

Indian Forest Service Benevolent and Welfare Trust

STANDING FOR GREEN WARRIORS

e-Newsletter | Vol. 6 | July 2026

Three Families, and a Month of Building — July 2026 in Review

July was a month in which the Trust did both halves of its work. It stood beside a bereaved family in Haryana, sanctioning and releasing ₹3 lakh to the family of Late Shri Hari Om, Forester, Mahendragarh Forest Division. And it continued to build the machinery that will let it do so faster and more often — the Governing Body (GB) met for the eighth time, the draft Guidelines for Scrutiny and Evaluation of Proposals were considered clause by clause and released for wider comments, and an online payment gateway was approved for the Trust's web portal. At the close of the month, the Committee for Scrutiny and Evaluation of Proposals took up two further cases — a Range Forest Officer in Gujarat and a fire watcher in Madhya Pradesh — on which release follows on August 1, 2026.

◆ ASSISTANCE EXTENDED — LATE SHRI HARI OM, FORESTER, HARYANA



HARI OM

Late Shri Hari Om

Forester, Mahendragarh Forest Division

Shri Hari Om, Forester, Mahendragarh Forest Division, Haryana, aged 31, died in a road accident on July 13, 2026 while travelling to attend an official meeting at the office of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Kanina, District Mahendragarh. He had been married only in February 2026 and was the sole earning member of his family. Based on information received from the Haryana FD regarding the family's financial condition, the Trust approved ₹2 lakh for his father and ₹1 lakh for his spouse and both the amounts were released on July 28, 2026.

◆ TWO FURTHER CASES APPROVED — CSEP MEETING, JULY 30, 2026

The Committee for Scrutiny and Evaluation of Proposals met on July 30, 2026 and examined two proposals arising from death in the line of duty.

► **Late Shri Vikaskumar Nagjibhai Desai**, Range Forest Officer, Tapti Range, Vyara Forest Division, Gujarat, aged 33, died on July 20, 2026 while pursuing a vehicle carrying illicit khair wood. He is survived by his wife and a three-year-old son, and no ex-gratia had been received from any other source. The Committee recommended ₹2 lakh to Smt. Varsha Shambhubhai Desai.

► **Late Shri Lakhan Singh Maravi**, Agni Suraksha Shramik (Fire Watcher), Nakatighati camp, Kanha Tiger Reserve, MP, aged 36, was attacked by a tiger during a morning patrol on June 14, 2026 and succumbed to his injuries the same day. Noting the vulnerable circumstances of the family, the Committee recommended ₹3 lakh to Smt. Mehanti Bai Maravi.

Having regard to the present position of the corpus, the Governing Body through (circulation of messages on WhatsApp) has decided to release ₹2 lakh to Smt. Varsha Desai and a first instalment of ₹1.5 lakh to Smt. Mehanti Bai Maravi on August 1, 2026, the balance in the latter case to be taken up as resources permit.

◆ EIGHTH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY — JULY 18, 2026

The Governing Body held its eighth meeting on July 18, 2026 through virtual mode. The main decisions were as follows.

► The draft Guidelines for Scrutiny and Evaluation of Proposals, framed by the Committee for Scrutiny and Evaluation of Proposals (CSEP) were discussed and approved in principal subject to minor amendments. In keeping with the decision of the General Body Meeting held on May 24, 2026 to circulate the draft widely before adoption, the Guidelines, together with the comments of the Governing Body, are to be placed on the Trust's website and shared with the Board of Trustees, State Coordinators, Nodal Officers and Association groups, for comments.

► The appointments of Shri Aditya Madanpotra (AGMUT:2016) as Nodal Officer and Shri Ashwin Jaswant Parihar (AGMUT:2012) as State Coordinator for Goa were ratified.

- For a number of credits, the bank statement does not carry adequate contact particulars of the remitter, and receipts could not be issued. A list of such entries is being compiled and circulated through the Trust website, State Coordinators, Nodal Officers and Association groups so that these donors can be identified and duly acknowledged.

◆ ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS — PAYMENT GATEWAY APPROVED

The Governing Body approved the integration of a SBI payment link with the Trust's web portal, www.foresttrust.in. A letter to this effect was issued to the Chief Manager, SBI, CGO Complex Branch, Lodi Road, New Delhi on July 21, 2026, enclosing a certified copy of the minutes. Once in place, the arrangement will allow:

- contributions to be made online directly through the web portal;
- every such contribution to be credited directly to the Trust's account at the CGO Complex branch, Lodhi Road, New Delhi;
- a receipt to be generated and issued automatically to the donor immediately on payment; and
- full transaction details to be furnished by the bank to the Trust at mutually agreed intervals.

