

Copy of letter No.C5.12248/71 dated 31-12-71 from the Chief Conservator of Forests, Trivandrum addressed to the Secretary to Government Agriculture (Forest) Dept. Trivandrum

Sub:- Supply of Bamboo at concessional rates to contractors reg.

- Ref:-
1. Government letter No.29552/F3/71 AD dated 1-7-71.
 2. Government letter No.39120/F3/71 AD dated 1-9-71.
 3. Government letter No.29552/F3/71 AD dated 15-12-71.

I am further my remarks as follows:-

1. The present system of allowing bonafide consumers to cut and remove bamboos (twenty bamboos at a time) on production of certificate issued by concerned authorities and after paying seigniorage value may be continued. Agriculturists, people engaged in Cottage industries and House construction are such bonafide consumers. Agricultural co-operative Societies and Co-operatives Societies of Cottage Industries may require bamboos in excess of the above limit. In such cases, specific recommendation of the District Registrar of co-operative societies may be insisted upon and bamboos may be supplies at seigniorage rates based on the recommendation of the District Registrar of Co-operative Societies, for a specified period not exceeding two months and for further issued a utilization certificate from the same District Registrar may be insisted in addition to the recommendation for further quantity. Similar certificate issued by the Industries Department also may be insisted upon along with this.

2. In respect of the maximum admissible number of 20 bamboos to bonafide Agriculturists, this may be restricted to the cultivation period only, in respect of bonafide House construction purposes, a time limit of 15 days may be fixed for cutting and removal.

3. The Constructors of P.W.D. and similar departments do not deserve any concession on this regard. They quotes rates for item involving bamboos, in their traders only with due consideration to the availability of Bamboos in the open markers and its market rate and their profit marking. As such a further concession of alloweing bamboos from Reserved Forests at seigniorage rates will only enable them to make more. Generally the contractors are tempted to misuse the concession where

it is given . A constructor who till up the construction work of an extension building for the secretariat was granted such a permission to cut and remove 2000 bamboos from the Reserves Forests of Trivandrum Division at seigniorage rate but thee misused this concession which resulted in cancellation of the sanction already issued. This is dealt with in G.O.Rt.1196/71 AD dated 18-8-71 and G.O. Rt.1923/71 dated 7-10-71. This is one of the many example.

4. If in any case, the constructors of P.W.D. or similar department are not getting bamboos from open market for the Government works, they may be allowed to cut and remove bamboos from Reserved Forests on the specific recommendation issued by on officer not below the rank of an Executive Engineer. In such cases, the value to be realized should be double the seigniorage rate or market rate minus working charges whichever is higher. The period for cutting and removal should be restricted to 30 days. The limit in number (20 bamboos) any be relaxed in such cases in accordance with the recommendation of the Executive Engineer and the Divl. Forest Officer may be empowered to issue the pass in such cases.

5. Permission to cut and remove bamboos to private bodies aided institutions, Charitable Institutions etc at concessional rates also not worth considering since there is scope for mis-nse of such sanctions in these cases also. Further the monetary benefit by supply at concessional rates in not at all taken into considered and this aspect is all the more ignored by the grantees. In this connection I invite kind attention to my letter no. C5.5209/71 dated 6/18-11-71 in which I had explained may views regarding the supply of any forest produce at concessional rates to anybody and to discourage such supplies in the larger interest of the Department and Government.

Sd/- P.T.Devassy,

For Chief Conservator of Forests.

Copy to
Conservator of Forests Trichur, etc.

Endt. on ML.15124/74 dt. 11-1-72.

Copy communicated to all DFOs for intimation. Copy to stock file.

For Conservator of Forests