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No. Pro.(12)/434/2012.

Dated 27..02..2012

Circular No.5 /2012

Sub: Intensification of fire protection measures – Instructions

issued - reg:

Ref:

Due to the extreme dry conditions prevailing in most parts of the State, the incidents of forest fires are also showing an increasing trend. Therefore, there is an urgent need for co-ordinating fire fighting efforts and also to keep constant vigil in all the vulnerable areas. Keeping this in view, the following instructions are issued for immediate compliance.

- All Chief Conservators of Forests in charges of Territorial / Wildlife Circles shall closely monitor the fire fighting efforts on a day-to-day basis.
- The Divisional Forest Officers and the Forest Range Officers shall intensify patrolling in all the vulnerable areas and also activate observation points in towers/tree top machans by engaging experienced tribal watchers.
- Communication facilities using wireless and mobile sets shall be made more effective by deploying the equipment items more optimally and keeping them all in working conditions.
- 4. EDCs/VSSs shall be activated to elicit their co-operation in our fire fighting efforts.
- 5. As already communicated by the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (E & TW) in various meetings of Senior Forest Officers, whenever there is paucity of funds for engaging fire fighting watchers, proposals shall be immediately submitted to the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (E & TW) for adequate allotments from RFPF.

- 6. The localities which are vulnerable to illicit brewing shall be kept under constant watch to curb such activities and to prevent incidental forest fires.
- 7. As fire fighting is a co-ordinated effort, its success depends on the leadership given by the local officers. Therefore, the tendency to leave the Headquarters on flimsy grounds especially on holidays shall be strictly discouraged.
- 8. The contact number of Divisional Forest Officers / Range Officers shall be adequately publicized so as to receive information on fire incidents from the general public.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL)& Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala.

To

Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Reg. North/Reg. South).

The Chief Conservator of Forests (Southern Circle), Kollam/ High Range Circle, Kottayam/ Central Circle, Thrissur/ Eastern Circle, Palakkad /Northern Circle, Kannur.

The Chief Conservator of Forests (WL), Palakkad.

The Field Director (PT), Kottayam

The Chief Conservator of Forests (ABP), Thiruvananthapuram.

The Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry), Kozhikkode / Ernakulam/Kollam.

The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Protection/Administration/ Development / Vigilance / Development & Project / Biodiversity Cell / Working Plan & Research / Eco-development & Tribal Welfare / FMIS / IHRD /

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (SF)