



FOREST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF MAHARASHTRA LIMITED

(A Government of Maharashtra Enterprise)

No. Adm./Estt-4/CR-6/2021-22/185

Dated: 15th April 2025

ORDER

Subject: Transfer, Promotion and Postings in the Divisional Manager Cadre

1. Presently, posts in the Divisional Manager cadre are lying vacant. However, in view of the litigations among the officials belonging to the feeder cadre, vacancies could not have been filled out. Such litigations, in the form various Writ Petitions have been pending in the Nagpur Bench of Hon'ble Bombay High Court. A comprehensive affidavit was filed by the Respondent FDCM on 6th July 2023 before Hon'ble High Court in Writ Petition Nos. 2753/2020, 1813/2021, 2063/2021, 2175/2021, 3286/2021 etc. The Respondent FDCM has also filed affidavit with respect to subsequently filed Writ Petition No. 5148/2023. All these Petitions, were tagged together by Hon'ble High Court, which was pleased to pass order on 3rd September 2024, whereby WP 2175/2021 was dismissed on the grounds of having no substance and being devoid of merits.
2. Since the above-mentioned Writ Petitions are similarly placed, it was anticipated that soon after disposing the WP 2175/2021, the remaining ones would also be finally decided by the Hon'ble High Court. But that did not happen.
3. Thereafter, aggrieved by the above-mentioned order dated 3rd September 2024, the promotee Range Forest Officers preferred Special Leave Petition No. 2934/2025 before Hon'ble Supreme Court. The said SLP has been tagged with another SLP No. 17759/2024 (Nilay Bhoge vs. State of Maharashtra and others), which pertains to seniority related issues in Forest Department. The said Special Leave Petitions were listed on 25th February 2025, when they were not taken up. The next date is 19th August 2025.
4. It is therefore evident that since the filing of the comprehensive reply before Hon'ble High Court on 6th July 2023, a span of more than 21 months has elapsed. One of the Writ Petitions cited in preceding paragraphs has been dismissed vide Order dated 3rd September 2024. Remaining ones are also similarly placed and the outcome in WP 2175/2021 may potentially influence or bear upon some issues in them, wherever applicable.
5. In view of the facts mentioned above, the entire matter is presently poised as under---
 - i. Writ Petition No. 2175/2021 has been dismissed.
 - ii. Writ Petitions No. 2068/2021 and 3286/2021 are also similarly placed, albeit yet to be formally disposed by the Hon'ble High Court.
 - iii. The Order dated 3rd September 2024 passed by Hon'ble High Court in WP 2175/2021 has been challenged through the Special Leave Petition 2934/2025, the next date of which is August 19th 2025.
6. At present, the FDCM has to address following administrative exigencies---
 - i. As many as 7 frontline posts in the DM cadre, namely 1. Markhanda, 2. Chandrapur, 3. Bramhapuri, 4. Nagpur, 5. Bhandara, 6. Yawatmal, and 7. Kinwat are lying vacant.



Page 1 | 4

Registered Office : FDCM Bhavan, 359/B, Hingna Road, Ambazari, Nagpur - 440 036
CIN : U45200MH1974SGC017206 **PAN :** AAACF2982K **GST No.:** 27AAACF2982K1ZD
Ph. No.: 0712-2811905 **E-mail :** md@fdcm.nic.in **Website :** www.fdcn.nic.in

- ii. Apart from above-mentioned 2 frontline posts, two more posts of functional nature namely, 1. DM PIU and 2. DM Eco-Tourism in the Head Office have also been lying vacant for long time.
 - iii. Another two frontline posts in the DM cadre, namely 1. Pune and 2. Thane are also likely to fall vacant soon as the officers officiating on those posts are through deputation from the Forest Department and have already completed more than 3 years tenure. The transfer season has already commenced; they are expected to be soon repatriated to their parent department.
 - iv. Due to pending litigations among the officials in feeder cadre mentioned in preceding paragraphs, the FDCM, as an abundant precaution, decided not to fill up the said vacant posts in DM cadre and preferred to wait further for the final outcome of various writ petitions cited above, so that the issue of seniority would be settled once and for all. But that did not happen. Instead, the Order dated 3rd September 2024 passed by Hon'ble High Court has been challenged in the Supreme Court through SLP No. 2934/2025. The next date in the Apex Court is on 19th August 2025, entailing further uncertainty.
 - v. The Divisional Manager cadre happens to be the apex one among the frontline staff in FDCM, as all posts higher than the DM namely, Regional Manager, General Manager, Chief General Manager and Managing Director are supervisory in nature and are filled only through IFS officers on deputation. Leaving such apex frontline DM posts vacant for long time, leads to ad-hocism, entails uncertainty and is against the very tenets of the administration.
 - vi. FDCM has expanding its business horizons through the sawn-timber trade. Recently, about 1,70,000 ha. of forest area under its jurisdiction covering five timber species spread across six Divisions has been accorded FSC Certification, a mandatory and statutory requirement for the consumption of timber in the international timber-market. To achieve those objectives, regular and uninterrupted services of DM level officers shall be required.
 - vii. On domestic front, the FDCM has been continuously receiving orders for timber supply from prestigious projects. Regular services of DM level officers are therefore of paramount importance.
 - viii. As per the National Working Plan Code 2023, for carrying out forestry operations, Management Plans, duly approved by the Central Government are mandatory. The entire process of approval requires at least 6-8-month period. Without such Management Plans, forest areas cannot be operated, a situation which will not only seriously prejudice the interests of the FDCM but also deprive the laborers in remotest regions in the State (Gadchiroli, Chandrapur, Gondia, Bhandara, Yawatmal, Kinwat etc.) from their genuine rights on employment opportunities through forestry operations. As many as 7-8 Management Plans will be expiring on 31st March 2026, before which the fresh Management Plans need to be prepared and got approved by the Central Government, for which also the uninterrupted and regular services of DM level officials are unavoidable.
7. The exigencies enumerated in preceding paragraph, make it expedient to fill the frontline DM level posts without further delay. Hon'ble High Court, while deciding the Writ Petition No. 2175/2021 has rejected the claims of promotee officers vis-à-vis direct recruits for the reasons stated therein.
 8. In light of the facts mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs, to address the administrative exigencies enumerated in para 6 above, and after careful consideration of the career profiles of the Assistant Managers eligible to be promoted as Divisional Manager, their suitability for various posts and with due regard to the administrative aspects, the undersigned hereby passes the order of placements and promotions in the Divisional Manager cadre, which is tabulated as under---



