Ranger Federation of Asia

Dear Rangers,

Warden, park ranger, forest guard, watcher, park warden, forest ranger, field ranger, game scout... our titles are endless but we are united by our pride in being a 'Ranger'.

In a world of rapidly declining natural resources, corruption, an attitude of *Carpe diem, quam minimum credula postero* ('seize the day, don't worry about tomorrow') amongst the younger generations, we rangers are under increasing threats. As 'Swords of Mother Nature' we work long hours, outdoors, in often miserable conditions, and with little feeling of support, as we go about our honourable duties.

We do, however, get to see wonderful sights in nature. A baby crocodile jumping out of the water to catch a reed weaver bird, a fawn trying to stand for the first time, the look on a poacher's face when you pop out of a woodpile to arrest him. And best of all, we get to see the dawn. That quiet moment of the day when the world is waking up. Something no office worker can do.

The Ranger Federation of Asia has been set up by rangers, for rangers. We understand your needs and desires and your love of your country and your valiant efforts to protect its natural resources.

With this in mind, the RFA Board members decided that a newsletter, available periodically in print and electronically, would be an excellent way to bring you the latest updates on rangers in Asia, their stories, what new equipment is available, courses to attend and other interesting items. As this is your association, we also look forward to your input into the newsletter!

The Board of the Ranger Federation of Asia invites you to enjoy this first edition of your newsletter.

Rohit Singh

Rohit Singh President

NUCE

Craig Bruce Vice President

Crispian A. Barlow

Crispian Barlow Treasurer



Wayne Lotter Secretary



Current membership: where our members are



The importance of the Ranger Federation of Asia



The role of frontline staff in tiger conservation



Wild dreams, wild confidence, wild destination and wild challenges



Q&A: Ramesh Thapa, Assistant Chief Warden of Bardia National Park, Nepal



Upcoming events

South Asia regional SMART training Nepal and Cambodia End of 2015 TBC International Ranger Federation 8th World Ranger Congress

Estes Park, Colorado, USA: May 21–27 2016

Current membership: approx.

and counting

- 1 Nepal Ranger Association
- 2 Rhino Protection Unit
- 3 Wangqing & Suiyang Forest Bureaus
- 4 Royal Manas National Park
- 5 Karen Wildlife Initiative
- 6 Individuals from India
- 7 Individuals from Philippines

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- 8 Individuals from Vietnam
- 9 Mekong River Guards
- 10 Individuals from Malaysia
- 11 Individuals from Thailand

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The importance of the Constant of the Federation of Asia

Rangers play a vital role in maintaining protected areas, wildlife, natural habitats and forests, including marine biodiversity, worldwide.

hile relatively few people realise just how essential a contribution rangers make to the wellbeing of our world, in several parts of the globe the job of a ranger is highly sought after and respected and is the dream job of many young people. It was certainly the job that I really wanted above all others, when I was a high school scholar and young man undergoing compulsory national service in South Africa during the 1980s.

The job of a ranger can be intensely fulfilling, but is more often than not also extremely challenging, not only for ourselves but for our families as well. A lot needs to be done to ensure that rangers are given a fair deal by employers, national leaders and society in general. All too often our extraordinary sense of commitment and dedication to the cause we serve is taken for granted and we are expected to have to do far more with far less than is reasonable. Safety and welfare concerns and opportunities for growth and development are often and easily neglected.

The formation of ranger associations and international federations is a practical way in which rangers have come together to jointly highlight and address the needs and concerns of our profession. The International Ranger Federation (IRF) was founded in 1992, and has the purpose of raising awareness of and supporting park rangers worldwide in conserving our natural and cultural heritage. The IRF today has a membership of 63 ranger associations from 46 countries, on six of the seven continents. The role of the IRF is to empower rangers by supporting their national or state ranger organizations, or assisting in the establishment of local ranger associations in countries where they do not currently exist.

The formation of the Ranger Federation of Asia (RFA), which became a fully fledged member of the IRF in 2014, marks an important step forward for rangers in this part of the world. As someone who has been involved in various leadership roles of national, regional and international conservation and ranger associations, committees and boards for more than 15 years, I can say in all sincerity that I believe the RFA is showing great potential to be one of the most effective and relevant. The founding leadership and the approach of the RFA is demonstrating an extraordinary level of open mindedness, realistic vision and goal-oriented focus, that can make it stand out and be one of the best of the best within a short period of time.

