



WILDLIFE FIRST

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Media Release

Wildlife Law for Rangers authored by Praveen Bhargav, Wildlife First

About the book

"The book is an excellent ready reckoner and a useful guide to Forest Officers"
Justice A.V Chandrashekar – Former Judge, High Court of Karnataka

Wildlife First is a not-for-profit conservation advocacy organization that has been intensively campaigning for protection of wildlife for over two decades. With a strong focus on training, Wildlife First has conducted over 100 programs for Forest, Police and Customs officers and sensitization programs for Judicial Magistrates and Public Prosecutors on implementation of the Wildlife Act. From these training programs emerged the idea of writing a book for field forest officers.

Effective implementation of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (WLPA) and prosecution of offenders requires Forest Officers to also have a reasonable understanding of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (CrPC). However, lack of formal training makes interpretation of law and criminal procedures an intimidating subject for Rangers.

Wildlife Law for Rangers seeks to address this major lacuna and has therefore been written in a very simple, easy to understand style along with specific wildlife related examples. For instance, there's a chapter on effective implementation of the Wildlife Act with ten practical guidelines which would be useful to investigation officers. Another chapter contains differences in common legal terms like Detention and Arrest; Complaint and Charge-sheet or Police Report; Poaching and Hunting...

The step-by-step procedure to be followed right from detection of an offence to conviction or acquittal has been illustrated in three simple color charts with all important stages covered. The book also contains a clear, detailed chart with classification of various wildlife offences as Cognizable, Non-Cognizable, Bailable and Non-Bailable. This format follows the same classification of offences in Part II of the First Schedule of the CrPC which deals with offences against other Special laws like the WLPA.



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Important provisions of other laws like the Code of Criminal Procedure, Indian Penal Code, Evidence Act etc which are extremely relevant to prosecution of wildlife offences have also been succinctly presented. Apart from Forest Officers, this book will be of interest to other enforcement officers with jurisdiction on Wildlife Offences and senior IFS and IPS officers.

The book is being distributed by Wildlife First to those involved in enforcement of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and more specifically to Rangers and Park Wardens at the cutting edge of implementation. Wildlife First has committed one book to all Wildlife Ranges and National Parks / Sanctuaries in Karnataka.

About the Author

Praveen Bhargav has represented Wildlife First on National Board for Wildlife, the highest statutory body on wildlife chaired by the Prime Minister. He was a member of the NBWL sub-committee on amendments to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and other laws. He has also served on various expert committees of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the National Tiger Conservation Authority. He has played a major role in Wildlife First's training programs across several States on implementation of the Wildlife Act.

He has also been invited to speak on Conservation Policy and law at National Law Schools. He has delivered guest lectures' to officers at the National Academy of Customs and the State Forest Service College of the MoEF. In 2002, he was nominated for the Environmental Leaders Forum hosted by CERC, Columbia University, New York. He was also selected to participate in the International Visitor Leadership Program on Public Parks & Conservation by the US Government in 2005. He currently anchors the policy and litigation campaigns of Wildlife First.