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Copy of Government Circular No. 32/FIW(B) 71/Fin dated 22.4.1971 from the Finance Department, Trivandrum addressed to all Heads of Departments and Offices etc.

Sub: Public Accounts Committee 1969-70 Fourth Report - Recommendation No. 20, 21 and 22 - regarding the disposal of misappropriation - cases - Implementation of Instructions issued.

Ref: Report of the Committee on the following lines

The Public Accounts Committee (1969-70) in its Fourth Report has made the following recommendation for implementation by all Departments.

"In the statements, information has not been furnished regarding the date on which the misappropriation/defalcation took place, the date on which these were detected and the officers placed under suspension charge memos issued, explanation received, scrutinised and submitted to higher authorities, how long the files were kept pending with each officer etc.

Since information regarding these dates are essential for assessing whether any avoidable delay have occurred in finalising these cases, the committee desire that the above details should be supplied to them immediately in respect of these cases in which dates have not been furnished "

The above recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee may be borne in mind by all Heads of Departments while furnishing details regarding misappropriation cases in future. In respect of cases about which the details have already been furnished, the Heads of Departments should supplement the further details now called for by the Committee immediately.

Another recommendation made by the Committee in the same para is reproduced below:

"Another point observed is that some officers against whom charges of a serious nature have been brought forward (and about which enquires going on) are still continuing in service. The Committee are of the opinion that whenever there is a prima facie case, the officers should invariably be placed under suspension since their continuing in service would create impediment to impartial enquiry. The Government/Department should not treat such cases in a routine matter but take speedy and urgent action for quick disposal of these cases with an awareness that the payment of subsistence allowance should not be unduly prolonged.

Excessive delay is notice in the disposal of some cases (in several instances the amounts involved are also considerable "

Separate instructions will follow regarding the action taken against the officers involved in misappropriation

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cases of a serious nature. In the meanwhile the Heads of Departments are requested to bestow their personal attention to the disposal of misappropriation cases quickly to ensure that there is no avoidable delay and that the payment of subsistence allowance is not unduly prolonged.

In para 3.110 (Recommendation No.21) of the same Report the Committee has made the following recommendation

"Except in cases where cases are pending before Court or under investigation by Vigilance Department, stringent action should be invariably taken against the officers responsible for taking action, where the finalisation of cases goes beyond one year.

Inordinate delay is noticed in taking departmental action after disposal of cases before Court also"

The Committee continues their recommendation "The Committee recommend that the Department should not take more than six months time to complete departmental action, after cases before the Court are finalised" (Recommendation No.22 paras 3.112 and 3.113)

The attention of all Heads of Departments is invited to the above recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee and they are requested to take appropriate action on the lines suggested by the Committee so that there will be no avoidable delay in finalising the cases.

P. Shanmugasundaram
Deputy Secretary.

Endt. on M4-17410/71 dated 5.6.1971.

Copy forwarded to all Conservator of Forests/Divisional Forest Officers/Asst. Conservator of Forests/S.D.O/W.L.P.O/ and Working Plan Officers for information and future guidance. They are requested to take appropriate action on the lines suggested by the committee. Copy to Asst. Conservator of Forests, Administrative Officer, Financial Assistant, Admn. Assistant and all Section Heads.

For Chief Conservator of Forests.

Endt. on G1-11777/71 (F.Dis) dated 10.6.1971. /21-10-71/
Copy to Section E1, and HA Stock File. Copy to Conservator of Forests, Administrative Assistant, Senior Superintendent

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[Signature]
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For Conservator of Forests,
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