



THIRTEENTH KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**COMMITTEE
ON
PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS
(2011-2014)**

ELEVENTH REPORT

(Presented on 21st June, 2012)

SECRETARIAT OF THE KERALA LEGISLATURE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
2012

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**The action taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the
Seventy Sixth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2004-06)
relating to Kerala Forest Development Corporation based on the
Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India
for the years ended 31-3-1997, 31-3-1999
and 31-3-2001 (Commercial)**

824/2012.

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS (2011-2014)

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„ R. Radhakrishnan Nair, Joint Secretary

„ K. Priyadarsanan, Deputy Secretary

Smt. Lima Francis, Under Secretary.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Committee on Public Undertakings having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Eleventh Report on the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventy Sixth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2004-2006) on the working of the Kerala Forest Development Corporation based on the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the years ended 31-3-1997, 31-3-1999 and 31-3-2001 (Commercial).

The Statement of action taken by the Government included in this Report were considered by the Committee constituted for the year 2008-2011.

This Report was considered and approved by the Committee at the meeting held on 9-2-2012.

The Committee place on record their appreciation of the assistance rendered to them by the Accountant General (Audit), Kerala in the examination of the statement included in this Report.

Thiruvananthapuram,
21st June, 2012.

K. N. A. KHADER,
Chairman,
Committee on Public Undertakings.

REPORT

This report deals with the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventy Sixth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2004-06) relating to Kerala Forest Development Corporation based on the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the years ended 31-3-1997, 31-3-1999 and 31-3-2001 which was presented to the House on 10th March, 2005.

The Report contained 17 recommendations. Government furnished replies to the recommendations. The Committee (2008-11) considered the replies at the meeting held on 3-11-2009.

The Committee accepted the replies to the recommendations in the para No. 27, 28, 31, 32, 40, 41, 47 without any remarks. These recommendations and their replies form chapter I of the report.

The Committee accepted the replies to Para No. 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 45 with remarks. These recommendations, replies and the remarks of the committee form chapter II of the Report.

CHAPTER I

THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE AND REPLY FURNISHED
BY GOVERNMENT WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED
BY THE COMMITTEE WITHOUT ANY REMARKS

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Para No.</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Conclusion/ recommendation</i>	<i>Action taken by Government</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	27	Forest and Wild life	The Committee observes that the Kerala Forest Development Corporation is primarily constituted with the broad objects of raising forest plantation of all species for the development of timber based industries in the state, maintain and manage forest areas and to maximize production of timber and to raise plantations for commercial crops like rubber, cashew and other agricultural produces. But even though 25 years have been elapsed, the Company could not achieve many of its stipulated object due to improper planning, unscientific planting, lack of maintenance procedures and uneconomic poor financial management.	Kerala Forest Development Corporation has the total area of 10717 Ha., out of which, 5988 Ha. area is under pulpwood plantations, 2227.258 Ha. area is under cash crop plantations. 1606.01 Ha. area is having teak and softwood plantations and 395.914 Ha. area is natural forest and untreated area. Originally the KFDC was having the plantations of <i>Eucalyptus terreticornis</i> only. Due to heavy rain fall and high humidity in Kerala, most of the plantations were suffering from diseases and hence the production of pulpwood plantations was comparatively poor. However, for the last few years KFDC has been planting <i>Acacia auriculiformis</i> and <i>Acacia manjium</i> which provide pulpwood. These species are disease resistant as compared with <i>Eucalyptus</i> , growth rate was high and expected higher yield. On felling of <i>Acacia Manjium</i> Plantations, at the age of 8 years, KFDC collected

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>about 100 MT per hectare. Management Plan for forest plantations approved by Ministry of Environment & Forest Government of India is in place.</p> <p>During the year 2000, KFDC has established a Central Nursery at Kandanchira for raising quality seedlings by adopting modern nursery techniques using the root trainers and mist chamber method for raising clonal propagules. From 1998 onwards, KFDC started planting clonal propagules of Eucalyptus, which have very high survival rate. Hence, higher yield from these disease resistant plantations is expected at maturity.</p> <p>As far the area for raising plantations of commercial crops like rubber, cashew and agricultural produces are concerned, KFDC has taken these land on lease from Forest Department and the status of the areas remains as the reserved forests.</p> <p>Hence, cultivation/plantation of agricultural crop is against Forest Conservation Act, 1980, under which the forest land cannot be put to use for any non-forestry purpose.</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>Earlier, the operations of planting, maintenance etc., were carried out as per the availability of fund. However, KFDC have started the system of preparation of Annual Plan of Operation of the activities to be carried out in a particular financial year. As per the Annual plan of Operations (A.P.O.) the KFDC is carrying out timely operations of planting and maintenance. Besides, KFDC is able to have more financial control and discipline by way of A.P.O. and budget.</p>
2	28	Forest and Wildlife	<p>The Committee strongly opines that there exists an overall mismanagement and lack of proper planning in the extraction of matured pulpwood from the Company's plantations. In the Project Report, crop rotation period was envisaged as 10 years which was reduced to 8 years by Government in 1981 and again revised to 6 years from April 1993. But the Committee learns that the Company had made the first extraction from 5078 Ha. and the second extraction was implemented only</p>	<p>The Company has prepared a Management Plan for harvesting the plantations, replanting and maintenance for the pulpwood divisions. The plan for five years (2002-07) has been approved by Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India. The operations of harvesting, replanting and maintenance are carried out with reference to the Management Plan and Annual Plan of Operations.</p> <p>The KFDC has taken necessary steps to timely replant the felled plantations within the fund constraints of the Company.</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			<p>from 2298 Ha. and only after a gap of ten years. The witness could not offer any convincing explanation for not conducting the second extraction from 2780 Ha. Moreover, it is really surprising to note that there occurred a delay of 5 to 8 years in felling even after the first rotation crop from 682 Ha. The economic loss on this account is ₹ 1.11 crore apart from loss of interest of ₹ 90.83 lakh. The committee therefore recommends that the Company should be more serious, practical and vigilant in the management of plantations and keen and timely steps should be taken to avoid such unhealthy events in future.</p>	
5	31	Forest and Wildlife	<p>The Committee is highly perturbed to note that in Thiruvananthapuram and Punalur Divisions, only one crop was obtained from 556 Ha. and two crops from 846 Ha. out of the total area of 3595 Ha. instead of three crops. The Committee cannot</p>	<p>In compliance with the recommendation contained in the 76th report of the Committee of Public Undertaking (2004-06) on Kerala Forest Development Corporation Limited, based on the report of C & AG of India for the years ended 31-3-1997, 1999 & 2001, the company conducted a</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			<p>agree with the contentions of the witness that it is, mainly due to the absence of adequate number of Coppice growth and negligible percentage of stand per Ha. The Company has not conducted any detailed study to ascertain the exact reason for this poor situation. When the company failed to get the exact number of crop rotation, it was forced to prepone the replanting of seedlings by 14/7 years incurring a whopping additional expenditure of ₹ 1.41 crore apart from huge loss on account of loss of crop. The Committee has many reasons to believe that poor upkeep and absence of proper maintenance are the main reasons for this huge loss. The Committee therefore recommends that a detailed enquiry should be conducted within no time to find out the exact reason for this major loss and the facts should be intimated to the Committee without fail.</p>	<p>detailed study on the reasons for the failure of crop rotation of the pulpwood plantations raised by the company. The study was conducted by the Divisional Manager (H.O.) of the company based on the records available such as plantation journals, files and other connected records of the Punalur and Trivandrum Division in August 2007. The observation in the study report are detailed below:</p> <p>The original extent of planted area in question was 3506.963 Ha. ie., 1544.153 Ha. in Trivandrum & 1962.810 Ha. in Punalur Division. As per the project report Eucalyptus was to be extracted at a rotation age of Ten years and Two crops of coppice crop is also expected to be harvested at 8 years and 6 year rotation age respectively.</p> <p>Harvesting</p> <p><i>First Crop:</i>— The entire area of 3506.963 Ha. was extracted in the first rotation during the period between 1989 & 1994. The details of crop obtained MT/Ha. during the first selling in Thiruvananthapuram and Punalur Division are appended in Annexure I & II.</p> <p>But the second and third rotation crops envisaged in the original project report was</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>obtained only from 2771.637 Ha. and 204.230 Ha. respectively, out of the total planted area of 3506.963 in the two Divisions. The reasons for the loss of two crops from 771.158 Ha. and one crop from 2567.2 Ha. are explained below:</p> <p>1. The plantation of Punalur and Trivandrum Division fall in the high rain fall areas with high atmosphere humidity. The humid climatic conditions are conducive for the fungus growth and the Eucalyptus plantation in the area was badly affected by fungus.</p> <p>Even coppice shoots from the stumps of the felled trees are also affected by fungus. There is no economical or effective measures against fungus attack (Punalur Division) in such vast area of the plantation.</p> <p>The fungus infection affected not only the stand per Ha. but also the per Ha. productivity. The coppice vigour of the stumps were also affected by fungus and this fact has been recorded in the plantation Journals in respect of all affected plantation. For instance in the plantation Journals in respect of 1997 Eucalypts plantation of Block IX & X of Punalur Division it has been recorded that coppice</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>available in the area are less than 15% and the stock is whippy and unhealthy. Similar observations have been made in the Journals in respect of the following plantation as well.</p>
				<p>1977 Eu. Plantation : Punalur</p>
				<p>1978 do. : Kadessy</p>
				<p>1978 do. : Sanhily</p>
				<p>Similarly the correspondence with KFRI (File No. P/PI-274/80 dated, 1-7-93) from Punalur Division also mention about the occurrence of large scale fungus infection.</p>
				<p>II. The harvest of I rotation crop did not take place at the planned rotation age and 10 year, and the Ist felling started only in 1987 in Trivandrum and in 1990 in Punalur Division, which mean that it was delayed for 3 to 6 year. The reason for the delay was that the company was not allowed by Government to dispose of the pulpwood by direct sale to the consuming industries. Government wanted to supply the available pulpwood to the wood based industries in the State as per its policy/ comittmance made by it under terms of the contract with such industrial units. Even in the</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>case of allotment made as per Government order fixation of selling price done later was on an understanding of no profit no loss basis with Government subsidy and this arrangement delayed the supply on account of problem of setting pricing structure with each purchasing company where the company had to wait for order from Government. The delay in felling affected the coppice vigour and consequently the stock in. The coppice plantation was not adequate and growth was poor and hence the plantation never reached a stage of over crowding. On analysis of the condition of the crop after the first rotation felling, it was decided to go for replanting area which were poorly stocked, in order to enhance the productivity of the Plantation. Accordingly 711.158 Ha. was replanted after first crop. During the second rotation an area of 2771.837 Ha. was felled and of this 2567.230 Ha. was replanted. The reason for not waiting for three crops from the original planting are detailed below:</p> <p>(i) Only those Plantations which average yield in the first crop have been taken up for replanting. Similarly the</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>Plantations taken up for replanting before the third crop i.e. after second rotation also were those which yielded much less than the average quantity expected from such Plantations.</p>
				<p>(ii) The Eucalyptus Plantations were severely affected by the fungal diseases because of the climatic conditions of the region, which was not anticipated at the time of original planting.</p>
				<p>(iii) Because of delayed first felling the coppice vigor had reduced which also resulted in the low yield.</p>
				<p>(iv) Even as per the original plans, the plantations was to be replanted after 24 years. Had these plantation which were replanted after 1st and 2nd felling, been retained for the subsequent coppice (2nd & 3rd) the yield obtained would have been for less as detailed below:</p>
				<p><i>Yield obtained/obtainable for second crop.</i>— A compilation of data of the yield obtained from the area left for coppicing and the estimated yield from the area that had been replanted in Punalur and Trivandrum Division are appended in Annexure III.</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>Estimated quantity obtainable at the Mean Annual Increment (MAI) for the 2nd & 3rd rotation were worked out in respect of areas which have been felled and replanted after second crop respectively.</p> <p><i>Estimated yield & Revenue for the third coppice crop.</i>—Based on the yield revenue date for the first and second rotation and on the yield at the mean Annual Increment, the estimated yield and revenue from the Plantations if had been retained for the third rotation are worked out and details in Thiruvananthapuram and Punalur Division are appended in Annexure IV.</p> <p><i>Replanting Details and Expected Revenue.</i>—Replanting of the areas had been resorted to with suitable species instead of leaving the limited area with Kerala Forest Development Corporation of its own fate. Diversification of species were adopted to avert any situation of vast devastation of fungal or other diseases. The replanting details with estimated yield and revenue are appended in Annexure V.</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<p><i>Statement of Revenue—By retaining Eucalyptus Plantation for 3 rotations and by earlier replanting :</i></p> <p><i>(A) Estimated revenue from 2nd & 3rd crop if retained for 3rd rotation.— In order to find out the financial impact of the early planting of the Eucalyptus area, it has been decided to compare the yield & revenue that would have accrued to the company, had the plantations been retained for 3 rotations as envisaged in the plan. The details of anticipated revenue without going for early planting are detailed in the table:</i></p>				
2 nd Crop (1 st Coppice)	3 rd Crop (2 nd Coppice)	Total for 2 nd & 3 rd Crop	Trivan- drum	Punalur drum
164.52	177.95	342.47	326.98	422.48
		749.46	1091.93	

