

CAPTIVE ELEPHANT MANAGEMENT RULES

(DRAFT)

INTRODUCTION

Kerala has about 600 elephants in captivity. Eighty percent of them are tuskless. Approximately 77% of the total are with private individuals and rest are with Devaswom Boards and other agencies. Though the sections 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48 and 49 of Wildlife Protection Act 1972 and the prevention of cruelty to Animals Act 1960 prescribe many regulations for keeping animals in captivity, various difficulties have been brought to the notice of the authorities for implementing the provisions.

Exercising the powers under sections 64 of Wildlife Protection Act 1972 the Government of Kerala make the following rules for the management of captive elephants.

Certificate of Registration

The following standards and norms are being proposed for the grant of the ownership certificate for captive elephants. These have been designed mainly after the recognition of Zoo Rules 1992. The 'Act' refers to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (53 of 1972) as amended from time to time.

Standards and norms subject to which certificate of ownership under Section 42 of the Act shall be granted:

The permission from the Chief Wildlife Warden or an Officer authorized by him shall be obtained before acquiring an elephant or transferring the ownership.

The intention to own/transfer an elephant shall be intimated to the Chief Wildlife Warden or the authorized officer through a prescribed application form (Appendix I) to obtain the permit to acquire an elephant.

The Chief Wildlife Warden or the authorized officer shall grant a permit within one month to the applicant to acquire an elephant subject to the conditions -

- that he is convinced that the owner is capable of maintaining the elephant
- that the applicant has already made arrangement for a licensed mahout for the elephant

- that the applicant has made arrangements for a medical examination of the elephant to be purchased to ensure that it does not carry any diseases.
- and
- that the applicant has no previous record of abuse of animals or not convicted any offences related to animal welfare.

The Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW) or the authorized officer shall grant a certificate of ownership, based on an application (Appendix II) within three months of the application with due regard to the interests of protection and conservation of elephants and such standards, norms and other matters as are specified below:

The primary objective of owning an elephant shall be the conservation and welfare of elephant and the owner shall see that the elephant is maintained as per the good management practice prescribed herein is inconsistent with the objective.

No person shall acquire or dispose any elephant in violation of the Act or rules made thereunder.

No owner shall allow any elephant to be subjected to the cruelties as defined under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (59 of 1960) and as defined in the present rules.

No owner shall exhibit or put to use elephant that is seriously sick, injured, showing signs of musth, infirm or in advanced stage of pregnancy. A physical fitness certificate from a registered veterinary surgeon may be insisted upon, if required.

License to mahouts

All mahouts in service and newly recruited shall undergo the training given by the forest department and obtain the licence from the Forest Department in the format in Appendix. However, mahouts with not less than five years supported by a certificate from the employer to this effect shall be given a provisional certificate. The provisional certificate holder shall undergo an in service training within a period of two years.

A mahout shall not handle an elephant under the influence of intoxication.

The Chief Wildlife Warden/authorized officer will issue the licence based on his performance in the training.

The first mahout of an elephant shall have an experience of three years as second mahout and the second mahout at least two years of experience as third mahout.

The license should be renewed every two years. The mahouts with licence should produce a health certificate from a General Physician not below the rank of an Asst. Surgeon at the time of renewal.

A mahout shall give at least one month notice to the owner in writing under proper acknowledgment before leaving an elephant failing to which his license will be suspended to a minimum of six months.

Housing of Elephants

- a) The owner shall provide a stable (tethering place) for the elephant in a clean and healthy environment with sufficient shade to keep them during rest period.
- b) Each captive elephant must be ensured a minimum floor area as specified below:

Category	Minimum Floor Area
Weaned Calf (Height below 1.50 m)	5m x 2.5m
Sub-adult Elephant (Height 1.50m to 2.25m)	7m x 3.5m
Cow Elephant with unweaned calf	9m x 5m
Adult Elephant (Height above 2.25m)	9m x 5m

- c) In case of covered sheds, the height of the structure should not be less than 4.80 m. Corrugated iron sheets or asbestos sheets should not be used for roofing of elephant stables in hot climates.
- d) The stable should be protected against cold and hot winds.
- e) The floor or the stable should not be wet and uneven.
- f) Elephant should not be made to stand on ground saturated with urine and filth. The floor of the stable must be treated with suitable disinfectant periodically. Proper

arrangement of drainage of excess of water and arrangement for removal of excreta, leftover food items and residual water shall be made.

