

controlled by the Central Government, the Respondent No.5 herein. It is emphatically denied and disputed that the Respondent Corporation is responsible for indiscriminate and illegal felling and logging of timber within the tribal reserve forests in Little Andaman or that the Respondent Corporation is an offender or Principal offender as alleged by the writ petitioners, I say that the Respondent Corporation has not been carrying out any logging operations within the tribal reserve forests as alleged.

9. That with reference to statement made in para 5, the same are denied and disputed in each and every material particular. I say that the Respondent Corporation has not been responsible for any alleged extermination of the tribal and tribal way of life in Little Andaman and deforestation. The expression "deforestation" used by the writ petitioners in writ petition is misdemeanour on the part of the Petitioners as it denotes 'stripping of forests' meaning thereby complete clearance of the forests. The said Respondent Corporation was formed as far back as in the year 1977 with the inter-alia object of preservation, protection, development and raising of plantations within the leased area of operation. I say that the Respondent Corporation has been practicing a systematic plan of forest harvesting and regeneration within the leased area in accordance with the Project Report duly approved by the Central Government and the various administrative instructions issued by the Govt of India and the A&N Administration from time to time.

10. That with reference to the statements made in paras 6,7 and 8 the same are denied save and except that are