

Although that Team did a strenuous and exhaustive site study and could identify almost all Government lands, they could not survey and demarcate all the lands due to the pressure on the Government by interested parties. The report submitted to Government by the Special Team suggested the following;

- a. Declare a total ban on Eucalyptus Grandis cultivation in the villages of Kottakamboor, Vattavada, Keezhanthoor, Kanthalloor, Marayoor and KDH village based on Dr. Swaminathan's report findings, during the preparation of the Idukki package.
- b. Nationalise all the Eucalyptus Grandis plantations in the above villages and assign land only to the local landless poor. By converging various schemes of agriculture department, these small assignees may be encouraged to cultivate cool season vegetables at the assigned sites, with the objective to make Kerala at least partly self-sufficient in production of cool season vegetables.

So far no serious thought has gone into the recommendations made in that comprehensive report. Ironically another opportunity of Government to set things right at least in Vattavada and Kottakamboor villages has resulted in failure due to the lack of policy decision at the State level, the inefficiency and incompetence of the District Administration in general and the Sub-Division and the line departments in particular and party politics and cronyism colouring any land management issue.