The owner shall have at least two full time mahouts in-charge of the elephant.

Care of Elephant

The mahout shall ensure that the elephant gets a thorough bath every day.

The condition and health of the elephant shall be checked every day by the mahout. If any elephant is found sick, injured, unduly stressed or pregnant the matter shall be informed the owner who in turn will consult a registered veterinary practitioner or experienced Ayurvedic elephant expert for providing treatment expeditiously.

Routine examination including parasitic checks shall be carried out regularly and preventive medicines including vaccination be administered at such intervals as may be prescribed by the veterinary or experienced registered Ayurvedic Physician.

The owner shall arrange for medical check-up of the mahout staff responsible for upkeep of the elephant at least once in two years to ensure that they do not have any diseases which may infect the elephant.

The organisers of festivals where elephants are used shall submit in writing the programmes with details to the district authorities including the police, Animal Husbandry department and forest who in turn shall ensure the implementation of the provisions in the rules.

The owner must inform the CWLW or the nearest forest office within 24 hours in case the elephant is found to be suffering from anthrax, rinderpest, Hemorrhagic Scepticaemia, surra or any other contagious disease and must follow the instructions given by the said authorities regarding the treatment of the animal or disposal of the carcass. The Chief Wildlife Warden/authorized officer shall ensure proper veterinary assistance and advice.

The owner must take prior permission of the CWLW or the officer authorised by him before undertaking distortion/sterilization/vasectomy/tubecotomy or any other population control measures for the elephant. He should not take any of these measures without the help from a competent veterinary surgeon.

The owner of the elephant shall ensure that in case of musth, the elephant is secured properly and does not become a hazard to the public at large. The elephant should be checked up by a registered veterinary/Ayurvedic doctor. Drugs or intoxicants should not be used to suppress musth except on a written prescription by a competent veterinary surgeon. An elephant in musth must not be put to any work.

The owner shall not forcibly wean any elephant calf below 2 and half years of age.

The owner shall not put any elephant having pregnancy of 12 months or above to any work. Similarly, any cow elephant having a suckling calf of age below 6 months should be kept off work. The owner shall also not put any elephant below 5 feet of height to any work.

The owner shall not permit the use of nylon ropes or chains/hobbles with spikes or sharp edges for tying the elephants. Weight of chains and hobbles must be commensurate with age and health of the elephant. The owner should not permit any type of harness which may expose the back or other sensitive organs of the elephant to pain and injury.

The owner shall not permit his elephant to be trained by a trainer who is not approved by the CWLW or the officer authorized by him for the purpose.

The owner shall follow the provisions relevant to elephants in the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960 and the rules made thereunder, particularly regarding transportation of elephants, and also use of elephants for performance in circus and cinema or for timber hauling or for carriage of loads.

The owner shall report within 24 hours to the CWLW or the officer authorised by him regarding the death of the elephant. Postmortem of an elephant should be carried out by a registered veterinary surgeon and report submitted to the CWLW (or the authorized officer within 15 days of the death).

The certificate of ownership may be cancelled and the owner prosecuted for violation of rules, if the CWLW is convinced that the owner has violated any of the conditions of the certificate of registration and the elephants confiscated and brought to the Forest Department Elephant Camp.

Feeding of elephant

- a) The owner or the person who is managing it on contract or the person who has taken it for own purpose shall ensure timely supply of wholesome feed in required quantity to each elephant, according to the requirement of the individual elephants, so that no animal remains undernourished. Variety in feed may be ensured as far as possible.
- b) Each captive elephant should be supplied with a minimum feed as specified below:

Height of Elephant	Green Fodder	Ration
Below 1.50 m (Weaned Calf)	Not less than 100 kg.	As prescribed by Veterinary Surgeon
1.50 m to 1.80 m	- do - 150 kg.	- do -
1.80 m to 2.25 m	- do - 200 kg.	- do -
Above 2.25 m	- do - 250 kg.	- do -

(or 5% of its body weight)

- c) Ensure enough quantity of succulent food during the hot climate.

The owner/contractor/hirer shall provide sufficient potable drinking water to the elephant. Elephant preferably be fed from a river or any other source of running water.

