

**Copy of letter 01.475/59 dated 11-7-1963 from the Chief conservator of forests, Trivandrum to the Secretary to government, Agriculture (Forest) Department.**

*Sub:-* Forests- contracts-grant of forest contracts to forest Labour contract Co- operative Societies- framing of rules.

*Ref:-* No. 2846/FB1/59/ Agri. Dated 23-4-1963.

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On examining the various reports received from the Divisional Forest Officers on the subject, it is seen that the works sanctioned to the Co- operative Societies in their respective Divisions, have ended in failure in one way or the other.

The following defects are noticed when works were given to the Societies:

1. Want of adequate funds.
2. Want of resources like laborers, elephants, Lorries etc.
3. Want of previous experiences.
4. Incapacity of Societies.
5. Want of managing skill.
6. Difficulty to fix responsibility and taking set-in in case of default or failure.
7. Irresponsibility of societies.
8. Want of technical skill as most of the forest works require technical skill.

In this connection, I have also gone through a report on the administration and working of the Forest Labourers. Co-operative Societies in Maharashtra State and it is seen included with the remarks:

“That movement to switch over to the Co-operative Societies for forest explication can only be experimented more with academic interest that intending to introduce it systematically and intensively in the State”

Moreover, there are several hundred Advises inside the Forests of Maharashtra and the works were given to these Advises (till Tribe) only. There are only few scattered Hill Tribes in Kerala and they are not capable of undertaking timber collection works.

Under these circumstances and also as sanctioning works on negotiation basis is not the policy of Government. I am strongly of the view that sanctioning of works in the name of such Societies should be totally discouraged and it is always better to entrust works is competitive tenders or sanction as the case be and that Teangya works alone may be given to well experience Societies at negotiated rates.

Early orders are collected.

Sd/- For Chief Conservator of Forests.

Endt. on ch. 13809/63 dated 18-1-1963.

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Office of the Conservator of  
Forest, chalakudy.

*For Conservator of Forests.*