

Chikmagalur Forest Circle was formed on 21-10-2001. It comprises of 04 Divisions viz.,

- 1.Chikmagalur Division,
- 2.Koppa Division.
- 3.Bhadra Wildlife Division,
- 4.Social Forestry Division,

LANDSCAPE

1. Large parts of the Circle situated in heavy to very heavy rain fall zone.
2. Circle is composed of the most mountainous region, except Kadur Taluk.
3. Mullaianagiri is the Highest Peak, not only in Chikmagalur District, but also in the state itself.

CLIMATE AND RAINFALL

1. The climate is agreeable and cool through out the year.
2. Maximum temperature stays around 30⁰ C and the night temperature is around 19⁰ C
3. Average rainfall is 1990mm; the eastern belt receives rainfall about 600mm, while western belt receives around 3000mm.
4. Chikmagalur is land of rivers as many as 07 rivers originate. They are Tunga, Bhadra, Netravathi, Hemavathi, Veda, Avathi and Yagachi.
5. District is a main catchment of Krishna and Cauvery basin.

FOREST COVER

1. The area under forest cover in Chikmagalur in District is 48.56%
2. Forest area is 3.49 lakhs Ha. Out of the District Geographical area of 7.20 lakhs

TREE COVER

Tree cover in the District outside forest area is 10%. This is mainly due to coffee and other plantation crops in private holdings

VEGITATION

The District is unique in having diverse kind of forests which are as follows;

1. Scrub type Forest.
2. Thorny dry deciduous Forest.
3. Moist Deciduous Forest.
4. Semi-ever Green Forest.
5. Ever Green Forest

STAFF POSITION

1. Total sanctioned strength is 603 out of this, 458 posts have been filled up.
2. 20 posts of Foresters, 87 Forest Guards and 18 Forest Watchers posts are vacant.

IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

Important activities of Chikmagalur Circle are as follows:

1. Consolidation of Forest Boundaries.
2. Protection-Management of natural forest and sanctuary.
3. Afforestation in vacant and degraded areas.
4. Farm-Forestry activities.
5. Meeting people's bonafide needs.

AFFORESTATION ACTIVITIES

1. Afforestation programmes are taken up under different schemes mainly FDA and KSFMBC.
2. Protection and Management activities of Bhadra Wild Life Sanctuary have been taken up under Project Tiger (Central & State) Scheme.
3. Total target of raising plantation for the year 2005-06 is 1142.50 Ha.
4. Total seedlings planted in Govt. land is 8.402 lakhs.
5. Total seedlings raised for public distribution is 17.350 Lakhs.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The Revenue and expenditure for the year 2005-06 (Upto Jan-06) are as under:

Detail	Target	Achievement
Revenue	1176.150 Lakhs	730.643 Lakhs
Expenditure	595.220 Lakhs	229.713 Lakhs

ENCROACHMENT OF FOREST LAND

The Forest encroachment cases of Chikmagalur Circle are as under:

Period	Families	Extent in Ha.
Prior to 1978	1451	1308.67
After 1978	7371	8997.48

ENCROACHMENT OF FOREST LAND

- THATKOLA RESERVE FOREST: - The Total extent is 2312.28 acres. 148 families have encroached 611.23 acres. As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, encroachment have been evicted on 01-10-2003. Package of Rs. 8,20,000/- have already been sanctioned from the District Administration.
- SARAGODU RESERVE FOREST: - The Total extent is 9204.25 acres. 284 families have encroached 934.09 acres. As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, encroachment have to be evicted before 31-03-2006. Package of Rs. 357.70 Lakhs have been sanctioned from the State Government.
- MASKALI RESERVE FOREST: - The Total extent is 5624.14 acres. 165 families have encroached 1431.30 acres. As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, encroachment have to be evicted before 31-10-2006. Package of Rs. 147.20 Lakhs have been sanctioned from the State Government.

FOREST RESERVES IN KOPPA DIVISION

- These are Thickly Wooded lands.
- Distributed in 05 Taluks i.e., Koppa, N.R.Pura, Sringeri, Chikmagalur and Mudigere.
- The Deputy Commissioner notified 1,38,000 acres in 05 Taluks as "FOREST RESERVES" in June - 2002 under section 71 of Karnataka land Revenue Act - 1964.
- To be finally constituted as Reserved Forests.
- 40,000 acres out of 1,38,000 areas has already been notified as Reserve Forest/Minor Forest/Sec-04 under KFA - 1963.
- Remaining 98,000 acres to be settled.
- Working Plan wing has taken up the survey of remaining 98,000 acres excluding encroachment and habitates for Notifications.

WILD LIFE COMPENSATION

The Wild Life Havoc cases for the year 2005-06 are as follows:

➤ Crop Damage cases	-	33 cases
➤ Loss of domestic animals	-	11 cases
➤ Loss of Human Life	-	07 Cases
➤ Injuries to Human Life	-	07 cases

For the above cases, compensation of Rs. 8,09,950/- have been paid to the public.

PEOPLE PARTICIPATION IN FORESTRY ACTIVITIES

124 Village Forest Committees & 34 Eco-Development Committees have been formed and involved in the protection and Afforestation activities.