

**15 -ാം കേരള നിയമസഭ**

**14 -ാം സമ്മേളനം**

**നക്ഷത്രചിഹ്നമിട്ട ചോദ്യം നം. 72**

**18-09-2025 - ൽ മറുപടിയ്ക്ക്**

**വന്യജീവി ആക്രമണം തടയാൻ കേന്ദ്ര സഹായം ലഭ്യമാക്കാൻ നടപടി**

ചോദ്യം		ഉത്തരം	
<b>ശ്രീ. കെ. പ്രേംകുമാർ, ശ്രീ. സി. എച്ച്. കുഞ്ഞമ്പു ശ്രീ. യു. ആർ. പ്രദീപ്, ശ്രീ. കെ. വി. സുമേഷ്</b>		<b>ശ്രീ. എ. കെ. ശശീന്ദ്രൻ (വനം-വന്യജീവി വകുപ്പ് മന്ത്രി)</b>	
(എ)	<p>മനുഷ്യ-വന്യജീവി സംഘർഷം തടയുന്നതിന് സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന് കൂടുതൽ അധികാരം ലഭ്യമാക്കണമെന്നാവശ്യപ്പെട്ട് സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാർ കേന്ദ്ര വനം-പരിസ്ഥിതി വകുപ്പ് മന്ത്രിക്ക് കത്ത് അയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ; എങ്കിൽ മറുപടി ലഭ്യമായിട്ടുണ്ടോ; വ്യക്തമാക്കാമോ;</p>	(എ)	<p>മനുഷ്യ-വന്യജീവി സംഘർഷങ്ങൾ തടയുന്നതിന് നിയമപരമായി നിലവിലുള്ള നടപടിക്രമങ്ങളിലെ സങ്കീർണ്ണതകൾ ലഘൂകരിക്കുന്നതിനും, കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിൽ നിക്ഷിപ്തമായ ചില അധികാരങ്ങൾ സംസ്ഥാന ചീഫ് വൈൽഡ് ലൈഫ് വാർഡൻ നൽകുന്നതിനും ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ട് കേന്ദ്ര വനം-പരിസ്ഥിതി, കാലാവസ്ഥാ വ്യതിയാന മന്ത്രാലയം സെക്രട്ടറിക്ക് സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാർ 06.06.2025-ൽ കത്ത് (അനുബന്ധം -1) അയച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. കാടിന് പുറത്ത് ജനവാസ മേഖലയിൽ പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ ജീവനും സ്വത്തിനും ഭീഷണിയായി എത്തിച്ചേരുന്ന വന്യമൃഗങ്ങളെ പ്രതിരോധിക്കുന്നതിന് നിലവിലുള്ള കേന്ദ്ര നിയമമായ 1972-ലെ വന്യജീവി (സംരക്ഷണ) നിയമം അനുയോജ്യമായ രീതിയിൽ കാലോചിതമായി ഭേദഗതി ചെയ്യുന്നതിനുള്ള പ്രമേയം 2024 ഫെബ്രുവരി മാസം 14 നു നിയമസഭ ഐക്യം നേടുന്ന പാസ്സാക്കി ആയത് കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിലേക്ക് 27.02.2024-ൽ (അനുബന്ധം -2) അയച്ചുകൊടുത്തിരുന്നു. കൂടാതെ, സമാന ആവശ്യം ഉന്നയിച്ച് 06.01.2025-ലും (അനുബന്ധം -3) സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാർ കത്ത് നൽകിയിരുന്നു.</p> <p>കേന്ദ്ര വനം-പരിസ്ഥിതി, കാലാവസ്ഥാ വ്യതിയാന മന്ത്രാലയത്തിൽ നിന്നും 11/06/2025-ലെ F. No. WL-8/70/2025-WL നമ്പർ കത്ത് (അനുബന്ധം -4) പ്രകാരം മറുപടി ലഭ്യമായിട്ടുണ്ട്.</p>
(ബി)	<p>പ്രസ്തുത കത്തിലെ പ്രധാന ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ എന്തൊക്കെയാണെന്ന് വിശദമാക്കാമോ;</p>	(ബി)	<p>ജനവാസ മേഖലയിൽ പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ ജീവനും സ്വത്തിനും ഭീഷണിയായി ഇറങ്ങുന്ന വന്യമൃഗങ്ങളെ പ്രതിരോധിക്കുന്നതിന് നിലവിലുള്ള കേന്ദ്ര നിയമമായ 1972-ലെ വന്യജീവി (സംരക്ഷണം) നിയമം അനുയോജ്യമായ രീതിയിൽ കാലോചിതമായി</p>

		<p>ഭേദഗതി ചെയ്യുക, കാട്ടുപന്നികളെ ക്ഷുദ്രജീവികളായി പ്രഖ്യാപിക്കുക, നാടൻ കുരങ്ങുകളെ ഷെഡ്യൂൾ I-ൽ നിന്നും ഷെഡ്യൂൾ II-ലേക്ക് മാറ്റുക, വന്യജീവി സംരക്ഷണ നിയമപ്രകാരം കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാരിൽ മാത്രം നിക്ഷിപ്തമായ ചില അധികാരങ്ങൾ സംസ്ഥാന ചീഫ് വൈൽഡ്‌ലൈഫ് വാർഡൻ നൽകുക എന്നിവയാണ് പ്രധാന ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ.</p>
(സി)	<p>വന്യജീവി ആക്രമണങ്ങൾക്കെതിരെയുള്ള പ്രതിരോധ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾക്ക് സംസ്ഥാനം സമർപ്പിച്ച 620 കോടിയുടെ പദ്ധതി നടപ്പിലാക്കുന്നതിനായി പ്രത്യേക സാമ്പത്തിക സഹായം അനുവദിക്കണമെന്ന ആവശ്യം കേന്ദ്രം അംഗീകരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോയെന്ന് വ്യക്തമാക്കാമോ?</p>	(സി) <p>മനുഷ്യ-വന്യജീവി സംഘർഷം ലഘൂകരിക്കുന്നതിന് സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാർ 620 കോടി (60:40 അനുപാതത്തിൽ) രൂപയ്ക്ക് 5 വർഷത്തേക്കുള്ള ഒരു കർമ്മ പദ്ധതി തയ്യാറാക്കി ധനസഹായത്തിനായി 07/09/2021 ൽ കേന്ദ്ര വനം-പരിസ്ഥിതി മന്ത്രാലയത്തിൽ സമർപ്പിക്കുകയും ആയത് 22/11/2021 ൽ ബഹു. കേരള വനം വകുപ്പ് മന്ത്രി കേന്ദ്ര വനം-പരിസ്ഥിതി മന്ത്രിക്ക് നേരിട്ട് സമർപ്പിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിരുന്നു. ഇപ്രകാരം സമർപ്പിച്ച പദ്ധതിയെക്കുറിച്ച് കേന്ദ്ര സർക്കാരിന്റെ നിലപാട് 12/01/2023 ലെ DO No. NA-13/16/2020-NA(Pt) (അനുബന്ധം -5) നമ്പർ അർദ്ധ ഔദ്യോഗിക കത്ത് പ്രകാരം സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാരിനെ അറിയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. ടി അർദ്ധ ഔദ്യോഗിക കത്തിൽ പ്രതിപാദിക്കുന്നത് സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാരിനുള്ള ധനസഹായം നിലവിൽ വിവിധ കേന്ദ്രാവിഷ്കൃത പദ്ധതികൾ, CAMPA എന്നിങ്ങനെ സംസ്ഥാനവുമായി കേന്ദ്രം ചെലവ് പങ്കിടുന്ന പദ്ധതികളിൽ പരിഗണിക്കാറുണ്ടെന്നും സംസ്ഥാനം ശാസ്ത്രീയവും ആധുനികവുമായ രീതികൾ അവലംബിച്ചും വിവിധ സംസ്ഥാന പദ്ധതികളിൽ നിന്നും വിഭവസമാഹരണം നടത്തിയും ദീർഘകാല, സുസ്ഥിര പദ്ധതികൾ ആസൂത്രണം ചെയ്ത് മനുഷ്യ-വന്യജീവി സംഘർഷത്തെ നേരിടുന്നതാണ് അഭികാമ്യമെന്നും അറിയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.</p>

സെക്ഷൻ ഓഫീസർ



**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

Forest &amp; Wildlife(D) Department

Phone No : 0471 2518076

E-mail sod.for@kerala.gov.in

06-06-2025, Thiruvananthapuram

No. D1/242/2023-FWLD

From

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government

To

The Secretary to Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (Wildlife  
Division)Paryavaran Bhavan, C.G.O complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi – 110003

Sir,

Sub: Forest & Wildlife Department - Permission for killing Wild  
Animals causing threat to Human life and severe damages to  
property & agriculture crops - reg

Ref: 1. Government letters No. D2/126/2020-FWLD dated  
01.11.2020, 11.01.2021, 17.06.2021, 07.10.2021 &  
08.02.2022.

2. Letter No. F.No.8-31/2020-WL dated December 2020 &  
07.03.2022.

3. Resolution passed by Kerala Legislative Assembly on  
14.02.2024

4. Government letter No.D2/150/2023-FWLD dated  
27.02.2024

Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) has become a highly sensitive social issue in Kerala. It has assumed critical dimensions posing serious challenges to both wildlife conservation as well as the well-being of human beings. The conflict has become particularly acute in regions adjoining forests and Protected areas where people and wild animals frequently share same space.

The species most commonly involved in these conflicts include Asian elephant, Wild pig, Bonnet macaque, Porcupine, Peafowl etc. In



many parts of the state, these wild animals are seen straying into human habitations in search of food and water causing damages to human life, property, crop and animal depredation. In addition, there are also reports of HWC related incidents involving large carnivores such as tiger and leopard creating wide-spread public fear and outcry.

