

PREFACE

Timber trade is believed to be sine qua non of development. Society has taken timber trade as a granted aspect of development. Although a facet of timber trade is related with economics, its major impact can be observed on the environment. It is a fact that excessive demand for timber inevitably leads to deforestation. The increase of population, the consequent demands of civilization and invention of new technological instruments have led to more and more use of forest products. Million cubic meters of wood in the form of timber are being extracted from the forest everyday by the wood based industries and saw mills for the purpose of trade. Construction of houses, industrial and infrastructural needs and furniture making are important areas where huge quantity of wood is used. Paper mills are the other major consumer of forest produce. The demand of fire wood as energy source also consumes much of the forests especially in places in the proximity of hills and in the rural India where cooking energy is exclusively dependant on firewood. Earlier people were almost completely dependent on forests for their food and shelter, clothing, medicine and other aromatic substances. Almost every need of the day to day life was met by the forest produce. But with population growth an urgent need is felt to control and regulate trade in forest produce.

In this theses I have chosen timber as the particular forest produce whose trade according to me requires control and regulation urgently.

I acknowledge the with deep gratitude the help and assistance of all received for this work some of whom I have thanked in a separate acknowledgement