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
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(B) *Expected Revenue due to Early replanting.*— After analyzing the yield expected from the replanted area as per the sample plot data, the revenues expected is detailed in the following table:

Division	2nd Crop	3rd Crop	Total	Remarks
Trivandrum	164.52	1311.18	1475.70	
Punalur	177.95	1533.32	1711.27	
Total	342.47	2844.50	3186.97	

From the above details it can be seen that additional revenue of ₹ 2110.53 lakhs due to early planting is expected to come from these plantations. From, the analysis of the results of yield expectation from the original planting and the replanting activities, it can be concluded that the replantation activity has resulted in enhancing the productivity of the plantations. The additional expenditure of ₹ 1.41 crore incurred is expected to result in flow of additional revenue of

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
6	32	Forest and Wildlife	<p>The Committee understands that the Company had executed gap filling in eucalyptus felled area of 353.19 Ha. during 1995-1998 at an overall cost of ₹ 35.46 lakh. The Committee is grief stricken to note that the entire augmentation had failed as the Company made no effort to maintain the same in subsequent years, due to paucity of funds. The Committee opines that absence of proper planning and effective management and unscrupulous spending of money led the Company to the present pathetic situation. The Committee therefore recommends that the Company should evolve a suitable and detailed plan before embarking any such projects in future.</p>	<p>₹ 21.10 Crore. The replanted areas are due for felling during the current year. The estimated yield from pulpwood sector for 2007-08 allotment is around 60000 MT, which is almost 3 times more than the average annual yield, which used to be harvested in the earlier years.</p> <p>As has been mentioned in the above paras for providing materials to the pulp and paper industry the species which was planted by Forest Department as well as in KFDC was mainly Eucalyptus terreticornis. Under the adverse conditions of heavy rainfall, high atmospheric humidity coupled with high moisture in the soils, the plantations were infected with the fungal disease and as a result, there were large gaps in these plantations. However, now the Company has diversified the pulpwood plantations by growing species like Acacia auriculiformis, Acacia manjium, Eucalyptus pellitta which are disease resistant and by raising clonal plantations of Eucalyptus which are tested in the field. Besides, the Company has prepared a scheme for planting 300 Ha. with root trainer seedlings of Acacia auriculiformis, Acacia manjium and</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
14	40	Forest and wildlife	<p>The Committee is aggrieved to note that the recommendations of United Planters Association of South India (UPASI) were not at all implemented in the tea estates of the Company in Wayanad District, which resulted in a revenue loss of ₹ 2.34 crore. The Committee cannot understand the reason for not following the agronomic practices recommended by UPASI. The Committee therefore recommends that recommendations of UPASI should be implemented in the Company without any alterations in a time bound manner.</p>	<p>clonal propagates of Eucalyptus and Casuarina for better productivity and executed the same during 2005-06 with finance from bank.</p> <p>KFDC has taken the following actions as per recommendation of UPASI, for implementation in Tea Estate of the Company.</p> <p>1. <i>Lopping shade trees and pollarding the shade trees.</i>— Due to fund scarcity, a minimum number of shade trees were lopped in the previous years. Some trees were pollarded. During 2005-06, lopping has been done extensively. Even though, the shade is in excess during the rainy season, considering the heavy drought and dry winds experienced in the estate during the dry months, is not advisable to thin the trees. The main drawback of excess shade trees is the chances of fungal attack, but in the area, fungal attack has been kept under control in previous years and this year also.</p> <p>2. <i>Pruning.</i>— As per the directions from UPASI, pruning has been regularized. More than half the area due for pruning was pruned during May/June and the rest during</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>August. Mechanical pruners are being used to save manpower and also to timely execute the operations. Pruning is now in conformity with the recommendation of UPASI.</p>
				<p>3. <i>Manuring</i>.— During the last few years, 1-2 dozes of manure had been applied. However, during 2005-06, one doze has already been applied and the second doze will be applied soon after the heavy rains are over, as recommended by UPASI. Thus, 2 dozes of fertilizer will be applied as required.</p>
				<p>4. <i>Zinc and Magnesium Deficiency—Application of micronutrients</i>.—In the previous years, only 1-2 dozes had been applied. However, during 2005-06, the application of the micronutrients is being done as per the recommendation of UPASI.</p>
				<p>5. <i>Weed Control</i>.—By applying chemical and by manually pulling out the overgrown weeds, now the weeds in the estate are fully under control.</p>
				<p>6. <i>Blister Blight</i>.— Blister blight (fungal attack) is under control in all the fields. Constant vigil to check the outbreak of any blister attack is being</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>maintained. On detection, local application of fungicide is immediately carried out, for which chemicals and sprayers are always kept ready. Moreover, prophylactic sprayings are done in all the fields and additional periodic sprayings are carried out to the pruned fields.</p> <p>7. <i>Bunji Removal</i>.—Growth retarded green shoots (Bunji) are removed periodically to enhance better shoot formation.</p> <p>8. <i>Optimum bush height</i>.—of 28 inches in tipping fields, 32 inches in 12 month old fields, 37 inches in 24 month fields, 40 inches in 36 month fields and 42 inches in 48 month fields are being maintained as recommended by UPASI.</p> <p>9. <i>Spraying Urea with Pottash</i>.—During the drought period commencing from December, spraying of urea and potash are being done as recommended by UPASI.</p> <p>10. <i>Sheer Harvesting</i>.—UPASI on 9-6-2000 observed in the field, that 40-50% of the area was having over grown crop. This was due to shortage of workers in the rush/peak</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>period. It was recommended to adopt sheer harvesting in 3rd and 4th year fields during high cropping months. Sheer harvesting is beneficial when the prices of GTL are low. Now, sheer harvesting is implemented as per the recommendation of UPASI.</p> <p>Thus, the recommendations made by UPASI are being followed.</p>
15	41	Forest and Wildlife	<p>The Committee is highly amazed to see that there was deliberate intention to violate the provisions of Forest Conservation Act in the sale of wind fallen trees. Even though Government has accorded sanction for the sale of 1120 nos. of wind fallen trees in Pachakkanam Estate in 1997 the Company included 72 nos. of standing trees also in the tender. The matter led to protracted legal dispute between the Company and the tenderers as it involved standing trees. The Committee finds that the effort of the company to effect the sale has not materialized till March 2001. The Committee</p>	<p><i>As recommended by the Committee a detailed enquiry has been conducted with reference to the files and records connected with the subject, studied relevant aspects of the matter and it is submitted as follows.—</i></p> <p>Government in letter No.7830/B2/97/F&WLD dated 28-6-1997 directed KFDC for the sale of wind fallen trees, on competitive tender. Accordingly KFDC invited tenders for the collection of 1192 trees from Pachakkanam Estate including 72 Alnus and Mesopsis trees.</p> <p>The Alnus and Mesopsis trees are exotic species. They are not local species. They are not part of the natural vegetation of the estate. They did not grow naturally in our forest area. They were raised/planted near</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			<p>opines that as most of the officials of the Company including the Managing Director were hailing from forest Department, they were expected to possess a minimum knowledge about Forest Conservation Act. Since as per the provisions of Act, standing trees could be cut only upon the prior permission of the Central Government. As the sale was delayed for more than four years, the loss is worked out to be ₹ 12.91 lakh. The Committee is doubtful that there was something fishy in the entire deal and therefore recommends that a detailed enquiry should be conducted in this regard and delinquent officers should be brought to book and facts may be intimated to the Committee.