

30. That the recommendation (34) regarding the elimination of exotics, including weeds, and also the deer and elephants are accepted. The Administration submits to the Hon'ble Court that these problems noticed by the Commission have been taken note of by the Administration as well and action with regard to deer and elephants has been taken up in consultation with the Wildlife Institute of India. Incidentally, a team from the Karnataka Forest Department has also visited these islands to study the problems due to man-elephant confrontation in the North Andaman and to suggest remedial measures,

## II. COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ROYALTY FREE TIMBER AND NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCE

31. That the recommendation (35) for discontinuing the grant of timber and non-timber forest produce free of royalty to the settlers, and for further supply on the basis of joint forest protection norms, is accepted. The grant of timber and NTFP free of royalty has already been discontinued. Their supply through the Forest Protection Committees is under consideration. Part of the recommendation (1) for supply of NTFP from already worked forests of Little Andaman, and from forest areas designated for the purpose in the Nicobar group of islands for meeting the legitimate consumption of local inhabitants, shall also be made through the Forest Protection Committees. There shall be no restriction on the collection of timber and other forest produce by tribals living within tribal reserves for meeting their bonafide needs.