

**Proceedings of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
and Head of Forest Force, Kerala**

Present: P. K. Kesavan IFS

Sub:- Strengthening the activities of Fire Monitoring Cell & Division Control Rooms for Effective Management of Forest Fire - Guidelines - Orders issued - reg.

Ref:-

ORDER NO. P1 – 59/2019 DATED : 02-02-2019

Forest Fire is one of the major threats to our forest areas and bio-diversity. In order to prevent and control forest fire during the fire season, Forest Fire Monitoring Cell is reconstituted in Forest HQ under the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Management) with the following members.

- | | | |
|----|---|----------|
| 1. | Deputy Conservator of Forests (Planning) | Convener |
| 2. | Assistant Conservator of Forests (GIS) | Member |
| 3. | Range Officer (GIS), O/o APCCF (FMIS) | Member |
| 4. | Junior Superintendent (Plg), O/o APCCF (F, B & A) | Member |
| 5. | P1 Section, O/o APCCF (F, B & A) | Member |
| 6. | Pro.(10) Section, O/o PCCF (FL&R) | Member |

The Forest Fire Monitoring Cell is assigned the following duties and responsibilities.

1. Obtain and consolidate all "Circle Level Forest Fire Plans" and prepare "Crisis Management Plan" for the State and submit to Government of India.
2. Evaluate the preparedness and preparation of a detailed set of instructions to be followed by the field units, both on their own and as a unified command strategy.
3. Reporting of fire incidences to Government of Kerala & Government of India as stipulated by them.
4. Update the circle-wise status of Fire Protection Measures (Fire Management Action Plan) based on 25 point check list, before 10th of every month.

The Fire Monitoring Cell (FMC) will work round the clock from second week of February onwards. The following operational guidelines are issued for effective functioning of Forest Fire Monitoring Cell.

1. Two persons at a time will work in the Forest Fire Monitoring Cell and there will be two shifts starting from 6.00 A.M to 2.00 P.M & from 2.00 P.M to 10.00 P.M.
2. A total of eight protective staff will be required for the functioning of Forest Fire Monitoring Cell. Service of two protective staff from FMIS wing, two from Estate Office, one from IHRD wing and another three from FIB will be utilized for the functioning of Forest Fire Monitoring Cell. Convener of Fire Monitoring Cell will deploy them effectively.
3. Every instance of fire observed in the field as well as informed by FSI alerts will be reported to the Forest Fire Monitoring Cell by the respective Division Control Room over phone. In case of any day where such information is not given by respective Division, the Forest Fire Monitoring Cell will call the Division Control Room and update the status.

4. The Forest Fire Monitoring Cell will contact the Fire Control Rooms in each of the Forest Divisions between 6.00 - 8.00 AM and between 4.00 - 6.00 PM and update fire situation.
5. Status of each fire reported to Forest Fire Monitoring Cell will be entered in a Register maintained in the Cell in the following format

| Unique Fire Incidence No. | Name of Range/ Station/ Section | Locality | Time of Information | Source of Information (FSI/ Public/ Others) | Whether inside/ outside forests | Action taken to control | Approximate Area burnt (Ha) | When completely extinguished (date & time) |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|---------------------|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | | | |

6. The Forest Fire Monitoring Cell will pursue each such case entered in the Register till the fire is extinguished.
7. Convener of Forest Fire Monitoring Cell will generate an abstract of the position everyday and submit to HoFF, PCCF (FM) & PCCF (FL&R) at 10.00 A.M.
8. The Forest Fire Monitoring Cell will also confirm the veracity of the alerts received from FSI, everyday at 5.00 P.M.
9. Forest Fire Monitoring Cell will also contact the respective Division Control Room and ensure that the feedback to FSI alert is given.
10. Every FRO is required to update the FMIS module on a daily basis. Forest Fire Monitoring Cell will confirm the position at 10.00 A.M on the succeeding date so that the convener of Forest Fire Monitoring Cell can monitor the defaulters, if any.
11. Forest Fire Monitoring Cell will provide weekly and monthly abstract of fire status based on the register maintained with them to Head of Forest Force, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FM) and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FL&R).
12. Fire alerts from public may also be received in the Forest Control Room. This should be entered in the format maintained in the Control Room along with the contact details and forwarded to DCF i/c of Forest Fire Monitoring Cell, forthwith.
13. From 10.00 P.M to 6.00 A.M the phone numbers (landline) of Forest Fire Monitoring Cell will be diverted to the Control Room. All information received during this period will be collected by the Forest Fire Monitoring Cell when it starts at 6.00 A.M.
14. The Forest Fire Monitoring Cell will start functioning in the Geo Information Centre of FMIS wing (Phone No.0471-2529247) from 2nd week of February till the end of fire season on all days including holidays.
15. Forest Fire Evaluation Report should be submitted by the DFOs/WLWs soon after the fire season in the prescribed format (Appendix II)



Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force