

Copy of letter No.C1-20823/71 dt.23-8-71 from the Chief Conservator of Forests to the Secretary to Govt. Agri (Forest) Deptt & copy to all C.Fs etc.

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Sub:- Extension of contracts and penalty to be levied for working down softwood – reg.  
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In my ready on even no. dt.24-6-71, proposals were sent to Govt. for grant of extension of time to Forest Contracts suggesting period of extensions to be allowed by D.F.Cs, Conservators of Forests and Chief Conservator of Forests and the rates of penalties to be recovered during such extension as decided in the conferences of Forest officers held on 27th and 28th May 1971.

In the above proposals, suggestions of extension and penalty to be imposed on softwood to be extracted and supplied to Depots by supply contractors was not included. The existing agreement condition in this regard is as follows:-

The Contractor shall fell and transport the matchwood species such as Elavu, Pala, mutty etc. within 10 days of the falling and if he fails to do so and the department sustains any loss an account of the matchwood logs so supplied by way of rejections by the allotted, the difference in value should be recovered from the contractor. All softwood logs other than matchwood species shall be delivered at the depot within 15 days will be allowed by the CCO for softwoods except matchwood subject to payment of penalty of Rs.1.75 per cum. by the contractor. The Chief Conservator of Forests in the fixed authority to grant further extension and fix penalty beyond the above period.

In this connection, I have to state that certain modifications to the existing rules, in this regard in found necessary based on practical experience. So I suggest the following modifications for favour of approval.

Softwood including matchwood may be treated as one category. The existing grace period of 15 days allowed to the contractors for delivery after following may be made applicable to matchwood also. The following powers may be ordered to be exercised in granting extension of periods for transport of all softwoods to Depots.

1. Divl.Forest Officer – the existing power to grant 15 days to continue at the existing rate of penalty of Rs.1.75 per cum. of timber.
2. Conservator of forests – Another 25 days with double the fine, i.e. Rs.3.50 per Cu.m.
3. Chief Conservator of Forests – All further extensions (as at present)

Extension for further 15 days Rs.5.5 per cu.m. Beyond 60 days of felling – fine 4 times the penalty i.e. Rs.7/-

In all the above cases, the difference between the quote rate and the selling rate in auction sale is to be rosewood from the contractor.

I request that Govt. may be pleased to issue formed sanction to grant extension of time at the rate of penalty as suggested above.

(Sd) For Chief Conservator of Forests

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