CHAPTER IX

GENERAL PROBLEMS AND SUGGESTIONS
It is undoubtedly true that the forests are playing a very important role in the economy of Balaghat district. These forests are not only producing valuable major forest products like teak and fuel wood, and numerous minor forest produces, but also generating employment opportunities for the village and tribal population. The Government is also getting quite considerable amount as revenue from the forests. A large number of industries comprising large, medium and small, are getting raw materials from these forests of Balaghat district. In agricultural activities also, forests have a close link and the farmers are largely dependent on forests. In this way, the forests of Balaghat have occupied a place of prominence in the economy. But as a matter of fact, the contribution of forests has not been fully received by the Government and the society. In fact, there is a wide scope for the development of forests in the district in order to get maximum returns from them. There are various serious problems relating to the development, administration, management, marketing, finance, plantation and conservation, which must be dealt with utmost care. The major problems, which are being faced, in the context of forests in Balaghat district, may be discussed under the following headings and subheadings:
(A) Administrative & Organisational Problems.
(B) Functional Problems.
(C) Financial Problems.
(D) Marketing Problems.
(E) Other Problems.

(A) Administrative & Organisational Problems :

1. Lack of Adequate Staff :

Due to nationalisation, the quantum of departmental work has increased several-folds but the staff has not increased commensurately. In Balaghat circle the average areas of a range, sub-range and beat are 239 sq. kms. and 68 sq. kms. and 11 sq.kms. respectively, but practically, it is impossible to watch such a wide area for an incharge Officer / employee. The Divisional Forest Officer (D.F.O.) Territorial Division, performs many duties such as conservation, plantation, management of nistar facilities, collection and the disposal of Minor Forest Products (M.F.P.). The D.F.O. (Production Division) also performs many duties, such as felling, logging, stacking, transportation and marketing of Major Forest Products. Looking to the burden of work, it is quite clear that there is under staff in Balaghat circle.

2. Delay in decision Making :

Delay in decision making is the most serious drawback of the present administrative system. Some decisions which can otherwise be taken at the circle level are taken by the Principal
Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhopal. As a result of this, a lot of time is consumed in the process of decision making. In 1984-85, the collection of tendu leaves was done in 37 units departmentally. The decision of departmental collection was taken very late. Consequently the Balaghat Forest Circle could not make proper arrangements for their collection. Therefore, in 1985 the collection reduced by 62,969 standard bags in comparison to the previous year.

3. **Deterioration in General Discipline** :

   The higher officers such as DFOs and Conservator of Forests being busy in official work, detachment from the field staff is observed. Consequently, general discipline among the staff has deteriorated in recent years.

4. **Problems of Illicit Felling and Theft** :

   Illicit fellings and thefts are very common in Lamta, Waraseoni, Lalburra, Katangi, East Lanji and West Lanji ranges, while they are rare in Garhi range. Due to lack of adequate and well equipped staff, illicit fellings and thefts take place on a large scale every year in the circle. The number of theft cases is increasing every year. In 1962-63 the number of theft cases was 913 and it increased to 2075 in 1981-82. All the saw mills are in the private sector hence thefts of timber could not be checked competently.

5. **Problem of Malpractices** :

   Due to the absence of a 'Vigilance Cell' malpractices such as misappropriation of funds, maintenance of fictitious
muster rolls at coupes, under payments, submission of false
vouchers etc. are common practices in the circle. A case of
misappropriation of funds was registered against a ranger in
Balaghat circle in 1983. If intensive investigation is carried
out many more cases may come to light and be registered.

6. **Centralisation of Administrative Power**

On account of centralisation of administrative power,
rangers and sub-divisional Forest Officers are helpless in
controlling their subordinate staff and the D.F.Os are over
burdened with official work and are unable to pay the desired
attention to the field work. The Sub-divisional Forest Officer
has no separate Office, which shows his helplessness and
centralisation of power in the hands of the D.F.O.

