Sub:- Extraction of teak and Rosewood trees and supply coupes.

In this office Circular No.16/73 dt. 5-4-'73 the girth limit for extraction of Rosewood has been fixed as 75cm. at breast height. The Conservator of Forest's have pointed out that this limit is too low and they have suggested that Rosewood trees below 125cm. in girth breast height need not be exacted and suchtree conversion coupes may be retained as standards. Preservation of such trees is also quite essential in view of its increased demand for export and also of the fact that it earns considerable foreign exchange. The Conservator of Forests, Rubber Plantation Scheme has pointed out that in the case of rubber planting areas if retention of rosewood is allowed sufficient space around the foot of the standing rosewood tree ill have to be left out from planting since the rubber plants will not come up under shade.

On examining the issue in details felt necessary to enhance the minimum girth of rosewood trees to 125 cm for extraction from conversion areas except from areas intended for planting rubber. This girth limit should be followed hereafter in the case of marking of rosewood for extraction. The Rosewood trees up to 125cm. are to be listed out separately and entrusted to the supply sale coupe contractors on condition that they should protect them felling the other trees, and also during slash felling, burning etc. At the close of the contract the supply/sale contractor should hand over such trees to the Department. Therefore, a provision in the tender/sale notice and agreement should be made to the effect that all Rosewood trees up to 125 cm. are to be retained and if any tree is lost or damaged a maximum penalty of Rs. 250/-per tree will be levied from the contractor. The rosewood trees retained in each conversion coupeshouldalso be accounted for separately for separately in the Range as well as in the Divn. By maintaining a Register.

(T. Devassy) Chief Conservator of Forests,

End-. on ML-16034/75 dt.28-8-75. Copy to KT/CH/MR/TR/Stock file& Adm.Asst: and Sr.Supdt for information.

> For Conservator of Forests, Trichur.