Copy of letter No.C2-9837/82(K.Dis) dt.2-4-84 from the Chief Conservator of Forests, TVM., to the CF, Trichur.

Sub:- Sale of residual growth in Vellakayam sub-coupes 1 to 10 Auction dt.10-8-78 — Liabilities — Settlement of —

Ref:- Your letter No.ML-17696/81 dt.3-2-82.

2. Your letter No.ML-17696/81 dt.11-7-83.

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I invite your attention to the reference first cited. In Para '7' of your above letter, it is stated that no penal action are seen initiated against the contractors in proper time for not carrying out slash felling, burning etc., and to get the area ready for planting. No planting stock is also seen to have been raised for carrying out the planting in 1979. From them it seems that there must have been certain circumstances preventing the planting at that time. Again in para '8' it is stated that though the contractors are bound to do the work as per the agreement conditions, due to the presence of encroachments and the obstruction put forth by them these works could not be carried out. Therefore, it seen true that it was difficult to work these coupes owing the obstruction of encroachers here and there and due to the improvement by them. It is evident from the fact that the coupes could be sold only during the fifth attempt on 10-8-78 that too when put up for combined sale of the right of collection and removal of tree growth of taungya cultivation. All previous attempts made to previous occations which were for the right of collection of tree growth only ended in failure.

In para '9' it is stated that the Divl. Forest Officer has further reported that the fact the works undone by the contractor i.e. slash-felling burning heaping and reburning could be taken up in 1980 and planting could be done in 1980 only as against the original proposal to do this in 1979 also shows that there should have been some situation prevailing the timely operation in these blocks. Therefore, it seem that it may not be fully justifiable to put the entire blame on the contractors for the lapseson their part.

but the Divl. Forest Officer in his letter dt.17-6-83 copy of which was forwarded by you in your letter dt.11-7-83 has stated that the neglect on the part of the Contractors can be considered as wilful. This report of the Divl. Forest Officer is contradictory to the earlier report submitted. Hence I request you to exercise this case once again and settle the matter at your level.

Sd/- for Chief Conservator of Forests.

Endt. on ML-17696/81 dt.17-4-84.

Copy to the Divl. Forest Officer, Malayattur for IMMEDIATE REMARKS. (Ris No.C2-7870/78).

for Conservator of Forests,
Trichur.