(B) **Functional Problems**

1. **Lack of Communication and Vehicle Facilities in Range Offices**

There are 17 range offices in the circle, but they
have no telephone and vehicle facilities. Hence a Ranger faces
difficulty in controlling the forest offences. Therefore, illicit
fellings and theft cases are increasing every year in the circle.

2. **Inadequate Residential Quarters**

Residential quarters for the subordinate staff,
particularly for forest-guards are woefully inadequate. There
has been great expansion in the subordinate ranks in the recent
past, but unfortunately the construction of quarters has taken
place at a very slow rate. The number of foresters and forest-
guards is 402 and 815 respectively but the residential quarters
available at present are 48 and 212 respectively, which shows an acute shortage of residential quarters in the circle.

3. **Lack of permanent and easy Flow of labour** :

The lack of a permanent and easy flow of labour has stood in the way of optimum exploitation of forest resources in Balaghat circle. As an overwhelming majority of the population is agriculturists and consequently during the monsoon season the entire activity on the forest front comes to a standstill. The problem of labour scarcity is more acute in the protected forests (Fazil Areas) of the West Lanji, Hatta, West Baihar and Lamta ranges where there are no forest villages. Labourers are imported from the adjoining districts and their availability is most uncertain, consequently forestry work suffers.

4. **Poor Working Conditions of Lower Staff** :

According to the forest Manual a forest-guard is expected to remain 24 hours on duty, which is practically impossible.

5. **Fire** :

Uncontrolled fire is very harmful resulting in the production of a soluble organic substance inhibitory to germination. It causes damage to major and micro fauna and flora, affects regeneration of (dyingback) trees and bamboos, accelerates erosion by burning the litter, grasses, shrubs
(So no humus) which results in unevenaged, disease prone, unsound crop. Maximum number of fires occur between 15th March to 31st May. Fire affects soil temperature and increases denitrification (loss of nitrates) processes in soil. The main causes of the forest fires in the circle are:

(a) Negligence: Negligence in burning of fire lines, leaving of lighted butt ends of bidiś, cigarettes, and burning woods by travellers graziers and forest labourers usually cause fires in the forest.

(b) Incendiasma and Animosities:

Mahua pickers tendu leaf pluckers, Gonds and Baigas (for shikar) and graziers often burn the forests for their quick gains. Animosity between the staff and the villagers or among staff members itself is another cause of fires in the forests.

(c) Lack of proper education and forest consciousness amongst the local people is still another cause of fire.

6. Grazings:

The prevalent uncontrolled grazing happens to be very bad by causing soil compaction regeneration trampling depletion of palatable grasses destruction of leading shoots, soil erosion and grazing resistant inferior crops. At present the whole area is open to grazing except the closed coupes and plantations. There is no restriction on incidence or number of animals grazing per unit area. The practice of Dahya has caused much damage to bamboos of Birsa-Damoh, South Ukwa and North Ukwa ranges.
7. **Head Loads Removal of Firewood**

The bulk of firewood from the Balaghat forests is removed by head loads. Consequently the danger of depletion in forest in Balaghat circle may arise.

8. **Unscientific and Indiscriminate Exploitation**

Unscientific and indiscriminate exploitation of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) has been making serious inroads into our resource bases, various species have been 'bled' for gums, resins medicines in different parts of the circle.

9. **Lack of Storage Facility**

Enough attention is not being paid to storage and preservation of M.F.P. with the result that quality deterioration takes place.

10. **Lack of Proper attention for Regeneration of Minor Forest Produce**

Regeneration of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) has attracted only token efforts so far. It is of critical significance for the tribal economy.

11. **Inadequate Collection of Minor Forest Produce**

The potential of Minor Forest Produce has not yet been fully realised. In fact a very small portion of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) is collected through Government agencies.
12. **Lack of attention to the Processing Side**: 

No attention has been paid to the processing side and the produce is sold in the raw form. The price line between the raw and processed articles is sometimes as high as one to three.

13. **Lack of Proper Information and Timely Exploitation**: 

Lack of proper information regarding the minor forest produce, its conservation and timely exploitation is one of the fundamental causes in its small collection and lesser revenue.