One of the differences between the RFA and most other membership-based organisations I've been asked to serve with, has been the immediate focus from the outset on identifying and taking steps to implement practical projects that will benefit members (rangers) in the region. Many similar organisations give most attention to arranging and holding meetings and exist for years, sometimes decades, before implementing meaningful projects. Some never implement projects beyond fundraising and arranging meetings.

Another unique, enabling factor in the approach of RFA is its recognition of the value of collaborating closely with and including not only rangers but also supporters of rangers in being able to achieve goals. RFA, in its vision and recognition of the strength and value of strategic partnerships, has been a founding member of the United For Rangers (UFR) initiative that was established in November 2014. UFR includes partners such as Nature's Frontline (UK), PAMS Foundation (East Africa) and WWF Tigers Alive Initiative, each of which has complementary skills and inputs to contribute for the furtherance and development of the vital role played by rangers in wildlife conservation. UFR provides a coordinated forum for collaboration between organisations with shared objectives related to the enhancement of ranger working conditions and the development of best practices for wildlife, marine and forest rangers and

I am pleased and honoured to be involved with the RFA and to have been able to introduce and welcome it into the global family of ranger associations and federations, through the IRF. I urge rangers in all applicable countries in Asia to embrace the RFA and support it strongly. In so doing you may empower yourselves and your colleagues to improve the profession and work environment and associated conditions that are of great importance to you.



Wayne Lotter Vice President, International Ranger Federation wayne@ pamsfoundation.ord







Dr Rajesh Gopal Global Tiger Forum Delhi, India

Who is on the frontline?

An array of field personnel guard and manage tiger reserves and other protected areas. This field team comprises a hierarchy of personnel, like forest guards, watchers, foresters, range officers and others constitute the frontline staff. Though much visible in the field, they are quite invisible to the public eye! Much of their passion, commitment, woes and issues, more often than not, become a voice in the wilderness, not appreciated by many. This scenario is rather unfortunate to say the least. The frontline staff of protected areas and tiger reserves are custodians of a precious gene pool, an open treasury which cannot be locked up. They constitute the 'backbone' of field management, warranting care, skill development, support and encouragement. This is imperative for the success of any conservation endeavour, because the abundance of tigers and their wellbeing is an outcome of their collective effort.

Role and responsibilities: protected area frontliner, a multitasker?

The basic functions of frontline staff is day-to-day protection, while attending to related field implementation activities. This entails a lot of leg work as the sensitive areas in a tiger habitat, usually, are not readily accessible.

There are no shortcuts available, and it is important that such staff have an intimate knowledge of their terrain, its strengths, weaknesses and threats. The arduous nature of work also requires the frontline staff to be adept in use of weapons, anti-poaching operations, local networking, basics of field biology, recognition of evidence of wild animals in the field, tiger monitoring, use of scientific equipment, radiotelemetry, smart patrolling, veterinary fundamentals, first aid, basics of civil engineering and public relations with local people. This list is by no means exhaustive and may vary from site to site. The 'multitasking' character of the mandate emanates from protection and cannot be viewed in isolation. Hence, in many areas a dedicated force for protection is maintained, after imparting the fundamentals of field craft.

Tiger reserve frontliner: an unsung hero

The frontline personnel of a protected area, despite all his multitasking, is an unsung hero. Rather, he often becomes a victim of animosity owing to the nature of his work which is largely regulatory and prohibitive, centred on protection. His counterpart in a regular forest division, subjected to forestry operations and initiatives involving livelihood, rights and concessions to local people enjoys considerable clout and popularity. This scenario is not likely to change as protected areas or core areas of tiger reserves have an exclusive wildlife or tiger agenda. Hence, the situation calls for engaging the local work force in fieldwork to complement the frontline staff, which would provide wages to locals and thereby eliciting their support for conservation and its frontline management.

Staff development vis-à-vis ageing

As leg work cannot be compromised in a wildlife habitat, it is important to deploy the frontline staff in the right age group. The arduous field work is also prone to several professional hazards including accidents, sickness and attack from wild animals. Hence an upper age limit The frontline staff of protected areas and tiger reserves are custodians of a precious gene pool, an open treasury which cannot be locked up.

(40 years or so) needs to be fixed for serving in frontline postings, with ongoing options for preferential posting of frontline staff beyond such age limit to lighter postings within the forest or wildlife establishment.

This necessitates a reserve- or protected area-specific frontline staff development plan, which needs to forecast the year-wise vacancies vis-à-vis the age limit, desired health profile, provisions for periodic health check-up, orientation in wildlife field techniques and use of equipment, specialised training through the police department for use of fire arms, exposure to smart patrolling with periodic refreshers and evaluation. This has to be an ongoing exercise.

