Office of the Chief Conservator of Forests (Vigilance) Trivandrum, Dated 19-09-1981.

CIRCULAR No.2/81

Sub:- Illicit fellings in Vested Forests and Reserved Forests Timely actions – Instructions – Issued – Reg

It has come to the notice of Government that large scale illicit fellings and removal of forest produce from reserved forests as well as Vested Forests, are taking place resulting heavy loss to Government. It is also observed that prompt action is not being taken in certain cases for the recovery of thondy and timely prosecution of offenders involved therein.

In this connection the attention of the Range Officers and the Divisional Forest Officers are drawn to Section 7.5.1 of Vol.I and appendix –XI of Vol.III of Kerala Forest Code. They will also note that a Range Officer is allowed only 45 days for completion of the investigation of a case and as such any delay beyond this limit is highly irregular.

The Range Officers and the Divisional Forest Officers are hereby directed that they should prevent the commission of Forest offences, in organizing regular petrol works in vulnerable areas by mobilizing all the resources at their disposal. They will also realize that the timely prosecution of offenders involved in forest cases is an integral part of the forest protection and hence the instructions and time limit prescribed in the Forest Code should be adhered to in letter and spirit.

The receipt of the Circular should be acknowledged.

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All Range Officers, D.F.O's and Sections H.A., Superintendent, A.A., ACF, D.C.F., and all Conservator of Forests for information and attention.