Multiple and interrelated factors contribute to the increased reporting of incidents of HWC; particularly the localized & increased presence of wild animals in several parts of the State. Prominent among these are habitat fragmentation & degradation, climate change, proliferation of invasive species, urbanization, land-use change, altered animal behavior & movement patterns etc. The cumulative impact of these recurring conflicts has been particularly severe affecting the daily lives and livelihoods of people residing in forest fringes and ecologically sensitive areas. Constant exposure to threats from wildlife has resulted in significant economic hardship, psychological stress, and a sense of insecurity among people.

The Government of Kerala has taken several initiatives to mitigate HWC. Of late, HWC has been declared as a 'State Specific Disaster'. The current strategy of mitigating HWC is science-based, people-inclusive and focussing on inter-sectoral coordination and technology-driven.

As per the reference cited 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> above, Kerala has been repeatedly requesting the Central Government to declare Wild pig as a Vermin, as the presence of the animals is very common in the inhabited areas in Kerala. Similarly, the state has also sought special financial support from Central Government to deal with HWC related issues through a special financial assistance worth Rs.620 crores. In addition, a Memorandum of Requests was submitted to the Hon'ble Union Minister on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024, by the State of Kerala that inter alia contained the following requests:

- a. The Central Government may amend the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, rules thereof, procedures, protocols, guidelines, advisories etc, in tune with the need of the hour, especially for a State like Kerala, by incorporating practical provisions for ensuring protection to life and property in human dominated landscapes.
- b. To declare Wild pig (*Sus scrofa*) as 'vermin' as per the amended Section 62 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for the State of Kerala



- for a period of atleast one year; and
- c. The species 'Bonnet macaque' may be shifted from Schedule I to Schedule II so that necessary management/ mitigation measures can be taken at State level itself in a site-specific manner.

However, these requests are yet to be considered. In order to manage the population of Wild boar creating problems in human habitations, the State Government has used the provisions in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Since Wild boar is included in the Schedule II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the power given to the Chief Wildlife Warden under Section 11(1)(b) of the Act was used to eliminate wild boars that venture out of forests into human-inhabited areas and pose danger by delegating it to the Honorary Wildlife Wardens (elected representatives of Local Self Governments) and Authorized Officers (officials of the Local Self Governments) appointed by the State Government. This is found to be quite effective in the management of Wild boar issues in human habitations outside the forest areas. Recently, a decision has been taken in State Government to request the Central Government to provide/ extend such powers for other species as well those that are creating problems in human habitations outside the forests.

In continuation of the requests already made as mentioned above, Government of Kerala solicits an immediate appropriate action Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change to delegate the powers vested with the Central Government in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to the Chief Wildlife Warden and simplify the connected procedures, protocols, guidelines, advisories etc; so as to eliminate problematic wild animals (particularly those which are included in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972) that stray into human habitations and pose threat to life and property.

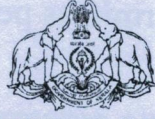
Yours Faithfully,

BISHWANATH SINHA  
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY

Copy to,

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Administration) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala (For information and follow up).





**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

Forest & Wildlife(D) Department

No.D2/150/2023-FWLD

27-02-2024,Thiruvananthapuram

From

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government

To

The Secretary to Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment & Forest (Wildlife Division)  
Paryavaran Bhavan, C.G.O Complex,  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110 003.

Sir,

Sub: Forest & Wildlife Department - Resolution passed by the  
Legislative Assembly of Kerala regarding Human-Wildlife  
Conflict - reg

Ref: Memorandum of Requests submitted to Hon. Union Minister for  
Environment, Forests & Climate Change on 07.02.2024, from  
State Government.

As you aware, Human-Wildlife Conflicts are alarmingly  
increased in the State of Kerala due to many reasons. State Government  
has been taking necessary measures to sustain such issues and to  
prevent it for ever.

However, there are some constraints in the existing legal  
framework for taking timely actions when necessitated, thereby,  
delaying the field level implementation for sustaining the emergency  
arised due to the presence of Schedule-1 animals in the inhabited areas  
causing threat to Human life. Another issue, is with respect to the  
presence of Wildpigs (*Sus scrofa*) in the most of the districts of Kerala,  
whose number is increasing uncontrollably. Efforts being taken to  
sustain this menace, are not yielding significant results.

On 14.02.2024, the Legislative Assembly of Kerala have



unanimously passed a resolution in this regard, where Government of India is requested to make amendments in the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 and to declare Wild pig as vermin as per section 62 of the Act.

In view of the above circumstances, a copy of the said resolution is forwarded herewith for kind consideration.

Yours Faithfully,

  
K R JYOTHILAL  
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY



**Fifteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly**

**Tenth Session**

**Resolution unanimously passed by the Assembly on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2024**

WHEREAS, the invading of wild animals in human habitats in various parts of Kerala, has caused an increase in human-wild life conflict posing threat to property and agriculture and thereby led to a situation that resulted in the loss of several human lives ;

AND WHEREAS, the exponential breeding outside the forest areas, of wild pig, various species of monkeys and other animals which are wild animals under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 results in severe wild animal attacks ;

AND WHEREAS, the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, rules, procedures, advisories and guidelines containing stringent provisions preventing destruction and control of these kind of aggressive wild animals entering human habitats, continue to remain in force without being timely amended;

AND WHEREAS, the Central Government are repeatedly declining permission to exterminate the dangerous animals , including wild pig ,breeding exponentially outside forest areas , as per section 62 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act,1972;

AND WHEREAS, the Government are committed to maintain an environment ensuring fearless and peaceful living to the public in human habitats;

NOW, THEREFORE, this Assembly unanimously requests the Central Government,-

1. to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 including sub-section (2) of section 5 delegating all the powers of the Chief Wild Warden conferred under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 11 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to the Chief Conservators of Forest so as to enable them to take immediate action;



2. to simplify the procedures in the provisos and explanation to clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 11 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and in the rules, procedures, advisories and guidelines issued under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and to create an environment for preventing wild animal attack by making timely amendment to the said Central Law, incorporating requisite feasible provisions;

3. to declare wild pig as vermin under section 62 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972;

4. to take action for the birth control of wild animals for preventing excessive increase in their number.

Thiruvananthapuram,  
14.02.2024

Shaji C Baby,  
Secretary-in-charge.



**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

Forest & Wildlife(D) Department

No.D2/242/2024-FWLD

06-01-2025, Thiruvananthapuram

From

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government

To

The Secretary to Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment & Forest (Wildlife Division)  
Paryavaran Bhavan, C.G.O Complex  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.

Sir,

Sub: Forest & Wildlife Department - Memorandum of Requests - reg

Ref: 1. Meeting of Hon.Minister (Forest &WL Dept) , Government of Kerala with Hon. Minister, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, held on 28.11.2024

2. Letter No. KFDHQ/8153/2024-CWW/WL11 dated 19.12.2024 from the Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala.

I am directed to invite your attention to the reference cited and to forward herewith a copy of the 'Memorandum of Requests' submitted to Hon. Union Minister, MoEF & CC, by the Hon. Minister (Forest & WL Department), Government of Kerala on 28.11.2024, for information & necessary action.

Yours Faithfully,

PRAMOD V R  
JOINT SECRETARY

Copy to,

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Thiruvananthapuram (For information).





# KERALA FOREST DEPARTMENT

## MEMORANDUM OF REQUESTS

PRESENTED BY

A.K. SASEENDRAN  
MINISTER FOR FORESTS & WILDLIFE,  
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

To

Shri. BHUPENDER YADAV  
HON'BLE MINISTER FOR STATE  
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE,  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

ON 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2024





## KERALA FOREST DEPARTMENT

### MEMORANDUM OF REQUESTS

1. Seeking amendment of certain provisions in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. Request for Sanctioning Special Financial Assistance to Implement the Project for Management of Human-Wild Animal Conflict in Kerala.
3. Notification Of Eco-Sensitive Zones.
4. Regularization Of Pre 01.01.1977 Encroachments On Forest Land.
5. Issues related to release of funds under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes.
6. Allotment of Rs.10 crore for payment of compensation to the victims of human wildlife conflict.
7. Financial support for conservation of forests and biodiversity in Sabarimala, Malayattoor and similar such pilgrim centres deep inside forest.



## **A. Seeking amendment of certain provisions in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**

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In recent years, human-wildlife conflict in many parts of Kerala have shown an increasing trend and is threatening human life, property and agriculture fields more than in the past years. The issue is tremendously affecting the general character of society itself and has escalated to such an extent that it has become difficult for the public including farmers and students to live peacefully in their own domicile.

The increasing human-wildlife conflict situation is due to several reasons. Regional fluctuations in wildlife population, changes in behavior, movement of wild animals in search of new pastures, grazing of domestic cattle in forest areas, changes in cropping patterns, etc., are some of the reasons. But most importantly, population explosion in the case of wild pigs and various species of monkeys are wreaking havoc in human habitations. The matter has also been listed in the Kerala Development Report, 2021, released by the Kerala State Planning Board. Many projects are being implemented at the Government level to mitigate Human-Wildlife Conflict. Every year, the Department is burdened to pay an average of Rs. 10 crore as compensation.

The provisions of the existing Central Act, i.e., Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 have to be followed while dealing with the issue of wild animals entering the inhabited areas and for their practical implementation, the Standard Operating Procedure issued by the Central Government, Advisory to deal with human-wildlife conflict, guidelines issued by the Tiger Conservation Authority and the Project Elephant scheme etc. should also need to be followed.