</p>	<p>the Cardamom Nursery along the road side. These trees were dangerous to the 11KV line which had to be cut and removed as per letter dated 18-4-1997 from the Assistant Engineer, Electrical Section, Vandiperiyar.</p> <p>As per the provisions under Forest Conservation Act, the forest land should not be put to non-forestry purpose to prevent deforestation on environmental considerations. Since the 72 Alnus and Mesopsis trees were artificially planted, they were also included along with the wind fallen trees for removal. Hence there was no deliberate intention on the part of KFDC officers to violate the provisions of Forest Conservation Act. At the same time with fair intention and genuine interest, the 72 trees were also included for removal.</p> <p>For the removal of the wind fallen trees and Alnus and Mesopsis trees tenders were opened on 5-8-1997. The highest rate was 61% of the valuation. Since post offer quoting 10% above the highest tendered rate, was received, re-tender was conducted on 30-9-1997. Only one tenderer quoted 73% of valuation.</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>Considering the deteriorating condition of the timber, the Director Board at 105th meeting held on 21-11-1997 authorized the Managing Director to confirm the tender. Accordingly the tender was confirmed and communicated to the highest tenderer on 9-12-1997.</p>
				<p>The successful bidder in the auction conducted on 30-9-1997, filed O.P. in the Hon'ble High Court to direct the Respondents to get, among other things, necessary approval from the Central Government for the removal of the trees. In the judgment dated 20-5-1998, one of the findings is to issue a fresh tender for the removal of wind fallen trees for which only permission was obtained, in the interest of the Respondents. The Director Board of KFDC at 108th meeting, held on 14-10-1998, considered the matter and directed to seek Central Government's sanction for the disposal of the wind fallen trees.</p>
				<p>However, after examining the legal aspects, action was initiated for inviting tenders for the disposal of wind fallen trees excluding the standing Alnus</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>and Mesopsis trees, and the Director Board of the company at their 109th meeting held on 16-11-1998 approved the action.</p> <p>Tenders were again invited. The highest offer received was for ₹ 13.50 lakhs. This offer was 14.84% of the valuation. So the matter was placed in the 110th Board meeting held on 27-3-1999 for approval. The Director Board after detailed discussion resolved to once more tender the work by including fresh wind fallen trees also. Action was initiated for marking the fresh wind fallen trees and for valuation.</p> <p>Meanwhile the Chief Conservator of Forests (Protection) vide letter No. 18947/95 dated 22-5-1999 asked the Managing Director to stop the collection of wind fallen trees. The Director Board at the 112th meeting held on 19-6-1998 decided to write to the Chief Conservator of Forests (Protection) to review his decision and accordingly KFDC addressed him. But the matter could not be resolved and as a result the wind fallen trees could not be salvaged.</p> <p>As permitted by Government, KFDC initiated action for the</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>collection of the wind fallen trees. The Principal Secretary to Government (Forest) and the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests were the members of KFDC Director Board. Actions were taken based on the decisions of the Board of Directors. But due to the intervention of the Forest Department, the wind fallen trees could not be salvaged. Under such unavoidable circumstances, no deliberate delay was committed by the KFDC officials.</p>
				<p>However the wind fallen hard wood trees were utilized by KFDC for cardamom curing purpose, while the softwood wind fallen trees had deteriorated.</p>
				<p>The net amount of the sale proceeds from the wind fallen trees is due to the Forest Department who prevented the removal of the wind fallen trees.</p>
				<p>Under the above circumstances, KFDC had not suffered loss due to inclusion of the standing exotic trees in the tender.</p>
				<p>(i) As explained in the above paras, there was no deliberate intention on the part of KFDC officers to violate the provisions of Forest Conservation Act, nor</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>there was any inaction on their part resulting in the reported loss due to non-disposal of the wind fallen trees.</p> <p>(ii) The procedure for the disposal of the wind fallen trees was followed as required. The procedure was open and transparent. There was no reason to suspect the deal for collection and removal of the trees. The deal was fair without any trace of suspicion. The matter was pursued as explained. As such there was no delinquency on the part of the officers in dealing with the matter.</p>
17	47	Forest and Wildlife	<p>The Committee is much displeased to note that the Company suffered a loss of ₹ 72.88 lakh, solely on account of the inordinate delay on the part of the Company in disposing the timber. The Committee is of the view that such malpractices should have been avoided. The Committee therefore recommends that the Company should be prompt in taking action in future and also recommends that seigniorage rates should be revised every six months. The Committee</p>	<p>The Company has been applying notified prices for forest species which are revised by Government every year. The seigniorage rates and scheduled rates for Forest Department are also revised by Government from time to time and the Company also is following the same rates. Recommendation of the Hon'ble Committee is noted for future guidance. Hitherto, the Company is supplying pulpwood to industries on subsidized rates under Government Orders. But for the last two years, supply of raw-materials on the subsidized</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			<p>also suggests that all concerned officials should make an overall effort to make the Company a profitable one with a proper and efficient Finance Management.</p>	<p>rates has been stopped and the rates are fixed by negotiation with reference to the notified prices. A Marketing Wing has been established especially for better revenue mobilization and realization for cash crops through direct marketing of the products mainly cardamom, to consumers. Earnest efforts are being made to sell maximum quantity of produce by direct marketing besides auction sales by pooling.</p> <p>The Company has been following a proper and efficient financial management for utilizing the available resources in a profitable manner. Weekly and monthly returns from divisions were introduced to monitor the Revenue & Expenditure with the budgeted amounts and reviews of the Progress of Action Taken are carried out for monitoring and regulating the activities in the divisions.</p>

CHAPTER II

THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE AND REPLY
FURNISHED BY GOVERNMENT WHICH HAVE BEEN
ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE WITH REMARKS

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Para No.</i>	<i>Department Concerned</i>	<i>Conclusion/ recommendation</i>	<i>Action taken by Government</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
3	29	Forest and Wildlife	The Committee expresses its deep displeasure for fixing the period of rotation without conducting proper study. The committee understands that a common rotation period was fixed for all varieties of plantations of the Company without considering the climatic conditions, quality of soil yield obtained etc. Hence the Committee recommends that a thorough scientific study should be conducted in this regard to fix the rotation period for each plantation of the Company.	Tree plantation area of KFDC are the leased lands from Forest Department. They are adjoining to the plantations of Forest Department. The rotations of various species are fixed by the Forest Department based on the scientific study, data collection and with the approval of the Government of India in the form of working plans. Since the species, the locality factors and the nature of the areas are also the same as those of Forest Department, KFDC also has been adopting the rotations of various plantation species, as prescribed by the Forest Department, Hence it is not necessary to have a separate scientific study by KFDC for fixing rotation of various crops.

