



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Taxes Department - Abkari Policy for the year 2011-2012 - Orders issued.

Taxes (G) Department

G.O. (Ms) No.26/2011/TD.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 14-02-2011.

Read :- Letter No.XA1-28700/09 dated 29-01-2011 from the Commissioner of Excise, Thiruvananthapuram.

ORDER

Government is committed to protect the Toddy sector which is a traditional and job oriented industry. Government have taken several steps to curb benamies and to ensure the supply of pure toddy through toddy shops. To encourage licensees to run toddy shops in a better and hygienic environment, and to protect the interests of the workers, Government have reduced the rental of the Toddy shops in 2008-09 and 2009-10. In line with the above policy, Government propose to reduce the rental of the Toddy shops further. Government want Toddy shops to function in permanent buildings for which steps would be taken to make available funds from the Toddy Workers' Welfare Fund Board. Government also propose to take steps for increasing toddy production by encouraging farmers and planters to form 'chethu thottangal' in line with Plantation Corporation with a view to give benefits to all those who are associated with the toddy industry. The licensees who come forward to associate with the above programme will be encouraged.

Enforcement will be further strengthened by starting new Ranges, employing additional manpower, providing new vehicles, modern equipments etc., besides increasing the infrastructure facilities. As a result of reorganization of the district level administration under Deputy Excise Commissioners with Assistant Excise Commissioners in full charge of enforcement in each district, the flow of illicit spirit and spread of spurious liquor could be curbed substantially. Government will take further steps in this direction.

The campaign against illicit liquor and drug abuse will be continued more vigorously with the co-operation of peoples' representatives, trade unions, political parties, NGOs, Kudumbasree etc. More funds will be provided for educating the people against the ill effects of alcoholism especially among the younger generation. A separate wing at the Excise Commissionerate is proposed for the purpose.

Toddy

1. Toddy shops functioned during 2010-11 will be allowed to function in 2011-12 also. Toddy shops run by co-operative societies in the districts of Kasargode, Kannur, Kozhikode and Mamala, Perumbavoor and Piravom ranges in Ernakulam district will be allotted to Workers Co-operative Societies during 2011-12 as well. In other Ranges, if societies come forward for taking the shops it will also be considered.
2. Toddy shops will be sold in groups consisting of 5-7 shops. The unsold shops will be sold range-wise / Taluk-wise or entrusted with workers committee or Departmental Management directly.
3. Toddy shops entrusted with Workers Committee will be exempted from payment of tree tax, 3 months advance contribution to Toddy Workers Welfare Fund Board, 1 month advance wages and other benefits to employees besides the rental of the toddy shops.
4. Rental of the Toddy shops will be further reduced by 20%.
5. Toddy shops run by Workers Committee during the period 2002-03 to 2006-07 to which the benefit of exemption from payment of tree tax and 3 months advance contribution to Toddy Workers Welfare Fund Board sanctioned vide G.O.(Rt) No.267/2003/TD dated 19-04-2003 have not been extended for the period 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, and the same will be done.
6. Preference will be given to the existing licensees who are running Toddy shops.
7. Toddy shops functioning in objectionable sites as per Government orders and the building of which requires repair, will be allowed to be relocated to a new location provided such new location is within 50 mts. radius of the previous one. Toddy shops which were functioning till 2006-07 and which were sought to be relocated within 50 mts. radius of the previous site for carrying out repair to the building etc. will be deemed as functional during 2010-2011.
8. Minimum number of trees to be tapped for each Toddy shop will be fixed as follows:

Coconut trees -	50
Palmyra -	100
Choonda pana -	25

9. Minimum number of workers fixed for tapping 50 coconut trees will be 5 and for tapping 25 choondapana will be 2.
10. Where sufficient number of trees are not available for tapping within the limits of the toddy shops, permission will be given for tapping trees outside the jurisdiction, where the trees are available.
11. All assistance for planting coconut trees especially high yielding varieties will be provided so as to increase toddy production.
12. Those who come forward to establish coconut plantation will be given all encouragement.
13. Temporary workers will be allowed to tap trees in places where sufficient number of permanent workers are not available.
14. Licensee or a representative of the licensee shall invariably be present in the shop during working hours.
15. Toddy parlors will be permitted in all districts.
16. Proper records shall be maintained in the Toddy shops as regards toddy produced, toddy brought under inter-division permit, permanent and temporary workers and the name of the licensee's representative.
17. Benamies will not be allowed to run the toddy shops under any circumstances.
18. New testing laboratories will be established in all districts.
19. As part of diversification of toddy industry, manufacture of value added products from toddy like vinegar will be encouraged and permission will be given to DEC's in each district in this regard.

Foreign Liquor

1. Minimum star rating for the hotels for granting FL-3 & FL-11 licences will be '3' as that of 2010-11, and the same will not be issued to hotels which are located within 200 meters from educational institution, temple, church, mosque, SC / ST colony or of burial ground.

2. The personnel limit of liquor to hold without licence or permit will be re-fixed as follows:

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| a. Toddy | 2.1/2 lit. |
| b. Beer | 7.8 lit. |
| c. FMFL | 3 lit. |
| d. IMFL | 3 lit. |
| e. Wine | 4 lit. |
| f. Coco brandy | 1 lit. |

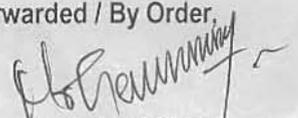
3. In the Abkari Policy for the year 2008-09, it was decided that use of non-recyclable and non-biodegradable plastic bottles would be discontinued in a phased manner and environment friendly, reusable glass bottles would be put in their place. It was also decided that to begin with, plastic bottles of 750 ml. would be discontinued from 01-04-2009. This period was extended upto 31-03-2011 in the Abkari Policy for the year 2010-11. In view of the shortage of glass bottles, Government propose to extend the above period till 31-03-2012.

By Order of the Governor,
V.P. JOY,
Secretary to Government.

To

1. The Commissioner of Excise, Thiruvananthapuram.
2. The Managing Director, Kerala State Beverages Corporation, Thiruvananthapuram.
3. The Accountant General (A & E / Audit), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
4. The General Administration (SC) Department.(vide item No.5794 dated 09-02-2011.)
- ✓ 5. The Information and Public Relations Department (for giving wide publicity.)
6. S.F. / O.C.

Forwarded / By Order,


Section Officer.