The existing legal procedures for taking measures such as tranquilizing wild animals that enter into the inhabited areas outside



the forest boundaries and causing damage to life and property, trapping them in cages, rehabilitating them after being captured and population control are found tedious to follow while taking urgent measures to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in many situations. In this case, the State of Kerala is of the opinion that the above procedures need to be revisited and amended appropriately.

Though the State Government have taken steps under Section 11(1) (b) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to eliminate the problematic Wild Pigs which raid crops and foray into human settlements by entrusting the powers to Panchayathi Raj Institutions, the efforts to contain the menace yielded minimal success due to lack of licensed shooters and also the procedural formalities. Therefore, it is necessary to declare Wild Pig (*Sus scrofa*) as vermin at least for a period of one year. A proposal to declare the wild pigs that threaten human life and property as vermin was submitted to the Central government on 19.11.2021, but no favorable decision has been taken and communicated yet.

In certain parts of the State, 'Bonnet macaque' has been perceived as a threat to human property and peaceful existence, due to their involuntary and frequent visits to human habitations. In certain other areas, Bonnet macaque populations have been seen permanently residing amidst human habitations. Before the amendment of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 this species of monkey was included in Schedule II during 2022 whereby the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State could manage by capturing and relocating the individuals/troops of monkeys causing menace in human habitations. After the amendment, this species has been included in Schedule I, thereby depriving the CWW of the power of taking suo motu action. Hence, it is recommended that the species 'Bonnet macaque' may be shifted from Schedule I to Schedule II so that necessary management/mitigation measures can be taken at State level itself in a site specific manner.



**Hence the State of Kerala proposes to the Central Government the following:**

- a. The Central Government may amend the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, rules thereof, procedures, protocols, guidelines, advisories, etc., in tune with the need of the hour, especially for a state like Kerala, by incorporating practical provisions for ensuring protection to life and property in human-dominated landscapes.
- b. To declare Wild Pig (*Sus scrofa*) as vermin as per the amended Section 62 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 for the State of Kerala for a period of at least 1 year and
- c. The species 'Bonnet macaque' may be shifted from Schedule I to Schedule II so that necessary management/mitigation measures can be taken at State level itself in a site specific manner.

## **B. Request for Sanctioning Special Financial Assistance to Implement the Project for Management of Human-Wild Animal Conflict in Kerala**

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The rising Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) in Kerala has led to considerable loss of life, property, and agricultural resources, with primary conflict species being elephants, wild pigs, and macaques, as well as carnivores like tigers and leopards. Contributing factors include habitat fragmentation, infestation of invasive species, presence of large-scale monocultures, and a reduced tolerance level among communities residing near forests.

To address this escalating issue, the Kerala Forest Department developed a comprehensive project informed by extensive consultations with stakeholders, including Members of the Legislative Assembly, public representatives, scientists, NGOs, forest officials, and the public. Over 1,600 suggestions were received and analyzed,

resulting in the selection of effective, innovative, and legally feasible measures to mitigate HWC. The proposed project focuses on strategies such as constructing physical barriers, improving habitat quality, providing compensation and insurance, enhancing infrastructure, and encouraging community involvement.

### **Project Outlay**

<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Financial Forecast (Rs in Lakh)</b>
Measures to avoid human-wild animal interface	9020.50
Infrastructure and human resource development	17095.00
Compensation, insurances, and ex-gratia	8375.00
Strengthening people's participation in HWC mitigation	100.00
Habitat quality improvement activities	8252.74
Training, awareness creation, and research	623.00
Maintenance of existing infrastructure	8901.50
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>62001.24</b>

The total estimated cost for implementing the project is Rs. 620 crore over a period of five-year.

A proposal for this Rs. 620 crore project was initially submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on 07.09.2021 but was not approved. Following this, the State Government submitted a revised recommendation on 01.04.2024, requesting that the project be funded as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a 60:40 cost-sharing arrangement between the Central and State Governments under the budget head "Integrated



Development of Wildlife Habitats." Approval for this proposal is still pending.

### **C. Notification Of Eco-Sensitive Zones**

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The proposals for declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs) for the Protected Areas (PAs) of Kerala had been forwarded to MoEF&CC. For certain PAs, revised proposals excluding human inhabited areas are also prepared. Out of the 18 proposals submitted, the ESZ of Mathikettan Shola National Park has been approved and notified. The remaining proposals are under various stages of scrutiny. It is requested the process of publishing draft/final notification of ESZs of the PAs after excluding the human inhabited areas may be expedited.

### **D. Regularization Of Pre 01.01.1977 Encroachments On Forest Land**

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Notwithstanding the pressure on land Kerala has been a frontrunner in forest conservation and has pioneered earnest endeavors to protect and maintain a healthy forest and tree cover. Keeping the ecological security of the State in mind, the State has been successfully and diligently protecting 44 rivers and its tributaries, wet lands and paddy lands, biodiversity, fauna and flora of all types including special ecosystems like Mangroves, etc. through both legislation and effective executive action. The State has also scrupulously notified several Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks which are pride of the entire Nation. In order to further advance the cause of forest conservation, private owned forests and ecologically fragile land parcels abutting them have been notified as Reserved Forests through special legislations. Kerala is also the first among the States to promulgate an exclusive Policy for Eco-Restoration of Monoculture Plantations and Degraded Forests to ensure sustainable ecosystem services from the forests.

1. In an earnest effort to achieve 'equity and welfare of all' which are fundamentals in the journey towards the goal of 'ViksitBharath', the Government of Kerala is working for establishing a 'Nava Keralam' (New Kerala) with the vision: 'Land for all, records for all lands and smart in all services (Ellavarkumbhoomi, ellabhoomikkumrehka, ellasevanangalum smart)'.

(a) Under the 'Kerala Land Assignment (Regularization of Occupation of Forest Lands prior to 1.1.1977) Special Rules, 1993', following joint verification by Forest and Revenue Departments, the details for regularization of occupation covering an extent of 2499.5961 Ha of land in various districts namely, Pathanamthitta, Trivandrum, Kollam and Kannur have been uploaded in the PARIVESH portal for necessary process under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Especially in the case of Pathanamthitta District, proposal for diversion of 1970.041 Ha of forest land for regularization of pre 01.01.1977 occupation was recommended and forwarded to IRO Bangalore by the State Government on 02.04.2020. Ever since several queries have been raised by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for which prompt replies have been furnished by Forest Department/State Government. In its latest correspondence in this regard as per letter No. 8-06/2020-FC dated 08.08.2023 of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has sought for submission of documents that can prove occupation of these areas including remote sensing maps, Government documents etc. apart from the mandated joint verification list which was the conclusive proof of occupation. Citing the above reason, clearance is pending.

The occupants of the land and their successors-in-interest have been waiting for title for more than two generations. The Joint Verification being a solemn exercise jointly carried out by the Revenue and Forest Departments, the Joint Verification lists are authentic and reliable. Additional queries and details over and above the Joint Verification which are being sought is delaying the Central Government's concurrence. Schools, hospitals, civil supplies and other such civic amenities had not reached these 'forest areas 50 years



ago'. Hence, the queries for submission of further evidence beyond the Joint Verification (solemnized by statute) sanctified under the special rules (upheld by the Supreme Court) may not therefore be held against according prior concurrence for regularization of occupation. Hence, in the above circumstances, the approvals of cases already uploaded in the PARIVESH portal may be expedited based on the details already uploaded. More than 8500 families will be benefited.

(b) Similarly, such land parcels in various districts where Joint Verification is completed will be uploaded in PARIVESH portal in due course for the Central Government's concurrence. We request that the approvals for the same are also expedited. This will help another 6000 families to get their titles.

(c) We also request that a Nodal Officer in MoEF for the State of Kerala is formally designated so that the above approvals can be mutually followed up and expedited in the interest of these families in thousands. The State would also nominate its officer to liaison with the said Nodal Officer of MoEF.

## **E. Issues related to release of funds under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes:**

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### **(i) Green India Mission**

The Green India Mission (GIM) is being implemented in Kerala since FY 2016-17 through the Participatory Forest Management (PFM) institutions. The State Forest Development Agency (SFDA) is designated as the nodal agency for implementing the Green India Mission in the State. Under the Green India Mission, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had approved Rs.3885.27 lakh for FY 2019-20 and released 70% of the Central share of Rs.1631.814 lakhs which was completely utilised for various activities approved by the Ministry. The State share of Rs.1087.88

lakhs were received by the SFDA which has been utilised. The Utilisation Certificates have been submitted to the Ministry promptly.

The State has not received further fund from the Ministry after FY 2019-20. The State had submitted a proposal for Rs.5472 lakhs to the Ministry during FY 2023-24 which was not approved. A proposal for implementing the Green India Mission at cost of Rs. 64.35 crore for the FY 2024-25 has been submitted to Ministry. Ministry is requested to expedite the approval of the proposal so that the various activities envisaged under GIM can be implemented during FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25.

#### **(ii) School Nursery Yojana**

In FY 2023-24, 52 schools in Kerala were selected to pilot the School Nursery Yojana, successfully completing the project at a total cost of Rs. 47 lakh. The Ministry disbursed a first installment of Rs. 32.90 lakh, and project completion reports along with Utilization Certificates have been submitted. The remaining amount of Rs. 14.10 lakh is yet to be released. The initiative has been widely appreciated in the State, fostering a strong connection between students and nature. Seedlings raised in the schools were planted as part of the Prime Minister's *EkPedMaaKeNaam* mission, coinciding with World Environment Day celebrations in June 2024. Building on this success, a proposal to expand the School Nursery Yojana program to 151 additional schools at a projected cost of Rs. 137.90 Lakhs has been submitted for Ministry approval, and we seek your favorable consideration to support the continued growth and impact of this environmental education initiative.

