

Abstract

Forest & Wild Life Department -Withdrawal of minor forest offences booked against tribals and compounding of forest offences - Permission to the Divisional Forest Officers / Wild life Wardens - Sanction Accorded - Orders issued.

FOREST & WILD LIFE (C) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt) No.64/2011/F&WLD Dated, Thiruvananthapuram 17/02/2011
Read: Letter No. E&TW3-1246/07 dated 19-1-2011 of the Principal Chief
Conservator of Forests, Thiruvananthapuram.

ORDER

In the State Level Monitoring Committee meeting on Forest Rights Act held on 28-6-2008, it was decided that the Forest Department will list out minor forest offences initiated against tribals in the past and that action will be taken to drop such cases in view of the implementation of the Forest Rights Act, 2006. Accordingly, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests vide letter read above has submitted the division wise details of forest offences booked against the tribals and has requested to accord sanction to the Divisional Forest Officers / Wild life Wardens to withdraw the minor offences pending against the tribals except those involving wildlife poaching, attempt to poaching, sandalwood smuggling, ganja cultivation, illicit brewing, setting fire to forest and cases on encroachment of forest land other than those in which rights have been recognized for the encroached forest land under the Forest Rights Act 2006.

Section 61 of the Kerala Forest Act, 1961 empowers the Divisional Forest Officers / Wildlife Wardens for withdrawal of forest offences. Section 68 of the Kerala Forest Act, 1961 empowers the Divisional Forest Officers / Wild life Wardens to compound the forest offences. A ceiling was fixed through a circular

curtailing the power for compounding the offences to the cases involving losses of or below Rs. 1000/-.

Government have examined the proposal of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in detail and are pleased to accord sanction to the Divisional Forest Officers / Wildlife Wardens to withdraw / compound the minor offences pending against the tribals except those involving wildlife poaching, attempt to poaching, sandalwood smuggling, ganja cultivation, illicit brewing, setting fire to forest and cases of encroachment of forest land other than those in which rights have been recognized for the encroached forest land under the Forest Rights Act 2006.

This issues with the concurrence of the Law Department.

(By Order of the Governor)

Sri. Sajen Peter Principal Secretary to Government

To

- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Thiruvananthapuram.
 - 2. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Protection), Thiruvananthapuram.
 - 3. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Wild Life) & Chief Wild Life Warden, Thiruvananthapuram.
 - 4. The Principal Accountant General (Audit), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
 - 5. The Accountant General (A&E), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
 - 6. The Law Department [Vide UO No. 3326/D2/11/Law dated 9-2-2011]
 - 7. Stock File.
 - 8. O/C.

Forwarded / By Order

Section Officer