Recruitment policy, posting and immunity for acts done in good faith while discharging duty

A policy decision may be required in many places for giving priority to local people (at junior levels) during recruitment to frontline staff of tiger reserves and protected areas. This brings a sense of ownership as the local people are the primary stakeholders vis-à-vis the protected area, besides having a sound knowledge of the tract and its customs. However, this is not viewed with favour by some owing to the fear of a possible local nexus with untoward elements involved in poaching. Such concerns may not be well founded because an outsider posted as a frontline staff may also cultivate such elements.

Further, as frontline staff are often posted in remote areas, a decision on the tenure in such postings (with scope for internal adjustment in other areas within the protected area) is required to avoid mental depression from loneliness. The frontline staff also require due immunity from the government for acts done in good faith to protect the habitat and wild animals. This is important to protect such staff from harassment by vested elements.

Frontline staff welfare: a necessity

The frontline staff come under the category of 'non-family posting'. This necessitates adequate welfare measures for professional risks, health insurance, special pay, ration allowance, besides due recognition of outstanding works.

In short, the wellbeing of tiger reserves or a protected area depends on the commitment and passion of its frontline staff. These individuals are important, because they make the difference – good or bad!

A motivated frontline team will bring in good practices and thereby improve the conservation status of the protected area. On the other hand, a bunch of unwilling workers with no aptitude for the outdoors or the passion may have a negative impact on the area leading to local extinction.

The protected areas are ecologically fragile. No country is an exception to this fact. While it may take decades for the revival of an ecosystem from damage caused due to its abuse or overuse, its degradation may take just a few months.

At this stage, we can hardly afford to lose our tiger reserves or protected areas for want of good frontline staff. Hence, a comprehensive, site-specific strategy for frontline staff development becomes important, considering their crucial role in the viability of a protected area. Mark 'Blue Boy

Wild dreams, wild confidence, wild destination and wild challenges

How proud I am to be a forest guard. The opportunity to be a saviour of forests and wildlife is a delight.

Images © Prem Kawar

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Prem Kawar Shaktavat Wild Life Sanctuary, Bhensrodgarh, India

n my childhood I was attracted to the mountains, valleys and forests, visible from my village. I used to be very curious about the mysteries lying in the forests. There were temptations to snoop into the kind of flora and fauna that forests hide in them.

The early years of my life were very challenging. My father lost his job due to some inescapable state of affairs and it was a very thorny phase for my family's livelihood. In those times, access to education was not an easy task. Society was awfully prejudiced against girl's education. Under those conditions me and my family was pressurized to discontinue my education after fifth standard. But my mother took a stand against these stipulations. She was determined to provide me with a better life and so she did. Even she didn't hesitate to put on sale her few carats of gold jewellery, and even a handful

of metal utensils also helped to raise funds. Her only mission was to make us independent (morally as well as financially). Her zeal encouraged me to be independent and support my family.

I graduated in 2011, the magical year that brought about a life-turning event. There were openings advertised in the Forest Department of India. The childhood thrill that had been suppressed in the years of hard-

ship received a spark. It was just what I was waiting for to answer all my questions about the mysteries of forests. So I applied for the vacancy and finally got selected. It was as if the plane of my wishes has landed over a mystery island.

I successfully completed my training at Satellite Training Centre, Chittorgarh, and was posted at the Wild Life Sanctuary, Bhensrodgarh. It was a great opportunity to work and learn under the expert guidance of Regional Forest Officer and my mentor Shri Anurag Bhatnagar. He taught us various skills and techniques to work effectively in the field.

I initially gained expertise in ACF and range office tasks. It was followed by numerous other challenges, such as working on barricades, patrolling, capturing forest criminals, filing cases against them, charging them, deciding penalties, dam checks and to arrange plantation events under 'soil and water conservation acts' too.

All the forest fragments are on river banks in this area. The patrolling route always passes from gorges. It is a cumbersome activity to catch forest criminals as they enter the territory via boats from Madya Pardesh. As the location of the post was at high peak, there was always a delay in the information. Moreover, the forest vehicles do not act quickly and do not have easy access

Forests and wildlife are the key to planet survival. Irreversible damage to wildlife may put the existence of humans in danger. Forests and wildlife need the support of government as well as the common people.