#### **(iii) Forest Fire Prevention and Management - FPMS**

Kerala has achieved significant success in reducing forest fire incidents through proactive management utilizing state funds and funds under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Forest Fire Prevention and Management. Significant funds were received under these



schemes in previous years which has been substantially reduced during the FY 2024-25. It is noticed that the criteria for fund allocations adopted have resulted in reduced allocations, affecting the State's capacity to maintain these achievements. In recognition of Kerala's progress, an increase in FPMS funding would greatly support continued efforts in fire prevention and ecosystem protection. The table below illustrates the reduction in FPMS funds allocated over recent years:

Financial Year	Scheme	Amount Proposed (Rs. in Lakh)	Amount Released (Rs. in Lakh)
2022-23	FPMS	2242.94	241.43
	FPMS (TSP)	402.20	202.42
2023-24	FPMS	1766.91	441.73
	FPMS (TSP)	601.10	150.28
2024-25	FPMS	959.11	49.17
	FPMS (TSP)	497.87	42.35

In light of these reduced allocations, it is requested that FPMS funding be increased to align with Kerala's accomplishments and the State's substantial need for sustained fire management resources. Enhanced funding would allow Kerala to continue its proactive approach to forest fire prevention and ensure the protection of valuable forest ecosystems. It is requested that funds for an amount of Rs. 959.11 Lakhs under FPMS and Rs. 497.87 lakhs under FPMS (TSP) may be allocated to the state as requested in the APO for FY 2024-25.

**(iv) Central Sector Scheme for Conservation and Management of Mangroves in Vembanad and Kannur Regions**

Mangroves are considered as one of the most productive eco systems in the world owing to its ecological significance. Mangroves play a critical role in preserving rare and endemic plant species and have significant medicinal, agricultural, and industrial potential. In

Kerala, mangrove forests are found across several districts, including Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha, Kottayam, Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kannur, Kozhikode, Malappuram, and Kasaragod.

Since 2006-07, the Social Forestry Wing of the Kerala Forest Department has implemented a Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for the "Conservation and Management of Mangroves in Vembanad and Kannur regions." Initially, this was funded at 100% by the central government. Since 2016-17, however, the scheme has been funded on a 60:40 cost-sharing basis between the Government of India and the Government of Kerala.

This scheme, implemented in multiple districts across Kollam, Ernakulam, and Kozhikode regions, focuses on the following core activities:

- **Raising Seedlings and Plantations:** This includes distributing mangrove and associated species to the public and planting agroforestry species, *vetiver* grass along fringes of lake/water bodies, canal banks and streams, and casuarina as bio-shield and shelter belt in coastal areas.
- **Community Empowerment and Ancillary Activities:** These efforts include promoting community health, improving drainage and sanitation, mosquito control, provision for distribution of biogas plants, fish fingerlings, and educational workshops. These measures empower communities that depend on mangrove ecosystems and address livelihood needs.

The Management Action Plans (MAPs) for Vembanad and Kannur Regions for FY 2023-24 were reviewed and approved by the State Level Steering Committee on 16/05/2023. These MAPs were submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) for funding approval but have not yet disbursed funds. Hence, the Management Action Plans for Vembanad and Kannur Regions has to be resubmitted to MoEF & CC for considerations during 2024-25 vide letter no. SW2-6462/22 dated 12.07.2024.



The requested fund allocation for the scheme in 2024-25 is as follows:

- Conservation and Management of Mangroves in Vembanad Region: Rs. 239.73 lakh
- Conservation and Management of Mangroves in Kannur Region: Rs. 102.40 lakh
- **Total: Rs. 342.13 lakh**

We seek approval and timely release of funds for these critical conservation efforts to ensure the ongoing protection and management of Kerala's mangrove ecosystems.

**(v) Funding for acquisition of Mangrove Areas**

Mangroves, which thrive in tropical and subtropical regions, serve as crucial ecosystems at the confluence of rivers and seas. These forests, primarily composed of salt-tolerant trees and shrubs, support a range of ecological functions and provide essential services, including carbon sequestration, coastal protection, nutrient cycling, and nurseries for aquatic life. Mangroves also play a vital role in local livelihoods by providing non-wood forest products and resources for fuel, fodder, and traditional uses.

**a. Current Status and Legal Context**

At the beginning of the 20th century, Kerala had extensive area under mangroves (70,000 Ha) which is now reduced to just 2,300.335 Ha in ten districts. So far, government has accorded legal protection for 590 Ha area of mangroves only. The ownership of the remaining mangroves is with revenue, other departments, panchayats and private individuals. That means, there is a need to accord legal protection to 1,710 Ha of mangroves. The current ownership of these areas is with

revenue, other govt, agencies, panchayats and private individuals. While mangrove forests with revenue, panchayat and government agencies can be notified under Kerala Forest Act, 1961 or the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, mangroves with private individuals need to be acquired and notified as Reserve Forests. It is estimated that around 1362.516 Ha of mangroves in private land need to be acquired and restored. Further, mangrove-based rural livelihood and income generating activities also need to be initiated.

**b. Rationale for Acquisition**

To halt further degradation, it is essential to bring privately-owned mangrove land under legal protection. This acquisition will allow for the restoration and conservation of these critical ecosystems, while also supporting rural livelihoods through mangrove-based income-generating activities. The project will cover nine districts of Kerala namely Kasargode, Kannur, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kottayam, Alappuzha, and Kollam,

**c. Method of Acquisition**

It is proposed that the mangrove sites under private ownership identified in nine districts shall be acquired after paying compensation to the private owners in accordance with the relevant provisions of The Kerala Forests (Vesting and Management of Ecologically Fragile Lands) Act, 2003 and the corresponding Rules of 2007, following the prescribed procedures.

**d. Proposed Phasing and Cost**

The acquisition process will be voluntary and executed in phases, beginning with sites where landowners have already expressed willingness to participate. Phase I targets five districts - Kollam, Thrissur, Malappuram, Kozhikode, and Kannur and covers 135 sites totaling 99.04 Ha. The estimated cost for Phase I is Rs. 52.40 crore.

**d. Implementation and Funding**



The Kerala Forest Department will implement this scheme through the Custodian (Ecologically Fragile Lands), Territorial, and Social Forestry wings.

**e. Funding Summary**

Phase	Districts Covered	Area (Ha)	Estimated Cost (Rs. crore)
Phase I	Kollam, Thrissur, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Kannur	99.04	52.40

We request approval and funding support to enable the Kerala Forest Department to proceed with the acquisition and conservation of privately-owned mangrove areas, preserving these invaluable ecosystems for future generations.

**F. Allotment of Rs.10 crore for payment of compensation to the victims of human wildlife conflict.**

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The Government of Kerala is spending large amount towards paying compensation for the damages sustained on account of human wildlife conflict. For instance, an amount of Rs. 21.79 crore was disbursed as compensation during 2023–24 alone. As of now, the Government of Kerala is bearing the lion-share of it. Though paying compensation to the victims of human wildlife conflict is an identified activity in the CSS-Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger and Project Elephant, very little allocation is made for paying compensation as it is one of the several activities bunched together in the whole scheme. This practically puts the entire burden of paying compensation solely on the shoulders of the State Government. It is submitted that the Central Government also has a moral responsibility of supporting the efforts of the State Government in ameliorating the hardships of people who are victims of human

wildlife conflict. Hence, it is requested that an amount of Rs. 10 crore may additionally be allotted to Kerala either from the existing Centrally Sponsored Schemes mentioned above or from the National CAMPA for providing compensation to the victims of human wildlife conflict.

**G. Financial support for conservation of forests and biodiversity in Sabarimala, Malayattoor and similar such pilgrim centres deep inside forest**

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Certain pilgrim centres in Kerala are located deep inside forests. Sabarimala in Pathanamthitta District is one such destination frequented by lakhs of pilgrims. There are similar such destinations in other parts of the State as well. It is imperative that the health and sanctity of these forests are to be preserved so as to ensure an ecologically-friendly pilgrimage. This requires financial resources and it is requested that Rs. 10 crore may be allotted to Kerala Forest Department for this purpose from the National CAMPA so as to undertake measures for the proper upkeep and maintenance of the biodiversity rich forests around the pilgrim destinations.



मंत्री  
वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन  
और  
श्रम एवं रोजगार  
भारत सरकार



MINISTER  
ENVIRONMENT FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
AND  
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



भूपेन्द्र यादव  
BHUPENDER YADAV



D.O. No. NA-13/16/2020-NA(Pt)

Date: 12 January, 2023

Dear Shri A. K. Sadeendran Ji,

Please refer to your D.O. letter dated the 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 wherein you have raised various issues related to Kerala State for consideration in this Ministry.

I would like to inform you about the current status of issues raised by you.

1. **Proposal dated 02.04.2020 for Regularization of 1970.41 ha of forest land occupied by 6,362 families in Pathanamthitta District.**

This issue was also raised in your earlier letters dated 21.06.2022 & 14.07.22. I have informed vide my letter dated 02.10.2022 that the proposal for regularization of 1970.041 ha of forest land was discussed in a meeting held on 26.07.2022 chaired by Dr S. P. Yadav and attended by officials of Kerala State Government and by the Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Kerala. The decision taken in the meeting was communicated to the State Government vide this Ministry's letter dated 04.08.2022 (enclosed at Annexure-1) and the reply from the State Government is awaited.

2. **Financial Support from the Ministry for managing Man-Animal Conflict for a cost of Rs.620 crore.**

Financial support to State Governments has been considered under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and CAMPA Fund. The Project cost is shared between State and Center. I would like to inform that the State should use scientific and innovative approaches and resources from various Schemes of State to address man-animal conflicts for finding long term and sustainable solution.

