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Copy of Govt. letter No. 93889/73/76/23 dated 18-6-76 from the Special Secretary to Government, Agriculture (Forest) Dept., Trivandrum to the Assistant General, Kerala, Trivandrum.

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Sub: Abolition of Forest contract system - regarding.
Ref: Your letter No. FAD.I-1/18-178/77-78/417 dated 5th December 1977.

According to para 10.6.2 of the Kerala Forest Code Vol. I, Departmental execution is adopted where no contracts are available or where for other reasons it is found more economical. The Code provision is in accordance with the then existing policy of Govt. and their directions in the matter of execution of works. But since then, based on the recommendations of the Central Forestry Commission and the General Board of Forestry, in which Chief Conservator of Forests and Minister for Forests are members, it was decided that the contract system should be abolished in the interest of better revenue to the State and fair wages to workers. This recommendation has been accepted by the Government of India and the Chief Conservator of Forests recommended to Government for acceptance of the recommendations in principle. The Government order now issued for departmental execution of works falls in line with the recommendations of the Central Forestry Commission, Central Board of Forestry and National Commission on Agriculture.

In this connection, I am also to inform you that decision was taken to carry out departmental extraction of all final felling Teak Plantation, during a conference, held at Kalamuncha on 18-9-76 with the then Minister for Forests presiding over the meeting. This decision was arrived after considering all the aspects involved in the issue, such as utilizing the elephant power available with the Department and also making use of the mechanized vehicles with the Department. In normal cases, the work can be carried out within the sanctioned schedule of rates. In certain cases, an extra allowance over the above the sanctioned schedule rate is required according to the nature of the terrain, accessibility and availability of water for labour, elephant etc. The Chief Conservator of Forests requested Government to accord general sanction for taking up departmental extraction of timber of final felling Teak Plantations at the approved schedule of rates. Government after considering the question in detail accorded general sanction in G.O.M. 1838/77/23 dated 17-6-1977 for taking up departmental extraction of timber of final felling Teak Plantations at the approved schedule of rates, provided that 10% contractors profit is not included in the estimate for the works and also that the work is included in the Working Plan and there is provision in the Budget to take up the work.

The category of works for which the new procedure is to be adopted are felling, conversion and collection of timber, poles etc. The above work will be taken up departmentally. Works such as transporting timber etc. to the Depot including loading and unloading will be carried out under the contract system and if the contractors are not willing to take up these works, the same will also be taken up departmentally.

Sd/-
for Spl. Secretary to Government.

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Trivandrum with ref. to letter No. K 73-67100/77 dated 28-9-1978.

(p.t.e)

Undt. on TN.4147/80(K.Mis) dated 2-4-60

Copy to all Divl. Forest Officers for information and attention.
Copy to Sections, CB, HK, MB, ET sections.
Copy to stock file.
Copy to Senior Supt. Junior Supt. and Administrative Asst.
for information.

P. R. Raghav
for Conservator of Forests,
Trichur. 22.5.60

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