14. **Absence of a favourable Industrial Climate**: 

Inspite of plenty of natural resources, the district has not so far exploited them for industrial purposes. The district is industrially backward. Not a single heavy industry could be established in the district. In fact the lack of favourable industrial climate is the main obstacle in the way of development of forest based industries in the district.

15. **Lack of Entrepreneurship**: 

There is also lack of entrepreneurship in the people of this district, who prefer the traditional business and professions. This is either due to climatic and social atmosphere prevalent in the region or due to lack of knowhow and taking risk in this branch. As entrepreneurs are not coming forward to setup their industries available concessions
and facilities remained unutilised. Only some traditional forest based house-hold and cottage industries have been established so far in the district, such as furniture and basketry and a few others. There is great development potential of forest based industries in Balaghat district such as paper, wood distillation, tanning stuff, russa and other essential Oil, alcohol, lac, pharmaceutical, hard board, match boxes and splints industries.

16. **Lack of Infrastructural Facilities :**

Availability of infrastructural facilities in Balaghat district is not very satisfactory. This may be confirmed from the facts given below:

(a) **Transportation :**

The district has the facility of railway transportation but it is a narrow gauge. The total length of rail line in the district is only 139 kms, which is much below from the national average.

(b) **Roads :**

The length of pucca roads in the district is 1576.15 kms. and of kutcha roads in 571.5 kms. The state highways namely No. 11 and 26 run through the district. In 1982-83 the average length of metalled and Kutcha roads was 15.08 and 6.89 kms. respectively per 100 sq. kms, which was marginally larger than the state's average of 12.05 and 4.11 kms. respectively. The road links block places, market
outlets and big forest centres, viz. Khairlanji, Mahkepar etc. are kutcha roads. Interiors of Baihar Tahsil which remain cut off during major period of the year, which show the poor road facilities in the district.

Communication:

Balaghat district has very inadequate communication facilities. In 1983-84, the district had 44 public call offices, 34 telegraph offices, 24 sub-post offices and 172 branch post offices and a head post office. The average population served by a Post Office in the district was 6166 persons which was poorer than the state's average of 4963 persons.

Electrifications:

In 1985, 704 villages out of 1384 have been electrified. In 1982-83, the per capita electric consumption in the district was 12.15 kwtt. which was considerably lower than the state's average of 108 kwtt. In 1982-83, the percentage of electrified villages was 45.11 per cent which was also marginally lower than the state's average of 46.33 per cent. Thus district is backward not only in respect of electric consumption but also in power supply.

(c) Lack of space in industrial area:

There is lack of space in industrial area to bring up new industries. Only three industrial sheds are available in the district, which show a poor facilities of industrial sheds in the district.
(C) **Financial Problems** :

The major role is played by the financial institutions in setting up industries because the credit is provided by them only. But the fact is that some banks are handicapped to extend financial facilities due to this paucity of field staff, vehicles, etc. The Punjab National Bank, Syndicate Bank and the Union Bank of India do not have adequate field staff. Some banks keep the proposals pending for quite a long time, which causes delay in establishing industries. Entrepreneurs have complained that the banks insist on security and margin money even in case of industrial units where the total investment does not exceed Rs. 25,000/- . Adequate funds are not being allocated for the regeneration of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) in the circle.

(D) **Marketing Problems** :

Local demand for the industrial products is limited. Industrialists have no knowledge of specific markets where they can sell their products. They do not have the resources to conduct independent market surveys. They also lack the modern marketing knowhow and field salesmanship. Hence small producers are facing difficulty in marketing their products.

1. **Market studies are not carried out for the Sale of Forest Products** :

Market studies are not carried out for the sale of
forest products by the forest department. Hence maximum profits could not be made from the sale of forest products.

