

Forest officer suspended

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

RAJAVOMMANGI — Yeleswaram forest range officer D. Srirama Murthy has been suspended from service after the allegations against him that he was involved in the smuggling of teak worth Rs. 5 lakh from Vayyedu near here were proved correct, according to orders from the principal chief forest conservator at Hyderabad.

East Godavari district forest officer, Mr P.S. Rao, told newsmen here on Sunday that he had received instructions to that effect from Hyderabad.

It may be recalled that five lorries load of teak was transported from Vayyedu to Rajahmundry. As many as 166 teak trees were cut near Vayyedu though permit was given to cut trees in Badadanaampalli for cutting 71 trees.

Following an inquiry, forester Satyanarayana, guard Kannaiah and watcher Rajendra were suspended on August 24, the DFO said.

Mr Rao said that it was established Mr Ramamurthy was directly involved in the teak smuggling.