Work Load of Elephant

The following scale of loads (Gears, riders and materials all included) to be carried by elephant of different heights is being suggested.

Height	Load
Below 1.50 m	Not to be used for carrying load
1.50 m to 1.80 m	Not exceeding 150 kg. (To carry only fodder and trainer)
1.80 m to 2.25 m	Not exceeding 200 kg.
2.25 m to 2.55 m	Not exceeding 300 kg.
Above 2.55 m	Not exceeding 400 kg.

In hilly or otherwise difficult terrain, the load limits as suggested above may be reduced by 50%.

Timber-hauling

Elephants of height below 2.10 m should not be deployed for logging operations.

Elephants of height from 2.10 m to 2.25 m should not be used for dragging timber logs exceeding 750 kg in weight. Elephants of height above 2.25 m should not be engaged for dragging logs exceeding 1000 kg in weight.

The owner should have arrangement with a registered Veterinary Surgeon/Ayurveda Physician for visiting the elephant periodically .

Acts which are cruelty to elephants

Beating, kicking, over-riding, over-driving, over-loading, torturing or otherwise treating any elephant so as to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering.

Employing in any work or labour or for any purpose any elephant which, by reason of its age or any disease, infirmity would, sore or other cause, is unfit to be so employed.

Willfully and unreasonably administering any injurious drug or injurious substance to an elephant.

Conveying or carrying, whether in or upon any vehicle or not, an elephant in such a manner or position as to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering or cause accident.

Keeping or confining an elephant in any cage or receptacle which does not measure sufficiently in height, length and breadth to permit the animal a reasonable opportunity for movement.

Keeping for an unreasonable time an elephant chained or tethered upon an unreasonable short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord.

Failing to provide an elephant with sufficient food, drinking water or shelter.

Abandoning an elephant in circumstances which render it likely that it will suffer pain by reason off starvation or thirst.

Offering for sale any elephant which is suffering from pain by reason of mutilation, starvation, thirst, over-crowding or other ill treatment.

Mutilating any elephant or killing any elephant by using strychnine or any other drug injections in the heart or in any other unnecessarily cruel manner. However, animal can be put to euthenasia under the advice from a registered Veterinary Surgeon and from an officer not below the rank of a District Veterinary Officer.

Confining any elephant as a bait for any other animal for the purpose of entertainment.

Inciting any elephant to fight any other animal for the purpose of entertainment.

An elephant shall not be used for drawing any vehicle or carrying any load

- 1) for more than nine hours a day
- 2) for more than five hours continuously without a break or rest for the elephant
- 3) exposing the elephant to hot climatic conditions without ensuring enough succulent food and electrolytes

No person shall continue to keep in harness any elephant than which is not necessary

No person shall, for the purpose of driving or riding an elephant or causing it to draw any vehicle or for otherwise controlling it, use any spiked stick or bit, harness or yoke with spikes, knobs or projections or any other sharp tackle or equipment which caused or is likely to cause bruises, swelling, baritones or severe pain to the animal.

Cruelty during feeding

Depriving an elephant of fodder and water

Supplying only insufficient fodder and water

Giving inferior or harmful food

Giving feed of the same kind without any variety over a long stretch of time

Using an elephant to uproot shrubs and grasses to collect its fodder

Cruelty in housing

Keeping an elephant in a narrow or crowded space

Keeping an elephant in a hostile weather conditions (i.e, too hot or too cold)

Tethering an elephant on uneven or wet surface (making it difficult for the elephant to sleep)

Tethering an elephant – particularly a bull elephant, in a forest area without providing protection against assault by wild elephants.

Cruelty regarding health care

Not providing adequate veterinary care to a sick, injured or pregnant elephant

Putting sick, injured or pregnant elephant or a cow elephant with young calf below six months to work

Using drugs or intoxicants to control elephants particularly to suppress musth without proper veterinary advice.

Keeping elephant in a filthy and unhygienic condition

Denying adequate rest and sleep to a working elephant

Not providing proper bathing facilities to an elephant

Keeping an elephant tied for days together without any reason – thereby denying proper exercise to the elephant

Cutting the tusks of a bull elephant too short so as to expose horn cord/pulp.

Forcibly weaning away an elephant calf below 2 years of age from its mother.