2. **Middlemen are Reaping Huge Profits**

The middlemen are reaping huge profits through the resale of forest produce in markets within and outside the state. Hence consumers are facing the problem of rising prices. Minor Forest Produce (MFP) is purchased by agents appointed by the department, who are generally the men of the contractor or the industrialist described as 'Purchaser' in law. The agents purchase produce formally on behalf of the department, but the collection is channelled to the final purchaser in reality. The department becomes entitled to the difference between the agreed sale price and the collection charges. Thus the primary objective of removing the middlemen and passing on the maximum benefit to the primary collector is defeated. The system also suffers from the defects of non-collection of material from the interior areas, over exploitation of accessible areas, low payment for collection to tribes and declaration of quantities less than actually collected.
3. **Difficulties of the purchaser of Forest Products**:

There are some difficulties which the purchaser faces and they are as follow:

(A) **Delay in communicating sanction and delivery of sold produce from depot**:

Purchasers have complained about delay in receipt of sanction orders and the delivery of the sold material. These delays cause wastage of the purchaser's time and delay in the transport of his material.

(B) **Issue of bills**:

As per the departmental procedure buyers are not issued bills for the material purchased by them. Purchaser consider bills as primary documents for maintenance and presentation of their accounts.

(C) **Details of material before the auctions**:

Purchaser have complained that details of material before the auctions are not made available to them.

(D) **Non-availability of lodging facilities to bidders**:

There are no lodging facilities for the out-side purchasers in the circle.

(E) **Distinction in quality classes**:

At times, several quality classes are mixed up in one lot.
The purchasers do not like this. This results in confusion in the assessment of the value of material.

(F) **Loading Difficulty** :

The traders more often find it difficult to get proper labour for loading the trucks or wagons.

(G) **Measurements and Volume Calculations** :

Some of the purchasers practically pointed out errors in the measurement and volume calculations.

(H) **Incorrect Grading** :

Some of the purchasers pointed out errors in grading, which creates an adverse impression on the minds of the trades and spoils the reputation of a particular depot and thereby reduces the value of the material.

(I) **Supply of Wagons** :

Uncertain supply of wagons creates difficult a situation for traders. In Balaghat, the situation of wagon supply is not satisfactory. This directly affects the depot sale. Gradually the traders are likely to be diverted to other markets in Maharashtra State.

(J) **Sales Tax** :

The rate of sales tax in Machya Pradesh is 16 per cent which is very high. All traders trading outside the state of Machya Pradesh have expressed their difficulty that the sales made to them have not been considered interestate sales. This makes them pay 8-10 per cent more sales tax.
(E) **Other Problems**

1. **Lack of Coordination between the Government Agencies and the Financing Institutions**

   The successful implementation of district industrial development programme is possible only when there is good coordination between the government agencies and the financing institutions. It is commonly observed that owing to lack of coordination among these agencies, the entrepreneurs do not make good use of their services and facilities.

2. **Problem of delay in providing electric connections**

   The problem of delay in providing electric connections to new industrial units is also worth noting. There are cases where, inspite of availability of electricity specially in the village the connections are delayed. It has caused a great loss to industrialists.

3. **Bureaucracy**

   The difficulties caused by the bureaucratic setup in the smooth functioning of the industries, discourages young entrepreneurs from setting up new industries. This bureaucratic set up is a great hindrance in the path of development of the industries, both small and large and has affected the process of industrial development of the district.

4. **Non-availability of skilled labour**

   Balaghat district is seriously facing the problem of
short supply of skilled labour. Generally skilled workers are brought by the industrialists from the places like Nagpur and Jabalpur. Industrialists have to face this problem in establishing their industries.

Suggestion:

In order to get the maximum returns from the forests and to make an efficient sector of the district's economy, there is an urgent need of paying a serious attention for the remedies of the existing problems. In recent years, the forests have gained new dimensions and significance under the development planning of the country. A good number of measures have been already taken by the Government to develop the forests. The following are the important suggestions which should be followed for the solving the problems and developing the forests economy of the Balaghat district.

