

Copy of D.O.No.P1-414/73 dt.25.9.1974 from Sri.N.R.Nair, Conservator of Forests, Perumbavoor to Sri.P.T.Devassy, Chief Conservator of Forests, Trivandrum

Sub:- Schedule of rates for timber working – are regarding
Ref:-

During the discussions with the officers of the Quilon Circle on 24.9.1974, the difficulties in implementing the approved minimum wage rates for timber working were also pointed out and discussed. These are dealt with below for suitable instructions.

(1)It was pointed out that the rates provided in item 14 a & b of the old schedule are higher than the new minimum wage rates and so the old rates have to be protected. But it was worked out and shown that by adopting the previous labour data and previous wage on the other, that the new piece rates are higher than the old piece rate and so no change in the new rate shown as item No.II (1) in the Gazette notification No.7899/81/73/LBR dated 1.4.1974 is necessary.

(2)It was pointed out that since the new labour data for timber working does not include chisel numbering and this cost also should be worked out and added. It was stated in the conference that the cost of chisel numbering will come to about Rs.10/- for 100 logs i.e. for about 50 cum. Hence this item may cause at the most an additional cost of about 20 paise/cum only which is almost negligible in the per cum.rate for timber extraction. The divisional forest officers may be asked to add such an item also towards the basic rate for timber working at the rates prevalent in the locality. Since this is quite a minor item of work separate collection of labour data does not appear to be necessary. If data collection is necessary for this work, I may please be informed.

3. It was also pointed out that since the new labour data for timber working does not include cross cutting by saw, this cost should also be worked out and included in the basic rates for timber working. Taking a liberal assumption that in a supply coupe the average size of log will be about $\frac{1}{2}$ cum. and that on an average 2 cross cuts will produce 3 such logs, the additional work involved for cross cutting by saw may be roughly cross cutting over an area about 0.4 sq.m./cum. Of timber produced. This item will not also effect much, the overall basic rate /cum for timber working. Data on cross cutting by saw can be collected and furnished within a month. In the meanwhile the local officers may be allowed to provide an additional item supported by local data to cover this work also in the basic rate for timber working.

4. It was also pointed out that an item for providing assistance by elephants to turn logs for dressing should also be included in the timber working. This is required only in cases of very big hardwood trees of morethan about 450 BH girth. Since the occurrence of such hardwood trees will be scanty in a