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area under its lease is as per the project report approved by the Govt. of India and based upon enumeration data collected for the Working Plan submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India for approval. The soil run off in the surrounding sea coast can be due to many factors. The presence of human settlements faulty agricultural practices and various other human activities can lead to soil run off. The soil run off as a result of logging etc. is minimal as no clear felling of forest is done and the same is more then compensated by spurt in the growth of tree species and ground flora in the understoreys. Therefore the allegation that the activities of the respondent corporation has lead to adverse impact in the rare and endangered wild and marine life is absolutely baseless. On the contrary the presence of the respondent corporation on the islands is responsible for the control of poaching of wildlife etc. I further say that the report as mentioned in para 39 being marked as "K" is based on a one time observation and unless these observations are compared with some authentic information available on the status of corals pertaining to the period prior to the beginning of forestry operations in the island, it would not be correct to conclude that forestry operations have led to increased mortality in corals.

29 That with reference to statements made in para 40 the same are denied I say that the effect of forestry operations