3. **Control and removal of the invasive species of *Senna spectabilis* in Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary.**

The Ministry has considered the request of State Forest Department and already approved funds from State CAMPA for control of Senna. The Ministry has transferred Rs. 89.59 crores of State share of CAMPA Fund to Kerala State and out of that fund Rs. 26.91 crores have been spent till 2021-22. National CAMPA Authority has approved the Annual Plan of Operation of Kerala for the year 2022-23 amounting to Rs. 17.26 crore out of proposed outlay of Rs. 22.00 crore. Further, an amount of Rs 66.50 lakhs has been approved in the State APO of CAMPA for "Eco-restoration activities" and removal of Senna/ exotic species in the forests/ protected areas under Wildlife Circle, Palakkad from 2020-21 to 2022-23 for an area of 122 ha.

Considering the large extent of forest area covered by the invasive species, I would suggest to take pilots studies initially as it has potential to return if long term measures for its prevention and systematic eradication on scientific lines are not undertaken. The forest area after its physical removal needs to be immediately covered under afforestation.

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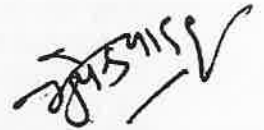
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4. **Release of Funds under Green India Mission:** I would like to inform that Rs. 35.47 crores have been released under Green India Mission to Kerala since 2015-16 and 2019-20. Rs. 32.83 Crores has been approved for the financial year 2022-23 and will be considered for release on submission of Utilisation Certificate and progress report.
5. **Release of funds under Project Tiger by National Tiger Conservation Authority:** I would like to inform that the Ministry has released Rs. 732.20 Lakh under the project tiger for Periyar and Parambikulam Tiger Reserve for the Financial Year 2021-22. In the current year Rs. 857.41 Lakhs has been proposed for release. In addition, an amount of Rs. 868.78 Lakhs has been provided during 2021-22 for All India Tiger Estimation - 2022.
6. **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve:** The proposal for financial support to Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve is being examined.
7. **Fund for integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat-** The Ministry has released Rs. 224.4735 lakh being first installment to State of Kerala under Centrally Sponsored Scheme - Development of Wildlife Habitats for the financial year 2022-23.

As regard to your suggestion for early release of Funds, I have instructed my officers to make all efforts for timely approvals and release of funds.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Bhupender Yadav)

**Shri A. K. Sadeendran**  
Minister of Forest & wildlife Protection,  
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Government Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram-695001.



**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

Forest &amp; Wildlife(D) Department

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06-06-2025, Thiruvananthapuram

No. D1/242/2023-FWLD

From

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government

To

The Secretary to Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (Wildlife  
Division)Paryavaran Bhavan, C.G.O complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi – 110003

Sir,

Sub: Forest & Wildlife Department - Permission for killing Wild  
Animals causing threat to Human life and severe damages to  
property & agriculture crops - reg

Ref: 1. Government letters No. D2/126/2020-FWLD dated  
01.11.2020, 11.01.2021, 17.06.2021, 07.10.2021 &  
08.02.2022.

2. Letter No. F.No.8-31/2020-WL dated December 2020 &  
07.03.2022.

3. Resolution passed by Kerala Legislative Assembly on  
14.02.2024

4. Government letter No.D2/150/2023-FWLD dated  
27.02.2024

Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) has become a highly sensitive social issue in Kerala. It has assumed critical dimensions posing serious challenges to both wildlife conservation as well as the well-being of human beings. The conflict has become particularly acute in regions adjoining forests and Protected areas where people and wild animals frequently share same space.

The species most commonly involved in these conflicts include Asian elephant, Wild pig, Bonnet macaque, Porcupine, Peafowl etc. In



many parts of the state, these wild animals are seen straying into human habitations in search of food and water causing damages to human life, property, crop and animal depredation. In addition, there are also reports of HWC related incidents involving large carnivores such as tiger and leopard creating wide-spread public fear and outcry.

Multiple and interrelated factors contribute to the increased reporting of incidents of HWC; particularly the localized & increased presence of wild animals in several parts of the State. Prominent among these are habitat fragmentation & degradation, climate change, proliferation of invasive species, urbanization, land-use change, altered animal behavior & movement patterns etc. The cumulative impact of these recurring conflicts has been particularly severe affecting the daily lives and livelihoods of people residing in forest fringes and ecologically sensitive areas. Constant exposure to threats from wildlife has resulted in significant economic hardship, psychological stress, and a sense of insecurity among people.

The Government of Kerala has taken several initiatives to mitigate HWC. Of late, HWC has been declared as a 'State Specific Disaster'. The current strategy of mitigating HWC is science-based, people-inclusive and focussing on inter-sectoral coordination and technology-driven.

As per the reference cited 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> above, Kerala has been repeatedly requesting the Central Government to declare Wild pig as a Vermin, as the presence of the animals is very common in the inhabited areas in Kerala. Similarly, the state has also sought special financial support from Central Government to deal with HWC related issues through a special financial assistance worth Rs.620 crores. In addition, a Memorandum of Requests was submitted to the Hon'ble Union Minister on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024, by the State of Kerala that inter alia contained the following requests:

- a. The Central Government may amend the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, rules thereof, procedures, protocols, guidelines, advisories etc, in tune with the need of the hour, especially for a State like Kerala, by incorporating practical provisions for ensuring protection to life and property in human dominated landscapes.
- b. To declare Wild pig (*Sus scrofa*) as 'vermin' as per the amended Section 62 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for the State of Kerala



- for a period of atleast one year; and
- c. The species 'Bonnet macaque' may be shifted from Schedule I to Schedule II so that necessary management/ mitigation measures can be taken at State level itself in a site-specific manner.

However, these requests are yet to be considered. In order to manage the population of Wild boar creating problems in human habitations, the State Government has used the provisions in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Since Wild boar is included in the Schedule II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the power given to the Chief Wildlife Warden under Section 11(1)(b) of the Act was used to eliminate wild boars that venture out of forests into human-inhabited areas and pose danger by delegating it to the Honorary Wildlife Wardens (elected representatives of Local Self Governments) and Authorized Officers (officials of the Local Self Governments) appointed by the State Government. This is found to be quite effective in the management of Wild boar issues in human habitations outside the forest areas. Recently, a decision has been taken in State Government to request the Central Government to provide/ extend such powers for other species as well those that are creating problems in human habitations outside the forests.

In continuation of the requests already made as mentioned above, Government of Kerala solicits an immediate appropriate action Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change to delegate the powers vested with the Central Government in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to the Chief Wildlife Warden and simplify the connected procedures, protocols, guidelines, advisories etc; so as to eliminate problematic wild animals (particularly those which are included in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972) that stray into human habitations and pose threat to life and property.

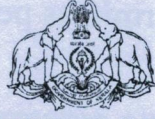
Yours Faithfully,

BISHWANATH SINHA  
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY

Copy to,

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Administration) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala (For information and follow up).





**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

Forest & Wildlife(D) Department

No.D2/150/2023-FWLD

27-02-2024,Thiruvananthapuram

From

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government

To

The Secretary to Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment & Forest (Wildlife Division)  
Paryavaran Bhavan, C.G.O Complex,  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110 003.

Sir,

Sub: Forest & Wildlife Department - Resolution passed by the  
Legislative Assembly of Kerala regarding Human-Wildlife  
Conflict - reg

Ref: Memorandum of Requests submitted to Hon. Union Minister for  
Environment, Forests & Climate Change on 07.02.2024, from  
State Government.

As you aware, Human-Wildlife Conflicts are alarmingly  
increased in the State of Kerala due to many reasons. State Government  
has been taking necessary measures to sustain such issues and to  
prevent it for ever.

However, there are some constraints in the existing legal  
framework for taking timely actions when necessitated, thereby,  
delaying the field level implementation for sustaining the emergency  
arised due to the presence of Schedule-1 animals in the inhabited areas  
causing threat to Human life. Another issue, is with respect to the  
presence of Wildpigs (*Sus scrofa*) in the most of the districts of Kerala,  
whose number is increasing uncontrollably. Efforts being taken to  
sustain this menace, are not yielding significant results.

On 14.02.2024, the Legislative Assembly of Kerala have



unanimously passed a resolution in this regard, where Government of India is requested to make amendments in the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 and to declare Wild pig as vermin as per section 62 of the Act.

In view of the above circumstances, a copy of the said resolution is forwarded herewith for kind consideration.

Yours Faithfully,

  
K R JYOTHILAL  
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY



**Fifteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly**

**Tenth Session**

**Resolution unanimously passed by the Assembly on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2024**

WHEREAS, the invading of wild animals in human habitats in various parts of Kerala, has caused an increase in human-wild life conflict posing threat to property and agriculture and thereby led to a situation that resulted in the loss of several human lives ;

AND WHEREAS, the exponential breeding outside the forest areas, of wild pig, various species of monkeys and other animals which are wild animals under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 results in severe wild animal attacks ;

AND WHEREAS, the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, rules, procedures, advisories and guidelines containing stringent provisions preventing destruction and control of these kind of aggressive wild animals entering human habitats, continue to remain in force without being timely amended;

AND WHEREAS, the Central Government are repeatedly declining permission to exterminate the dangerous animals , including wild pig ,breeding exponentially outside forest areas , as per section 62 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act,1972;

AND WHEREAS, the Government are committed to maintain an environment ensuring fearless and peaceful living to the public in human habitats;

NOW, THEREFORE, this Assembly unanimously requests the Central Government,-

1. to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 including sub-section (2) of section 5 delegating all the powers of the Chief Wild Warden conferred under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 11 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to the Chief Conservators of Forest so as to enable them to take immediate action;

2. to simplify the procedures in the provisos and explanation to clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 11 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and in the rules, procedures, advisories and guidelines issued under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and to create an environment for preventing wild animal attack by making timely amendment to the said Central Law, incorporating requisite feasible provisions;

3. to declare wild pig as vermin under section 62 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972;

4. to take action for the birth control of wild animals for preventing excessive increase in their number.

