No. 1/62/2018/Forests:
Government of Manipur
Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Hoff
Forest Department: Manipur

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM Imphal, the 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2020

Subject: Strict compliance of directions issued from time to time by Forest Headquarters for protection of forest and preventions of illegal activities-reg.

Reference is invited to the directions issued from time to time to all the concerned from this office vide below mentioned OMs of <u>even number</u> pertaining to various actions required to be taken up:

- a) OM dated 12/9/2018(Protection of Forests & Forest Produces),
- b) OM dated 13/9/2018, (Inspection Tours for Plantations & Nurseries)
- c) OM dated 15/9/2018(Prevention of Forest Fires)
- d) OM dated 15/9/2018(Illegal transportation of Forest Produces Preventive measures thereof)
- e) OM dated 17/9/2018 (Procedure for submission of official documents)
- 2. It was desired that the concerned CCFs, CFs and DFOs would take up necessary actions at their levels and ensure that the frontline staff are equally sensitized and guided to perform their duties effectively. However, the follow up action on the said OMs is far from the expectations. There is an urgent necessity to reiterate the above mentioned OMs for strict compliance on PRIORITY.
- 3. There are reliable reports that illegal transportation of timbers (Round/ Sawn/ Wood Veneers) are taking place along Imphal- Mao, Imphal- Jessami, and Imphal- Jiribam routes. The said timbers are being smuggled out to the neighbouring States viz. Nagaland and Assam. The modus-operandi of the timber smugglers is to illegally transport the round, sawn timbers and wood veneers in covered trucks and also hidden among other goods. Therefore, all CCFs, CFs, DFOs and staff stationed at the Revenue Stations are once again directed to carry out proper and thorough checking of the trucks/vehicles plying along these routes and seize the illegal timbers. Further, illegal extraction of timbers, Minor Forest Produces, Earth, Stones and Sand from the forest areas and their illegal transportation including the transportation of Wildlife Articles need to be checked and prevented in your jurisdictions.
- 4. Reports on the presence of illegal WBUs (Saw mills & Veneer Plywood units) and illegal timbers in various territorial Divisions have also been received from reliable sources. Appropriate legal actions need to be taken up by the concerned CCFs, CFs, and DFOs including the conduct of raids, seizure of illegal timbers and closure of the illegal WBUs within the respective territorial jurisdictions.

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- 5. Encroachments in the notified forest areas including Reserve Forests / Protected Forests and Protected Areas (PAs) need to be checked and stopped. Eviction of encroachers needs to be carried in right earnest following due procedure.
- 6. Immediate action needs to be taken up for removal of Athaphums and Fish ponds present within the boundaries of Keibul Lamjao National Park.
- 7. The inaction of the officials and staff towards the occurrences of such illegal activities is being viewed seriously. Disciplinary actions will be initiated against concerned officials and staff for their lackadaisical approach and inaction in this regard.
- S. The concerned CCFs, CFs and DFOs are once again directed to take actions on PRIORITY within their respective territorial jurisdictions. Whenever and wherever the requirement of security cover is necessary, the appropriate authorities need to be approached for seeking adequate security cover/personnel. Actions taken up by the respective authorities, shall be posted in the 'Forest Monitoring Group' on regular basis. Further, the DFOs shall submit the <a href="Action Taken Reports">Action Taken Reports</a> along with geo-tagged photographs to this office through their controlling officers.

(Kereilhouvi Angami)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HOFF Government of Manipur

Copy to:

- 1. The P.S. to the Hon'ble Minister (Forest & Envt), Govt. of Manipur.
- 2. Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests & Envt.), Govt. of Manipur.
- 3. PCCF (CC & FCA)/APCCFs....
- 4. All Territorial Chief Conservator of Forests / CCF (Wildlife) for necessary action.
- 5. All Territorial Conservator of Forests to ensure implementation of directions.
- 6. All DFOs/DCFs for strict compliance on PRIORITY.