

## **All India Synchronised Asian Elephant Population Estimation for Karnataka**

Applications are invited from the public (General public, IT Professionals, University/ College Teachers & students, Scientists, Researchers & Wildlife enthusiasts & others) as Volunteers for the All India Synchronised Asian Elephant Population Estimation to be carried out from 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2017 to 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017 in Karnataka covering all the forest divisions & Protected Areas i.e., National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries where wild elephants are found.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

1. Previous experience of participating in wildlife census;
2. Age limit 22 years to 50 years (this age limit may be relaxed based on individual level previous experiences and the physical fitness). Physical fitness certificate has to be obtained from the Registered Government Medical officer for participating in the census.
3. Interested and eligible individual can apply in prescribed format given in web-site [www.aranya.gov.in](http://www.aranya.gov.in). The application must be submitted through e-mail ID [census@aranya.gov.in](mailto:census@aranya.gov.in) on or before 18-04-2017, after which no application will be entertained.
4. Selection of application and allotment of the forest division/Protected area for participation in the census operation will be finally decided by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Karnataka, Bangalore based on eligibility criteria and number of volunteers required for individual Forest Division and Protected Area.
5. Mere submission of application does not guarantee the selection of the individual.
6. Preference will be given to those who have been trained as trainer's trainee already on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2017 training programme conducted by the Elephant Scientists at Bannerghatta.
7. Training for the selected volunteers will be conducted in 4 locations at Karnataka 2 to 3 weeks before the elephant population estimation and will be communicated later. Attending Training is mandatory (details of the schedule of the training given below)
8. Within a forest division, PA, the area will be divided into small units and in each unit only one person as volunteer will be permitted to accompany the forest team (no family members, friends or relatives will be permitted to accompany).
9. Participants are requested not to engage in bird watching or other recreational activity that will disturb and divert the elephant population estimation exercise.
10. Participation is a must for all the 5 days which includes 1 day training.
11. Participants are expected to reach on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 morning at the concerned forest divisions (details will be provided later).

12. No fee will be received by the Department from the volunteers for the above census and no fee will also be paid to the volunteers.
13. No telephone calls will be entertained. All the clarification will be made through the email ID [census@aranya.gov.in](mailto:census@aranya.gov.in)

### **Training schedule for forest officials and volunteers-**

- a) 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017 – Bannerghatta National Park, DCF office premises Kalkere.
- b) 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017 – Mysore – Aranya Bhavan conference hall.
- c) 29<sup>th</sup> April 2017 – Chikkamagaluru Forest Office Premises.
- d) 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 – Dandeli Nature Camp.

### **Elephant Population Estimation Schedule**

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Day -1 - 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2017 | - Arrival & Planning for the training at the divisional level.  |
| Day -2 - 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2017 | - Training and Preparation of Elephant Distribution Map (inside and outside of the division / PA)   |
| Day -3 - 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2017 | - Sample block count  |
| Day -4 - 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2017 | - Line transect indirect (dung) count.  |
| Day -5 - 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2017 | - Elephant population demography data collection at Water holes, Salt licks, open areas and locations where elephants are frequently sighted in a given division / Protected Area |

**Note:** The participants will be encouraged to use the cameras and binoculars only for Elephant population demography data collection date (i.e. 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017) but not on the day of sample block count (17<sup>th</sup> May 2017).