> to other routes. But under all the odd circumstances, our devotion and will power was never broken and our team used to reach the place and stay there for four to five days and capture the defaulters. The wonderful results always motivated us to work further and to strive harder. The local tribal community, the Bheel, reside over river banks and always provided us with the required support. Here in the gorges there are a few caves too. Tigers used to reside in them, but they are now occupied



by panthers. The passage to the caves are strewn with the remains of other wild animals which adds to the thrill to the work and reminds me of the law of the jungle – survival of the fittest!

I am now posted on a checkpost and barrier where my duty is to check vehicles, to charge the entry fee to tourists and guide them in the sanctuary. I also contribute in the wildlife rescue operations. Every year we also arrange events under the Environment Conservation and Awareness Campaign and teach the school students about the importance of environment.

All my colleagues work as a team. Everyone contributes to forest and wildlife rescue operations and patrolling, as well as in each other's work, just like a family. Being in this place is a divine pleasure. I feel pride to be a forest guard and I am fortunate enough to carry out this prestigious responsibility.

The challenges

- 1 It's not easy to catch the forest criminals immediately after getting information due to the scarcity of vehicles.
- 2 There is a lack of cages and canters to be used during rescue operations.
- 3 There are inadequate resources to catch wild animals. Most of the time jute rags and blankets are used to complete the missions.
- 4 No range-level medical services are available. This insufficiency leads to the death of many wild animals before getting proper medical treatment. The potency of medicines is not always reliable and there are many cases where the animal dies after the administration of medicine.

- 5 Lack of basic facilities to the forest guards, and the scant number of guards further worsens the situation of forest and wildlife security arrangements.
- 6 Other deficient facilities of power supply, non-availability of portable water and low pay grades of guards and constables put hurdles to the inner devotion of them to do work with sincerity.

I feel proud to be a forest guard and I am fortunate enough to carry out this prestigious responsibility.

Wildlife Sanctuary, Bhensrodgarh

Eleven forest fragments of area, 195km², have been declared as a wildlife sanctuary by the Government of Rajasthan on 5 February. A third of the boundary of the sanctuary is surrounded by the River Chambal and River Brahmani adding natural security and preservation to the sanctuary. This area is significantly rich and an exquisite habitat of rare and endangered biodiversity and a wide platform for in-depth scientific research. Here in the River Chambal there are many crocodiles and otters, along with other aquatic organisms. This area shelters a number of panthers, hyena, sevet pigs, pythons, bears, wild foxes, Hystrix indica (sehi langoor) and many more, in addition to 375 varieties of birds. An invaluable variety of eagles and owls are also present here. This is an area of scrub and dry deciduous forest. It is densely covered with the medicinally important plants such as Aamvala, Kadaya, Goudal, Jheenjha, Salar, Tendu, Amaltas, Bamboos, Bahera, Arjuna and Khirni etc. Due to the presence of many gorges and waterfalls it is also famous as the 'Sanctuary of Gorges'. This sanctuary is situated at a distance of 140km from Chittorgarh and 50km away from Kota city. The temperature usually shoots up to 48-49°C in summers and falls to 40°C in winters.

Ramesh Thapa

Q&A with the Assistant Chief Warden of Bardia National Park, Nepal

How long have you been a ranger?

I've completed 31 years as a Park Ranger, 22 of which have been spent in Bardiya National Park. This Park has been declared to be specially designed for the conservation of the Royal Bengal tiger. Time seems to fly by, it feels like yesterday.

What was your motivation for becoming a ranger?

I was born and raised in a farming family, lying in the picturesque mid-hill of western Nepal in Syangja District with a view of the majestic Annapurna Range on the north. Since I was raised in the countryside I have always been intrigued by nature and wildlife. Sitting in the laps of my parents and grandparents and listening to the tales of some great hunting expeditions as spelled out in the holy and religious books, made me yearn to see the entire wilderness and feel the growl, the thumping of ground when a rhino runs and see a deer gallop. In my adolescence, I came to realise that being a ranger could take me to where I have so longed to be.

What's the best thing about being a ranger?

The best thing really is that you get to work and spend your days in a place where people from all over the world come to enjoy their holidays. As a park ranger I get to work for the protection of species threatened with extinction and also the landscapes which are designed to perpetuate those areas which outstandingly represent the beauty and diversity of man's heritage. As a park ranger I get to preserve the glorious creations of nature where necessary and recreate the ecological scene as viewed in the past. How do you explain the delight of seeing many colourful butterflies sail and skitter in mid-air displaying all their charms while you are out on a regular anti-poaching patrol?

How is a ranger trained in Nepal?