Remarks of the Committee:

The Committee reiterated its earlier stand that a thorough scientific study for fixing crops rotation be conducted, and directs to inform details in respect of action taken on the same.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	30	Forest and WildLife	<p>The Committee is very much surprised to note that against the estimated average yield of 100 MT pulpwood per hectare as for the Project Report, the actual realization was just 22 MT/Ha from seedling plantation and 19 MT/Ha from the second rotation which led to a loss of ₹ 37.17 crore. The Committee understands that the yield is far below the projected yield. In spite of additional years of growth ranging from 3 to 8 years in the first rotation. The Committee opines that the very low yield might be due to heavy unforeseen casualties of seedlings in the initial years due to poor maintenance and absence of adequate care and protection from wild animals. The Committee opines that the Company should be more realistic while preparing estimates and recommends that the Company should take adequate steps to reduce the vast gap between estimate and actuals.</p>	<p>In the pulpwood project, the Company raised plantations of Eucalyptus terreticornis in the beginning. Due to very heavy rain fall and high moisture content in the soil, the eucalyptus plants became susceptible to fungal disease which caused large scale damage to pulpwood plantations for the past few years. Company has been planting Acacia manjium and Acacia auriculiformis for pulp wood. These are resistant to diseases. Besides, the Company started planting of Eucalyptus pellitta which is fast growing and disease resistant. During the year 2000, the Company established Central Nursery at Kadanchira for producing planting stock from disease resistant high yielding varieties of Eucalyptus by adopting clonal multiplication method of various clones for field planting. From, the Clonal Testing Areas (CTA) in Thrissur and Punalur Divisions which were planted with clonal propagules during 1998, the Company has obtained an average yield of 136.72 M³ per Ha from an area of 18.72 Ha under Thrissur Division and 135.43 M³ from an area of 9.80 Ha at Punalur, From other plantations also which were</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			The committee emphasize the necessity of the implementation of effective steps to reduce the casualties of seedlings in initial years to the minimum possible so that maximum yield can be obtained.	planted with clonal plant materials, the Company expect high yield future. For raising pulpwood plantations, the Company is using root trainer seedlings. Field establishments of root trainer seedlings is much faster and better. Seedling mortality rate is also less with higher survival. Thus change in species by planting root trainer seedlings of disease-free Acacia and Eucalyptus pellitta and by using disease-resistant clonal planting materials, the plantation performance in terms of survival and yield will be higher than those plantations raised with conventional basketted seedling of disease susceptible Eucalyptus species.

Remarks of the Committee:

The Committee notices that yield of pulpwood obtained per hectare was shown as MT/HaM³ per Ha and expresses desire to know the correct unit in this regard.

7	33	Forest and Wildlife	The Committee is shocked to note that the Company has adopted a lethargic approach in the realization of huge dues, even when facing grave financial problems. The Company supplied 34004 stacked tones of Eucalyptus to Grasim Industries Ltd.	The price for the year 1996-97 was fixed by Government on 9-1-1998 and the price for the years 1994-95, 1995-96, 1997-98 was fixed during 1998. After fixing the rate by Government, the Company addressed M/s Grasim Industries Ltd. on 3-2-1998 to
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			<p>(GIL) from 1994-95 to 1997-98 on the rates to be fixed by Government. The Government fixed the rate in January/May 1998 and the amount due from the Purchaser amounts to be ₹ 1.05 crore. The committee is astonished to find that the Company has neither issued any invoice for the sale nor issued a debit note till 2001 which depicts the sheer negligence on the part of the Company. By the time the Company raised invoice, the GIL declared lockout. The Committee therefore desires to be furnished with the exact date on which the above invoice was raised and recommends that a detailed enquiry should be conducted in this regard and the officers responsible for the delay should be brought to book.</p>	<p>pay the balance amount towards the value of Eucalyptus wood supplied to them for the year 1996-97. Similarly on fixing the price for the years 1994-95, 1995-96, 1997-98, the Company had written to the Grasim Industries Ltd. on 30-5-1998 for the payment of the balance amount towards the value of Eucalyptus wood supplied to them. KFDC had written to Grasim Industries Ltd., on 30-5-1998 for the balance amount towards the value of Eucalyptus supplied during the year 1995-96. Similarly for the payment of balance amount after fixing the rate by Government for the quantity supplied during the year 1997-98, the Company had written to Grasim Industries Ltd. on 17-6-1998. However, the Company did not receive the payment of the balance amount as requested.</p>
				<p>After the decision of the 114th Board Meeting held on 28-12-1999, the company wrote to the Grasim Industries Ltd. on 11-1-2001 to make payment towards part value of Eucalyptus wood supplied for the period from 1994-95 to 1997-98 with 18 % interest from 30-5-1998 onwards pending finalisation of the</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>matter. It was also intimated that final invoice for the supply of wood made during the above period will be issued soon after getting the orders from the Government. The Grasim Industries Ltd. was reminded on 19-2-2001 and 10-6-2002.</p>
				<p>The matter was again placed before the Board at its 120th meeting held on 6-10-2001. The Board in the meeting decided to issue legal notice to M/s Grasim Industries Ltd. to recover the balance amount due from them. The Board directed the Managing Director to take legal action to safeguard the interest of the Company. It was also decided in the meeting to request the Government to convene a meeting with M/s Grasim Industries Ltd. to resolve the issue.</p>
				<p>As requested by the Company Government addressed the Grasim Industries Ltd. and requested them to pay an amount of ₹ 155.47 lakh as the balance value of the pulpwood supplied to them.</p>
				<p>The matter was again placed before the Board at its 124th meeting held on 24-9-2002 and the Board decided in the meeting to issue invoice to</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				Grasim Industries Ltd. relating to all unbilled Sales at the rate fixed by Government. Accordingly the invoices were raised and issued Grasim Industries Ltd. on 2-12-2002.

Remarks of the Committee:

The Committee views that the reply furnished by the Government in this Para is not felt relating to the recommendation of the Committee. The Committee wants to be informed of the decision taken by the Company about the detailed enquiry as recommended by the Committee regarding the non-issuance of invoice and debit note to Grasim Industries Ltd. till 2001. Further, the Committee seeks the details regarding the action taken against those responsible for non-issuance of the invoice and debit note.

8	34	Forest and Wildlife	The Committee understands that the Company has initiated revenue recovery proceedings against GIL which had been stayed by the High Court. The Committee desires to be furnished with the date on which Revenue Recovery Proceedings had been initiated and the date of the Court's stay order. The Committee recommends that urgent and necessary steps should be taken to vacate the stay order of the High Court and the facts may be intimated to the Committee without fail.	Government as per letter dated 1-10-2002 permitted the Company to initiate Revenue Recovery Proceedings against M/s Grasim Industries Ltd. for recovering the balance amount due from them and accordingly Revenue Recovery Proceedings were initiated against M/s Grasim Industries Ltd. vide letter dated 6-1-2003 which had been stayed by the Honourable High Court in May 2003. The above case filed by M/s Grasim Industries Ltd. has been heard and allowed as per judgment dated 8th February 2005. The OP is allowed on the ground that the R.R Proceedings are barred by time limitation, in judgement dated 8-2-2005. The Company filed an appeal in the case. The
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				above writ appeal filed against the judgment in O.P. 14455 of 2003, came up for admission before the Division Bench. After hearing, the appeal has been admitted and notice is ordered to be issued to Respondents. The matter will be coming up for hearing shortly.

Remarks of the Committee:

The Committee desires to be informed about the present stage of the appeal filed by the Corporation countering revenue recovery procedure taken by KFDC against Grasim Industries which was stayed by the Honourable High Court.