Thiruvananthapuram,  
14.02.2024

Shaji C Baby,  
Secretary-in-charge.





**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

Forest & Wildlife(D) Department

No.D2/242/2024-FWLD

06-01-2025, Thiruvananthapuram

From

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government

To

The Secretary to Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment & Forest (Wildlife Division)  
Paryavaran Bhavan, C.G.O Complex  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.

Sir,

Sub: Forest & Wildlife Department - Memorandum of Requests - reg

Ref: 1. Meeting of Hon.Minister (Forest &WL Dept) , Government of Kerala with Hon. Minister, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, held on 28.11.2024

2. Letter No. KFDHQ/8153/2024-CWW/WL11 dated 19.12.2024 from the Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala.

I am directed to invite your attention to the reference cited and to forward herewith a copy of the 'Memorandum of Requests' submitted to Hon. Union Minister, MoEF & CC, by the Hon. Minister (Forest & WL Department), Government of Kerala on 28.11.2024, for information & necessary action.

Yours Faithfully,

PRAMOD V R  
JOINT SECRETARY

Copy to,

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Thiruvananthapuram (For information).



# KERALA FOREST DEPARTMENT

## MEMORANDUM OF REQUESTS

PRESENTED BY

A.K. SASEENDRAN  
MINISTER FOR FORESTS & WILDLIFE,  
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

To

Shri. BHUPENDER YADAV  
HON'BLE MINISTER FOR STATE  
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE,  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

ON 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2024



## KERALA FOREST DEPARTMENT

### MEMORANDUM OF REQUESTS

1. Seeking amendment of certain provisions in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. Request for Sanctioning Special Financial Assistance to Implement the Project for Management of Human-Wild Animal Conflict in Kerala.
3. Notification Of Eco-Sensitive Zones.
4. Regularization Of Pre 01.01.1977 Encroachments On Forest Land.
5. Issues related to release of funds under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes.
6. Allotment of Rs.10 crore for payment of compensation to the victims of human wildlife conflict.
7. Financial support for conservation of forests and biodiversity in Sabarimala, Malayattoor and similar such pilgrim centres deep inside forest.



## **A. Seeking amendment of certain provisions in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**

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In recent years, human-wildlife conflict in many parts of Kerala have shown an increasing trend and is threatening human life, property and agriculture fields more than in the past years. The issue is tremendously affecting the general character of society itself and has escalated to such an extent that it has become difficult for the public including farmers and students to live peacefully in their own domicile.

The increasing human-wildlife conflict situation is due to several reasons. Regional fluctuations in wildlife population, changes in behavior, movement of wild animals in search of new pastures, grazing of domestic cattle in forest areas, changes in cropping patterns, etc., are some of the reasons. But most importantly, population explosion in the case of wild pigs and various species of monkeys are wreaking havoc in human habitations. The matter has also been listed in the Kerala Development Report, 2021, released by the Kerala State Planning Board. Many projects are being implemented at the Government level to mitigate Human-Wildlife Conflict. Every year, the Department is burdened to pay an average of Rs. 10 crore as compensation.

The provisions of the existing Central Act, i.e., Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 have to be followed while dealing with the issue of wild animals entering the inhabited areas and for their practical implementation, the Standard Operating Procedure issued by the Central Government, Advisory to deal with human-wildlife conflict, guidelines issued by the Tiger Conservation Authority and the Project Elephant scheme etc. should also need to be followed.

The existing legal procedures for taking measures such as tranquilizing wild animals that enter into the inhabited areas outside

the forest boundaries and causing damage to life and property, trapping them in cages, rehabilitating them after being captured and population control are found tedious to follow while taking urgent measures to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in many situations. In this case, the State of Kerala is of the opinion that the above procedures need to be revisited and amended appropriately.

Though the State Government have taken steps under Section 11(1) (b) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to eliminate the problematic Wild Pigs which raid crops and foray into human settlements by entrusting the powers to Panchayathi Raj Institutions, the efforts to contain the menace yielded minimal success due to lack of licensed shooters and also the procedural formalities. Therefore, it is necessary to declare Wild Pig (*Sus scrofa*) as vermin at least for a period of one year. A proposal to declare the wild pigs that threaten human life and property as vermin was submitted to the Central government on 19.11.2021, but no favorable decision has been taken and communicated yet.

In certain parts of the State, 'Bonnet macaque' has been perceived as a threat to human property and peaceful existence, due to their involuntary and frequent visits to human habitations. In certain other areas, Bonnet macaque populations have been seen permanently residing amidst human habitations. Before the amendment of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 this species of monkey was included in Schedule II during 2022 whereby the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State could manage by capturing and relocating the individuals/troops of monkeys causing menace in human habitations. After the amendment, this species has been included in Schedule I, thereby depriving the CWW of the power of taking suo motu action. Hence, it is recommended that the species 'Bonnet macaque' may be shifted from Schedule I to Schedule II so that necessary management/mitigation measures can be taken at State level itself in a site specific manner.

**Hence the State of Kerala proposes to the Central Government the following:**

- a. The Central Government may amend the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, rules thereof, procedures, protocols, guidelines, advisories, etc., in tune with the need of the hour, especially for a state like Kerala, by incorporating practical provisions for ensuring protection to life and property in human-dominated landscapes.
- b. To declare Wild Pig (*Sus scrofa*) as vermin as per the amended Section 62 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 for the State of Kerala for a period of at least 1 year and
- c. The species 'Bonnet macaque' may be shifted from Schedule I to Schedule II so that necessary management/mitigation measures can be taken at State level itself in a site specific manner.

## **B. Request for Sanctioning Special Financial Assistance to Implement the Project for Management of Human-Wild Animal Conflict in Kerala**

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The rising Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) in Kerala has led to considerable loss of life, property, and agricultural resources, with primary conflict species being elephants, wild pigs, and macaques, as well as carnivores like tigers and leopards. Contributing factors include habitat fragmentation, infestation of invasive species, presence of large-scale monocultures, and a reduced tolerance level among communities residing near forests.

To address this escalating issue, the Kerala Forest Department developed a comprehensive project informed by extensive consultations with stakeholders, including Members of the Legislative Assembly, public representatives, scientists, NGOs, forest officials, and the public. Over 1,600 suggestions were received and analyzed,



resulting in the selection of effective, innovative, and legally feasible measures to mitigate HWC. The proposed project focuses on strategies such as constructing physical barriers, improving habitat quality, providing compensation and insurance, enhancing infrastructure, and encouraging community involvement.

### **Project Outlay**

<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Financial Forecast (Rs in Lakh)</b>
Measures to avoid human-wild animal interface	9020.50
Infrastructure and human resource development	17095.00
Compensation, insurances, and ex-gratia	8375.00
Strengthening people's participation in HWC mitigation	100.00
Habitat quality improvement activities	8252.74
Training, awareness creation, and research	623.00
Maintenance of existing infrastructure	8901.50
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>62001.24</b>

The total estimated cost for implementing the project is Rs. 620 crore over a period of five-year.

A proposal for this Rs. 620 crore project was initially submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on 07.09.2021 but was not approved. Following this, the State Government submitted a revised recommendation on 01.04.2024, requesting that the project be funded as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a 60:40 cost-sharing arrangement between the Central and State Governments under the budget head "Integrated

Development of Wildlife Habitats." Approval for this proposal is still pending.

### **C. Notification Of Eco-Sensitive Zones**

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The proposals for declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs) for the Protected Areas (PAs) of Kerala had been forwarded to MoEF&CC. For certain PAs, revised proposals excluding human inhabited areas are also prepared. Out of the 18 proposals submitted, the ESZ of Mathikettan Shola National Park has been approved and notified. The remaining proposals are under various stages of scrutiny. It is requested the process of publishing draft/final notification of ESZs of the PAs after excluding the human inhabited areas may be expedited.

### **D. Regularization Of Pre 01.01.1977 Encroachments On Forest Land**

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Notwithstanding the pressure on land Kerala has been a frontrunner in forest conservation and has pioneered earnest endeavors to protect and maintain a healthy forest and tree cover. Keeping the ecological security of the State in mind, the State has been successfully and diligently protecting 44 rivers and its tributaries, wet lands and paddy lands, biodiversity, fauna and flora of all types including special ecosystems like Mangroves, etc. through both legislation and effective executive action. The State has also scrupulously notified several Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks which are pride of the entire Nation. In order to further advance the cause of forest conservation, private owned forests and ecologically fragile land parcels abutting them have been notified as Reserved Forests through special legislations. Kerala is also the first among the States to promulgate an exclusive Policy for Eco-Restoration of Monoculture Plantations and Degraded Forests to ensure sustainable ecosystem services from the forests.

1. In an earnest effort to achieve 'equity and welfare of all' which are fundamentals in the journey towards the goal of 'ViksitBharath', the Government of Kerala is working for establishing a 'Nava Keralam' (New Kerala) with the vision: 'Land for all, records for all lands and smart in all services (Ellavarkumbhoomi, ellabhoomikkumrehka, ellasevanangalum smart)'.

