

CIRCULAR NO.48/77

It is seen that due to variations in the standard of felling trees, delimiting, logging, dressing and cross cutting the logs that are supplied in the different Depots of the various Forest Circles have no uniformity in appearance and quality. This in turn has affected the selling price of these timbers in the Depots. Circular No.34/77 stipulates uniformity in grading of logs. In order to facilitate easier grading and classification, uniformity in dressing and presentation is essential and to achieve this objective the following directions are issued. These may be implemented forthwith.

1. Felling of trees:

All trees marked for cutting should be felled as low as possible to prevent wastage of valuable buttend timber and using a combination of saws and felling areas wherever possible. Whenever valuable Rosewood, teak etc. trees are felled, all precautions like removal of top branches etc. should be resorted to, to prevent splitting of the bole and consequent wastage of timber.

2. Delimiting (dressing):

Side branches should be cut flush with the bole and dressed properly to make the log look attractive. Knobs and protrusions on the bole should be dressed clean with the bole.

3. Logging:

Boles of species of trees selected for Government of India supply may be cut into length classifications approved by Govt. of India. All other species may be cut into lengthy logs. The length classification has already been intimated. In the case of teak, if the buttend has prominent buttresses which are certain to affect the quality of the logs if not removed, the buttressed portion may be included in a short length log and cross-cut so as to have the remaining logs quite sound and of quality class acceptable to Government of India. All cross cutting should be done with cross-cut saws alone.

4. Giving identification marks to logs:

The final measurements of logs are taken in the Depot and stock numbers given to each log. The cross cut-end is visible in all positions of the log and as such the stock numbers at the Depot should be given at the end surface cross-cut with saw. The length and girth and the species may also be given on this surface. Abbreviations of species as accepted by the Indian Standards Institution may be given. All the stamps should be affixed at this end.

5. The girth measuring point:

The mid-length of the logs at which points the girth is taken, should be clearly marked with a X (cross mark) legible enough to be located easily.

6. Stacking logs at the Depot:

Logs must be stacked species-wise and class-wise invariably. Each log should be positioned in the stack so as to expose its major defects. No attempt should be made to hide the defects of a log when it is stacked. Purchasers should be enabled to see all the defects so that they may judge and evaluate the logs correctly and bid for the same in confidence. The goodwill generated amongst the bidders go a long way to enhance the prestige of the marketing branch and ensure a steady and strong market for the timber and other produces.

The above directions are issued to enable all the field officers to see that the timber extraction works carried out by contractors or departmental officers maintain the required standard as detailed above.

The receipt of this circular may be acknowledged.

Sd/  
Chief Conservator of Forests