

CONSERVATION VALUES OF THE PROTECTED AREAS

(Peechi-Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary)

The Sanctuary area is towards the North-Western portion of a vast forested landscape extending from the Nelliampathy hills of Southern Western Ghats. The forests of this sanctuary are connected with Parambikulam, Thrissur and Vazhachal forests through the Chimmony Wildlife Sanctuary at the Southern boundary.

Sanctuary is part of the Anamudi Elephant Reserve in the State, with a total Forest area of 3728Sq.Km. Anamudi ER consists of PAs viz., Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, Peechi Wildlife Sanctuary, Chimmony Wildlife Sanctuary, Thattekkad Wildlife Sanctuary, Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary, Idukki Wildlife Sanctuary, Eravikulam National Park, Anamudi Shola National Park, Pambadum Shola National Park, Mathikettan Shola National Park and Kurinjimala Sanctuary and the forest areas of Vazhachal, Nemmara, Chalakudy, Thrissur, Munnar, Malayattur, Kothamangalam and Mankulam forest divisions. Among the four Elephant Reserve in the State, Anamudi ER has the highest elephant number with a density of 0.7404 Elephant/ km². The estimated number of elephant as per 2010 elephant census is 2086(ranging from 1781 to 2443).

The areas of Anamalai - Anamudi Conservation Unit, from Chinnar and Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuaries on the east to Peechi Wildlife Sanctuary in the west are now under the protected area network. The total landscape comes to 4705 Sq.Km

THE CONSERVATION VALUES OF PEECHI-VAZHANI

WILDLIFESANCTUARY ARE THE FOLLOWING

1. The Sanctuary area is a large representative area of South Indian moist deciduous forests in the Western Ghats with associated floral and faunal diversity with representation of almost the entire range of south Indian wildlife.
2. The forests of the sanctuary in the catchments of Peechi and Vazhani reservoirs by way of their favourable influence on soil and water conservation regimes ensures water availability in these reservoirs providing drinking water to Thrissur town as well as irrigating agricultural lands.
3. Exceptional medicinal plant diversity with rare and endangered species.
4. Nature awareness, conservation education, ecotourism and research opportunities.
5. Supply of Non timber Forest produce and socio – economic security of forest dwelling tribes.
6. The forests of the sanctuary ameliorate the micro climate and exert favourable influence on the soil and water conservation regimes of the adjacent inhabited and agricultural lands.



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**Wildlife warden
Peechi**