

IFSBWT

**Revived. Renewed.
Resolved.**

**Indian Forest Service Benevolent and Welfare
Trust**

Protecting Those Who Protect Our Forests

Trust Revived and Registered · February 2026 · New Delhi

INDIA'S FOREST GUARDIANS

India has over 7 lakh sq km of forest area guarded by front-line forest staff — each protecting 5–10 sq km, 24×7

Frontline Force
Watchers, Guards, Foresters,
Range Officers

**Daily ground-level
patrols, seizures
and confrontations
with
poachers/criminals/
encroachers**

State Forest Service (SFS)
Middle-level Managers

**Divisional
management,
policy
implementation/
field coordination,
enforcement**

Indian Forest Service (IFS)
Top-level Managers

**Policy formulation,
overall leadership
and management,
coordination/
international
liaison**

Combined strength of India's forest protection force: ~80,000+ personnel

DAILY THREATS FACED BY FRONTLINE PERSONNEL

ARMED POACHERS

Wildlife poachers armed with guns, traps and poison. Guards intercept high-value contraband tiger parts, ivory, pangolin scales.

TIMBER SMUGGLERS

Organised syndicates felling sandalwood, teak and rosewood. Often backed by local criminal networks with political links.

ILLEGAL MINERS

Sand, granite, coal illegal mining mafias operate in forested riverbeds and hills, often with armed escorts.

ENCROACHERS

Forest land grabbed through arson, threats and violence. Officers attempting eviction face physical assault.

ATTACKS FROM WILDLIFE

WILD FIRES / FLOODS / CALAMITIES

These risks are concentrated at the bottom of the hierarchy where pay is lowest and protections are fewest

THE HUMAN COST

India consistently ranks among countries with the highest fatalities of forestry personnel globally.


On average, 30–35 deaths and 120–150 serious injuries each year.

Compensation/ex-gratia payments are grossly inadequate and often delayed

Sustainability of support for livelihood largely absent

A family losing its breadwinner in the protection of forests can lose everything without any institutional support, they are invisible.

OUR HISTORY — FROM 2008 TO REVIVAL

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- 2008** Trust originally founded with 13 Founding Trustees and registered with Sub-Registrar, New Delhi.
 - 2008–09** 11 additional Trustees co-opted. Meetings held in August 2008 and April 2009.
 - 2009–25** Activities could not be pursued. Trust remained dormant for approximately 16 years.
 - Jan 24, 2026** Fourth Meeting of Trustees revives the Trust. Scope widened to all forest personnel. 08 new Trustees inducted.
 - Feb 2026** Amended Trust Deed registered at Sub-Registrar, Kashmere Gate, Delhi. e-stamp certificate obtained. Trust formally reinstated. Protecting families of frontline field personnel in distress is the thrust area of this Trust

WHAT CHANGED IN 2026 – EXPANDED MANDATE

BEFORE (2008 Deed)

- ✗ **Only IFS officers' families as beneficiaries**
- ✗ **Assistance only for death in harness**
- ✗ **Dormant for 15+ years**
- ✗ **Limited governance structure**
- ✗ **No formal committees**



AFTER (2026 Amended Deed)

- ✓ **All forest field personnel Guard, watcher, Forester, Ranger, SFS and IFS Officers**
- ✓ **Death and injury/disability on duty**
 - ✓ **Actively revived and legally registered**
- ✓ **Governing Body, two Committees**
- ✓ **Online donations, website, PAN obtained**
- ✓ **e-newsletter/Linkedin/website**

Filling an Institutional Void of 160 Years at National Level

**Internal Security. External security. Ecological security.
All three sustain the nation. All three deserve equal recognition.**

**160 years of scientific
forestry in India**

**No forestry welfare
association at national level
until now**

**Police have one. Armed
forces have one.**

**The IFSBWT fills this
Void**

THE REVISED FOCUS

Senior officers face boardrooms. Frontline guards face bullets.

PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES

Families of forestry field personnel who sacrifice their lives while performing duties
Watchers, Forest Guards, Foresters, Range Officers, SFS and IFS officers

INJURY AND DISABILITY

Personnel who suffer serious injuries, permanent disabilities, or critical illness
while on duty also now qualify for assistance.

WELFARE ACTIVITIES

Any welfare activity for family members of officers and field personnel, as
decided by Trustees including education, health and livelihood support.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Board of Trustees
32 Members

Governing Body
President · Vice President · Secretary ·
Joint Secretary. Treasurer + ten
Members

Committee for
Scrutiny and Evaluation of
Proposals

Coordination Committee
for Fund Mobilisation

OVER 5000 MEMBERS OF THE TRUST
(Serving and retired)

OUR TRUSTEES – STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

13

Founding Trustees
(2008)

11

Co-opted Trustees
(2008)

08

New Trustees
(Jan 2026)

32 Trustees

Trustees are appointed for their lifetime and represent all cadres. Minimum quorum of 8 Trustees needed for Board meetings.

Membership

All serving and retired members of Indian Forest Service are Deemed Members of the Trust (Clause 10), no formal application needed.

HOW ASSISTANCE WORKS

Channel 1 – Trust Corpus

Applications from State Forestry Associations are reviewed by the Committee for Scrutiny and Evaluation. Grants are made directly from Trust's Corpus to verified cases.

Channel 2 – Direct Donor Platform

Donors wishing to support a specific case contribute directly. 100% of such donations pass to beneficiary family with zero deductions.