Cruelty during training

Excessive beating-resulting in bleeding, deep injuries or infirmity.

Starving a trainee-elephant to break it into submission

Using iron-chains for restraining a newly captured elephant.

Cruelty during capturing

Capturing unweaned calves

Capturing cow elephants having suckling calves

Using nylon ropes for noosing/tying wild elephants

Inflicting wounds on a wild elephant - particularly on its trunk, during Mela Shikar.

Using nooses with faulty knots on wild elephants during Mela Shikar, resulting in suffocation.

Using a small elephant to drag a captured wild elephant of big size.

Cruelty during handling

Excessive beating – resulting in bleeding/serious injuries

Hitting sensitive parts of an elephant with sharp implements

Continuously poking old wound of a elephant to inflict pain on it

Using heavy chains and hobbles not commensurate with age and health of elephants

Using chains and hobbles with spikes or sharp edges for tying elephants

Using barbed wires for tying the legs of an elephant to restraint

Using “peti” (belly band) on cow elephants in advanced stage of pregnancy.

Tying an elephant with ropes/chains too tight or too short to permit it to lie down for rest of sleep

Using pad and Nundah of improper size on working elephant exposing its spinalcord to injuries.

Cruelty during transportation

Marching a sick, injured or pregnant elephant or a young calf over very long distances or for a long duration at a stretch

Marching an elephant during hottest period of the day and for a long duration at a stretch without rest.

Transporting elephants on trucks of inadequate size, or trucks with uneven floor, or tying them in an improper manner – subjecting them to severe jerks during journey by truck.

Transporting elephants in trucks for over 12 hours at a stretch.

Transporting elephants through any conveyance without making arrangements for adequate fodder and drinking water during the journey.

Over-crowding of elephants in trucks, railway bogies, ships or boats during transportation.

Forcing elephants to swim across rivers with rapid currents

Cruelty during special type of works

a) Carriage of load (man and material)

Using elephant calves for carrying loads

Over-loading and elephant without any regard to its age size and health.

Using an elephant to carry chemicals, explosives, petroleum products, bamboos, boulders, bricks, iron rods or any such materials as may injure its back or skin.

Carrying load on an elephant without proper pad

Making an elephant carry load unevenly balanced on its back

b) Logging

Using immature elephant for dragging timber logs

Making an elephant drag too heavy without any regard to its age, size and health.

Using an ill-fitting and ill-designed logging harness – exposing elephants back-bone and chest to extreme strain and injuries.

Making an elephant use its tusks and jaws regularly for dragging timber logs.

Using elephant for timber hauling over steep areas or rocky areas

c) Temples and ceremonies

Making elephants march over tarred roads – particularly during summer

Making elephants stand in scorching sun for long durations

Bursting crackers from or near the ceremonial elephants

Making elephants put on ceremonial gears and other decoration for unreasonably long durations.

d) Performing elephants (Circus, Cinema)

Making an elephant fight with other elephants or the wild animals – particularly large carnivores

Making an elephant display tricks involving the use of fire or sharp implements

Making an elephant stand on its hind feet or stand on spherical object

Subjecting elephants to high intensity light and heat during circus shows or shooting of films

e) Patrolling and tourism

Using elephants during night on a routine basis

Using elephants over long durations at a stretch

Using untrained elephants to drive wild animals – particularly, rhinos, gaur, bears, elephants and big cats

Forcing elephants to walk through swampy areas and quicksands

Using cow elephants with suckling calves for night duty

Over-riding an elephant without any regard to its age, size and health

Using defective pads (gaddi) for carrying riders – subjecting the elephant's back to injuries.

Activities not amounting to cruelty to elephants

Castration or branding any elephant in the prescribed manner under the advice of a qualified veterinarians)

Extermination or destruction of any elephant under the authority of law for the time being in force.

Performance of experiments on elephants in accordance with the provision of chapter IV of the PCA Act.

Norms and Standards for Transportation

Elephant should be properly fed and given water before loading. Sufficient fodder should be carried for the journey. Watering arrangement en route should be made.

Trucks with length less than 12 feet should not be used for carrying elephants except calves (height below 1.50 m).

One truck should not be used to carry more than two weaned calves (height below 1.50 m) or one cow elephant with one unwanted calf or one adult/sub-adult elephant (height above 1.50 m).

