

Chief Conservator's Letter C1-10739/61 dated 22-3-61 to Secretary to Government,
Agriculture Department (Forest)

Sub: Extension of periods – Rubber areas
Ref: Nil.

For facilitating Rubber planting many coupes in the under noted Forest Divisions have been given for extraction of forest growths before those coupes are released to the Rubber Plantation Director. The time prescribed in most of those contracts are either up to the end of February 1961 or the latest upto the end of March 61. Practically almost all the contractors have now applied for time extension on the ground that Moratorium has been declared in banks, the paucity of lorries and paucity of elephants and labour. The above facts have really affected the works of the contractors considerably and completion of work has been rendered impossible in time. Felling of trees has been completed in the major portion of the coupes. Removals of timber to an extent of 60% have also been effected. Further works pending are transport of about 40% of timber and collection and removal of about 90% of firewood.

If at this stage the contracts are terminated, all the firewood (which will come to a large quantity) will go to waste not to speak of the huge loss to the contractors. Above all the Rubber Plantation Department also will find it difficult to start operations when all the firewood is still left on unremoved. All things considered, it is suggested that time extension may be given in the following terms and conditions:

1. Extension of period may be given up to 30th April 1961 for following and collection of the balance growth with penalty as given below. In the agreements executed, penalties are proved as follows:

For the areas to be declared, penalty at the rate of Rs.25 per acre. For the timber collected but not removed, at the rate of 6 np. Per cft. per month. For the firewood collected but not removed, at the rate of 50 Np. Per ton Per month.

I would suggest that for the timber and firewood already collected and for which asses have been issued, but which are kept un removed, no penalty May be imposed. For the quality of timber and firewood yet to be collected penalty as per agreement condition may be imposed.

2. The timber and firewood remaining to be transported may be permitted to be stacked besides roads within the coup in three or four convenient sites not covering more than 10 acres in all and this stacking will have to be completed before the end of April 1961.
3. Further transport from the above sites will be permitted till the end of May 1961. No special penalty will be imposed for the period during which the extension is given for transport in May.

4. The sites used for stacking will be subject to payment of rent at the rate of Rs.10 per acre per month.

The above method will enable the Rubber Plantation Director of carry on Survey operations as well as allotments of blocks and starts planting operations early in June 1961.

As most of the contracts are to expire by the end of March 1961 I solicit the favour of early orders.

Name of Division

1. Trivandrum Forest Division.			
2. Punalur	do	do	
3. Konni	do	do	Almost all collection works are over in this
4. Ranni	do	do	Division
5. Kottayam	do	do	
6. Malayattur	do	do	
7. Chalakudy	do	do	do do
8. Trichur	do	do	
9. Nemmara	do	do	Extension of periods are given for most of
10. Nilambur	do	do	the coupes.

Sd/-Chief Conservator of Forest.