1. **Adequate Staff**

   It is suggested that 25 per cent additional subordinate staff should be provided and the number of D.F.O.S! should be doubled in the circle. The Territorial Division should be divided into two wings, Conservation and Mistar and the Production Division should also be divided into two wings, Lumber and Marketing. Plantation work should be handed over to Forest Development Corporation, so that a D.F.O. may pay more attention to field work, the burden of work may reduce and the efficiency of field staff may increase.
2. **Decision-making** :

Barring the policy matters the rest of the decisions may be taken by the Conservator of Forests at the circle level itself. A few examples where this may be done are: fixing the upset price of certain forest products, departmental collection of the same, etc.

3. **Improvement in General Discipline** :

To improve the general discipline among the staff, higher officers such as D.F.O.S. and the Conservator of Forests should go on tour at least twenty days in a month.

4. **Check on Illicit Felling and Thefts** :

To have a check on illicit felling and thefts the average area of range, Sub-range and beat should be reduced to 75, 25 and 3 Sq Kms. respectively. Rangers, Foresters and Forest Guards should be equipped with arms and the number of 'Flying Squads' should be increased.

5. **Check on Malpractices** :

A well-constituted 'Vigilance Cell' consisting of senior and experienced Officers is necessary to ensure a healthy and honest atmosphere throughout the circle. Malpractices should be countered through enlightening the members of the organisation about their rights and responsibilities and appointment of better quality staff at various levels.
6. **Decentralisation of Administrative Power**

The Sub-Divisional Officer (SDO) should be provided with more administrative powers. The following office staff and other facilities are necessary to make the working of the Sub-Division effective and properly operative.

(i) A separate Office
(ii) Following Office Staff
(a) One Accountant
(b) One U.D.C.
(c) One L.D.C. (Typist)
(d) One Peon
(e) One Driver
(f) One Typist
(iii) One independent vehicle for facilitating the inspections of the field work in the Sub-Division.
(iv) Government quarters for the S.D.O.

The S.D.O. (Forest) is expected to carry out some important functions to relieve the Divisional Forest Officer (D.F.O.) of his Office work to some extent, so that the latter may find more time for field work and for giving valuable technical guidance to the divisional staff. The main functions of the S.D.O.s may, however, be distinguished as shown below:

(i) Maintenance of all service records of forest guards and sanction of all kinds of leave.
(ii) Scrutinising the monthly cash accounts of the Range Officers in the Sub-Division and their submission to D.F.O. for further action.

(iii) Keeping the license Books and other forms and Books for issue, when needed.

(iv) Execution of all the field works as laid down in the forest manual.

(v) He will be incharge of hammers.

(vi) Posting and transfers of forest guards, coupe guards and foresters in the Sub-Division.

7. **Communication and Vehicle Facilities** :

   A telephone or wireless set and vehicle facilities should be provided to every Range Office to make the working of the range more effective.

8. **Adequate Labour Supply** :

   To induce more labourers for forestry works attractive wages and job rates may be paid. Permanent labour gangs may also be kept. More welfare facilities should be provided to the existing forest villages so that more and more labourers may be attracted. Various forestry operations should be so timely scheduled as to minimise the uncertainty of supply. To ensure timely labour supply, it is necessary to establish at least five new forest villages in the remote areas of the circle to meet the labour requirement during peak agricultural operations.
9. **Adequate Residential Quarters**:

Sufficient residential quarters should be constructed for the subordinate staff, particularly for the Foresters and Forest Guards. Sufficient grants for annual maintenance should be allotted to repair and maintain the old buildings.

10. **Improvement in Working Conditions of Lower Staff**:

The duties of Forest guards and Beat guards should be reduced to 8 hours per day, so that they may perform their duties well and efficiently.

11. **Fire Protection Organisation**:

An effective forest fire protection organisation with modern equipment should be created in the district.

12. **Grazing** should be strictly regulated to induce and establish regeneration, and pasture development be taken up outside the forest area to meet the grazing requirement and reduce the burden on the forest.

13. **Alternative Resources for Timber and Fuelwood**:

Effective measures should be taken by creating alternative resources for meeting the requirements of the local population for timber, fuelwood, outside the forest areas to prevent forest degradation.
14. **Forest Education in Universities and Schools**: 

Forest Education should be introduced as a subject in the courses and syllabuses of schools and Universities in Madhya Pradesh.

