

Smt. Kavya Hegde, IFS

Conservator of Forests · Indian Forest Service (2010 batch)

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PROFILE

Forest officer with 15 years in wildlife protection, community forestry and human–elephant conflict management. Led a tiger reserve whose population doubled during her tenure (sample data).

PERSONAL DETAILS

Date of birth	: 15 January 1985
Service / Batch / Cadre	: IFS, 2010, Karnataka
Present posting	: Conservator of Forests & Field Director, a tiger reserve
Home state	: Karnataka
Languages known	: Kannada, English, Hindi, Konkani

SERVICE RECORD

2020 – Present	Conservator of Forests & Field Director <i>Kaveri Hills Tiger Reserve</i> - Manage 1,200 km² of forest with 600 field staff. - Tiger count rose from 38 to 74 in four years (sample data); poaching cases fell 60%.
2014 – 2020	Deputy Conservator of Forests <i>Hassan and Kodagu divisions</i> - Built an early-warning SMS system for elephant movement covering 180 villages. - Joint forest management with 95 village committees.
2012 – 2014	Assistant Conservator (Probation) <i>Shivamogga division</i> Working-plan preparation and fire management.

EDUCATION

2010 – 2012	M.Sc., Forestry <i>Indira Forest Academy (professional training)</i> Gold Medal for silviculture
2006 – 2008	M.Sc., Wildlife Biology <i>Western Ghats University</i>
2003 – 2006	B.Sc., Botany, Zoology, Chemistry <i>Malnad Science College</i>

TRAININGS ATTENDED

- Professional training, national forest academy (2010–2012)
- Wildlife management course, national wildlife institute (2015)
- Protected-area management, overseas conservation college (2019)

AWARDS & HONOURS

- Best Field Director award, national tiger conservation body (2024)
- Chief Minister's Gold Medal for forest protection (2018)

PUBLICATIONS

- [1] Iyer, M., **Hegde, K.**, & Haddad, N. (2026). Revisiting glacier retreat and spring discharge. *Water Resources and Climate*, 19(3), 730–739.
- [2] **Hegde, K.**, Iyer, M., & Menon, V. (2026). Designing for glacier retreat and spring discharge. *Journal of Himalayan Environmental Studies*, 45(8), 604–622.
- [3] Chen, L., & **Hegde, K.** (2026). Revisiting crop-residue burning and PM2.5. *Proceedings of the Indian Ecology Congress*, pp. 757–769.
- [4] **Hegde, K.**, & Mensah, K. (2025). Evidence on crop-residue burning and PM2.5. *Journal of Himalayan Environmental Studies*, 34(7), 548–565.

TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

- Contributed talk: "Measuring mangrove restoration", Water Resources and Climate, Chennai, 2026.
- Keynote: "Scaling crop-residue burning and PM2.5", Air Quality Research Letters, London, 2026.
- Seminar: "Understanding glacier retreat and spring discharge", Symposium on Himalayan Environmental Studies, Boston, 2025.
- Poster: "Evidence on glacier retreat and spring discharge", Air Quality Research Letters, Berlin, 2025.

TEACHING & TRAINING

- Faculty for frontline staff training at the state forest academy

INTERNATIONAL & COMMITTEE WORK

- Member, state wildlife board technical committee

SKILLS

Forestry: Wildlife protection, working plans, eco-development, fire management

Technical: GIS, camera-trap surveys, M-STRIPES patrolling

Languages: Kannada, English, Hindi, Konkani

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the information given above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Place: Mysuru

Date: _____

(Signature)

Smt. Kavya Hegde, IFS