At least 12 hour rest should be allowed to elephants for every 12 hours of journey by trucks.

Cow elephants in advanced stage of pregnancy should not be transported by trucks.

While transporting elephants by rail and ordinary goods wagon should not carry more than three adult elephants or six calves on broad gauge, not more than two adult elephants or three calves on meter gauge, or not more than one adult elephant or two calves on narrow gauge.

Each truck wagon carrying elephant should have at least two attendant mahout.

Sedatives as prescribed by a qualified veterinary doctor should be used to control nervous or temperamental elephants.

Necessary precautions for avoiding jerks to the elephants during the journey should be made.

Animal should not be made to walk continuously for more than three hours.

Animal should not be made to walk more than 30 kms a day and any transportation for more than 50 kms should be carried out in a vehicle.

Retirement of elephants

An elephant will normally retire from its work on attaining an age of 65 years. Healthy elephant above this age will be allowed to put to light works under proper health

certificate from a registered Veterinary Surgeon. However, the opinion of the Forest Veterinary Officer may be sought and his decision shall be the final

Care of old elephants

Government will constitute a welfare fund under Forest Department with contribution from Government, elephant owners and other agencies to look after disable and retired elephants. The owners should look after the retired elephants till its death with the assistance from this fund.

Records to be kept

The following records are to be kept and produced at the time of renewal of license.

1. Vaccination record
2. Disease and treatment record
3. Movement register
4. Feeding register
5. Work register

The proforma of these records are given in appendix V.

Breeding Policy

Facilities may be provided for breeding female elephants at least twice in a life span of 40 years. Financial assistance to meet the full expenses during pregnancy and mother hood will be given by the Forest Department to be decided by a Forest Veterinary Officer. Male/female elephant owner will be levied to meet part of this breeding cost. The owner of the mother/father elephant will have absolute right over the calf depending on who has met part of the expenses and the owner should not sell the calf before an age of 2½ years without prior sanctions from the licensing authority.

Inspections

A team comprising of the Chief Wildlife Warden or an officer authorised by him not below the rank of a Range A team comprising of the Chief Wildlife Warden or an officer authorised by him not Officer, Forest Veterinary Doctor and a representative of SPCA will inspect the elephant at least once in a year. The owner shall inform the FVO the

availability of elephants, stating the locations for inspection. The certificates issued after inspection will be required at the time of renewal of licence.

Cutting tusks

Length of tusks should be recorded at least every one year in the presence of a Veterinary Doctor in the registration certificate.

The owner of the tusker will request Chief Wildlife Warden/authorized officer through a letter sent by registered post of the intention of cutting/shaping the tusk along with the location where it will be done and the name of the competent person who would perform the operation at least one month in advance. The Chief Wildlife Warden will issue the permission within three weeks to carry out the operation in the presence of an officer not below the rank of a Forest Range Officer/Forest Veterinary/Asst. Forest veterinary officer as instructed by the CWLW. The authorised officer will report the CWLW the details of the cut portion such as length and weight of the tusk. In case permission is not granted, the owner should be intimated of the reason for rejecting the request in writing and if the Chief Wildlife Warden fails to respond on time, the owner will have the right to go ahead with the operation and report the Chief Wildlife Warden the weight and length of the cut tusk. The operation shall be performed by a competent person who has registered his name with the Chief Wildlife Warden.

The Chief Wildlife Warden, based on a written request with the details shall issue a permit to the owner for keeping the cut tusks. The stock of such tusks will be produced by the owner for periodic verification as required by the Chief Wildlife Warden or the officer authorized by him.

Remuneration to Mahouts

1. The mahouts shall be properly remunerated and a minimum wage fixed by the Government shall be paid. This should be periodically reviewed.
2. Elephant mahouts shall be insured
3. Owners should give at least three months notice or three months salary to mahout before relieving them from service except when the removal is a punishment.

Date-----

APPENDIX II

CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY TO PURCHASE AN ELEPHANT
(Issued Under ----- rule)

Issued to Shri. -----

for purchasing the elephant described below vide his application No. -----
dated -----

1. Name of Elephant (if known) : -----
2. Age : -----
3. Sex : -----
4. Purpose for which purchase is to be made : -----
5. From where/whom to be purchased (if known) : -----

Place: -----

Date: -----

Office seal

Signature of issuing authority with date

APPENDIX III

**APPLICATION FOR THE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP
OF AN ELEPHANT**

To:

I/We ----- residing at -----
Taluk ----- District holding certificate of eligibility No. -----
issued by ----- hereby apply for Registration Certificate of
ownership for the elephant described below.

