

The imported timber has significantly benefited a large number of saw mills particularly in urban centres in the vicinity of sea ports. Since the saw milling industry is totally unorganised and widely dispersed, it is difficult to get information about the sources of raw material, capacity utilisation and actual out-turn of sawn timber.

**TABLE 5.3**  
**Quantity and Value of Timber Imported**

| Year    | Quantity (cu.m.) | Value (Million Rs.) |
|---------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1984-85 | 19,122           | 38                  |
| 1985-86 | 219,506          | 375                 |
| 1986-87 | 844,297          | 1,364               |
| 1987-88 | 1,400,000*       | 2,175               |
| 1988-89 | 3,000,000*       | 3,538               |

\* The official figures for 1987-88 and 1988-89 are not yet available and the figures supplied are the Consultant's best estimate based on information from leading timber importers. The breakdown of this estimate for 1988-89 is:

|                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Logs                        | 1.8 million cu.m  |
| Sawn lumber                 | 0.9 million cu.m. |
| Plywood, veneers and others | 0.3 million cu.m. |

### 5.5 Export of Forest Products

The Government of India has not encouraged export of forest products in raw form. As can be seen from the Table 5.4, export of forest products has been declining. Mostly, only finished articles and veneers of prized woods, like Sandalwood, Red Sanders, Dalbergia Latifolia, Teakwood, etc., are being exported. However, the government has recently totally banned the export of timber in log or sawn form. Details of exports are given in the Table 5.4 for the years 1982-83 to 1986-87. Statistics for subsequent years are not yet available.

**TABLE 5.4**  
**Value of Export of Selected Groups of Forest Products**

| Value : '000 Rs. (\$C 1 = Rs. 14.50) |   |         |         |         |         |         |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Sl. No.                              | Description of Produce  | 1982-83 | 1983-84 | 1984-85 | 1985-86 | 1986-87 |
| 1.                                   | Cork natural raw and waste (including natural cork in blocks or sheets)         | 12      | 22      | 44      | —       | 521     |
| 2.                                   | Fuel wood (excluding wood waste) and wood charcoal                              | —       | 711     | 312     | 112     | 84      |
| 3.                                   | Pulpwood (including Chips and wood waste)                                       | —       | —       | —       | 40      | —       |
| 4.                                   | Other wood in the rough or roughly squared                                      | 19,582  | 11,388  | 11,690  | 6,827   | 2,598   |
| 5.                                   | Wood simply worked and Railway sleepers of wooden                               | 420     | 2,509   | 1,828   | 2,280   | 343     |
| 6.                                   | Pulp and waste paper  | 1,702   | 1,214   | 113     | 188     | 79      |
| 7.                                   | Cork manufactures   | 1,688   | 1,498   | 2,118   | 1,130   | 2,484   |
| 8.                                   | Veneers plywood 'improved' or reconstituted wood and other wood worked          | 93,952  | 78,175  | 95,933  | 89,728  | 116,504 |
| 9.                                   | Wood manufactures   | 44,673  | 42,460  | 45,930  | 48,445  | 65,635  |
| 10.                                  | Paper and paperboard  | 24,832  | 25,015  | 67,401  | 42,148  | 43,436  |
| 11.                                  | Paper and paper board cut to size or shape and articles of paper or paper board | 3,003   | 36,798  | 51,431  | 22,856  | 16,961  |
| 12.                                  | Furniture and parts thereof   | 59,915  | 59,416  | 56,301  | 44,348  | 28,443  |
| Total                                |   | 276,779 | 259,206 | 333,110 | 258,102 | 277,088 |

Source: Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade Vol. I. March 1983, March 1984, March 1985, March 1986 and March 1987.