

Confidential

## Government of Kerala

No.52596-F4-67-AD.

Agriculture (Forest) Department,  
Trivandrum, dated 24-1-1968.

From

The Secretary to Government.

To

The Chief Conservator of Forests.

Sir,

Sub:- Clearance of forest growth – contracts – sufficient time following.

Ref:- Your letter No.C3-35749/67 dated 26-12-67.

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It has been brought to the notice of the Government that in the case of certain sale coupes, hasty measures have been taken by the department for the clearance of the area, presumably to get the area ready for plantation, as scheduled. This however created an impression among the public that undue favours have been shown to the contractor by the concerned officers. Such situations are also capable of being utilised by the officers concerned for corrupt purposes.

In order to avoid such situation in future Government direct that a definite programme should be drawn up in regard to the sale coupes and the departmental officers should adhere to programme scrupulously. I am therefore to request you to draw up a time schedule of the programme for the sale of coupes. You may also forward a copy of the same to Government for issuing further instructions in the matter, if found necessary.

It has further been brought to the notice of the Government that there will be possibilities of formation of cliques by the bidders, sometimes in collusion with forest officials in the sale of coupes resulting in loss of revenue. In order to avoid such situation, Government consider that only limited order should be put up for sale at a time and that confirmation of sales should be declined in doubtful cases. I am further to request you to issue instructions to the Assistant Conservators of Forests that they should furnish a certificate along with the valuation statement that not less than 10% of the trees have been test checked personally by them. The Conservators of Forests may be directed to make random check during their inspection of the forests. They may also be directed confidentially that they should exercise their discretion in the matter of confirmation of auction sales very carefully and judiciously with a view to prevent possible collusion of the officers with contractors.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/- Asst. Secretary, For Secretary.