1. Name of the elephant : -----
2. Age : -----
3. Sex : -----
4. Colour : -----
5. Colour of eye : -----
6. Height : -----
7. Length : -----
8. Neck girth : -----
9. Chest girth : -----
10. Weight of the animal : ----- Kg.
11. No. of nails : Front Rt..... Front Lft.....
Hind Rt.....Hind Lft.....
12. Length of Tusk/tushes along the
Curvature : Rt. cm. Lft. cm.
13. Any other identification marks : -----

14. No. of he Insurance Certificate : -----
dated----- of -----

15. No. of Veterinary Certificate : -----
dated----- of -----

16. Present market value : Rs. -----

17. Source of purchase : -----

18. Ration card No./ Registration No. of the
applicant : -----

I /we here by declare that to the best of my/our knowledge and belief the information
furnished here are true to the best of our knowledge.

Place: -----

Date : -----

Signature of the applicant(s)

APPENDIX IV

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP OF AN ELEPHANT

NAME OF OWNER : -----
ADDRESS : -----

Description of the Elephant

1. Name of the elephant : -----
2. Age : -----
3. Sex : -----
4. Colour : -----
5. Colour of eye : -----
6. Height : -----
7. Length : -----
8. Neck girth : -----
9. Chest girth : -----
10. Weight of the animal : ----- Kg.
11. No. of nails : Front Rt..... Front Lft.....
Hind Rt.....Hind Lft.....
12. Length of Tusk/tushes along the Curvature : Rt. cm. Lft. cm.
13. Any other identification marks : -----

14. No. of he Insurance Certificate : -----
dated----- of -----

15. No. of Veterinary Certificate : -----
dated----- of -----

16. Present market value : Rs. -----
17. Source of purchase : -----

18. Registration valid upto : -----

Place: -----

Date: -----

Signature of the issuing authority with date
Office Seal

Details of transfer of ownership

Name and address of new owner:

Eligibility certificate No.

Office seal

Signature of issuing authority with date

Name and address of new owner:

Eligibility certificate No.

Office seal

Signature of issuing authority with date

Name and address of new owner:

Eligibility certificate No.

Office seal

Signature of issuing authority with date

Name and address of new owner:

Eligibility certificate No.

Office seal

Signature of issuing authority with date

4. Feeding Register

Name of Elephant

Sex Age

Ration prescribed by the Veterinary Doctor

Date	Type of food	Qty. given	Signature of Mahout
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5. Work Register

Name of Elephant

Sex Age

Admissible quantum of work

Signature of Veterinarian

Date & Weather	Type of work	Duration From to	Signature of the mahout
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(Veterinary Doctor's remarks should be obtained at least once in a month)

- Cash book –
- Pistol -
- Van -

Details of renewal of Registration

No. of the Insurance Certificate :

No. of the Veterinary Certificate :

Registration renewed upto :

Office Seal

Signature of the issuing authority with date

No. of the Insurance Certificate :

No. of the Veterinary Certificate :

Registration renewed upto :

Office Seal

Signature of the issuing authority with date

No. of the Insurance Certificate :

No. of the Veterinary Certificate :

Registration renewed upto :

Office Seal

Signature of the issuing authority with date

KFRI/WILD/MAH/99

December 10, 1999

Dear ...,

Please recall the discussion we had on the rules to be framed for captive elephant management during the workshop held at Peechi on 14.10.99. As decided in the concluding session of the Workshop, I am hereby enclosing a copy of the rules after incorporating the suggestions for your perusal. It is possible that I have missed a few of the suggestions. I will be highly obliged if you could go through this critically and attend a meeting of the Expert Group at 10 am on 24th of this month to be held at the Office of the Wildlife Warden, Peechi.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt and participate in the meeting for final approval of the rules to be submitted to the Forest Department for further action.