S.No.	Name of Officer	Present Posting	Posting as per this Order
1	Shri D.S. Chandekar	Divisional Manager Pranhita	Transferred to the vacant post of DM Bramhapuri. He shall relieve himself by handing over his present charge to Shri Chandrakant Rajput, Asst. Manager in accordance with arrangement in S.No. 7 below and shall forthwith join at his place of posting.
2	Shri Tushar Tadas	Assistant Manager (Production), Office of the Regional Manager Chandrapur	Appointed in the Divisional Manager Cadre in the pay-scale of S-23: Rs 67,700-2,08,700, through promotion and posted on the vacant post of DM Markhanda. He shall handover his present charge to Shri Amol Kendre, Asst. Manager-2 Office of the Regional Manager Chandrapur.
3	Shri Ajinkya Ghatekar	Assistant Manager (Establishment) Office of the Managing Director	Appointed in the Divisional Manager Cadre in the pay-scale of S-23: Rs 67,700-2,08,700, through promotion and posted on the vacant post of DM Nagpur. He shall handover his present charge to Ms. Tejaswini Mankar, Asst. Manager (Medicinal Plant).
4	Ms. Ashwini Sonawane	Assistant Manager-3, Pune Division	Appointed in the Divisional Manager Cadre in the pay-scale of S-23: Rs 67,700-2,08,700, through promotion and posted on the vacant post of DM Plantation Inventory Unit, office of the Managing Director. She shall retain her present charge with herself till further orders.
5	Ms. Ujjawala Bangar	Assistant Manager-2 Pune Division	Appointed in the Divisional Manager Cadre in the pay-scale of S-23: Rs 67,700-2,08,700, through promotion and posted on the vacant post of DM Kinwat. She shall handover her present charge to Shri G.U. Gurav, Asst. Manager-1 Pune Division.
6	Shri Ganesh Motkar	Assistant Manager-2 Ballarshah Depot Divison	Appointed in the Divisional Manager Cadre in the pay-scale of S-23: Rs 67,700-2,08,700, through promotion and posted on the vacant post of DM Chandrapur. He shall handover his present charge to Shri Vivek Khamkar, Asst. Manager-1 Ballarshah Depot.
7	Shri Chandrakant Rajput	Assistant Manager-1 Pranhita Division	Appointed in the Divisional Manager Cadre in the pay-scale of S-23: Rs 67,700-2,08,700, through promotion and posted on the vacant post of DM Pranhita being vacated in accordance with arrangement in S. No. 1 above. He shall retain his present charge with himself till further orders.
8	Shri Amol Nage	Assistant Manager-2 Pranhita Division	Appointed in the Divisional Manager Cadre in the pay-scale of S-23: Rs 67,700-2,08,700, through promotion and posted on the vacant post of DM Bhandara. He shall handover his present charge to Shri A.V. Qureshi, Assistant Manager (Technical-1), office of the Regional Manager, Chandrapur.



9	Shri Santosh Gandhile	Assistant Manager-3 Bhandara Division	Appointed in the Divisional Manager Cadre in the pay-scale of S-23: Rs 67,700-2,08,700, through promotion and posted on the vacant post of DM Yawatmal. He shall handover his present charge to Shri A.S. Deshmukh, Asst. Manager-2 Bhandara Division.
10	Shri Swapnil Maraskole	Assistant Manager-4 Chandrapur Division	Appointed in the Divisional Manager Cadre in the pay-scale of S-23: Rs 67,700-2,08,700, through promotion and posted on the vacant post of DM Eco-Tourism in the office of the Managing Director. He shall handover his present charge to Ms. Kalpana Chinchkhede, Asst. Manager-5 Chandrapur Division.

9. The officers transferred and promoted as above, shall take over the charge at their respective places of postings, without availing the joining time.
10. The concerned Asst. Managers holding the additional charges Divisional Managers of Bramhapuri, Markhanda, Nagpur, Kinwat, Chandrapur, Bhandara, and Yawatmal Divisions, shall forthwith hand over the charge of respective Divisions to the new incumbents.
11. Respective controlling officers shall ensure prompt implementation of this Order.
12. This Order shall come into force immediately.
13. **This Order shall be subject to the orders and directions of Hon'ble High Court in Writ Petition Nos. 2753/2020, 1813/2021, 2063/2021, 3286/2021 and/or of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Special Leave Petition No. 2934/2025, as the case may be.**

To

The General Manager FDCM Nagpur
Regional Managers FDCM Nagpur and Nashik
Divisional Managers FDCM [All]
All concerned officers cited in this Order
Select File



Sanjeev Gaur
Sanjeev Gaur
Managing Director

Copy for information to-

Section Heads, Office of the Managing Director [All]
Official website of the FDCM www.fdcml.co.in