9	35	Forest and Wildlife	The Committee learns that an amount of ₹ 21.06 lakh which is due from Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. has not been realised so far. The supplies were effected from December 1994 to July 1995. The Government fixed final price only in February 2001. The committee is of opinion that there was intolerable delay on the part of the Government as it took pretty six year to fix the rate. Further, the Company took another one and half year to issue the invoice. The Committee expresses its displeasure over such affairs and recommends that immediate steps should be taken to	The Company supplied 8671.9860 MT at 50 % moisture content (M.C) of Eucalyptus to M/s HNL during 1994-95. On repeated requests, the Government had fixed the price of ₹ 832 per stacked tonne on 3-2-2001. The supply was made in MT at 50 % M.C and the price was fixed per 2m ³ stack (stacked tonne). The Company had supplied a quantity of 12,606.800 m ³ of eucalyptus billets without bark which is equivalent to 6303.400 stacked tones. (2m ³ stacks). As per the weighment details furnished by M/s HNL, this quantity of 6303.400 stacked tonnes is equivalent to 8671.986 MT at 50 % M.C. Thus, one stacked tonne gave 1.3758 MT at 50 % M.C. Accordingly, KFDC asked
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
		realise the amount and the facts should be intimate to the Committee without fail.		HNL to remit the balance amount of ₹ 27 lakh. The above conversion factor is not acceptable to HNL. HNL is their letter dated 12-6-2001 stated that one stacked tonne without bark is equivalent to 1.88 MT at 50 % M.C and that based on this conversion factor and quantification there would not be any balance payment for the supply made during 1994-95. The Government had vide letter dated 13/20-7-2004 informed HNL that the price of eucalyptus supplied by the Company during 1994-95 had been fixed at ₹ 832 per stacked tonne without bark, and therefore HNL is bound to pay the rate of ₹ 832 per stacked tonne as fixed vide G.O. (Rt) No. 41/2001 dated 3-2-2001. Government has in the above letter made it clear that the price is fixed based on stacked tonne. Accordingly, the invoice No.10 dated 21-3-2005 for ₹ 58,67,801.49 was forwarded for the supply to M/s HNL in letter dated 28-3-2005. Government in letter dated 23-6-2005 again directed HNL to effect payment @ ₹ 832 per stacked tonne.

Remarks of the Committee:

The Committee wants to know whether the amount due from Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. has been realised. If not, the present stage of the recovery procedure initiated in this respect.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
10	36	Forest and Wildlife	<p>The Committee wondered to see that the Company had fixed the price for the supplies to Western India Plywoods Ltd. only in June 1999 even though materials were supplied in April to December 1995. The Committee couldnot understand the logic which persuaded the company from negotiation and fixation of price, since the Government had already been given clear cut direction to the Company in this regard. Even after fixing the rate, the Company was reluctant to raise invoice for the balance due of ₹ 55 lakh. The Committee could not digest the untold lethargic attitude on the part of the Company's official for not claiming the amount due to it and recommends that immediate steps should be initiated to recover the dues and facts intimated to the Committee in time.</p>	<p>Government in letter No. dated 11-8-1994 directed the Company to allot 15000 tonnes of Eucalyptus to M/s Western India Plywoods Ltd. and to fix the price by negotiation at a level not below the price paid by the HNL and Grasim Industries. Accordingly, the Company supplied 14871.67 stacked tonnes of Eucalyptus to WIP Ltd. by receiving advance payments from them on the basis of the prevailing price of ₹ 720 per stacked tonne with bark. In letter No. C1-1140/95 dated 2-8-1995, 7-2-1997, 15-10-1997,4-12-1997,12-2-1998, 28-3-1998. 25-4-1998 the Company requested Government to fix the price for issuing invoices and recovering our dues from Western India Plywoods Ltd. The price was not fixed either by negotiation or by Government. It was necessary to fix the price to realise the balance amount and to raise the final invoices to settle the accounts. So the matter was placed before the Board of Directors in its 112th meeting held on 19-6-1999. The Board of Directors decided vide Resolution No. 929 to work out the prices on the basis of replacement cost and in comparison with market</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>rate and selling price notified under Kerala Forest Produce (Fixation of Selling Price) Act as applicable in 1994-95 and place the details before the Board. The Director Board decided to fix ₹ 1060 per 2m³ stacked (with bark) vide its Resolution No. 935 of the 113th meeting held on 24-9-1999. The price of ₹ 1060 per 2m³ was fixed considering the replacement cost of Eucalyptus. M/s Western India Plywoods Ltd. were informed accordingly vide our letter No. C1-1140/95 dated 31-5-2001 requiring them to pay the dues. The Western India Plywoods Ltd. objected to this. They proposed the rate to be fixed at ₹ 600 per stacked tonne. Government examined the matter in detail after holding discussions with all concerned and fixed the price at ₹ 720 per stacked tonne vide G.O. (Rt.) No. 374/2002/F & WLD dated 7-11-2002. In the letter dated 17-2-2003, WIP Ltd, requested. Government to clarify whether the price fixed at ₹ 720 per stacked tonne is inclusive of all charges. Government examined the matter in detail in consultation with the C.C.F (P) and M.D KFDC and clarified vide G.O. (Rt.) No. 372/2004/</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				F & WLD dated 2-9-2004, that the price of ₹ 720 per stacked tonne fixed by Government Order dated 7-11-2002 was exclusive of all taxes. Meanwhile, the Company raised invoice No. 14 dated 1-9-2003 for the supply made in 1994-95 taking the price @ ₹ 720 per stacked tonne excluding taxes.

Remarks of the Committee:

The Committee desires to be informed whether the amount due from Western India Plywoods Ltd. to KFDC has been received.

11	37	Forest and Wildlife	The Committee opines that inordinate delay on the part of the Company in fixing sales price of eucalyptus and raising invoices to Grasim Industries Ltd., Hindustan newsprint Ltd. and Western India Plywoods Ltd., resulted in non-realization of ₹ 1.81 crore, the Committee feels that had the amount been realized with in the stipulated period, the accumulated loss could have been avoided. The Committee strongly believes that inefficient and ineffective fiscal management of the Company resulted in such as a pathetic state	KFDC had supplied eucalyptus wood to M/s Western India Plywoods Ltd., Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. and Grasim Industries Ltd. as per the Government Orders from 1989-90 onwards. However, Government did not fix the price of eucalyptus at the time of allotment. Pending final decision on the fixation of price of Royalty rate, KFDC had received advances at the rates equal to the notified price and/or the amount equal to the previous royalty rate. Hence, no loss occurred to the Company due to delay in fixing the price of eucalyptus wood. Delay in issuing invoice was due to the delay in fixing the price and settlement of some
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			and recommend that urgent steps should be taken to re-organize the entire administrative machinery so that such instances may not occur in future.	technical issues relating to conversion factor etc. for which decision of the Board of Directors and approval of Government was necessary. The invoices were already issued to the customers and the balance amount to be received from M/s Grasim Industries is ₹ 1.13 crore. Action was already taken to recover the amount from Grasim Industries. Finally the Company had initiated revenue recovery proceedings against the M/s Grasim Industries Ltd. vide letter dated 6-1-2003 which had been stayed by the Hon'ble High Court during May 2003. The above case filed by M/s Grasim Ltd. has been heard and allowed on the ground that the R.R proceedings are barred by time limitation. KFDC filed an appeal against the judgement in the case of Hindustan Newsprint Ltd., the amount to be received from HNL is ₹ 5.39 lakh. Action has already been taken to recover the amount from M/s HNL.

Remarks of the Committee:

The Committee wishes to be informed the reasons for the delay which occurred in realization of amounts due from Grasim Industries, Hindustan Newsprint, Ltd., Western Plywoods Ltd. to KFDC as mentioned in the replies furnished by Government. The Committee also desired to be intimated whether the amounts have been realized.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
12	38	Forest and Wildlife	<p>The Committee is perturbed to note that the average yield of Cardamom from four of the estates of the Company was far below the projected yield and state average. The projected yield was 100 kg per Ha. and State average was 149 kg to 214 kgs. per Ha. But the actual average yield of the Company ranged from mere 13.75 kg per Ha to 43.22 kg per Ha. The Committee cannot tolerate the arguments of the Company's officials for the low yields, since remedial measure were not taken to tide over the anticipated and unexpected problems. It is really shocking to learn that the loss on this account is ₹ 28.35 crore. The Committee therefore recommends that the Company should evolve suitable practical solutions to enhance the average yield from Company's cardamom plantations.</p>	<p>Cardamom Areas of the Company lie in various geo-climatic tracts ranging from Nelliampathy Hills in Nemmara Division to Mankulam, Kadalar and Koottakuzhy High Ranges in Munnar, Pachakkanam Pamba and Gavi Divisions. Some of these areas give good yield whereas other areas register a very low productivity.</p> <p>To improve the performance of the cardamom plantations and to increase their productivity, following steps have been taken.</p> <p>1. <i>Identification and classification of Areas</i></p> <p>The Cardamom areas are classified into (1) Irrigated Intensive Management Areas (IIMA) which have good yielding potential. These are the areas treated with all inputs of fertilizer, insecticides, fungicides etc. coupled with irrigation, (2) Intensively Managed Areas (IMA) which are to be treated with all inputs without irrigation, (3) General Management Areas (GMA) which are to be given cleaning by weeding and thrashing and (4) unproductive areas which will be protected as forests or returned to the</p>

