



SAARTHI - सारथी

करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल · Career Guidance Portal

"सही मार्गदर्शन, उज्ज्वल भविष्य।"

करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

भारतीय वन सेवा

Indian Forest Service (IFoS) officers implement national forest policy, scientifically manage and conserve forests and wildlife, and protect the environment.



Scan for everything on this career

Salary, exams, colleges, the routes in and the steps after — all on the portal.

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/indian-forest-service

राजकीय उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय, जेठन्तरी

Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Jethantri · ब्लॉक समदड़ी · बालोतरा (Block Samdari · Balotra)

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प्रधानाचार्य, रा.उ.मा.वि. जेठन्तरी · मास्टर ट्रेनर
Principal, GSSS Jethantri · Master Trainer



श्री चेनाराम चौधरी

प्रधानाचार्य, डाइट बाड़मेर
Principal, DIET Barmer



श्रीमती संघमित्रा

वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)
Sr. Lecturer, DIET Barmer (Support)



भरत चौधरी

अभिकल्पना व विकास · व्याख्याता (इतिहास)
Designed & developed · Lecturer (History)

विशेष धन्यवाद · SPECIAL THANKS



सुरेन्द्र सिंह राठौड़

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. कानाना



सुरेश कुमार सैन

व्याख्याता (भूगोल) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



वनिता कुमारी

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



कमलेश चौधरी

व्याख्याता (राजनीति विज्ञान) · रा.उ.मा.वि. टापरा

करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। · An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

1 About this career

Indian Forest Service (IFoS) officers implement national forest policy, scientifically manage and conserve forests and wildlife, and protect the environment.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	Graduation in science/agriculture/engineering
Selection exam	UPSC Indian Forest Service Exam
Training	IGNFA, Dehradun
Starting salary	₹56,100/month

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Interest in forestry and wildlife
- Interest in nature and environmental conservation
- Enjoying outdoor and field work

ABILITIES

- Physical stamina and fitness for field work
- Scientific and analytical thinking
- Leadership and decision-making ability

KEY SKILLS

- Forest and wildlife management
- Environmental and ecological knowledge
- Use of maps and GIS
- Coordination with communities
- Administration and team leadership
- Crisis and disaster management

4 How to get there

- 1 Pass 10+2 in any stream (science recommended).
- 2 Complete graduation in one of animal husbandry/botany/chemistry/geology/maths/statistics/physics/zoology/agriculture/forestry/engineering (mandatory).
- 3 Clear the UPSC Indian Forest Service Exam: Prelims, Mains and Interview.
- 4 After selection, training takes place at IGNFA, Dehradun.
- 5 It is highly competitive — always complete graduation and keep a backup plan.

MAIN EXAMS

- UPSC Indian Forest Service Exam (through the common Prelims)

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- Forest Research Institute (FRI) — Dehradun, Uttarakhand (<https://fri.icfre.gov.in>)
- University of Rajasthan — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.uniraj.ac.in>)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- Vajiram & Ravi — Private paid coaching — this portal does not endorse any institute. Look at the free options first: the Chief Minister Anuprati coaching scheme, and the recruiting board's own syllabus and past question papers. Check fees, facilities and success claims for yourself; no one can guarantee selection.

ONLINE

- UPSC Official Portal — Online (<https://upsc.gov.in>)
- SWAYAM / iGOT — Online (<https://swayam.gov.in>)
- स्वयं (SWAYAM) — भारत सरकार के निःशुल्क ऑनलाइन कोर्स — Free (<https://swayam.gov.in/>)
- राष्ट्रीय डिजिटल पुस्तकालय (NDLI) — Free books and study material (<https://ndli.iitkgp.ac.in/>)
- एन.सी.ई.आर.टी. — निःशुल्क पाठ्यपुस्तकें — The foundation for general knowledge, maths and science (<https://ncert.nic.in/>)

FEES

Graduation at government universities costs from nearly free up to about ₹50,000/year. The UPSC application fee is around ₹100 (waived for many categories). Coaching is optional and can cost ₹50,000–2,00,000.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- National Scholarship Portal (<https://scholarships.gov.in>)
- Rajasthan SJE Scholarships (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in>)
- Buddy4Study (<https://www.buddy4study.com>)
- Vidya Lakshmi (Education Loan) (<https://www.vidyalakshmi.co.in>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

State forest departments, wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, tiger reserves and forest offices.

WORK CULTURE

Mostly field and forest work with some office work; leading teams of officers and forest guards; a transferable posting.

WHO HIRES

- State forest departments
- Wildlife institutes and tiger reserves
- National park and sanctuary administration
- Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
- Forest research institutes (ICFRE)

DEMAND (2026)

The All-India Services offer limited posts each year while lakhs of candidates apply, so competition is extremely high. Selection is tough, but demand stays strong because of nation-building and job security. One thing to be clear about — the "demand" described above counts posts, not your chance of getting one. Selection is by open competition and the number of applicants runs to many times the number of posts, so most candidates are not selected in any given recruitment. That is not an argument against this career; it is an argument against making it your only plan. Keep studying or building a skill alongside your preparation, so that the year is not lost whichever way the result goes.

7 Career growth

- 1 Deputy Conservator of Forests (DFO)
- 2 Conservator of Forests
- 3 Chief Conservator of Forests
- 4 Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
- 5 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF)

EARNINGS

Starting	₹56,100/माह
Mid level	₹1,44,200/माह
Senior level	₹2,25,000–2,50,000/माह

Basic pay per the 7th Pay Commission; total is higher with field and other allowances. Figures are indicative. The figures above rest on the 7th Central Pay Commission matrix, which is what applies as of 16 August 2026. The Union Cabinet approved the Terms of Reference of the 8th Central Pay Commission on 28 October 2025, and it must report within 18 months of its constitution. It has not reported yet, so no revised pay scale exists — but these figures will change. Dearness allowance has been 60% of basic pay since 1 January 2026.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Working amid nature and wildlife
- Meaningful contribution to conservation
- Job security and respect

The challenges

- Extreme competition; limited posts
- Remote and tough field postings
- Risks like timber smuggling and poaching

9 Real-life journeys

Parveen Kaswan

IFS forest officer (2016 batch)

From Mirzawali Mer village in Sri Ganganagar district of Rajasthan, Parveen Kaswan moved from aeronautical engineering to the forest service and is well known for promoting wildlife conservation on social media.

Outlook Traveller · <https://www.outlookindia.com/outlooktraveller/explore/story/73112/in-conversation-with-parveen-kaswan-ifs-officer-rajasthan>

Kanchan Devi

IFS forest officer (1991 batch)

A 1991-batch IFS officer, Kanchan Devi became the first woman Director General of ICFRE, Dehradun, leading forestry research and education.

Indian Masterminds · <https://indianmasterminds.com/news/kanchan-devi-becomes-the-first-lady-ifs-to-be-appointed-dg-of-icfre/>

10 Sources & further reading

1. UPSC official website — <https://upsc.gov.in>
2. IGNFA, Dehradun — <https://ignfa.gov.in>
3. Rajasthan Career Guidance source — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/%e0%a4%ad%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%b0%e0%a4%a4%e0%a5%80%e0%a4%af-%e0%a4%b5%e0%a4%a8-%e0%a4%b8%e0%a5%87%e0%a4%b5%e0%a4%be-indian-forest-service/>
4. 8th Central Pay Commission — Cabinet approval of the Terms of Reference (PIB, 28 October 2025) — <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2183289>



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