

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Auction Sale of Timber – difference between the Sales Proceeds and seigniorage plus working charges-Orders fixing responsibility of Registering Officers – Amended – Orders issued.

FOREST AND WILD LIFE (B) DEPARTMENT.

G.O. (MS). 64/2001/F&WLD.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 29-10-2001.

Read: - 1. G.O. (MS). 615/61 AD/dated.19-06-61.

2. G.O. (RT) 20/73/AD.dated 04-1-73.

3. Circular No 44/74/dated 27-10-74 issued by the Chief Conservator of Forests.

4. Correspondence resting with letter No. C4-12105/2001 dated 16-10-2001 from Chief Conservator of Forests (Protection).

ORDER

As per orders issued in the Government Orders read as 1st and 2nd paper above and the instructions issued by the Chief Conservator of Forest as per the Circular read as 3rd paper above, it has been specified that only those logs which fetch seignior age charges plus working charges or more shall be worked down to the depots and that of the sale proceeds falls short, the difference shall be recovered from the officers responsible for registering the forest produces. These orders were issued at a time when selection felling was in vogue and there supply coupes and sale coupes. Now the situation is totally changed, selection felling is banned and the timber operations of the Department are:

1. Thinning in Teak Plantations.
2. Final felling of Teak and other Plantations and
3. Working down deed and wind falled trees.

2. In these operations, there is no discretion or selectivity involved. Therefore Government feels it not necessary to insist on obtaining seignior age plus working charges. The Public Accounts committee of the Kerala Legislature in its 117th report has also recommended amending the existing orders on this suit the changed circumstances.

3. In the above background Government have examined the matter in detail and have decided that hereafter Registering Officers shall not be held responsible for the

value fetched below seignior age plus working charges when the produce is sold in auction but they shall be made responsible for registering produces which fetch below “working charges” only. In such cases the Registering officers shall be made responsible for the loss and disciplinary action will be taken against them for registering poor quality of logs and other produce.

4. The Government Orders read as 1st and 2nd paper above and the circular read as 3rd paper stands amended accordingly.

5. These orders will have only prospective effect and the disciplinary cases pending already, against the registering officers for registering logs that have fetched below seignior age plus working charges, will be processed in accordance with the merit of each case.

(By Order of the Governor)
Sd/-
M.T. UMMER
Joint Secretary to Government

Endt. On C4-12105/2001, dated.15/11/2001

Copy forwarded to all Chief Conservator of Forests/Conservator of Forests/Divisional Forests Officers/Asst: Conservator of Forests/Wild Life Wardens/Dy. Conservator of Forests, Research Thiruvananthapuram/Thrissur/Accounts Section/Fu. Section.

CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (P).