

lost precious Shola forests; it has also lost and continues to lose huge revenue by way of sale of timber from public lands.

## **7. REVENUE RECORDS**

Based on directions issued by this Committee, the District Collector, Idukki had seized the Records and Registers available from the Vattavada and Kottakamboor villages . District Collector was directed to provide data of persons who are valid patta holders with Survey Nos., extent and the present status of the land. He was also asked to report on the status of the verification of the patta holders including those falling within the purview of the Neelakurinji Sanctuary area. The District Collector has provided the first **(Annexures V & VI)** , but the verification work remains incomplete. The DC has reported that the data provided by him is an exhaustive list. Hence these lists are included as Annexures in this Report.

## **8. WORK OF KERALA STATE LAND BANK TEAM**

The work done by the Kerala State Land Bank (KSLB) contained in the Report, on the five villages of Anchunad, was carried out by the Kerala State Land Bank (KSLB) Team over a period of 3 months based on the directions issued by the Government Principal Secretary [Revenue] on 06.04.2010. The work done by the KSLB team was exhaustive and for the first time it brought clarity to the entire issue of land holdings and the status of lands, including public lands, in that area. However, even though the verification work was done in 2010, Government chose not to take any follow-up action based on the report. If only follow-up action had been taken in 2010, some forest areas could have been saved, some of the encroachments that have taken place since could have been avoided and the genuine applicants could have been granted pattayam.