

(truncated pyramid) – around a pillar with a number in serial, as has been done in the mainland.

(iii) Degraded encroached forest land be swapped with deemed forests having more than 40% canopy closure, and the degraded encroached forest land be made available for developmental activities as per the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980. All swappings between degraded encroached forest land and deemed forests with more than 40% canopy cover be within the limits of land use ratio notified. In cases where such swapping is not possible, the encroached land be developed into bamboo thickets with native bamboo species/ fast growing native forest tree species.

(iv) The Government may evolve an appropriate policy on the size of homesteads to be given to encroachers and their location, alternative livelihoods and any other package as per the Rehabilitation and Resettlement policy of the Government of India wherever it is applicable.

(v) Parceling out badly encroached (honeycombed) reserve forest with too many units of scattered encroachments in exchange of deemed forests with more than 40% canopy closure is another option that the Government may consider.

26. The encroachments made by exservicemen and labourers engaged by them at Campbell Bay should be cleared and the encroached land be ecologically rehabilitated into forests. All those exservicemen, who have been allotted land and not residing at the site but leased out to the contractors or used immigrant labour to look after farms, be served notice to surrender the land and the forest department should ecologically rehabilitate these lands with native forest species. Land allotted to retired government employees but leased to immigrant labourers /contractors by them and land encroached by government employees presently working should also be served notice for unauthorized occupation of forest lands. All these lands, after eviction, be ecologically restored.