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

Forest Department. Details of category-wise areas are furnished below:

Division	Category and Area (Ha.)				Unproductive
	II MA	IMA	GMA		
Gavi	93.38	153.84	111.40	224.17	224.17
Pamba	74.94	36.00	113.94	101.88	101.88
Nemmara	54.25	8.50	25.00	184.33	184.33
Munnar	40.00	91.25	118.00	534.91	534.91
Total	262.57	289.59	368.34	1045.29	1045.29

2. Water Storage and Irrigation facilities.—The original concept was to grow cardamom purely under rain-fed conditions. Climatic conditions have changed with prolonged dry spells and under such unfavourable conditions without sufficient irrigation back up, profitable cultivation of cardamom has become difficult. Lack of irrigation facility is a significant factor in making losses. Therefore, steps have been taken for water storage and irrigation facilities by raising check dams and ponds for rain water harvest and storage and irrigating the cardamom areas to the possible extent during the dry periods.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
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Thus 252.45 Ha. of cardamom plantations could be brought under irrigation facility as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Division	Area (Ha.)
1	Gavi	93.98
2	Pamba	64.82
3	Nemmara	54.25
4	Munnar	40.00
	Total	252.45

3. *Cultivation of high yielding varieties.*—The cardamom plantations had been raised from seedling stock of low-yielding local Malabar, Mysore and Vazhuka varieties. Therefore, high yielding Njallani (green gold), Elarani and Wonder varieties have been planted by replacing the original poor performing varieties as detailed below:

Division	Variety and Area (Ha.)			Total
	Njallani	Elarani	Wonder	
Gavi	3.47	50.91	5.60	59.98
Pamba	17.80	24.52	..	42.32
Nemmara	37.75	9.50	..	47.25
Munnar	26.00	26.00
Total	85.02	84.93	5.60	175.55

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)															
				<p>As a result of irrigation and application of inputs, the high yielding varieties started giving good results. During 2004-05 we could harvest 200 kg. to 160 kg. per hectare from 2002 plantations in Gavi and Pamba Divisions.</p> <p>4. <i>Plant protection:</i> (i) <u>From Wildlife damage.</u>— The Cardamom plantations particularly of Pamba and Gavi Divisions, located on the fringes of wildlife sanctuaries (Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary) have been sustain in heavy damage from wild animals like elephants. Due to damage from wild animals etc. cardamom stock depletion takes place recurrently affecting the plant productivity. Animal scaring by conventional methods of using crackers and torches have become ineffective. So, the Company has started erecting solar power fence around the potentially productive cardamom plantations to the possible extent. Thus, 217.67 Ha. of area has been provided with solar power fence, as detailed below:</p>															
				<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="916 1592 991 1621"><i>Division</i></th> <th data-bbox="991 1592 1118 1621"><i>Area (Ha.)</i></th> <th data-bbox="1118 1592 1248 1621"><i>length (Km.)</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="916 1632 979 1659">Pamba</td> <td data-bbox="991 1632 1054 1659">98.92</td> <td data-bbox="1118 1632 1182 1659">8.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="916 1671 963 1697">Gavi</td> <td data-bbox="991 1671 1054 1697">67.75</td> <td data-bbox="1118 1671 1182 1697">4.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="916 1709 979 1736">Munnar</td> <td data-bbox="991 1709 1054 1736">51.00</td> <td data-bbox="1118 1709 1182 1736">5.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="916 1747 963 1774">Total</td> <td data-bbox="991 1747 1070 1774">217.67</td> <td data-bbox="1118 1747 1182 1774">18.74</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Division</i>	<i>Area (Ha.)</i>	<i>length (Km.)</i>	Pamba	98.92	8.45	Gavi	67.75	4.59	Munnar	51.00	5.70	Total	217.67	18.74
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>Solar power fence is very effective in preventing the animal entry into the fenced plantations leading to improvement in plant stock and productivity.</p>
				<p>(ii) <i>From plant pests and diseases.</i>—Timely identification of diseases and pests and application of pesticides and fungicides were not given due attention at various stages of the plantation crops. Now, such vital matters are being attended to according calendar of operations for the application of fungicides and insecticides to control Azhukal disease. Borer attack, thrips, root grubs etc., within the available financial resources. As a result, the plants are protected from such diseases for normal productivity of the plantations.</p>
				<p>5. <i>Cardamom curing.</i>—In the place of conventional firewood-fed curing houses, we have installed two gas-charged curing plants, one for pamba Division and another for Gavi Division. Their working is more economical and efficient than that of firewood-fed curing houses. Recovery rate from green cardamom to dry cardamom and quality of</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)																								
				cardamom are also comparatively better with gas-charged curing houses.																								
				<p>6. <i>Diversification of crops.</i>—Some of the areas with older plantations where growing of cardamom has become difficult due to the changing factors of climatic conditions, were brought under coffee cultivation, Vanilla, pepper vines, arecanut etc., as an effort to diversify the crops and the details are furnished below:</p>																								
				<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Species</th> <th colspan="4"><i>Division wise Area in (Ha.)</i></th> </tr> <tr> <th><i>Gavi</i></th> <th><i>Munnar</i></th> <th><i>Nemmara</i></th> <th><i>MNTDY</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Coffee</td> <td>67.80</td> <td>60.20</td> <td>77.40</td> <td>477.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vanila</td> <td>3.50</td> <td>2.00</td> <td>4.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pepper</td> <td colspan="4">Interplanted</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Species	<i>Division wise Area in (Ha.)</i>				<i>Gavi</i>	<i>Munnar</i>	<i>Nemmara</i>	<i>MNTDY</i>	Coffee	67.80	60.20	77.40	477.00	Vanila	3.50	2.00	4.00		Pepper	Interplanted			
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				<p>Vanila started yielding and the details of yield obtained and expected are furnished below:</p>																								
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<i>Division</i>	<i>Yield (2004-05)</i>	<i>Expected Yield (2005-06)</i>																										
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Munnar	5Kg. (green)	100Kg. (green)																										
Gavi	Not yielded																											
				<p>7. <i>Revival Plan for the next five years.</i>—In spite of the efforts made in the previous years, the cardamom areas have been reeling under loss year</p>																								

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				after year. Under these circumstances, making the projects economically viable has become necessary. Hence a comprehensive Revival Plan for the next five years is being prepared by the Company for improving the productivity of the plantations and to make the cardamom units profitable by reducing the possible sources of expenditure, and increasing the productivity for better revenue.

Remarks of the Committee

The Committee desires to be informed of the details in respect of yield of cardamom obtained after the evolvement of practical solutions aimed at enhancing the yield from cardamom plantations.

13	39	Forest and Wildlife	The Committee is much distressed to learn that the average price realization by the Company in the sale of cardamom is considerably lower for many years. The Company has not ascertained the specific reasons for the persistent lower price realization and the reasons adduced by the Company are not at all convincing. Hence the Committee recommends that earnest and timely efforts should be made to ensure the selling of cardamom at the state average price level.	The Company was earlier following the practice of pooling and selling the cardamom in the auction centers like Cardamom Marketing Corporation (C.M.C.), Kerala Cardamom Processing and Marketing Company Ltd., (KCPMC) at Vandanmedu/Kumily and getting the sale value as per the bid rates for each lot put up for auction. Financial stringency faced by the company was also one reason to sell the produce immediately after harvesting through auction centers without waiting to canvas direct consumers and sell the produce at better price than wholesale
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				<p>marketing through pooling centers. However, during the past few years, earnest efforts, as detailed below, have been initiated to obtain maximum price for our cardamom.</p> <p>(1) As part of Marketing strategy, KFDC is directly approaching the consumers like Ayurvedic Pharmaceutical Companies who are bulk purchases of Cardamom for preparation of ayurvedic formulations etc., to sell as much quantity as possible for higher prices than those of auction centers.</p> <p>(2) KFDC is selling small quantities directly to retail merchants, bakeries and other such business establishments at better prices.</p> <p>(3) While negotiating with direct consumers, selective grades of produce have to be supplied and so higher grades will normally be sold by direct sale and some quantity of lower grades has to be pooled in bulk in the auction centers also. Cardamom capsules collected from local varieties are smaller in size as compared to high yielding varieties. Hence, produce collected from such sources is of inferior quality. Even then, earnest efforts are being made to sell maximum quantity of produce by direct</p>

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)																
				marketing. So that an average value is obtained above state average when direct sale value and pooling rate are taken together.																
				The details of direct sale and auction sale during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 are given under:																
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				4. <i>Retail sale.</i> — The Company has been contacting retail merchants and department stores to sell small quantities packed in pouches. Efforts to sell our cardamom in small packets through “SUPPLYCO” are also in progress through their retail outlets like Maveli stores etc. Thus, KFDC would be able to sell maximum quantity by direct marketing and retail sale to fetch better price higher than that of the state average.