(a) Under the 'Kerala Land Assignment (Regularization of Occupation of Forest Lands prior to 1.1.1977) Special Rules, 1993', following joint verification by Forest and Revenue Departments, the details for regularization of occupation covering an extent of 2499.5961 Ha of land in various districts namely, Pathanamthitta, Trivandrum, Kollam and Kannur have been uploaded in the PARIVESH portal for necessary process under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Especially in the case of Pathanamthitta District, proposal for diversion of 1970.041 Ha of forest land for regularization of pre 01.01.1977 occupation was recommended and forwarded to IRO Bangalore by the State Government on 02.04.2020. Ever since several queries have been raised by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for which prompt replies have been furnished by Forest Department/State Government. In its latest correspondence in this regard as per letter No. 8-06/2020-FC dated 08.08.2023 of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has sought for submission of documents that can prove occupation of these areas including remote sensing maps, Government documents etc. apart from the mandated joint verification list which was the conclusive proof of occupation. Citing the above reason, clearance is pending.

The occupants of the land and their successors-in-interest have been waiting for title for more than two generations. The Joint Verification being a solemn exercise jointly carried out by the Revenue and Forest Departments, the Joint Verification lists are authentic and reliable. Additional queries and details over and above the Joint Verification which are being sought is delaying the Central Government's concurrence. Schools, hospitals, civil supplies and other such civic amenities had not reached these 'forest areas 50 years



ago'. Hence, the queries for submission of further evidence beyond the Joint Verification (solemnized by statute) sanctified under the special rules (upheld by the Supreme Court) may not therefore be held against according prior concurrence for regularization of occupation. Hence, in the above circumstances, the approvals of cases already uploaded in the PARIVESH portal may be expedited based on the details already uploaded. More than 8500 families will be benefited.

(b) Similarly, such land parcels in various districts where Joint Verification is completed will be uploaded in PARIVESH portal in due course for the Central Government's concurrence. We request that the approvals for the same are also expedited. This will help another 6000 families to get their titles.

(c) We also request that a Nodal Officer in MoEF for the State of Kerala is formally designated so that the above approvals can be mutually followed up and expedited in the interest of these families in thousands. The State would also nominate its officer to liaison with the said Nodal Officer of MoEF.

## **E. Issues related to release of funds under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes:**

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### **(i) Green India Mission**

The Green India Mission (GIM) is being implemented in Kerala since FY 2016-17 through the Participatory Forest Management (PFM) institutions. The State Forest Development Agency (SFDA) is designated as the nodal agency for implementing the Green India Mission in the State. Under the Green India Mission, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had approved Rs.3885.27 lakh for FY 2019-20 and released 70% of the Central share of Rs.1631.814 lakhs which was completely utilised for various activities approved by the Ministry. The State share of Rs.1087.88

lakhs were received by the SFDA which has been utilised. The Utilisation Certificates have been submitted to the Ministry promptly.

The State has not received further fund from the Ministry after FY 2019-20. The State had submitted a proposal for Rs.5472 lakhs to the Ministry during FY 2023-24 which was not approved. A proposal for implementing the Green India Mission at cost of Rs. 64.35 crore for the FY 2024-25 has been submitted to Ministry. Ministry is requested to expedite the approval of the proposal so that the various activities envisaged under GIM can be implemented during FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25.

#### **(ii) School Nursery Yojana**

In FY 2023-24, 52 schools in Kerala were selected to pilot the School Nursery Yojana, successfully completing the project at a total cost of Rs. 47 lakh. The Ministry disbursed a first installment of Rs. 32.90 lakh, and project completion reports along with Utilization Certificates have been submitted. The remaining amount of Rs. 14.10 lakh is yet to be released. The initiative has been widely appreciated in the State, fostering a strong connection between students and nature. Seedlings raised in the schools were planted as part of the Prime Minister's *EkPedMaaKeNaam* mission, coinciding with World Environment Day celebrations in June 2024. Building on this success, a proposal to expand the School Nursery Yojana program to 151 additional schools at a projected cost of Rs. 137.90 Lakhs has been submitted for Ministry approval, and we seek your favorable consideration to support the continued growth and impact of this environmental education initiative.

#### **(iii) Forest Fire Prevention and Management - FPMS**

Kerala has achieved significant success in reducing forest fire incidents through proactive management utilizing state funds and funds under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Forest Fire Prevention and Management. Significant funds were received under these

schemes in previous years which has been substantially reduced during the FY 2024-25. It is noticed that the criteria for fund allocations adopted have resulted in reduced allocations, affecting the State's capacity to maintain these achievements. In recognition of Kerala's progress, an increase in FPMS funding would greatly support continued efforts in fire prevention and ecosystem protection. The table below illustrates the reduction in FPMS funds allocated over recent years:

Financial Year	Scheme	Amount Proposed (Rs. in Lakh)	Amount Released (Rs. in Lakh)
2022-23	FPMS	2242.94	241.43
	FPMS (TSP)	402.20	202.42
2023-24	FPMS	1766.91	441.73
	FPMS (TSP)	601.10	150.28
2024-25	FPMS	959.11	49.17
	FPMS (TSP)	497.87	42.35

In light of these reduced allocations, it is requested that FPMS funding be increased to align with Kerala's accomplishments and the State's substantial need for sustained fire management resources. Enhanced funding would allow Kerala to continue its proactive approach to forest fire prevention and ensure the protection of valuable forest ecosystems. It is requested that funds for an amount of Rs. 959.11 Lakhs under FPMS and Rs. 497.87 lakhs under FPMS (TSP) may be allocated to the state as requested in the APO for FY 2024-25.

**(iv) Central Sector Scheme for Conservation and Management of Mangroves in Vembanad and Kannur Regions**

Mangroves are considered as one of the most productive eco systems in the world owing to its ecological significance. Mangroves play a critical role in preserving rare and endemic plant species and have significant medicinal, agricultural, and industrial potential. In



Kerala, mangrove forests are found across several districts, including Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha, Kottayam, Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kannur, Kozhikode, Malappuram, and Kasaragod.

Since 2006-07, the Social Forestry Wing of the Kerala Forest Department has implemented a Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for the "Conservation and Management of Mangroves in Vembanad and Kannur regions." Initially, this was funded at 100% by the central government. Since 2016-17, however, the scheme has been funded on a 60:40 cost-sharing basis between the Government of India and the Government of Kerala.

This scheme, implemented in multiple districts across Kollam, Ernakulam, and Kozhikode regions, focuses on the following core activities:

- **Raising Seedlings and Plantations:** This includes distributing mangrove and associated species to the public and planting agroforestry species, *vetiver* grass along fringes of lake/water bodies, canal banks and streams, and casuarina as bio-shield and shelter belt in coastal areas.
- **Community Empowerment and Ancillary Activities:** These efforts include promoting community health, improving drainage and sanitation, mosquito control, provision for distribution of biogas plants, fish fingerlings, and educational workshops. These measures empower communities that depend on mangrove ecosystems and address livelihood needs.

The Management Action Plans (MAPs) for Vembanad and Kannur Regions for FY 2023-24 were reviewed and approved by the State Level Steering Committee on 16/05/2023. These MAPs were submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) for funding approval but have not yet disbursed funds. Hence, the Management Action Plans for Vembanad and Kannur Regions has to be resubmitted to MoEF & CC for considerations during 2024-25 vide letter no. SW2-6462/22 dated 12.07.2024.

The requested fund allocation for the scheme in 2024-25 is as follows:

- Conservation and Management of Mangroves in Vembanad Region: Rs. 239.73 lakh
- Conservation and Management of Mangroves in Kannur Region: Rs. 102.40 lakh
- **Total: Rs. 342.13 lakh**

We seek approval and timely release of funds for these critical conservation efforts to ensure the ongoing protection and management of Kerala's mangrove ecosystems.

#### **(v) Funding for acquisition of Mangrove Areas**

Mangroves, which thrive in tropical and subtropical regions, serve as crucial ecosystems at the confluence of rivers and seas. These forests, primarily composed of salt-tolerant trees and shrubs, support a range of ecological functions and provide essential services, including carbon sequestration, coastal protection, nutrient cycling, and nurseries for aquatic life. Mangroves also play a vital role in local livelihoods by providing non-wood forest products and resources for fuel, fodder, and traditional uses.

##### **a. Current Status and Legal Context**

At the beginning of the 20th century, Kerala had extensive area under mangroves (70,000 Ha) which is now reduced to just 2,300.335 Ha in ten districts. So far, government has accorded legal protection for 590 Ha area of mangroves only. The ownership of the remaining mangroves is with revenue, other departments, panchayats and private individuals. That means, there is a need to accord legal protection to 1,710 Ha of mangroves. The current ownership of these areas is with

revenue, other govt, agencies, panchayats and private individuals. While mangrove forests with revenue, panchayat and government agencies can be notified under Kerala Forest Act, 1961 or the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, mangroves with private individuals need to be acquired and notified as Reserve Forests. It is estimated that around 1362.516 Ha of mangroves in private land need to be acquired and restored. Further, mangrove-based rural livelihood and income generating activities also need to be initiated.

**b. Rationale for Acquisition**

To halt further degradation, it is essential to bring privately-owned mangrove land under legal protection. This acquisition will allow for the restoration and conservation of these critical ecosystems, while also supporting rural livelihoods through mangrove-based income-generating activities. The project will cover nine districts of Kerala namely Kasargode, Kannur, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kottayam, Alappuzha, and Kollam,

**c. Method of Acquisition**

It is proposed that the mangrove sites under private ownership identified in nine districts shall be acquired after paying compensation to the private owners in accordance with the relevant provisions of The Kerala Forests (Vesting and Management of Ecologically Fragile Lands) Act, 2003 and the corresponding Rules of 2007, following the prescribed procedures.

