

**AUTHORITATIVE ENGLISH TEXT OF THIS DEPARTMENT  
NOTIFICATION No. FFE-A(C) 7-1/96-II DATED 17.11.1999 AS REQUIRED  
UNDER CLAUSE (3) OF ARTICLE 348 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF  
INDIA.**

**GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH  
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

**NOTIFICATION**

**No. FFE-A(C) 7-1/96-II**

**Dated Shimla-2, the 17-11-1999.**

In the exercise of the powers conferred by clause (h) of Section 32 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 (Act No. XVI of 1927), the Governor, Himachal Pradesh is pleased to make the following rules, namely:-

**1. Short title, commencement and application:**

- (1) These rules may be called the Himachal Pradesh Forests (Protection from Fire) Rules, 1999.
- (2) These rules shall come into force from the date of publication in the Rajpatra, Himachal Pradesh.
- (3) These rules shall be applicable through out the year except for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> of July to 13<sup>th</sup> of September.

**2. Definitions:**

- (1) In these rules, unless there is anything repugnant in subject or context,
  - (a) "Act" means the Indian Forest Act, 1927 (XVI of 1927);
  - (b) "Divisional Forest Officer" means,
    - (i) Divisional Forest Officer of a Forest Division.
    - (ii) Divisional Manager of the Himachal Pradesh State Forest Corporation Ltd., and
    - (iii) Collector (in whose justification in forest lies);
  - (c) "Forest" means a reserved forest or protected forest, duly notified as such under the Act;
  - (d) "Section" means section of act; and
  - (e) "Schedule" means Schedule appended to these Rules.

- (2) The words and expressions used, but not defined in these rules, shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Act.

**(3) Prohibition of kindling of Fire:-**

- (1) Kindling of fire within one hundred meters from a forest without permission of the Divisional Forest Officer, or his authorized representative shall be prohibited.
- (2) Any person lighting a fire even beyond on hundred meter from the boundary of a forest shall take precautions, by clearing a fire path, not less than 10 meters in width between such place and such boundary, of by employing watchers or otherwise, to prevent the fire from spreading.
- (4) Precautions to be taken in burning agriculture residue bushes or “ghasnies” near forest. No person shall ignite agriculture residue or set fire to “ghasnies”, or clear by fire any land, within a distance of one hundred meter from the boundary of the forest, unless;
- (a) he gives notice of his intention to burn or clear the land by fire, at least one week before doing so, to the nearest Forest Range Officer under whose jurisdiction such land lies; and
- (b) there is between such boundary, and the spot on which such materials are ignited, a space at least ten meters in width which is clear of all vegetation capable of carrying fire from such spot to the forest.
- (5) Restrictions on the collection and stacking of inflammable forest produce of inflammable material outside the boundary of or in the forest. Any person collecting such inflammable material, that is to say, forest produce such as grass, dried leaves and pine needles, firewood, timber, bamboo and resin, on a land adjoining a forest, or a holder of a pass or permit issued by a Forest Officer, or a person exercising his privilege or right to collect such forest produce from a forest, shall stack it at, as the case may be, in an open space in the forest as the Divisional Forest Officer may, by general or special order, specify, and shall

isolate such stacks in such manner that, if it catches fire, the fire shall not spread to the surrounding area to endanger the forests.

**(6) Precautions to be taken at camping places :-**

- (1) No person shall camp in a forest, except in a camping place specially cleared and set apart and duly notified for the said purpose by the Divisional Forest Officers.
- (2) A person camping at such camping place may light fire for the purpose of cooking or for any other purpose in such a manner as not to endanger the forest or any building, shed and property at the camping place.
- (3) A person camping at the camping place shall, before vacating it, collect in the centre of the camping place all inflammable material, which is to be left behind, and shall carefully extinguish all fires at the site.

**By Order**

Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Forests)  
to the Government of Himachal Pradesh,  
Shimla – 171002.