

Copy of Letter No.56/69 dated 18-8-72 of the Deputy Conservator of Forests Vigilance and Evaluation Wing, Trivandrum addressed to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Trivandrum and copied to this office.

Sub:- Formation of teak nursery – uprooted of tree - stumps – Regarding.

Ref:- Your Endt.C2-9316/70 dated 1-8-1972

The rates worked out for the formation of nursery bed for teak by me, was for the 14 items of job instructions and under the 8 job conditions described in the schedule. One of the job conditions stated therein is that tree stumps are not to be uprooted. This only means that the rate worked out has not taken into account, the effort and expenses for the work of uprooting tree stumps and that if this item of work is also to be carried out extra rates may be allowed.

The necessity for uprooting the tree stumps in a teak nursery site is a different issue which may be separately decided. My personal views in the matter are given below.

If all the tree stumps in nursery site are removed and the nursery beds are formed according to uniform standard dimensions, the nursery will have a very nice appearance. Whether this appearance is of any use for the sake of producing good quality teak stumps is quite doubtful and the justification for incurring expenditure for the sake of giving a good appearance to the nursery is also doubtful. If tree stumps are not uprooted the nursery beds may not in uniform dimensions. They will be often in different lengths instead of the standard 40 ft. length. Since the rate for preparation of the bed is prescribed on a square metre basis, there will be no difficulty in working out the rates allowable for nursery beds of different lengths or even widths.

Uprooting big tree stumps and forming a nursery bed over this uprooted site may not be quite helpful to the production of good quality teak stumps. Ideal teak stump should have a short, conical and stunted tap root and not a very long cylindrical taproot.

If the soil in the nursery bed is worked too deep as in the case of uprooting big tree stumps the tap root of the seedlings will penetrate far down and may not produce stunted and thickened tap root but will only produce a seedling with a very long and thin tap root. These seedlings are difficult to be pulled out and also may not produce good quality teak stumps. Therefore, it is my personal view that big tree stumps need not be uprooted in a nursery site to save avoidable expenditure and also to produce good quality teak stumps at the cost of ignoring the appearance of teak nursery.

In the case of the different rates prescribed for uprooted tree stumps in the schedule of rates and elsewhere I have no remarks to offer since this work has not been covered by my studies so far.

Sd/- for Chief Conservator of Forests

Endt. on D-5915/68 dt. 01-09-72.

Copy to All D.F.Cs. for information and future guidance. The subordinates may also be informed of this.

Copy to section T.R.

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For Conservator of Forests