

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Forest Works – schedule of rate-Revision for certain works - Sanctioned

AGRICULTURE (FOREST) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt) No.115/74/AD

Dated, Trivandrum, 19-01-1974.

- Read:-
1. Letter No.C2-9316/70 dated 02-4-1971 from the Chief Conservator of Forests
 2. Letter No.C2-9316/70 dated 09-1-1973 from the Chief Conservator of Forests

ORDER

The Chief Conservator of Forests in his letter read as 1st paper has reported to Government that the labour data noted in the sanctioned schedule of rate for works in the Forest Department are not realistic. This was creating considerable complication in the execution of works, the disbursement of wages and accounting of expenditure. With a view to rectifying the difficult situation brought about as a result of the defective and unrealistic labour data, the Chief Conservator of Forests has sent up proposals for the revision of the schedule of rates for forest works on the basis of labour data compiled after a detailed work study.

2. In the meanwhile the Minimum Wages Committee for Forest Works set up during 1969-70 have also gone into the question of fixation of wages to forest Labour under the categories, day rates, price rates etc. in detail. The committee also scrutinized the output figures worked out by the Forest Department, and the Chief Conservator of Forests has reported that the Committee has made recommendations to Government for accepting the figures. The recommendations of the Committee also include classification of the Forest areas of the State into three categories, viz. “ordinary”, “difficult” and “very difficult”, taking into account the difficulty of working conditions in the different localities. The committee has listed out the three areas and has recommended an increase of 12 ½ % for the “difficult areas” and 25% for the “very difficult areas” over and above the basic rates. The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of Government in the Labour Department.

3. The Chief Conservator of Forests has recommended to Government that pending final approval of the wage rates proposed by the Minimum Wages Committee, the Forest Department may be allowed to adopt the following:-

- (1) To adopt the classification of forest areas into “Ordinary”, “Difficult” and “Very Difficult” as recommended by the Minimum Wages Committee.
- (2) To adopt the lowest of the wage rates prescribed in the P.W.D. Schedule under each category of workers, in respect of areas classified by the Committee as “Ordinary”.
- (3) To make payment of enhanced wage at the rate of 12 ½ % and 25% in the “Difficult” and “Very difficult” areas respectively, and

(4) To adopt the output figures compiled by the Forest Department by work study method in respect of Forestry works.

4. In his letter read as second paper above the Chief Conservator of Forests has since reported to Government that in view of the urgent necessity to attend to seasonal works which cannot break any delay he has issued orders to the Conservator of Forests to adopt the above rates with effect from 9-1-1973 in respect of the following works, and he has requested that his action may be ratified.

- (i) Clearance of boundaries and fire lines for fire protection
- (ii) Thinning works in plantations; and
- (iii) Nursery works.

5. After examining all aspects of the question, Government are pleased to ratify the action of the Chief Conservator of Forests in having authorized the Conservator of Forests to adopt the rate specified in paragraph 3 of this G.O. in respect of the following items of work with effect from 9-1-1973.

- (i) Clearance of boundaries and fire lines for fire protection
- (ii) Thinning works in plantations; and
- (iii) Nursery works.

6. The Chief Conservator of Forests will not, however, make fresh commitments before orders of Government on the Report of the Minimum Wages Committee are issued.

(By order of the Governor),

C.T. Joseph,
Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Chief Conservator of Forests

Endt. On C2-9316/70 dated 01-02-1973 URGENT.

Copy to all Conservator of Forests and Divisional Forest Officers for strict attention.

Sd/-
for Chief Conservator of Forests

Endt. On PC-24478/68 dt. 11.02.1974.

Copy to all sections and stock file and
Administrative Assistant and Senior Superintendent.

For Conservator of Forests,
Trichur.