOT), M. Sc. (Env. Sc.), P G Diploma (RS&GIS).
- b. More than 2 years experience as a Technical Associate in Forest Cover Mapping, Assessment and Ground Truthing work of Madhya Pradesh state. Apart from this he was engaged in Generation of Coordinates for Tree Outside Forest Inventory at FSI, Central Zone, Nagpur (copy enclosed).

The experience of Shri Parikshit Agarkar in Forest Cover Mapping is useful for discharging the duties in biennial assessment of Forest Cover in the Country and monitoring the changes therein which is one of the most important activity/mandate of Forest Survey of India, mentioned above as objective number 1 of Forest Survey of India. It also involves field work and ground truthing of the forest patches which is an integral part of Forest Cover Mapping work.

3. **Dr. Salman Khan:** He is recruited as Deputy Ranger in the year 2018 as per RRs 2018, Essential and Desirable Qualification for the post of Deputy Ranger as per RRs 2018 is:

Essential:

- a. 12 class pass or equivalent qualification from a recognised Board or University.
- b. Two years experience in Forest Survey/Working Plan Organization / Forest Resources Survey work in State Forest Department.

Desirable:

Experience in forest survey or mapping or work related to working plan.

Dr. Salman Khan possesses following Educational and other Qualification:

- a. 12th Pass, B. Sc. (Applied Life Science), M. Sc. (Forestry).
- b. More than 2 years experience as a Ph.D Scholar in Forest Entomology Division of Forest Research Institute, ICFRE, Dehradun, premier organization under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. (copy enclosed)

The experience of Dr. Salman Khan in Forest Entomology is useful for discharging the duties in recording of insects and pests on trees during routine National Forest Inventory work which is one of the most important mandate of Forest Survey of India, mentioned above as objective number 2 of Forest Survey of India. Moreover, while doing M. Sc. (Forestry), he learned various important forestry courses like Silviculture, Forest Mensuration, Forest Ecology and Environment, Forest Protection, People and Forest, Wildlife Management & Eco Development, Forest Policy & Law, Forest Management, Range Management, Forest Economic, Forest Resource Utilization, Remote Sensing & GIS etc. (copy enclosed)

From the above, it is revealed that Shri Ashutosh Singh, Shri Parikshit Agarkar and Dr. Salman Khan not only have authentic and genuine experience certificates but also their Educational Qualification and the experience is highly advantageous to fulfil the mandate of Forest Survey of India given above.

The experience of Shri Ashutosh Singh and Shri Parikshit Agarkar in Forest Cover Mapping is useful for discharging the duties in Forest Cover Mapping work of the Country which is one of the most important mandate of Forest Survey of India. Likewise, the experience of Dr. Salman Khan is useful for discharging the duties in National Forest Inventory work of the Country which is also one of the most important mandate of Forest Survey of India.

Therefore, in view of the above facts, the allegations made by Shri Kumar Kalbande against the Forest Survey of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kaulagarh Road Dehradun and Central Zone, Nagpur office for corruption in selecting the Deputy Rangers by considering misleading false experience certificate is baseless and false. However, the certificates submitted by above officials at the time of their recruitment process as Deputy Ranger are authentic and genuine. Such allegations time and again are derogatory and defaming the reputation of the organization. There has been no corruption involved at any stage of the recruitment of the Deputy Rangers, mentioned in the complaint.



Regional Director

