Copy of Chief Conservator's report No.L.Dis.35892/65(G3) dated 12/16-11-1965 to the Secretary to Government, Agriculture and Rural Development Department (Agriculture – Forest), Trivandrum.

Sub:- Forests – Cultivation in Forest areas – request regarding Memorandum dated 19-10-1965 from Sri.Mani Ulahannan and others

Ref:- GM No.50625/F3/65/AD dated 30-10-1965

With reference to the above especially on paras 4 and 5 of the Memorandum I have to state as follows:-

Creation of small pockets of cultivation in the interior Reserve Forest will lead to complete disintegration of what little forest that are left. The present deplorable situation is the result of such an attempt made in the name of food production in swampy and reed areas. Reed areas are disappearing in Forests and any further depletion will lead to closing down of the Punalur Paper Mills.

Hence the Forest Department cannot agree to release of swamps and reed areas for cultivation even for one day.

This fact may kindly be informed of the applicants.

The Memorandum in original is resubmitted herewith.

Sd/For Chief Conservator of Forests

Copy to all Conservator of Forests for information and guidance and communication to sub offices

Endt. On L.Dis.21406/65 dated 26-11-1965 (ML)

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officers of Malayattoor, Kottayam, Munnar, Trichur and Chalakudy for information.

Copy to Sections TR., KT., and CH.

Copy to Stock and Circular files.

Conservator office,

Chalakudy.

Conservator of Forests