Remarks of the Committee

The Committee desires to be reported the amount of money collected by KFDC during the last 4-5 years by the sale of cardamom and the state average of the said amount

45	<p>The Committee is totally dissatisfied with the explanations extended by the witness that sale of 86916 stacked tones of eucalyptus to Western India Plywood Ltd. was effected below the notified price as per the directions of Government and that it had agreed to pay compensation for the loss sustained by the Company on account of subsidized rates. The Committee desires to be furnished with a copy of the Government Order which depicts all the details of compensation etc. received by the Company.</p> <p>KFDC had supplied 98899.898 stacked tones of eucalyptus to M/s Western India Plywoods Ltd. during the years 1989-90 to 1997-98. The prices fixed by the Government were below the notified prices in some years. There are Government Orders to HNL and Grassim Industries Ltd. in which the Government agreed to pay compensation for the loss sustained by the Company on account of subsidized rates[G.O. (Ms.) No. 44/1997/ F&WLD dated 2-7-1997.]</p>
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
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Remarks of the Committee

The Committee desires to be furnished with a copy of annual statements which depicts all the details of compensation, the Government only concerned and the details of compensation if any received in this respect.

Thiruvananthapuram,
21st June, 2012.

K. N. A. KHADER,
Chairman,
Committee on Public Undertakings.

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DIVISION

ANNEXURE I

<i>Year and Name of Plantation</i>	<i>Extent (Ha.)</i>	<i>I CROP</i>		
		<i>Year of felling</i>	<i>Quantity MT/Ha.</i>	<i>MAI</i>
1976 Arippa	80.616	1989	23.530	1.810
76 Palode	63.186	1990	54.270	3.870
77 Arippa	69.386	1990	12.630	0.970
77 Palode	68.420	1990	47.256	3.630
77 Kottoor	33.280	1989	22.087	1.840
78 Arippa	58.080	1990	34.690	2.890
78 Palode	44.522	1990	80.174	6.680
78 Kottoor	191.753	1991	59.478	4.570
79 Arippa	64.440	1993	46.990	3.360
79 Palode	207.980	1993	51.186	3.600
80 Palode	93.797	1994	51.069	3.650
80 Kottoor	33.170	1993	25.317	1.950
81 Arippa	45.094	1995	48.440	3.460
81 Palode	25.620	1995	33.035	2.360
82 Arippa	64.726	1996	13.753	1.000
82 Palode	127.972	1996	11.160	0.800
82 Kottoor	22.940	1995	6.101	0.470
83 Arippa	20.950	1995	23.370	1.950
83 Palode	39.726	1997	32.491	2.300
	1355.658			

PUNALUR DIVISION

ANNEXURE II

<i>Year and Name of Plantation</i>	<i>Extent (Ha.)</i>	<i>I CROP</i>		
		<i>Year of felling</i>	<i>Quantity MT/Ha.</i>	<i>MAI</i>
1976 Punnala I	24.100	1991	22.600	1.510
76 Punalur II	88.600	1993	44.500	2.620
76 Ranni II	46. 650	1991	61.200	4.100
77 Punnala I	150.500	1991	67.300	4.810
77 Punnala II	486.160	1992	73.100	4.870
77 Ranni	75.400	1990	62.600	4.820
78 Punnala I	107.750	1991	30.300	2.330
78 Punnala II	151.350	1994	57.800	3.610
78 Ranni	11.250	1991	57.200	4.400
79 Punnala I	404.200	1996	36.800	2.450
79 Ranni	99.200	1999	14.600	0.730
80 Punnala I	16.000	1998	26.000	1.370
81 Punnala I	47.400	1998	26.000	1.530
82 Punnala I	129.300	1999	17.800	1.050
83 Punnala I	82.800	1999	22.800	1.430
84 Punalur	42.150	1999	30.660	2.040

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DIVISION

ANNEXURE III

<i>Year and Name of Plantation</i>	<i>Extent (Ha.)</i>	<i>MAI (1st Crop)</i>	<i>MT/Ha. (2nd crop)</i>	<i>Actual obtained or estimated qty.</i>	<i>Actual or estimated Revenue</i>	<i>Actual or estimated</i>
1976 Arippa	80.616	1.810	6.200	499.980	3.750	Actual
76 Palode	63.186	3.870	20.930	1322.450	9.920	”
77 Arippa	69.386	0.970	7.320	221.300	1.660	”
77 Palode	68.420	3.630	21.490	1470.780	11.030	”
77 Kottoor	33.280	1.840	9.912	329.890	2.470	”
78 Arippa	58.080	2.890	6.240	189.715	1.420	”
78 Palode	44.522	6.680	29.411	1309.450	9.820	”
78 Kottoor	191.753	4.570	14.701	2673.440	20.050	”
79 Arippa	64.440	3.360	14.430	3753.197	28.150	”
79 Palode	207.980	3.600	14.521	2104.985	15.790	”
80 Palode	93.797	3.650	23.675	1949.292	14.620	”
80 Kottoor	33.170	1.950	13.48	876.600	6.570	”
81 Arippa	45.094	3.460	22.126	977.780	7.330	”
81 Palode	25.620	2.360	15.143	1076.040	8.090	”
82 Arippa	64.726	1.00	10.041	649.920	4.870	”
82 Palode	127.972	0.800	14.460	1850.010	13.880	”
82 Kottoor	22.940	0.470	9.135	89.345	0.670	”
83 Arippa	20.950	1.950	6.707	140.400	1.05	”
83 Palode	39.726	2.300	11.33	450.152	3.38	”
					<u>164.520</u>	

PUNALUR DIVISION

<i>Year and Name of Plantation</i>	<i>Extent (Ha.)</i>	<i>MAI (1st Crop)</i>	<i>MT/Ha. (2nd crop)</i>	<i>Actual obtained or estimated qty.</i>	<i>Actual or estimated Revenue</i>	<i>Actual or estimated</i>
1976 Punnala I	24.100	1.510	5.600	134.960	1.010	Actual
76 Punnala II	88.600	2.620	8.500	753.100	5.560	Actual
76 Ranni II	46.650	4.100	24.000	1119.600	8.400	Actual
77 Punnala I	150.500	4.810	17.00	2558.500	19.190	Actual
77 Punnala II	486.160	4.870	10.000	4861.600	36.460	Actual
77 Ranni	75.400	4.820	23.500	1771.900	13.300	Actual
78 Punnala I	107.750	2.330	30.300	3264.830	24.490	Actual
78 Punnala II	151.350	3.610	6.370	964.100	7.230	Actual
78 Ranni	11.250	4.400	10.300	115.880	0.870	Actual
79 Punnala I	404.200	2.450	10.800	4365.360	32.740	Actual
79 Ranni	99.200	0.730	..	506.910	3.800	estimated
80 Punnala	16.000	1.370	..	153.440	1.150	estimated
81 Punnala I	47.400	1.530	..	507.650	3.810	estimated
82 Punnala I	129.300	1.050	9.400	1215.420	9.120	Actual
83 Punnala I	82.800	1.430	..	828.830	6.220	estimated
84 Punalur	42.150	2.040	..	601.900	4.510	..
					177.950	

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DIVISION

ANNEXURE IV

Year and Name of Plantation	Extent (Ha.)	MAI (2nd Crop)	MT/Ha. Estimated (3rd crop) at same MAI	Estimated Qty. (MT)	Estimated Revenue ₹ in Lakh	Actual Qty. & Rev. in retained cases		
						Qty.	Revenue	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1976 Arippa	80.616	0.810	5.670	457.100	8.740	Nil	..	Replanted after 2nd crop
76 Palode	63.186	2.620	18.340	1158.830	22.150	231.702	2.610	..
77 Arrippa	69.386	0.910	6.370	441.980	8.450	Nil	..	Replanted after 2nd crop
77 Palode	68.420	2.200	15.400	1053.670	20.130	237.820	2.470	..
77 Kottoor	33.280	1.240	8.680	288.870	5.520	Nil	..	Replanted after 2nd crop
78 Arrippa	58.080	0.360	2.520	146.360	2.800	Nil	..	Replanted after 2nd crop
78 Palode	44.522	3.680	25.760	1146.890	21.920	460.740	5.190	..
78 Kottoor	191.753	2.450	17.150	3288.560	62.840	464.820	29.140	..
79 Arrippa	64.440	1.600	11.200	2832.870	54.140	Nil		Replanted after 2nd crop
79 Palode	207.980	2.490	17.430	3625.090	69.280	Nil		”
80 Palode	93.797	3.9	27.3	2560.66	48.93	Nil		”
80 Kottoor	33.170	1.35	9.45	313.46	6	Nil		”

