

Administration has scaled down the level of timber harvest to 19500 cum. under the Little Andaman Project from 1997-98. The Respondent Corporation is, therefore, keeping its level of timber harvesting in accordance with the ceilings fixed by the GOI., and the A&N Administration.

22. That with reference to statements made in para 29 the same are denied and disputed in each and every material particular. I say that the preparation of forest inventory and writing of working plan is a continuous process. Every forest area requires management plan for its harvesting and regeneration and also for assessing its growth parametres. Apart from this the Working Plan document also gives prescriptions for various silvicultural operations and activities to be carried out for the management of forests on sustainable basis. Therefore it is wrong to contend that the Working Plan/management plan is not required to be written up for Little Andaman. Since, working of the forest as per plan and prescriptions based on enumerated field data ensures scientific management of the forest and conservation of all resources available in the forests, there is absolutely no justification for putting a stop to all logging activities in the reserved forest area which is outside the tribal reserve.