

10. RIGHTS AND CONCESSIONS :

There is no record of any specific rights and concessions or privileges granted to be exercised by any individual village or group of villages over any ~~area~~ specific area of forest. But rights and concessions of privileges for the supply of timber, firewood, minor forest produce had been conceded from time to time to the residents of Mayurbhanj as detailed in Section 59 to 74 of the Mayurbhanj Forest Manual published in the year 1991 and published recently by Forest & Environment Department. This becomes extinct and now a days restricted due to depletion, degradation and disappearance of forest over which they were being exercised. The over all position with regard to rights and concession is not satisfactory. No rights and concessions, however, exist with regard to Similipal Reserve forests.

CONCESSION FOR TIMBER & FIREWOOD TO RAIYATS

In the previous occasions permits for timber and firewood for domestic and agricultural purposes were issued at concessional rates from the nearby protected forests. The area of protected forests have been reduced due to leasing out of area of protected forests for agricultural purposes. In such circumstances, requirements of Raiyats cannot be met from the protected forests. So it was proposed to supply the requirements of Raiyats. In course of time, the Coppice coupes have also become degraded and most of

This practice should be done outside the reserve blocks.

The cultivation of ruma (Gerardie spp) a kind of vegetable was being done inside reserve on concessional payment basis, but has gone out of practice.

CONCESSION FOR COLLECTION OF BRUSHWOOD & LEAVES

It is mentioned in the previous plans that inferior species from Protected Forests and plain reserves were removed as Brush wood by the neighbouring villagers at concessional rates. They utilize brushwood to make temporary fences around cultivated lands and homesteads.

Sal and siali leaves are usually collected by the women for leaf plates (Khali) and leaf cups(chauti). These products after processing in machine finds way to the local and outside consumption points on commercial basis.

RIGHTS OF PATH & WATER COURSE,

It is mentioned in the previous plans that people enjoy rights of use of foot path in many of reserves. Net work of footpath in any forests render such forests impossible to protect.

The people also enjoy the rights of water channels for irrigation in most of the reserve forests. Such rights appear to be essential for the development of Irrigation, where as extension of such rights over water channel may ruin the forest and create bottle-necks in implementation

RIGHTS & CONCESSIONS FOR PASTURE

The rights and concessions and regulation thereof for pasture of cattle is laid down in section 90 to 99 Part VA of Chapter-III of Mayurbhanj Forest Manual. The raiyats have the right to graze their cattle free of charge in the nearby protected forest and in case where there are villages inside the reserve or close to reserves, they enjoy the same privilege in the reserves. The amount of grazing and manner of regulation is to be controlled by Forest department as detailed in Mayurbhanj forest manual, free grazing is not permissible in case of professional grazing or raiyats who keep cattle for commercial purposes other than domestic and agricultural purposes. The Orissa forest grazing of cattle Rules 1980 would henceforth regulate the usage of forest as pasture.

CONCESSION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF TASSAR AND WILD VEGETABLE.

In previous Working plan it was mentioned that villagers enjoyed the concession for what is known as Adapahi inside plain reserve and protected forest. This is rearing of tassar silk worms on pollarded, Asan trees where they occur in suitable patches. This is very extensively done in Deoli, kendumundi, Thakurmunda, Bisoi and Karanjia ranges. There is a co-operative society which works for upliftment of tassar culture in the area. The practice has spoiled the reserve patches.

them are now incapable of meeting the requirement of local people. These areas therefore require suitable rehabilitation measures. The other reserves namely - Noto, satkosia, Similipal, Badampahar, Gorumehisani and plain forests of Thakurmunda and Kendumundi and Reserve forests of Karanjia range worked under high forest system do not have to do anything with concession of timber and firewood for Raiyats. These forests were managed for the purpose of commercial exploitation and revenue.

CONCESSION FOR PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITIES.

The supply of firewood to professional communities like Ironsmiths, blacksmiths, goldsmiths, brassiers, distillers of liquors, potters, charars, etc. on payment of fixed annual sums have long been discontinued. In previous plan it is mentioned that they were getting their requirements along with the other Raiyats from the nearby Coppice coupes in the plain reserves near to locality, where they carry on their profession.

CONCESSION FOR COLLECTION OF ~~MINOR~~ MINOR FOREST PRODUCE.

Rural poor collect edible fruits, leaves, flowers, grasses and roots from their neighbouring protected forests and plain reserve forest free of charges. Other M.F.P. are collected by the inhabitants of neighbouring villages and sold to lease holders of P. D. C. Ltd or Forest department.