

Forest Department

Ref.No.64238/79/F3  
Dated:23--5--1980:

Office of the Chief Conservator of  
Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad

Sri P.S.Rao, I.F.S.,  
Chief Conservator of Forests.

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CIRCULAR NO.11/80

Sub:- Forest Offences - Seizure and confiscated Sandal wood classification and fixation of correct value for the material - Training to the Staff in Classification of Sandal wood - Circular instructions - Regarding.

It is observed that some of the Divisional Forest Officers and Forest Range Officers are reporting the value of the Sandal wood seized by them in offence cases in an arbitrary manner in their preliminary reports. When such material is transported to Chittoor Sandal wood depot, it is observed that the valuation assessed by the concerned Divisional Forest Officers is not correct in many cases and when such material is auctioned it is fetching lower value compared to the value fixed by the concerned Divisional Forest Officer. It is noticed that some times the Sap wood of Sandal wood is treated as heart wood and value assessed.

2. Such instances have come even to the notice of the Accountant General, with the result the Accountant General is raising objections on such difference in assessment. It has become difficult for the Department to answer the Accountant General in such cases. To avoid such wrong assessment of value, all the Divisional Forest Officers are hereby directed to take due care in arriving at the correct value of the Sandalwood on the rates obtained in the Sandal wood depot Chittoor during the last sale.
3. Classification of Sandal wood is not easy. The staff concerned requires some training to classify the material as per the gradation rules followed by the Department. Such a training could be given at Chittoor Sandal wood Dept.
4. The Conservators of Forests are therefore requested to send a few intelligent subordinate officers working under them i.e., Range Officers, Dy. Range Officers and Foresters and also the staff of Flying Squad Parties to Chittoor West Division to acquaint themselves with the procedure followed for Sandal wood classification methods. The period of training should not be more than one week and should be conducted between 10-6-1980 and 20-6-1980 in consultation with the Divl. Forest Officer, Chittoor West. The concerned Conservator of Forests will decide the number of candidates to be sent for training. After the training is completed it must be certified by the Divl. Forest Officer, Chittoor West Division that the staff deputed for training have been fully trained in grading the Sandal wood.
5. It is enough if a few intelligent staff members who can grasp the subject easily and who in turn can impart the training to others, are sent so that they may train in turn their counterparts in their divisions. Thus in short the aim of giving such training to the staff members is to see that the valuation of seized produce is assessed correctly. The receipt of the ref. should be acknowledged.

S/- P.S. Rao.

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