

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
Abstract

Forest – collection of firewood by laborers and staff – recovery of case – further orders issued.

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Agriculture & Rural Development Department (Agriculture-Forest)

G.O.Rt.3072/64/Agri.

Dated, Trivandrum, 8-12-1964.

- Read:- Again 1. G.O.Rt.1970/61/Agri. dated 27-11-1961.
Also 2. Letter No.B.IV-15494/63 dated 17-2-1964 from the Secretary,
Kerala State Electricity Board, Trivandrum.
3. Letter No.C3-22923/62 dated 29-2-1964 and C6-9297/64 dated
29-6-1964 and 29-9-1964 from the Chief Conservator.

ORDER

In the G.O. read above, it was ordered that cess at the rate of 12 paise per head per week would be collected from the labourers and staff for collecting firewood from the branches and twigs of trees in the adjoining reserve forests. The Secretary, K.S.E.Board has stated that the Board has agreed to pay the value of the tree growth to the Forest Department at the seignior age rate or actual sale value whichever is higher. He has therefore requested that as the Board has agreed to paying value for the timber and firewood and as there is no agency to check the issue of firewood, the collection of cess for firewood collected from the Sabarigiri project area may be waived.

In another instance, the Chief Conservator of Forests has requested that the orders requiring collection of cess at the rate of 12 paise per head in the case of Sabarigiri Project may be extended to Kuttiadi Project well. The Chief Conservator of Forests has explained that where collection of firewood is made from submerged areas and other project areas where the Board is responsible to make good the difference between the actual sale value and the fair price, there is no necessity to collect the charges from the labourers. But when extraction is completed in such areas, and similar areas from where firewood is to be collected are not available for the labourers, they will have to collect firewood from reserve forest areas and in these cases the cess ordered in the G.O. read above has to be collected.

In the circumstances, Government are pleased to order that in the cases where value of the growth or firewood is to be laid by the Electricity Board, the cess need not be collected and where such areas are not available and collection is to be sorted to from the adjoining reserve forests, it has to be collected at the rates mentioned in the Government order.

By order of the Governor,
T.R. Sukumaran Nair,
Joint Secretary.

For Conservator of Forests.