

requirements of raw materials for various industrial uses and it has been concluded that in the next 20 years a substantial quantity of raw material is required to be produced from India's forest. It has also been indicated by the Commission that the country has large stands of old growth timber as well as vast areas of mixed forests from which so far limited yields have been harvested and that the immediate requirement of the country's needs can be met by tapping the existing resources and that future requirements will have to be met by a planned programme of Man-made Forests. It is in the context of these observations that the Andaman Forests assume a great importance. With its reserve of timber and the recognised necessary to manage the forests of these islands to the optimal extent. In the first phase it is possible to harvest at least 1,20,000 cu.ms of timber annually in addition to additional quantity is from Little Andaman Island and North Andaman Island only as the level of infrastructural development in these islands reached a stage making commercial harvesting possible.

1.12 The National Commission on Agriculture in their Interim report cited above have diagnosed the causes for under utilisation of the resources of the country and they have observed that the