

Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)

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**Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,**  
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,  
New Delhi: 1100 03,  
**Dated: 16th March, 2021**

**Office Memorandum**

**Subject: Minutes of the Meeting held on 10.03.2021 at 03:00 PM wrt to resolve the issues on Proposal for Regularization of 1970.041 ha. of forest land under Section 2 of forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in Pathanamthitta District of Kerala -Reg**

I am directed to attach herewith a copy of approved minutes of the meeting held on 10.03.2021 at 03:00 PM through Video Conferencing with Nodal Officer (FCA), Govt. of Kerala to resolve the issues wrt the proposal for Regularization of 1970.041 ha. of forest land under Section 2 of forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in Pathanamthitta District of Kerala.

Yours's faithfully

*Encl: As above*

**Sd/-**  
(Sandeep Sharma)  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

**Distribution to:**

1. The PCCF (Forest Management) & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forests & Wildlife Dept., Govt. of Kerala.
2. The DIGF(C), Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
3. AIGF(SB)/Scientist-D, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
4. PPS to IGF(FC), MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 10.03.2021 at 03:00 PM wrt to resolve the issues on Proposal for Regularization of 1970.041 ha. of forest land under Section 2 of forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in Pathanamthitta District of Kerala.**

A meeting was held on 10.03.2021 at 03:00 PM through Video Conferencing with Nodal Officer (FCA), Govt. of Kerala to resolve the issues wrt the proposal for Regularization of 1970.041 ha. of forest land under Section 2 of forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in Pathanamthitta District of Kerala.

2. The list of the participants who attended the meeting is annexed.
3. The meeting started with the brief introduction of the officials present and thereafter, IGF(FC) raised the issues that required to be clarified by the State Govt. The major issues flagged were:-
  - i. Complete KML file of the CA land proposed against the diversion (Both NFL and DFL) is not submitted by the State Govt.
  - ii. A clarification on the legal status of the land (i.e. the Kurinjimala Sanctuary) proposed for CA land was requested.
  - iii. State Government was requested to provide the documentary evidence which prove that the encroachments are of pre 1977.
  - iv. Details of different court orders/Specific direction related to the proposal.
4. In response to the above-mentioned issues the Nodal Officer (FCA), Govt. of Kerala informed that they are checking/validating the issues wrt to KML file and the State govt. will soon be sharing the complete KML files wrt to the CA land.
5. It was informed by the Nodal officer Kerala that the Kurinjimala Sanctuary is a notified wildlife sanctuary vide G.O (P) No. 36/2006/F&WLD dated 06.10.2006 and the legal status of this land is not a forest land.
6. Further, it was informed that the PCCF in his recommendation in part-IV has certified that these encroachments are prior to 1977. Moreover the State govt. has submitted a document vide file no. FP/KL/Enchr/8556/2012 dt 02.09.2019 certified by District Collector that these encroachments are pre 01.01.1977 cases.
7. With respect to the court orders it was informed that there is a *status quo* order by the Honorable Supreme Court of India on 03/07/2019 in SLP (Civil) Diary Nos. 2291/2019. The status quo order covers 104.15081 ha. of forest land proposed for regularization of 414 persons in Valiyakavu proposed Reserve in Mallapally Taluk of Ranni Forest Division. The area is included in the Details of breakup of forest land proposed for regularisation of pre 01.01.1977 encroachments enclosed with the

proposal in Part B. S. No. 18 Kariyanplavu 96.117 ha and Sl. No. 65 Valiyakavu of 8.03381 ha. Earlier, the Honorable High Court of Kerala vide judgement dated 12/03/2001 in OP Nos. 19921/1999-V & 2080/2001-V directed the State Government to submit the proposals to Central Government for regularization of these 414 persons pre-1.1.1977 encroachments in Valiyakavu proposed Reserve. It is submitted that, on getting the Government of India approval, the issuance of Pattayams to these 414 persons will be done only after getting the Supreme Court clearance in the matter. The above status quo order by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in SLP(C)2291/2019 covers 95.3215 ha of jointly verified areas with 114 families in Alapra Proposed Reserve of Kottayam Division in Kottayam District also. Proposal for regularisation of this 95.3215 ha of Kottayam District is not yet submitted to the Central Government. It is clarified that no other Court direction/order concerning this matter is there subsequent to order of Hon'ble. Supreme Court in 2009 regarding the regularisation of 10000 ha.

#### 8. Decisions:

After the detailed deliberations and discussion with Nodal Officer(FCA), Govt. of Kerala it was decided that:

- i. The Govt. of Kerala shall submit the complete KML files wrt to the proposed CA land.
- ii. The decision of accepting the proposed CA land, which is part of of a wildlife sanctuary, has to be deliberated in FAC meeting .

The meeting ended with the votes of thanks to chair.

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**List of participants present in the meeting held through Video Conferencing on 10.03.2021 at 03:00PM is given in the below table.**

Sl. No.	Name & Designation	Address
1.	Shri. Bennichen Thomas IFS, PCCF(Forest Management) & Nodal Officer (FCA)	Govt. of Kerala
2.	Shri A.K. Mohanty, IGF(FC)	MoEF&CC
3.	Shri M. K. Shambhu, DIGF(C)	IRO, Bangalore, MoEF&CC
4.	Shri Sandeep Sharma, AIGF	MoEF&CC
5.	Shri Suneet Bharadwaj, AIGF	MoEF&CC
6.	Shri Charan Jeet Singh, Scientist-D	MoEF&CC
7.	Shri Jiju J.S., Technical Officer	MoEF&CC
8.	Ms Shivani Sood, STA	DSS Cell, MoEF&CC