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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Forest & Wildlife Department - Sale of Teak Timber through depots - Introduction of retail sale and constitution of a Pricing Committee - Sanctioned - Orders issued.

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FOREST & WILDLIFE (B) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(MS) 21/2003/F&WLD Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 04-04-2003.

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Read:-1. G.O.(MS) 18/2001/F&WLD dated, 27-2-2001.

- 2. Letter No. FU2-17929/2002 dated 12-8-2002 from the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and letter dated, 2-1-2003 from the Chief Conservator of Forests(Protection).

ORDER

As per the Government Order read as 1st paper above, tender -cum-auction sale of timber was introduced in the sale depots coming under the Timber Sales Divisions of the Forest Department. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests vide his letter read above has reported that the existing sale conditions and method of sales are generally suited only to timber traders. The bonafide consumers of timber find it difficult to purchase timber by participating in the auction since auctions are conducted only once in a month on notified dates and it generally takes four months for completing the process of sale confirmation. Non-trading purchasers have to face unhealthy competition from the timber traders. To facilitate the bonafide consumers in participating in the timber marketing process, the idea of retail sale was mooted in the meeting of the senior officers of the Forest Department on 13-9-2001. After discussing the matter in detail at various levels in the Forest Department including the Council of Chief Conservator of Forests, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has forwarded proposals for retail sale of teak timber.

(2) Government have examined the salient features of the proposal and are pleased to accord sanction for the introduction of retail sale of II and III class teak timber on a pilot basis through the following 5 depots of Forest Department:

- 1. Tuet/Pathanapuram depot in Kollam Circle;
- 2. Parampuzha depot in High Range Circle;
- 3. Chalakkudy depot in Thrissur Circle;
- 4. Chaliyam depot in Kozhikode Circle;

FOREST H.Q.	
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5. ✓ Walayar depot in Olavakode Circle.

This will be subject to the following conditions:

1. Only II and III Class Teak will be sold in retail depots.
2. Timber for retail sale will be stocked in a separate location in the sale depots.
3. A Monthly quota of 100 cu. metres of timber consisting of all classes will be fixed for retail sale for each depot. It is suggested to replenish the stock to 100 cub.metres at the beginning of the very month. If the stock gets exhausted during a month a fresh quota will be allotted.
4. Retail sale of timber will be made only for house construction purpose on production of sufficient proof for the same. A ceiling of 5 cu. metres is fixed for each applicant.
5. Each log will be priced depending on the girth and quality by a pricing committee consisting of Conservator of Forests (Territorial) as Chairman with the Divisional Forest Officer, Timber Sales Division and local Divisional Forest Officer(territorial) as members. The guidelines for the fixation of price are annexed.
6. The intending bidder will be allowed to select the logs after verification of the bonafide by the official in charge of retail sale. At this stage, a token will be issued to indicate the priority of the buyer.
7. The depot-in-charge will issue proforma invoice to the intending buyer after selection of the logs.
8. 1/10th value of the timber selected, subject to a maximum of Rs.20,000/-(Rupees twenty thousand only) will be collected as part value in either cash or local Demand Draft immediately.
9. Chalan for the balance amount and taxes also will be issued with a currency up to 3 working days. However, if the total value of the logs is less than Rs.20,000/-, the purchaser will have an option to pay the full value in cash.
10. In the case of default by the buyer, the part value remitted will be forfeited and the logs re-sold without risk and loss to the original buyer.
11. The purchaser will be allowed 7 days for the removal of the timber after payment. Extension of time will be allowed by the Depot-in-charge after collecting ground rent and the rate of Rs.10/- per cu.meter per day up to a maximum of fifteen days.
12. The logs remaining unsold for more than 3 months will be sold in regular auction in the same depot.
13. The general conditions of sale by tender-cum-auction, not at variance with the above conditions are applicable in case of retail sale also.

(3) Government are also pleased to constitute a pricing committee with the Conservator of Forests (Territorial) as Chairman and the local Divisional Forest Officer (Territorial) and the Divisional Forest officer (timber sales) as members for fixing the price of each log put up for retail sale after inspection based on the prevailing Schedule Rate or Market Rate whichever is higher. The Market Rate here means the average rate fetched in auction-cum-tender sales for the class of timber in that circle in the previous month.

(4) The staff required for managing the retail depots will be got deployed from the existing staff by redeployment/working arrangement basis. The furniture and all other infrastructure will be obtained from the presently available inventories. Any additional staff or any other expenditure on this account will not be agreed to either now or later.

This issues with the concurrence of the Finance Department.

(By Order of the Governor)
(Sd/-)

E.K. BHARAT BHUSHAN
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Thiruvananthapuram.
The Chief Conservator of Forests (Protection), Thiruvananthapuram.
The Accountant General (A&E)/(Audit), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
Finance Department (Ref. 9491/AWA1/2003/Fin. Dated 14.02.2003).
Stock file/Office Copy.

Forwarded/By Order



Section Officer.