

16. The dead trees from upheaval mangrove areas be used as fuel wood. Plantations of native bamboo, *Casuarina*, and other fast growing native trees be developed in vacant lots near settlements, treeless landscapes of agriculture, roadsides and coastal areas. *Casuarina* is a multipurpose tree and is not an exotic to the islands. Patches of *Casuarina* occurs along the coast of Campbell Bay. Agroforestry be promoted. The Administration may take necessary action to substitute fire wood by nonwood substitutes.

The Forest Department should promote community participation in the protection of forests, prevention of encroachment, plantation of fast growing timber and firewood native species, and other agroforestry activities.

17. Besides the two government owned saw mills (medium sized), 4 small scale saw mills be allowed to operate temporarily to process the wood from dead littoral trees and mangroves. At least one small scale saw mill be located at each of the following islands: Little Andaman, Katchal, Campbell Bay and Diglipur (a demand put forward by PRIs). All these mills be located in the industrial estate if it exists or in premises of Forest Department Office Complexes. Operation of small scale saw mills is not prohibited as per Shekhar Singh's recommendation. Similarly, some of the 130 furniture manufacture units be allowed to function to meet the requirements of tsunami affected people and other local communities, and these units should be located in industrial estates or Forest Department offices complexes, and timber allocation to these units be strictly under the control of Forest Department.

18. There is no SC order on Bamboo and cane and wood handicraft units, but Shekhar Singh's recommendation 14 states "-----This should not, however, inhibit the transportation as personal baggage, of a reasonable quantity of wooden handicrafts by tourists or of personal articles by those permanently leaving the islands". All bamboo, cane and wood-based handicraft units be allowed to import raw materials if not available in sustainable quantities within the islands and only the finished products be transported outside the islands. Since these small scale industries provide sustainable livelihoods, the Government may evolve an appropriate policy to promote these units.