A 'ranger' is used to define two broad categories of human resources in Nepal. The first serves to name a position in offices under the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation. One needs to earn the academic certificate of High School level with a specialisation in forestry (called an Intermediate in Science – Forestry). It is a two-year course and costs around \$3,000 to \$4,000 to complete. With this academic qualification one becomes eligible to apply to the rank of Ranger. Professional training is then provided to the rangers based on the requirements and the objectives of the authorities, whose costs fluctuate largely. For instance; crime scene training, or crime investigation training or a Geographic Information System training costs more than a basic Microsoft Office training or a Forest Inventory Training.

The other group represented by the term 'rangers', are the people who go out on patrol in a Protected Area to enforce the law and make sure the activities in the area complies to the law in letter and intent. This group of rangers are from Park Protection Authority (Nepal Army) and the Park Management Authority (the civil staff). The training requirement varies for this diverse group, both inter group as their mandate is different and intra group as there are hierarchies within each organisations that don't match each other. And sometimes the need for common training arises where participants from both organisations can learn together.



How long does it take to train a ranger?

It depends upon the person. Generally two to three years of field experiences can make them move independently and lead the team for patrolling etc. However, each and every moment in the field provides us with a new experience. My feeling is that we are always training and that learning has no limitations.

Did some rangers used to be poachers? How do you change their thinking?

No, there are not any ex-poachers as rangers. Maybe the intelligence team has some as their informants but no one has formally been assigned to be a ranger with a poaching background. A person is deemed disqualified for all government jobs once he is sentenced in any crime, so there in no chance of hiring ex-poachers as rangers.

What is an average day in the life of a ranger?

An average day in the life of a ranger is quite hectic and very often it means over 18 hours in active duty. The day starts well before dawn to prepare his breakfast and finish his morning chores (technically rangers say it is night chores as it is the time when the world is getting their best sleep), by dawn every morning he is with a patrol team deep in the forests or in the points where animals frequent. He patrols for about 4–5 hours every morning so that he can achieve one more day of zero poaching. After returning from the patrol he attends to the daily official business of issuing permits, helping buffer zone people manage their natural resources and so forth alongside making reports and monitoring

the day patrols. Even the posts with the most minimum workload receive as many phone calls from service seekers as a receptionist of a medium-sized office of a town. Every evening carries a chill down the spine of every ranger as he can't decide which area to patrol and which to leave aside. An evening patrol starts at about 3:30-4pm and ends at around 9pm. The dinner awaiting them is accompanied by the hilarious jokes as the only means of entertainment. They do have access to the radio but would prefer to maintain silence as they could react to anything that breaks the silence. The night patrol leaves the base at about 9pm and after they have reached the destination the ranger sleeps. Maybe just before he sleeps, if there is reception, he makes a phone call to his wife somewhere in the countryside and checks on his family, kids, parents and the crops growing in the fields.

How many hours does a ranger work each day?

In short, round the clock. At least 12 hours in a normal day and in unusual times, it comes to days. There have been countless days in these 31 years when I have not been able to take even a regular nap. Well, that comes as part and parcel of the job.

How long could they be away from their family?

For as long as the office doesn't sanction their leave, it's that simple. Some of the protected areas are so remote that physical proximity to the family can be seen as a luxury even if they happen to be together once a year for the greatest festival. Generally, everyone has some number of days of leave that get annulled every year just because they were not approved and spent. But thank god for blessing me with a wonderful wife and adoring children who have not even shown an iota of displeasure in meeting the demands my job requires. I wonder, sometimes, how on earth she singlehandedly took care of my parents, our kids, the farm, when I was somewhere deep in the woods doing patrols and my regular duty. I wish I had seen my kids grow up, that's the thing I miss the most of life.

How dangerous is it?

The job as a ranger is not as dangerous as it is very precarious. A bit of negligence can make you hate yourself and wish that it had never happened. There are so many people with every available weapons to hand to kill whichever animal they happen to encounter. Hunters, poachers, trappers are always on the lookout for food, oil, hides, furs, skins, feathers, horns, ivory and all other products. Just a moment of negligence can result in the poaching of one of the few hundred animals that remain in the world. For example: the poaching of just one tiger of the remaining 3,200 would mean narrowing down the probability of restoring them to former glory, and snatching the opportunity for future generations to do so. We don't have the luxury of second chances.

How do bikes and tents help on a daily basis?