Yours Sincerely

Dr. P. S. Easa
Scientist
Wildlife Biology

To:

Dr. Jacob V. Cheeran, Head, Dept. of Pharmacology, College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, Thrissur

Adv. T.N. Arunkumar, President, Elephant Owners Association

Prof. Madhavan Kutty, Secretary, Thiruvambadi Devaswam, Round West, Thrissur

Shri. Maheswaran Namboodiripad, Avanapparambu Mana, Kumbalangad P.O., Vadakkanchery

Shri. M.I. Varghese, Wildlife Warden, Thrissur Wildlife Division, Peechi

Shri. K. Krishnankutty Nair, Retd. Mahout, Punnathur Kotta, Guruvayur

Ms. Latha, People for Animals, 'Karthika', Anayara, Trivandrum – 695 029

Shri. K. Damaodharan Nair, Thazhathuvadakunna, Kulathurmuzhi P.O., Kottayam 41

cc: Sri. P.K. Surendranathan Asari,

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (D &P) - for favour of information

APPENDIX 1

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY TO PURCHASE
ELEPHANT**

To:

Sir,

I/We ----- residing at -----
Taluk ----- District ----- request
that I/we may be granted permission to purchase an elephant of the following
description.

1. Name of Elephant (if known) : -----
2. Age : -----
3. Sex : -----
4. Purpose for which purchase is to
be made : -----
5. From where/whom to be purchased: -----

I/we hereby declare that to the best of my/our knowledge and belief the information
furnished here in are true and complete. A licenced mahout is already arranged. I am not
involved in any offence and good management practices will be enforced.

Place-----

Signature of the Applicant (s)

KFRI/WILD/ELE/2000

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (P&D)
Forest Headquarters
Vazhuthacaud P.O.
Thiruvananthapuram

March 8, 2000

Dear Sir,

Sub: Captive Elephant Management Rules – reg.

I am enclosing the final version of the Captive Elephant Management Rules. The procedure followed for framing the Rules were:

- i. Shri. G. Harikumar, Field Director, based on the instruction of the PCCF (D&P) convened a meeting at his office on 2nd December 1998 where Dr. Easwaran, Forest Veterinary Officer, Dr. Raj, Veterinary Officer and Dr. P.S. Easa were entrusted to frame the Rules. A draft of the Rules was written on the same day and handed over to the Field Director.
- ii. A Workshop was organised at the Wildlife Division office at Peechi on 14th October, 1999. The Workshop was inaugurated by Shri. P.K. Surendranathan Asari, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (D&P). Representatives of Elephant Welfare Association, Elephant Owners' Association, Devaswoms, Institutions, Forest Department, People for Animals, SPCA and elephant lovers participated. The Rules were discussed thoroughly in different Working Groups and suggestions presented. A committee was constituted with the following for finalisation of the Rules.
 1. Dr. Jacob V. Cheeran, Head, Dept. of Pharmacology, College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, Thrissur
 2. Adv. T.N. Arunkumar, President, Elephant Owners Association
 3. Prof. Madhavan Kutty, Secretary, Thiruvambadi Devaswam, Round West, Thrissur
 4. Shri. Maheswaran Namboodiripad, Avanapparambu Mana, Kumbalangad P.O., Vadakkanchery
 5. Shri. M.I. Varghese, Wildlife Warden, Thrissur Wildlife Division, Peechi
 6. Shri. K. Krishnankutty Nair, Retd. Mahout, Punnathur Kotta, Guruvayur
 7. Ms. Latha, People for Animals, 'Karthika', Anayara, Trivandrum – 695 029
 8. Shri. K. Damaodharan Nair, Thazhathuvadakunna, Kulathurmuzhi P.O., Kottayam 41

9. The Secretary, Elephant Welfare Association
10. Dr. P.S. Easa, Scientist, Kerala Forest Research Institute

iii. The suggestions from the Working Group were incorporated and the draft was circulated among the Members of the Committee. The Committee met on 24th December 1999 in the presence of Shri. P.K. Surendranathan Asari, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (D&P). The Committee went through the provisions in the draft Rules and made further amendments. These amendments were incorporated and the final version was prepared.

The copy is submitted for further action.

Yours faithfully

Dr. P.S. Easa
Scientist
Wildlife Biology

cc: Field Director, Project Tiger, Kottayam
Dr. Easwaran, Veterinary Officer, Konni Forest Division, Konni
The Wildlife Warden, Thrissur Wildlife Division, Peechi