

This incident of registering a false criminal case against forest officers who have done their lawful duties sincerely and honestly will have a far reaching effect of demoralizing the field staff and the entire forest force; apart from sending a very wrong message to the general public; that the forest offenders can get away with by doing any offence with the help of registering a false criminal case under SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989. It will set a very bad precedent. Apart from this the concerned field staff/forest officers will have to fight these false criminal cases privately which demands a lot of investment of money and valuable time and also leading to a lot of mental agony.

Normally the system should take care of such things and provide a lasting solution for such things which has not happened here. Hence there is an urgent need to update and improve the system by incorporating the inherent safe-guards and safety measures to protect the field staff/forest officers acting under the colour of their duties. For this the attention of the Government is to be drawn, to take up suitable measures. In this regard I have already written a D.O. letter to the Deputy Commissioner, North Kanara District, Karwar and also to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, Bangalore (Copies enclosed) in this regard. I humbly request that the Indian Forest Service Officers Association should do whatever is possible to improve and update the system; so that such incidents in future are taken care of properly by the system itself.

I would like to make a special mention here that, these two Senior Police Officers (1) Sri. Sarvottam Pai, Superintendent of Police, Civil Rights Enforcement Cell, Mangalore and (2) Sri. Chikkerur, IPS, Additional Director General of Police, Civil Rights Enforcement Cell, Bangalore; are in the habit of instigating the local SC/ST and other people to file such false criminal complaints against the forest officers on duty. It is learnt that they have already created such panic situations at Nagarhole, Bandipur, Mandya and other places. Hence it is requested that Association should apprise the Chief Secretary to the Government of Karnataka, Bangalore, about the prevailing