

Copy of letter No.A3-7568-82 dated 17-8-82 from the Conservator of Forests, High Range Circle, Kottayam to the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Sub:- Penal provisions of Forest offences coming under unreserved Forest area – suitable modification – suggestion regarding.

I submit the following for favor of necessary action.

Now a days forest offence in un reserves at the disposal of Government such as Cardamom Hill reserve are increasing considerably. The Cardamom Hill Reserve, Pallivasal unreserved are being governed by the old Travancore Forest Regulation II of 1068 published by former Maharaja of Travancore. The penal provision under unreserved area is too low where compared to the Reserve Forests as contemplated under K.P. Act. According to section 22 (h) in Chapter III of the regulation the maximum punishment that can be awarded for an offence shall on conviction before a magistrate be, imprisonment for term which may extend to one month, or to fine which may extend to one hundred rupees or to both” This penalties is being prescribed about a century age and have become quite inadequate to prevent illicit activities in the unreserved areas, which is a land at the disposal of Government. As the penal provisions are very low smugglers may commit any offences in the unreserved areas. I therefore request that the above penal provisions may kindly be arranged to be suitably modified so as to make penalty for forest offences in unreserved areas equal to that for a Reserve Forests under K.F. Act.

I need not emphasise the necessity for such a step for curbing and checking the illicit activities in the areas mentioned above.

Soliciting early action.

Sd/-
For Conservator of Forests