Process Flow

1. State Associations identifies case



2. Google Form submitted



3. Committee reviews proposal



4. Assistance disbursed

Two cases offered financial assistance by the Trust

CASE I

Direct Support to Family

**Late Shri Jitendra Singh Shekhawat,
FG, Rajasthan, January 07, 2026**

Martyred while combating illegal sand mining in Dholpur. The Trust released ₹1.35 lakh to his family on 11 February 2026, handed over by the DCF, Alwar. His family was among the first beneficiaries of the revived IFSBWT.



Two cases offered financial assistance by the Trust (contd.)

CASE II

From Corpus of Trust

**Late Shri Harikesh Singh Gurjar, FG, MP,
April 08, 2026**

Martyred by the sand mafia in Morena Forest Division while attempting to intercept a vehicle with his Range Officer and team. Assistance of ₹3.0 lakh disbursed: ₹1.5 lakh credited to the widow's bank account on 12 May 2026; a demand draft of ₹1.5 lakh sent to LIC for a policy under NIVESH PLUS — Plan 749 in the name of his five-year-old daughter for her higher education.



WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED — MARCH/APRIL 2026

 **Amended Trust Deed registered (Feb 11, 2026) at Sub-Registrar, Kashmere Gate**

Created LinkedIn page

 **PAN Card received (AACTI5925J)**

Online Google Form for assistance applications launched

 **Formal communications sent to all State Forest Departments, IFSA State/UT units/some of the batchmates' groups**

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED — MARCH/APRIL 2026

Board of Trustees approved provision for nominating Patrons to the Trust

 **Governing Body formally adopted (March 19, 2026) Vision and Mission Statements**

 **Website (foresttrust.in) hosted**

Exemptions from Income-tax and donations tax being sought

 **Donations received and acknowledged; receipts issued in approved format**

ON THE HORIZON – MAY 2026 and BEYOND

01

**Explore ways to increase Corpus
of the Trust**

02

**Expand social media: Facebook
and Instagram in addition to
existing LinkedIn page**

03

**Finalise institutional
mechanisms for fund
mobilisation**

04

**Request amendments to CSR
guidelines to include assistance
to forestry field personnel
making supreme sacrifices**

05

**Process assistance applications
with speed and compassion as
they arrive from States**

06

WHERE WE STAND TODAY

Four months since revival · January 24, 2026 — May 24, 2026

STILL IN THE NASCENT STAGE

Systems, databases, donor records and communication channels are still being built up. Institutional muscle is being added month by month.

FRUGAL BY DESIGN — NO OFFICE, NO OVERHEADS

All Governing Body members work from home. The Trust runs on a single part-time executive assistant. Administrative expenses are being held to the absolute minimum.

EVERY RUPEE FOR THE CAUSE

With overheads close to zero, every rupee received goes to the families we serve. This lean model will be preserved even as the Trust scales.

THE ROAD AHEAD — BUILDING THE CORPUS

From immediate response today to lasting welfare tomorrow

THE CORPUS IMPERATIVE — OUR CENTRAL THRUST

The first thrust is to stand by families of frontline personnel who make the supreme sacrifice or are grievously injured in the line of duty. A robust corpus lets the Trust respond immediately, every single time.

THE THIRD OBJECTIVE — WELFARE FOR FRONTLINE STAFF

Once the corpus reaches a healthy size, the Trust can pursue its third objective — welfare activities for frontline forest staff in States where the need is most acute.

A COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

A corpus built by the forestry fraternity, for the families of those who serve to protect the national wealth, is both an institutional and a moral imperative.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Every contribution – big or small – protects a family

DONATIONS

Help us in mobilising donations to the Trust Corpus – one-time, monthly, or annual.

CSR PARTNERSHIPS

Channelise CSR funds to the Trust.
Write to ifsbwtrust@gmail.com (Sub: CSR Enquiry).

SPREAD THE WORD

Share the Trust's story frequently with civil society, colleagues and forest lovers.

IDENTIFY CASES

Proactively identify and highlight cases needing support

BANK DETAILS AND PRESS CONTACT

For donations and press queries



BANK and UPI

Account Name: Indian Forest Service Benevolent and Welfare Trust

Account No.: 30454625682

IFSC: SBIN0007837

Bank: State Bank of India

Branch: CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi – 110003

UPI ID: ifsbwt@sbi

PAN: AACTI5925J

Accepted via UPI · BHIM · Net Banking · Google Pay · PhonePe · Paytm

Note: Application for 12AB and 80G registration is underway. Eligibility for tax deduction will apply once approval is received.



PRESS CONTACT

Mr Surendra Kumar

Trustee

Vice Chairman, Committee for Scrutiny and Evaluation of Proposals

FOR PRESS QUERIES

 ifsbwtrust@gmail.com

 foresttrust.in

For interviews, photographs, and case-level details

GET IN TOUCH — CONNECT WITH US

 Website

foresttrust.in

 LinkedIn

Indian Forest Service Benevolent and Welfare Trust

 Registered Address

**Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Dept. of
Forests & Wildlife, Kamla Nehru Ridge, New Delhi –
110007**

 PAN

AACTI5925J

 Apply for Assistance

**Google Form (available on website) for State
Associations/units to submit cases**

They protect our forests

We protect their families

**Join the IFSBWT movement. Donate. Advocate. Identify cases.
Be the safety net that our forest guardians deserve.**



foresttrust.in



ifsbwtrust@gmail.com

Indian Forest Service Benevolent and Welfare Trust
Registered: February 11, 2026 · PAN: AACTI5925J

IFSBWT

Thank You

For sparing your time and listening

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