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FOREST & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 28th January 2005

S. R. O. No. 52/2005—In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (b) of sub-section (1) of Section 82 of the Orissa Forest Act, 1972 (Orissa Act 14 of 1972), the State Government do hereby make the following rules to regulate the reward to be paid to officers and informers out of the proceeds of fines and confiscations for detection of forest offences, namely :—

1. Short title and commencement—(1) These Rules may be called the Orissa Rewards for Detection of Forest Offences Rules, 2004.
(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the *Orissa Gazette*.
2. Definitions—(1) In these rules unless the context otherwise requires—
 - (i) “Act” means the Orissa Forest Act, 1972 (Orissa Act 14 of 1972);
 - (ii) “Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)” means an officer in charge of Territorial/Wildlife Forest Division ;
 - (iii) “forest offence” means offence as defined in the Act ; and
 - (iv) “forest officer“ refers to an officer as defined in the Act.

(2) Words and expressions used but not defined in these rule shall have the same meaning as respectively assigned to them in the Act.
3. Any Forest Officer and/or Forest Guard who apprehends any person (s) committing any forest offence or seizes forest produce as well as instrument/equipments/vehicle, used in committing the offence shall be entitled to get rewards under these rules . Any person , or Vana Samrakshyan Samity/Forest Protection Committee, who provide information ; which leads to detection of forest offence ; shall also be entitled to get rewards under these rules .

4. Manner of disposal of reward on seized forest produce—(1) Reward will be paid in cash on a case to case basis and the total amount of reward shall be 25% of the sale value of the forest produce seized.
- (2) Whenever such forest produce is disposed of by the Divisional Forest Officer, 25% of the sale value shall be deposited by the concerned Divisional Forest Officer in a separate interest bearing account in any nationalized bank.
- (3) The appointment of the total amount of reward as provided under sub-rule (1) shall be as follows :—
- (i) 45% of the reward shall be given to the forest staff. In case the detection of an offence is the result of group efforts such as joint patrolling, mobile parties, flying squads, striking force, etc., the amount of reward shall be distributed equally amongst all the staff irrespective of their rank and seniority.
- (ii) 45% of the rewards shall be given to informers through the system of a secret fund.
- (iii) 10% shall be deposited by the Divisional Forest Officer in the “Forest Relief and Welfare Fund” and used for providing Special Reward in cases where forest staff and informers suffer severe injuries, major disabilities or death while dealing with forest offenders.
5. Reward through Secret Fund—Payment of reward to informers shall be operated through a “Secret Fund” to be maintained by the D. F. Os. The payment from the “Secret Fund” shall not be subject to Audit.
6. Payment of Reward—Payment of rewards as provided under Rule 4 shall be considered by the Divisional Forest Officer after the disposal of the forest produce seized and his decision shall be final.

[No. 1707–10F.(TR) -56/2003 - F. & E.]

By order of the Governor

AUROBINDO BEHERA

Commissioner-*cum*-Secretary to Government