

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Auction sale of timber – Difference between the sale proceeds and seigniorage plus working charges – Recovery of loss – Exemption granted.

AGRICULTURE (FOREST) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt)20/73/AD.

Dated, Trivandrum, 4-1-1973.

Read:- 1) G.O.MS.615/61/AD dated 19-6-1961.

2) D.O. No.C4-35130/72/13-9-1972 from the Chief Conservator of Forests.

ORDER

In the G.O. read as first paper above it was ordered that only logs which will fetch approximately seigniorage plus working charges and above would be arranged to be worked down to depots. Based on these orders the Chief Conservator of Forests had issued circular instructions in the departmental officers to the effect that the difference between the sale proceeds of the logs and the seigniorage plus working charges will be realised from the registering Officers, when the sales proceeds are less than the seigniorage plus working charges.

2. The Chief Conservator of Forests has stated that except in the case of auction sales of thinned materials from plantations it is very seldom that the sale proceeds fall short of seigniorage plus working charges., Most of such cases of short falls are in respect of teak poles collected and delivered at the depots. Thinning is an obligatory silvicultural operation which is to be carried out at periodical intervals to provide for the better growth of the young trees left behind. As it is an obligatory process there can be no option to the registering officers and the question of marking of logs unfit for depot delivery does not arise in the case of thinned materials from the plantations. In such cases the materials sold in auction are only the rejections of the logs left behind after selection by the Kerala State Electricity Board and other Departments. Naturally the price they fetch in auction sales cannot be but low.

3. As such there is no reason why the registering Officers should be held liable for the difference between the sale proceeds and seigniorage plus working charges in respect of the thinned materials obtained from the silvicultural operations. Government are therefore pleased to order that the orders contained in G.O.(MS)615/AD dated 19-6-1961 will not apply to the saplings collected and delivered at the depots and sold in auction.

4. In the case of Timber other than caplings, whenever the sale proceeds fall short of seigniorage plus working charges, each cases will be dealt with individually on merits by departmental officers at the appropriate levels and disciplinary action taken against the officers respectable for the loss (difference between the sale proceeds and seigniorage plus working charges) due to the registering of poor quality logs.

(By Order of the Governor)

K.K.Gopalakrishnan,
Joint Secretary.

Endt. on A2-4468/67 dated 2-2-73.

Copy to CE, ML, KT, TR, PG, KK and G1 sections.

For Conservator of Forests.