

DHARMAPURI CIRCLE

ABOUT DHARMAPURI CIRCLE:

FOREST AREA :3149.74 sq.km = 32.67%

Extent of Dharmapuri District = 4497.77 sq.km & **Forest Cover: 1660.47sq.km (37%)**

Extent of Krishnagiri District = 5143.00sq.km & **Forest Cover: 1489.27 sq.km (29%)**

DIVISION WISE FOREST AREA COVERED

Division	Extent RF&RL (in sq.km)	No: of RF	Extent (in sq.km)	No: of RL	Extent (in sq.km)
Dharmapuri	883.25	74	837.514	18	47.25
Harur	777.22	56	758.313	2	5.860
Hosur	1489.27	117	1418.033	32	82.77
TOTAL	3149.74	247	3013.86	52	135.88

Details of Ranges, Sections, Beats

Sl. No.	Division	No. of Ranges	No. of Sections	No. of Beats
1	Dharmapuri	6	18	45
2.	Harur	5	17	50
3.	Hosur	8	32	87
4.	MSCS, Dharmapuri	6	16	-
5.	IFF Krishnagiri	5	14	-
	Total	30	97	182

INTERSTATE BOUNDARY

- The forest areas in this circle are also having various endangered species of flora and fauna.
- The circle also has inter-state boundary with adjoining states of **Karnataka (over a distance of 114.75 km) and Andhra Pradesh (over a distance of 29.00 km).**
- Dharmapuri Circle forest area harbours various types of mammals, reptiles, birds etc., along with several types of micro-organism. To protect and improve the wildlife habitat an area of 505 sq km. in Hosur Forest Division is declared as Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary in G.O.MS.No.30 E&F (FR Spl.6) Department dt:24.02.14.
- The Cauvery River flows through Hosur and Dharmapuri divisions to a length of 50 km with waterfalls at Hogenakkal as an international tourist's attraction.

- The riverine eco system and the availability of water attract large mammals like Asian elephants, deers into these forest areas.
- Anti poaching camp – along Cauvery river border Rasimanal, Uginum, Debakuli and Manjukondapalli
- To protect this wild treasure from the threats of poaching and other illegal anti-social elements the circle is operating 27 anti-poaching camps (Dharmapuri – 9 Nos. & Hosur – 18 Nos) situated deep inside the RF areas to prevent illegal activities and also to monitor and observe the movements and behaviour of wild animals in these areas.
- These 27 Anti-poaching camps are manned by the local beat staff alongwith 6 Nos. of sanctioned posts of anti-poaching watchers in this circle. The size of the beat and the remoteness of the area in Dharmapuri Forest Circle demands increased number of field staff for effective protection of forest wealth and wildlife. The existing pattern and size of the beats was created much earlier which needs review by taking into consideration of the present day challenges and threats faced by the forests and the wildlife present in it.
- Besides this, the problem is compounded by the huge number of vacancies and the old age problems of the field staff. Hence it is very essentially required to reduce the beat size, improve the structure for protection and recruit the young field staff for effective protection of the Government property.

The Important Fauna found in this circle are

Mammals

Asiatic Elephants, spotted deer, Indian gaur, Jackal, Sambar Deer, Wild dog, jungle cat, common mongoose, Indian porcupine, Indian hare, Bonnet macaque, pangolin, sloth bear, Leopard etc.,

Reptiles

Indian rock Python, Kraits, Crocodile, Cobra, Rat snake, Monitor lizard, Russel viper etc.,

Avi-fauna

Jungle mynah, Great horned owl, Crow-pheasant, Racket-tailed and grey drongos, Green pigeon, Scimitar babblers, Grey jungle fowl, Verditer, flycatcher, whistling thrush, Vultures and block-headed oriole etc.,