The bikes and tents help us by providing leverage against the poachers. With the bikes our patrol teams can increase the radius of patrol in the same time as compared to foot patrols, and also reach everywhere a foot patrol team can reach. Tents are handy when we go out on camping, sweeping operations or in census. They can provide us cover for our ambush teams and the other small units (mostly a team of 4 to 6) which continuously camp in the forests in the months where we experience a high intensity of poaching. In short, they can incite fear amongst the perpetrators now that the patrol team can be anywhere at any time thus, everywhere every time.

What is the protocol if you see a tiger while out on patrol?

Human nature means we can't stop ourselves from adoring its beauty. But the protocol is to take the Global Positioning System coordinates of the sighting, take a picture (if we have a camera and the sighting is long enough), register its sex, approximate age, size, peculiar markings if any (scar, limping etc), fill in the standardised form, and submit it to the Park Headquarters.

How do you feel towards these beautiful animals?

They are the living masterpiece of the environment they live in and are master products of evolution. We accept and announce that these beautiful species are more precious than most people and governments realise. These species that are on the verge of extinction due to trade and other reasons are not single, isolated organisms, to be regarded as scientifically interesting or aesthetically attractive.

How many rangers are based at one control base?

It depends upon the sensitivity of the area the base has to look after, and also the distance of the bases next to it. There are bases with two rangers to bases with twenty-five. The other factor is the presence of protection staff (the Army); if there are protection staff then the number rises to the upper limit and if it happens to be a base without protection unit then the number dives to the lower limit.

How do rangers feel towards poachers?

Some take it as a personal insult when there is a poaching incident in their area of responsibility. All rangers have developed a zero poaching tolerance and they act accordingly. However, with years of training and skill development the rangers have developed a professional attitude towards poachers and follow the letter and intent of law when investigating about a poacher.

If rangers could talk to Whiskas* about the importance of their funding, what would they say?

First, be grateful for the extension of their generous support enabling us to increase efficiency of patrolling and conserving protected areas. The tents, bikes or the solar sets used to power our bases and communication equipment have played a pivotal role in the qualitative increase in our efficiency. We can now patrol a larger area more frequently and don't need to go to a base near the villages just to get our equipment charged. In all these years since establishing the Chitwan National Park in 1973, we have spent our nights with very limited visibility, but now we have better vision through solar powered electricity and solar charged flash lights. They have been small interventions but with a great impact. The interventions by Whiskas have been the needle that pierced the heart of the circumstances limiting our capabilities to achieve the results expected of us.

How important do you feel your job is?

Rangers are the cornerstone of any species, habitat, ecosystem or landscape conservation/management plan. They are the investigating officers of wildlife crime which has been regarded as the third biggest organised crime with more than 19 billion USD turnover annually globally. They are assigned with the responsibility of stopping poaching from the entire source sites in Nepal, and control illegal trade which comes to Nepal as a transit. They would surely not work long hours for a long time away from the family if they do not feel that they are doing a special job.

* Whiskas work with WWF to support their global Tiger Alive programme.



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General

Corporate

Associate

You						
First name						
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Date of birth DD/MM/YYYY			Attach a photo of you or enter the web address of a publicly accessible			
Gender (tick as appropriate):	Male	Female	profile page containing a large image of you.			
Contact phone number						
Email address						
Work details						
Position or title			Briefly describe your duties			

Department

Protected area (PA)

Address

District or city

State or province

Country

Association details

Name of association				Association web site (if applicable)						
Association type (tick as appropriate):	National	S	itate		Provincial		Territorial		Other	

Your commitment

We/I endorse and support the purposes and objectives of the Ranger Federation of Asia and hereby subscribe ourselves/ myself as a Provisional Member. We/I agree to meet the basic requirements for being a member in good standing.

Signature	Date DD/MM/YYYY



Submit your article to us

We invite rangers and organisation supporting rangers to submit articles for the next issue of the RFA newsletter due to reach you by 31 December, 2015.

Please submit your articles by 31 October 2015 to: enquiry@rangerfederationasia.org

We welcome:

- Ranger interviews
- Stories from rangers
- Articles from an organization or individual about the ranger situation in a site, province or country

Articles should be:

- In English
- No more than two A4 pages
- Accompanied by at least three supporting high resolution* images

*At least 2,000 pixels on the shortest edge

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This newsletter has been produced by Nature's Frontline, an organisation that gives a strong, united and consistent

voice to those working in the frontline of conservation, safeguarding wildlife and habitats and helping communities benefit from their natural environments.

www.naturesfrontline.org

Thank you to WWF Sweden for their support