**d. Proposed Phasing and Cost**

The acquisition process will be voluntary and executed in phases, beginning with sites where landowners have already expressed willingness to participate. Phase I targets five districts - Kollam, Thrissur, Malappuram, Kozhikode, and Kannur and covers 135 sites totaling 99.04 Ha. The estimated cost for Phase I is Rs. 52.40 crore.

**d. Implementation and Funding**



The Kerala Forest Department will implement this scheme through the Custodian (Ecologically Fragile Lands), Territorial, and Social Forestry wings.

**e. Funding Summary**

Phase	Districts Covered	Area (Ha)	Estimated Cost (Rs. crore)
Phase I	Kollam, Thrissur, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Kannur	99.04	52.40

We request approval and funding support to enable the Kerala Forest Department to proceed with the acquisition and conservation of privately-owned mangrove areas, preserving these invaluable ecosystems for future generations.

**F. Allotment of Rs.10 crore for payment of compensation to the victims of human wildlife conflict.**

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The Government of Kerala is spending large amount towards paying compensation for the damages sustained on account of human wildlife conflict. For instance, an amount of Rs. 21.79 crore was disbursed as compensation during 2023–24 alone. As of now, the Government of Kerala is bearing the lion-share of it. Though paying compensation to the victims of human wildlife conflict is an identified activity in the CSS-Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger and Project Elephant, very little allocation is made for paying compensation as it is one of the several activities bunched together in the whole scheme. This practically puts the entire burden of paying compensation solely on the shoulders of the State Government. It is submitted that the Central Government also has a moral responsibility of supporting the efforts of the State Government in ameliorating the hardships of people who are victims of human

wildlife conflict. Hence, it is requested that an amount of Rs. 10 crore may additionally be allotted to Kerala either from the existing Centrally Sponsored Schemes mentioned above or from the National CAMPA for providing compensation to the victims of human wildlife conflict.

**G. Financial support for conservation of forests and biodiversity in Sabarimala, Malayattoor and similar such pilgrim centres deep inside forest**

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Certain pilgrim centres in Kerala are located deep inside forests. Sabarimala in Pathanamthitta District is one such destination frequented by lakhs of pilgrims. There are similar such destinations in other parts of the State as well. It is imperative that the health and sanctity of these forests are to be preserved so as to ensure an ecologically-friendly pilgrimage. This requires financial resources and it is requested that Rs. 10 crore may be allotted to Kerala Forest Department for this purpose from the National CAMPA so as to undertake measures for the proper upkeep and maintenance of the biodiversity rich forests around the pilgrim destinations.

**F. No. WL-8/70/2025-WL**  
भारत सरकार  
**Government of India**  
पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
**Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change**  
वन्यजीव प्रभाग  
**(Wildlife Division)**

6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Vayu Wing,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 110003.

Date: As per e-sign.

**The Additional Chief Secretary,  
Forest and Wildlife Department,  
Government of Kerala,  
Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram-605014.**

**Sub: Permission for killing wild animals causing threat to human life and severe damages to property & agriculture crops in Kerala -reg.**

**Sir,**

Reference is invited to your letter no. D1/242/2023-FWLD dated 06.06.2025 regarding permission for killing wild animals causing threat to human life and severe damages to property & agriculture crops in Kerala.

In this context, the undersigned is directed to mention that the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, provides for the conservation, protection and management of wild life with a view to ensuring the ecological and environmental security of the country. Wild animals are listed in Schedule I considering their ecological and cultural status. Such species are often threatened or endangered and therefore, listing them in Schedule I accords them highest degree of protection against hunting.

The Act prohibits hunting of any wild animal specified in Schedule I and II except in certain exceptional circumstances. Clause (a) of sub-section (1) of Section 11 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, empowers the Chief Wild Life Warden for permitting any person to hunt animals listed in Schedule I that have become dangerous to human life. As critically endangered species and flagship species are listed in Schedule I, permit for hunting of such animals are to be granted selectively and therefore, the Act has judiciously empowered only the Chief Wild Life Warden to grant permit for such animals. Considering the nature of the animals listed in Schedule I, the procedures have been spelt out in the proviso and explanation under this sub-section. The proviso under section 11(1)(a) empowers the Chief Wild Life Warden to first capture, tranquilise and translocate. If these options are not feasible, then the Chief Wild Life Warden may even permit killing of the identified wild animal listed in Schedule I of the Act.

Delegation of powers has been provided in Clause (b) of sub-section (1) of



Section 11, with respect to Schedule II animals. In case of wild animals listed in Schedule II of the Act have become dangerous to human life or to property (including standing crops), the Chief Wild Life Warden or any authorized officer is empowered to grant permits for hunting of such wild animal or group of animals.

This Ministry has issued advisory for management of human wildlife conflict. The advisory recommend coordinated interdepartmental action, identification of conflict hot spots, adherence to Standard Operating Procedures, establishment of rapid response teams, issuing guidance/instructions for expedited relief to be paid within 24 hours to the affected persons in the case of death and injury to persons, etc. Effective implementation of the advisories would complement the efforts already being taken up by the State Government to manage the human conflict situations.

Further, the provisions under Section 11 (1) (b) would serve the purpose of site specific management of the population of such animals as well as maintain a healthy ecosystem instead of having generic provisions of declaring species vermins. Moreover, with advent of advance communication technologies issuance and communication of permits can be made easier by the State governments/UTs.

Yours faithfully,

**(Rakesh Kumar Jagenia)**  
**Deputy Inspector General of Forests (WL)**  
**E-mail: digwl-mefcc@gov.in**

**Copy to:** Chief Wild Life Warden, Kerala Forest Department, Vazuthacaud, Thiruvananthpuram.

**Copy also to:** PPS to Addl. DGF(WL) and Director, Wild Life Preservation, MoEFCC/PS to AIGF, Wildlife Division, MoEFCC/PPS to JD(WL), MoEFCC

मंत्री  
वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन  
और  
श्रम एवं रोजगार  
भारत सरकार



MINISTER  
ENVIRONMENT FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
AND  
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



भूपेन्द्र यादव  
BHUPENDER YADAV



D.O. No. NA-13/16/2020-NA(Pt)

Date: 12 January, 2023

Dear Shri A. K. Sadeendran Ji,

Please refer to your D.O. letter dated the 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 wherein you have raised various issues related to Kerala State for consideration in this Ministry.

I would like to inform you about the current status of issues raised by you.

1. **Proposal dated 02.04.2020 for Regularization of 1970.41 ha of forest land occupied by 6,362 families in Pathanamthitta District.**

This issue was also raised in your earlier letters dated 21.06.2022 & 14.07.22. I have informed vide my letter dated 02.10.2022 that the proposal for regularization of 1970.041 ha of forest land was discussed in a meeting held on 26.07.2022 chaired by Dr S. P. Yadav and attended by officials of Kerala State Government and by the Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Kerala. The decision taken in the meeting was communicated to the State Government vide this Ministry's letter dated 04.08.2022 (enclosed at Annexure-1) and the reply from the State Government is awaited.

2. **Financial Support from the Ministry for managing Man-Animal Conflict for a cost of Rs.620 crore.**

Financial support to State Governments has been considered under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and CAMPA Fund. The Project cost is shared between State and Center. I would like to inform that the State should use scientific and innovative approaches and resources from various Schemes of State to address man-animal conflicts for finding long term and sustainable solution.

3. **Control and removal of the invasive species of *Senna spectabilis* in Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary.**

The Ministry has considered the request of State Forest Department and already approved funds from State CAMPA for control of Senna. The Ministry has transferred Rs. 89.59 crores of State share of CAMPA Fund to Kerala State and out of that fund Rs. 26.91 crores have been spent till 2021-22. National CAMPA Authority has approved the Annual Plan of Operation of Kerala for the year 2022-23 amounting to Rs. 17.26 crore out of proposed outlay of Rs. 22.00 crore. Further, an amount of Rs 66.50 lakhs has been approved in the State APO of CAMPA for "Eco-restoration activities" and removal of Senna/ exotic species in the forests/ protected areas under Wildlife Circle, Palakkad from 2020-21 to 2022-23 for an area of 122 ha.

Considering the large extent of forest area covered by the invasive species, I would suggest to take pilots studies initially as it has potential to return if long term measures for its prevention and systematic eradication on scientific lines are not undertaken. The forest area after its physical removal needs to be immediately covered under afforestation.

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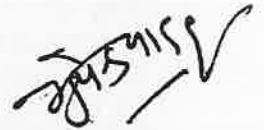
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4. **Release of Funds under Green India Mission:** I would like to inform that Rs. 35.47 crores have been released under Green India Mission to Kerala since 2015-16 and 2019-20. Rs. 32.83 Crores has been approved for the financial year 2022-23 and will be considered for release on submission of Utilisation Certificate and progress report.
5. **Release of funds under Project Tiger by National Tiger Conservation Authority:** I would like to inform that the Ministry has released Rs. 732.20 Lakh under the project tiger for Periyar and Parambikulam Tiger Reserve for the Financial Year 2021-22. In the current year Rs. 857.41 Lakhs has been proposed for release. In addition, an amount of Rs. 868.78 Lakhs has been provided during 2021-22 for All India Tiger Estimation - 2022.
6. **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve:** The proposal for financial support to Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve is being examined.
7. **Fund for integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat-** The Ministry has released Rs. 224.4735 lakh being first installment to State of Kerala under Centrally Sponsored Scheme - Development of Wildlife Habitats for the financial year 2022-23.

As regard to your suggestion for early release of Funds, I have instructed my officers to make all efforts for timely approvals and release of funds.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Bhupender Yadav)

**Shri A. K. Sadeendran**  
Minister of Forest & wildlife Protection,  
Government of Kerala,  
Room No. 358, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Main Block,  
Government Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram-695001.