15. **Ban on Free Removal of Fuel-wood by Head Loads**: 

It is suggested that the free removal of fuelwood by head loads for bonafide use or for sale should be banned immediately. If the above mentioned suggestions are adopted by the Government and the necessary steps are taken to implement them, it is quite sure that the forests of Balaghat will develop rapidly and the production of major produces will certainly boost up. This will also help in raising the revenue from the forest-produces. A specific plan for the development of forest should be undertaken by the district authorities with a view to remove the existing problems and to bring improvement.

16. **Scientific Exploitation of Minor Forest Products**: 

In order to prevent death tapping and instil quality consciousness the local tribes must be trained to collect only specific quantity in the correct way, without injuring the resource base. Plantation of Minor Forest Product should be taken up on individual or community basis in the individual or communal land by associating tribes in management and protection under the technical guidance and supervision of the forest department, while the in Government land it could be taken on the basis of
right of usufruct in favour of tribes. A new scheme of forest plantation on the Gujarat and Rajasthan pattern can be started. Under this scheme the selected tribal families are to be given 2.5 hectares of degraded forest land every year for a period of 15 years and would be paid Rs. 3,000 per year for planting and maintenance of quick-growing species in the area under the supervision and guidance of the forest department. The family is also given small timber, bamboo etc. for constructing a hut near the plantation site and is allowed to cut grasses and collect Minor Forest Product free of charge. At the end of the rotation period of 15 years, the family is to be given 20 per cent share in the profit derived from the sale of the material, making a partner in the profit.

17. Improved Storage Techniques of Minor Forest Products:

Improved storage techniques should be employed, using scientific methods and personnel with the requisite technical know-how. Warehouses and other facilities should be built in the interior areas to avoid deterioration of Minor Forest Product items. Item-wise survey of minor forest produce, its timely exploitation, research and development programme should be put through to maximise the collection.

18. Maximum Collection of Minor Forest Products:

In order to maximise the collection of minor forest produce, much remains to be done by a sound scientific collection
system, opening up of interior areas, improving the godown facilities and local processing by directly involving the local population. In plantation programmes, there should be a mixture of species which yield fuel, fodder, small timber, fruit, Minor Forest Product and other items of economic importance and daily use. Financial allocation for regeneration of Minor Forest Produce should be commensurate with the role it can play. The state’s five year and annual working plans should include a distinct and significant finance for regeneration of MPF species.

19. **Institutional Finance for Forestry**

There is not any inflow of institutional finance for social forestry. By and large, financial institutions, including commercial banks and Co-operative societies do not appear to have evolved norms and procedures for extending term loans for forestry on community lands. The Agriculture Refinance Development Corporation has contemplated some social forestry schemes in Gujarat. Institutional finance may give an impetus to the activities relating to the collection and disposal of minor forest produce.

20. **Farm Forestry and Agro Forestry**

Farmers should be encouraged to engage themselves in farm forestry and agro-forestry under which production and fertility of soil and environment could be improved. Proper staff arrangements should also be made in the banks to extend finance
and achieve the share of credit plan allotted to them. It may be suggested that in each branch there should be one technical person in the clerical cadre and when the number of accounts at a particular branch crosses 250 the post should be upgraded to an Officer cadre. The proposals should be sanctioned by the banks at the earliest if feasible and returned immediately if not acceptable. The banks should not insist on security and margin money in the case of industrial units where the total investment does not exceed Rs. 25,000/- as per the guidelines from the Reserve Bank of India. Bankers should be particularly educated about the economic viability of forest based schemes and their potential evaluation for lending purposes.

21. **Processing of Minor Forest Produce**

Processing of Minor Forest Produce is essential for value-addition and can be done at three stages. First stage processing at the house-hold level, as in respect of hill-broom grading, leaf plate, extraction of non-edible oil. Processing at the primary society level example being tamarind concentrate, oil-extraction (Power Ghani) bees-wax. Processing at the apex-level examples being solvent extraction of sal, extraction of other edible and non-edible oil, shellac, sabai grass etc.

