



श्री. आर. बालु
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T. R. BAALU

Handwritten notes: 100/111/11/12000, 31/4/2000, 31/4

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मंत्री

पर्यावरण एवं वन
भारत सरकार
नई दिल्ली-110003

MINISTER
ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI-110003

D.O. 22-30/97-FF(FPD)

March 16, 2000

Hon'ble Chief Minister, Vanakkam

You are kindly aware that special efforts are required to mobilise the human and material resources to combat forest fires in the country. Around 3.7 million ha. of forests are affected by forest fires annually causing loss estimated to be around Rs.440 crore. Fire season in the country is just to commence and you would agree with me that it is necessary to take adequate preventive and preparedness measures to prevent/combate forest fires in the country.

I would like to mention that the field officers especially the Divisional Forest Officers(DFOs) be directed to take prior action to mobilise the support of local public for fire prevention. The legal provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927 under Section 26(1) & (3) and Section 33(1) & (2) be fully utilized. There is a provision in Section 79(1) & (2), wherein it is binding on the forest right holders, beneficiaries and Government employees to assist in fire control and prevention. The local field officers of forest department should seek the cooperation of other Government departments under these provisions and mobilise the vehicles, manpower and resources etc. To achieve this wherever necessary help of civil administration may also be taken up at the District/Divisional and Sub-Divisional levels. Apart from this, the Joint Forest Management (JFM) Committees may also be trained and mobilised for this purpose. A massive awareness generation week be conducted in the Third week of March, 2000.

I earnestly hope Fire Preparedness/Preventions measures are in place to prevent the occurrence of Forest Fires.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

T. R. BAALU
(T. R. BAALU)

Thiru. Digvijay Singh,
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh,
Bhopal.

30 MAR 2000

Handwritten notes: 8/2000, 28/3/00

Handwritten notes: 4/2/00, 28/3/00

Handwritten signature: P. S. (Joshi)

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