

Policy, 1988, and the National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Sustainable Development, 1992, and internationally recognized norms on forest management, which provide for multi use in a sustainable manner. According to FAO, "Forest management deals with the overall administrative, economic, legal, social, technical and scientific aspects related to natural and planted forests. It implies various degrees of human intervention, ranging from actions aimed at safeguarding and maintaining the forest ecosystem and its functions to favouring specific socially or economically valuable species or groups of species for the improved production of goods and services. Sustainable forest management will ensure that the values derived from the forests meet present day needs while at the same time ensuring their continued availability and contribution to long term development needs." Similarly, the Forest Principles developed at the Earth Summit- The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in 1992 also recognized that, "Forest resources and forest lands should be sustainably managed to meet the social, economic, cultural and spiritual human needs of present and future generations. These needs are for forest products and services, such as wood and wood products, water, food, fodder, medicine, fuel, shelter, employment, recreation, habitats of wildlife, landscape diversity, carbon sinks and reservoirs, and for other forest products. Appropriate measures should be taken to protect forests against harmful effects of pollution including air-borne pollution, pests and diseases in order to maintain their full multiple values." Thus, the present approach of the Administration