



KERALA FOREST DEPARTMENT
PACKAGE OF PRACTICES

Forest Department has to undertake various developmental activities in the forest areas for improving the productivity of plantations, increasing production of timber and for conserving the bio diversity and ecological values of the forest. Most of these activities are time bound operations to be carried out in the field. The activities related to raising of nursery, raising of plantations, regeneration of degraded forests, assisted natural regeneration etc have to be undertaken and completed during the monsoon where as operations such as thinning, timber working, civil works etc can be taken up preferably during non-rainy seasons. The availability of labourers in forest areas is also an acute problem facing the implementing officers in the field. Proper planning, availability of funds, sanctioned estimate and timely cash flow are inevitable for the successful implementation of these projects. Wide variations in the items of works and expenditure sanctioned have often led to complaints and consequent disruption of the continuity of the works. Therefore streamlining of the activities and expenditure in the field is inevitable for smooth and successful implementation of the project with optimum expenditure.

With a view to streamlining the activities and expenditure in the field, a discussion was conducted in the meeting of senior forest officers on 19.09.2008 in which Hon'ble Minister for Forests and Housing chaired. It was decided that a package of practices for forestry operations shall be formulated for the said purpose. Since various operations are undertaken based on the estimates prepared and passed adopting the Forest Schedule of Rates and PWD Schedule of Rates, it was thought appropriate to formulate

guidelines for the preparation of various estimates for works which are undertaken by the officers in the field. Accordingly, model estimates for various works were prepared and circulated to sub officers for study. The draft was also uploaded in the website of the department. The model estimates were discussed at length in the senior forest officers conference dated 29..04..2009. In all 24 model estimates have been prepared and categorized in to 5 groups viz.,

- 1) Plantation raising & maintenance.
- 2) Nursery raising
- 3) Timber operations
- 4) Maintenance of Central Nursery
- 5) Maintenance of Timber Depot.

The modifications / suggestions to the draft model estimates have been carried out as per the decision in the meeting. The model estimates and schedule showing optimum cost per hectare for raising nursery, raising plantation, RDF operation, ANR operation, thinning operation, timber operations etc based on the decisions in the meeting dated 29..04..09 are now brought out in the form of a booklet for use in the department. All officers are requested to follow the decisions taken in the meeting dated 29..04..09 and the model estimates prepared based on the said decisions.

Sd/-

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests

15-05-2009