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
81 Arippa	45.094	2.770	19.39	874.37	16.71	Nil		Replanted after 2nd crop
81 Palode	25.620	1.890	13.23	338.95	6.48	Nil		”
82 Arippa	64.726	1.260	8.82	570.88	10.9	Nil		”
82 Palode	127.972	2.070	14.49	1854.31	35.44	Nil		”
82 Kottoor	22.940	1.140	7.98	183.06	3.5	Nil		”
83 Arippa	20.950	0.740	5.18	108.521	2.07	Nil		”
83 Palode	39.726	1.62	11.34	450.49	8.61	Nil		”
					414.610		39.410	

PUNALUR DIVISION

<i>Year and Name of Plantation</i>	<i>Extent (Ha.)</i>	<i>MAI (2nd crop)</i>	<i>MT/Ha. (3rd crop)</i>	<i>Estimated qty.(MT) at same MAI</i>	<i>Estimated Revenue ₹ in lakhs</i>
1976 Punnala I	24.100	0.800	5.600	134.960	2.580
76 Punalur II	88.600	1.420	9.940	880.680	16.830
76 Ranni II	46.650	3.430	24.010	1120.670	21.420
77 Punnala I	150.500	2.430	17.010	2560.000	48.920
77 Punnala II	486.160	1.250	8.750	4253.900	81.300
77 Ranni	75.400	2.940	20.580	1551.730	29.650
78 Punnala I	107.750	4.330	30.310	3265.900	62.410
78 Punnala II	151.350	0.800	5.600	847.560	16.200
78 Ranni	11.250	1.470	10.290	115.760	2.210
79 Punnala I	404.200	1.350	9.450	3819.700	72.990
79 Ranni	99.200	0.730	5.110	506.912	9.690
80 Punnala I	16.000	1.370	9.590	159.200	3.040
81 Punnala I	47.400	1.530	10.710	507.650	9.740
82 Punnala I	129.300	1.050	7.35	950.36	18.16
83 Punnala I	82.800	1.430	10.01	828.83	15.84
84 Punalur	42.150	2.040	14.28	601.9	11.5
					422.480

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DIVISION

ANNEXURE V

<i>Year and Name of Plantation</i>	<i>Extent (Ha.)</i>	<i>Replanting details and expected revenue (from replanted area)</i>			
		<i>Species Replanted</i>	<i>Extent (Ha.)</i>	<i>Expected Qty. on felling as per Management Plan (MT)</i>	<i>Expected revenue (Lakh)</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1976 Arippa	80.616	Bamboo	7.468	186.700	2.240
		Casuarina	45.180	167166 nos.	62.680
76 Palode	63.186	Casuarina	31.500	116550 nos.	43.710
		Eucalyptus	31.690	1019.780 nos.	19.490
77 Arippa	69.386	Bamboo	9.195	229.870	2.750
		Eucalyptus	20.234	651.130	12.440
		Misc. growth	39.957	LS	19.970
77 Palode	68.420	Bamboo	23.200	580.000	6.960
		Eucalyptus	34.781	1119.000	21.380
		Casuarina	10.439	38624 nos.	14.480
77 Kottoor	33.280	A auriculiformis	12.240	1052.640	14.720
		Cashew	4.500	LS	1.300
		Casuarina	4.620	17094 nos.	6.410
		Bamboo	11.920	298.000	3.580
		Bamboo	37.920	948.000	11.380
78 Arippa	58.080	Casuarina	9.440	34928 nos.	13.100
		A auriculiformis	10.770	921.920	12.890
78 Palode	44.522	Casuarina	33.347	123839	46.440
		Eucalyptus	11.175	359.610	6.870

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
		Coppiece	25.140	259.990	4.970
		Albizia	21.500	2064	51.790
		auriculiformis	60.934	5240	73.260
78 Kottoor	191.753	Eucalyptus	21.230	683.180	13.050
		Bamboo	43.500	1075	12.900
		Reeds	14.045	351.130	4.210
		Misc. growth	5.404	LS	2.700
		Eucalyptus	72.273	2325.700	44.440
79 Arippa	64.440	auriculiformis	136.048	11700	163.570
		A mangium	9.951	585	8.370
		Bamboo	22.945	573.600	6.880
		Misc. growth	12.078	LS	6.040
79 Palode	148.434	Eucalyptus	112.41	3617	69.13
		Cashew	54.427	LS	15.6
79 Palode	59.846	auriculiformis	41.152	3539	49.48
80 Palode	93.797	auriculiformis	62.442	53.70	75.07
		Eucalyptus	31.355	1009.00	19.28
		A			
80 Kottoor	22.926	auriculiformis	26.436	2273.5	31.78
80 Kottoor	10.244	Cashew	6.744	LS	1.94
		Eucalyptus	21.624	695.86	13.29
81 Arippa	45.094	Bamboo	9.122	228.05	2.74
		Euc. coppiece	14.348	634	12.12
		A			
81 Palode	25.620	auriculiformis	7.86	676	9.45
		Albizia	17.76	1705	42.78
		Casuarina	30.451	112668 nos.	42.25

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
82 Arippa	64.726	Reeds	11.614	290.35	3.48
		Bamboo	22.161	554	6.65
		A			
82 Palode	127.972	auriculiformis	127.972	11005	153.85
82 Kottoor	9.780	A mangium	9.78	597.8	8.55
82 Kottoor	13.160	Coppiece	13.14	104.85	2.00
83 Arippa	20.950	Bamboo	20.95	522.5	6.27
83 Palode	39.726	Albizia	10.08	967.68	24.28
		Euc. coppiece	28.746	325.69	6.22
					<u>1311.18</u>

PUNALUR DIVISION

<i>Original Year and Name of Plantation</i>	<i>Extent (Ha.)</i>	<i>Replanting details and expected revenue (from replanted area)</i>			
		<i>Species</i>	<i>Extent (Ha.)</i>	<i>Expected Qty. on felling as per Management Plan (MT)</i>	<i>Expected revenue (Lakh)</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
		A			
1976 Punnala I	24.100	auriculiformis	24.100	2068.980	28.900
76 Punalur II	88.600	A mangium	88.600	5401.000	77.280
		A			
76 Ranni II	46.650	auriculiformis	46.650	4004.900	55.950
77 Punnala I	150.500	Eucalyptus	74.350	2393.170	45.730
		A			
		auriculiformis	70.000	6009.500	83.950
		A			
		auriculiformis	118.856	10203.000	142.540
		A mangium	104.170	6350.200	90.870
		Eucalyptus	112.578	3623.660	69.250
77 Punnala II	486.160	Bamboo	100.272	LS	..
		Albizia	26.580	2574.500	64.590
		Cashew	6.250	LS	0.360
		Teak	5.440	LS	3.800
77 Ranni	75.400	Eucalyptus	57.400	1847.600	35.310
		A			
		auriculiformis	18.000	1545.300	21.590
		A			
		auriculiformis	35.680	3063.120	42.790

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
78 Punnala I	107.750	Eucalyptus	27.000	869.000	16.610
		Albizia	10.000	968.600	24.300
		A auriculiformis	21.080	1809.700	25.280
78 Punnala II	151.350	Eucalyptus	88.830	2859.200	54.640
		A mangium	43.000	2621.300	37.510
78 Ranni	11.250	Eucalyptus	2.000	64.400	1.230
		A auriculiformis	9.260	794.970	11.110
		A auriculiformis	118.490	10172.300	142.100
		Cashew	50.000	LS	2.870
		Eucalyptus	53.180	1711.750	32.710
79 Punnala I	404.200	Bamboo	122.120	3055.000	36.600
		Albizia	20.000	1937.200	48.600
		Teak	7.000	LS	4.900
		Casuarina	9.620	35661 (nos.)	13.370
		Bamboo	41.200	1030.000	12.360
79 Ranni	99.200	Eucalyptus	31.800	1021.400	19.510
		Cashew	10.400	LS	0.590
		A auriculiformis	8.700	748.2	10.450
80 Punnala I	16.000	Teak	3.400	LS	2.380
		A auriculiformis	8.770	748.200	10.450
81 Punnala I	47.400	A auriculiformis	47.400	4069.000	56.840
		A mangium	63.000	3840.000	54.950

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
82 Punnala I	129.300	Eucalyptus	51.500	1657.600	31.680
		Casuarina	10.000	37070 (nos.)	13.900
83 Punnala I	82.800	Eucalyptus	38.840	1250.000	23.900
		A mangium	44.820	2732.200	39.090
		A auriculiformis	24.500	2103.000	29.380
84 Punalur	42.150	A mangium	8.750	533.400	7.630
		Eucalyptus	8.900	286.470	5.470
					1533.32