22. **Favourable Industrial Climate**

The State Government should take immediate steps to create a favourable industrial climate. At least 2-3 heavy
industries in the district should be established. This will help in creating a suitable background for the promotion of new industries.

23. *Entrepreneurs should be Encouraged* :

For a more rapid industrialisation, the District Industries Centre should identify the entrepreneurs and sponsor and direct their applications to the banks. They should also encourage rural youths for the establishment of rural and cottage industries. The need of the day is to make the situation more congenial to attract new entrepreneurs to set up industries which to a large extent depend on the simplification of the formalities for setting up industries.

It is undoubtedly true that the Balaghat district has a great potential for industrial development. The need is to take the necessary steps for the promotion of industries in the district. If concrete efforts are made, in near future, for the setting up of new industrial units in the district, it would not only strengthen the district's economy but also generate income and create employment opportunities for the rural population.

24. *Infrastructural Facilities* :

Infrastructural facilities such as transport roads, communication, electricity and industrial sheds should be provided to industrialists so that more and more industries could be established in the district. The district should be connected with
the broad gauge railway line. The 571.5 Kilometres Kutcha roads should be converted into metallic roads. There are still some villages which are not approachable and are required to be linked up with all weather roads. The percentage of electrified villages is 45.11 per cent which, is lower than the states average of 46.33 per cent. The district requires more power facilities than what it has presently available. Balaghat district has very inadequate communication facilities. The average population served by a Post Office in the district is 6,166 persons which is poorer than the state's average of 4,963 persons. The district requires a good network of Post Offices and telephone facilities. The number of industrial sheds in the district is only three which is quite inadequate. Hence more and more industrial sheds and land should be provided to industrialists. M.P.E.B. will have to gear-up its machinery at lower levels which causes major delay in providing electric connections. M.P.E.B. should also take up a judicious programme of electrifying more villages.

25. **Training** :

Stipends for inplant training and training in local and national institutions should be offered to the local labourers, which would ease the problem of skilled labour in the district.

26. **Market Survey** :

Industrialists require knowledge of specific markets where they can sell their products. They do not have the resources
to conduct independent market surveys. The State Promotional Organisation for Development can study markets and disseminate this knowledge among the industrialists. It is also suggested that market studies for forest products should be carried out to maximise profits.

27. **Coordination** :

The successful implementation of district industrial development plan is possible only when there is good coordination between the Government agencies and the financing institutions. The agencies concerned should shoulder the responsibilities and follow up to progress at regular intervals.

28. **Middlemen should be Eliminated from the Forest Products Trade** :

More and more sale depots should be opened within and outside the state to eliminate middlemen from depot sales, to keep the prices low and to maximise profits.

29. **Suitable Upset Price Should be Fixed** :

Suitable upset price should be fixed for different forest products, so that unsold stock would not remain and quality would not deteriorate.

30. **Minor Forest Produce should be Collected and Sold Through Tribal Cooperatives** :

Keeping in view the importance of Minor Forest Produce (M.F.P.) in the tribal economy and life, M.F.P. should be collected
only through the tribal Co-operatives controlled by tribes at the primary level, so that remunerative prices could be ensured to them. For this purpose, local tribes should be trained in collection and storage techniques and wherever possible the first stage processing be done there.

31. Nationalisation of Saw-mills:

It is suggested that all the Saw-mills should be nationalised to check theft of timber and to earn full profits.

32. Seedling Forest Produce should be Transported Through Bullock Carts:

Bullock-carts should be provided to certain eligible tribal families and these bullock carts should be engaged by the forest department in the transportation of seedling forest produce instead of transporting these goods by trucks as in the practice at present.

33. Procedure of Delivery of Forest Products should be Simplified:

The procedure of effecting the delivery of goods to the purchaser be simplified to the extent permissible by rules. As far as possible, the sanction of sale of lots be issued immediately on the spot on the day of auction and challans also issued simultaneously. The Divisional Forest Officer may authorise the Depot Officer to give delivery of lots on the presentation of a receipt of treasury challan.