◆ TRUST CORPUS — AS ON JULY 31, 2026

415+ Donors since revival	₹19.16 L (approx) Received into the corpus	₹17.35 L Disbursed — six cases
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Most of the amount disbursed so far has come from within the forestry fraternity itself. The six cases assisted since the revival of the Trust in January 2026 are:

Beneficiary	Particulars	Assistance	Disbursed
Shri Jitendra Singh Shekhawat	Forest Guard, Dholpur, Rajasthan — killed confronting illegal sand mining	₹1.35 L	Feb 11, 2026
Shri Harikesh Singh Gurjar	Forest Guard, Morena Division, Madhya Pradesh — killed on duty against illegal sand mining	₹3.00 L	May 12, 2026
Thiru S. Radhakrishnan	Assistant Conservator of Forests, Tamil Nadu Forest Academy, Coimbatore — grievously injured on duty	₹2.00 L	May 30, 2026
Ms. Rasmita Subuddhi	Forest Guard, Malkangiri Division, Odisha — emergency medical treatment	₹2.50 L	Jun 15, 2026
Late Shri Sohan Singh	Forest Guard, Tons Division, Uttarakhand — died battling a forest fire	₹2.00 L	Jun 22, 2026
Late Shri Hari Om	Forester, Mahendragarh Division, Haryana — died in a road accident on duty travel	₹3.00 L	Jul 28, 2026

A further ₹3.5 lakh is being released on August 1, 2026 in the two cases considered by the Committee and GB on July 30, 2026.

◆ AN APPEAL — THESE ARE NOT ISOLATED CASES

What happened in Mahendragarh in July is not an isolated tragedy. Incidents of this kind continue to be reported from across the country, month after month, and our finest and most committed frontline personnel go on paying with their lives while protecting the forests and wildlife of this country.

Despite the Trust's best efforts and repeated requests to officers in the States concerned, complete and verified information about the circumstances of these incidents is often difficult to obtain — and it is precisely that information which makes timely support possible. The Trust cannot reach a family whose loss it has not heard of, and support delayed is support diminished.

Our earnest appeal to every member of the forest fraternity: please help us ascertain factual and verified particulars of such incidents as and when they occur, so that the Trust can reach the affected personnel and their families in their hour of need. Every timely input helps us stand with a family that has just lost everything.

◆ MILESTONES — JULY 2026

July 07, 2026	Appointment letters issued to the Nodal Officer and State Coordinator for Goa.
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July 13, 2026	Committee for Scrutiny and Evaluation of Proposals frames the draft Guidelines for Trust's assistance.
July 18, 2026	Eighth meeting of the Governing Body (virtual). Draft Guidelines adopted with minor amendments and released for comments; payment gateway approved; Goa appointments ratified.
July 21, 2026	Letter issued to the SBI for integration of the payment gateway with www.foresttrust.in .
July 25–28, 2026	The CSEP and GB considered the case of Late Shri Hari Om and released ₹3 lakh to the family.
July 30–31, 2026	The CSEP recommended and the GB (through circulation) approved assistance in two cases — Gujarat and MP.

◆ ON THE HORIZON — AUGUST 2026

- ▶ Release of ₹2 lakh to the family of Late Shri Vikaskumar N. Desai and a first instalment of ₹1.5 lakh to the family of Late Shri Lakhan Singh Maravi on August 1, 2026, followed by release of second installment.
- ▶ Comments on the draft Guidelines for Scrutiny and Evaluation of Proposals to be received and the Guidelines finalised for adoption.
- ▶ Virtual meeting with PCCFs, State Coordinators and Nodal Officers, should no meeting be convened by the Ministry.
- ▶ Integration and activation of the State Bank of India payment link with www.foresttrust.in.
- ▶ Audit of accounts and filing of the income-tax return for FY 2025–26 to be completed.
- ▶ List of unidentified remitters to be circulated and receipts issued to the donors so traced.

◆ SUPPORT THE CAUSE

Contribute to the Trust Corpus

UPI ID: ifsbwt@sbi **Account No.:** 30454625682

Account Name: Indian Forest Service Benevolent and Welfare Trust

Bank & Branch: State Bank of India, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi – 110003

IFSC: SBIN0007837 **PAN:** AACTI5925J

Payments accepted via UPI · BHIM · Net Banking · Google Pay · PhonePe · Paytm

● *Earmarked donations for specific cases are transferred in full to the named beneficiary family. The Trust acts as a facilitating agency and retains nothing.*

Indian Forest Service Benevolent and Welfare Trust

Dedicated to the welfare of all forestry field personnel and their families

Frontline Field Staff · Forest Range Officers · State Forest Service Officers · Indian Forest Service Officers