

Instructions of the Government Council on Strictly Preventing Forest Fires

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In the spring of last year, forest fires broke out in Northeast China and other places successively, causing huge losses to the country's forest resources. The reason for the fire is mainly that the leading cadres in some places lack ideological understanding of forest protection and fire prevention work, do not understand the serious situation of my country's lack of forest resources and insufficient timber supply, and do not know the important role of forests in maintaining water and soil and reducing natural disasters. , and did not have a deep understanding of the central government's policy of protecting forests, so they took a negative attitude towards forest protection and fire prevention. Some cadres even mistakenly oppose forest protection and fire prevention work to agricultural production, thinking that forest protection and fire prevention work is "hindering agricultural production", or starting from a one-sided mass viewpoint, they encourage the masses to burn mountains and start wilderness in order to "take care" of mass production. cause serious forest fires. In order to correct these erroneous acts of ignoring forest protection and fire prevention policies and decrees, and strengthen future forest protection and fire prevention work, so that forests will not continue to be damaged, the following instructions are hereby issued:

1. In the season when wildfires are prone to occur every year, the people's governments at all levels in and around mountainous areas should make forest protection and fire prevention work one of the central tasks, and the heads will be responsible for personally arranging, inspecting and supervising. Closely combine forest protection and fire prevention work with agricultural production, vigorously mobilize and educate the masses, establish fire prevention organizations, and conclude fire prevention conventions, so that the glorious task of protecting the country's forest resources becomes one of the tasks of the patriotic production increase movement of the masses.
2. For large-scale mountain forests, the responsibility system should be implemented according to the administrative divisions. If a fire breaks out in an area, whoever is responsible will be responsible, and should be punished according to the severity of the damage. If a serious fire breaks out within a province, the provincial chairman shall be responsible. If a fire breaks out in a county, district, or village, the head of the county, district, or village shall be responsible. Joint defense measures should be implemented in the border area between the two regions.
3. Under the principle of not destroying the mountains and forests, take proper care of the sideline production of the masses, organize the people who go to the mountains for sideline production and the people who often live in the mountains, and give them the task of protecting the forest, so that their production organization and production tasks are completely consistent with those of the people. Forest protection organizations and forest protection tasks are combined.
4. In mountainous areas and areas near forests, burning and burning should be strictly prohibited, and the masses should be actively persuaded to cut grass instead of burning. Those who set fire to mountains or destroy forests in other ways should be punished according to law.
5. During the fire prevention period, train crews and public security officers passing through forested areas must strictly guard against locomotive fires and boilers throwing fire, and must conscientiously implement the "Northeast and fire prevention measures in forest areas along the Inner Mongolia Railway".

6. The sporadic households in large-scale state-owned forests should be checked, and if necessary, they should be persuaded and helped to move or live together. The unscrupulous elements living in the forest, except those who can be educated and reformed, should be arrested and brought to justice.

7. Government agencies, troops, industrial and mining enterprises, and farms in forest areas, in addition to being responsible for forest protection and fire prevention within their respective areas, should assist the government in preventing forest fires in nearby areas.

8. After the forest fire breaks out, the local people's government should regard the fire fighting as the most urgent task, and the leading cadres should promptly mobilize and lead the masses into the mountains to start fires. The nearby garrisons should also actively participate in the firefighting work.

9. All transportation agencies (including railways, highways, telecommunications, etc.) in the area where the fire broke out should provide convenient transportation and communication for fire fighters.

10. People's supervisory organs in major administrative regions and provinces should pay attention to inspecting the arrangement and implementation of forest protection and fire prevention work by local people's governments at all levels. Reward those who are active and successful in their work. Those who do not conscientiously implement forest protection and fire prevention policies and decrees and cause serious losses shall be punished.

After receiving this instruction, the major administrative regions and provincial people's governments will immediately arrange forest protection and fire prevention work for this spring, and report the arrangement to this hospital.

Premier Zhou Enlai