

MINUTES OF 13th GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY (GSWA)

TYPE OF MEETING: REGULAR GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEETING.

DATE: 5th FEBRUARY 2024; **TIME:** 3.00 PM ONWARDS

VENUE: 2nd FLOOR AUDITORIUM, GOA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, OPP. SALIGAO SEMINARY, SALIGAO, BARDEZ, GOA

THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY RTD. JUDGE SHRI DESMOND D' COSTA, CHAIRPERSON, GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE (GC) OF GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY (GSWA).

The following members attended the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Hon'ble Rtd. Judge Desmond D'Costa	Chairperson
2.	Ms. Vrushika Kauthankar, Deputy Collector Revenue, Representative of the Collector, North Goa Collectorate	Member
3.	Adv. Sapna Mordekar	Member
4.	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Head of Nodal Agency (HNA) for GSWA & Member Secretary (MS), Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)	Convenor
5.	Patrick Fernandes, Junior Engineer, Water Resource Department	Representative of WRD
6.	Dr. Mandar Nanajkar, Sr. Scientist, CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO)	Invitee
7.	Dr. Akhil V.P, Sr. Scientist, CSIR-NIO	Representative from CSIR-NIO



8.	Shri Estefanio Dias , Sarpanch, Village Panchayat Chandor-Cavorim	Invitee
9.	Shri. Julio D'silva, Chairperson, Biodiversity Management Committee Chandor-Cavorim	Invitee
10.	Smt. Pamela Castanha BMC member	Invitee
11.	Smt.Nazia Amita D'Costa , Sarpanch, Village Panchayat Verna	Invitee
12.	Shri. Neville Gama, Chairperson, Biodiversity Management Committee, Verna	Invitee
13.	Shri. Vinod P. Shinde, Secretary, Village Panchayat Verna	Invitee

- The attendance for the Grievants present for the 13th GC meeting is attached herewith.

At the onset, Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Head of Nodal Agency, GSWA extended a warm welcome to the members of the Grievance Committee of GSWA. The following Agenda was transacted:

Agenda 1 : Confirmation of 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Grievance Committee meeting minutes

The minutes of the 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th GC Meeting were circulated before the Committee Members for confirmation.

Proposed by: Adv. Sapna Mordekar (Member)

Seconded by: Hon'ble Rtd. Judge Desmond D'Costa (Chairperson)

The same was approved by all the members present at the meeting.

Agenda 2: Action taken report 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Grievance Committee meeting

The details of the action taken on the agenda points of the 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th GC Meeting were placed to the members for information and perusal. All the points on ATR were complied and approved.

Agenda 3: Personal hearing to the objections regarding draft notification of Lagoa de Cima (Salcete) & Ambulor Lake(Salcete)

Lagoa De Cima:



The Sarpanch of Village Panchayat Chandor-Cavorim and Chairperson of Biodiversity Management Committee of Chandor- Cavorim were present for the meeting and expressed unanimous support towards wetland notification.

Ambulor Lake:

Sarpanch of the Village Panchayat Verna and Chairperson of the Biodiversity Management Committee of Verna were present for the meeting. Chairperson of the BMC presented the following points on behalf of VP & BMC.

1. There is apprehension in the minds of villagers that in the future GSWA might extend the Zone of influence of the notified wetland map without any consultation of the locals.
2. The existing sluice gates are currently managed by the Nagoa Verna Tenants Association and should continue to be managed by them.
3. There exist a chapel and Store room which is under the custody of the Tenants association, & that should be allowed to continue & operate on the location.
4. The existing houses in the draft notified Ambulor Lake should be allowed to exist and renovate the same in future.
5. Further there is fear among the villagers that the GSWA will dam the lake and use the water for industrial purpose.
6. The Agricultural activity should not be affected.
7. The representative of Local Comunidade, local panch, and one member from tenants of association should be Part of the LMC(Lake Management Committee).

Grievance committee(GC) explained that the existing structures will be allowed to exist and renovate and extend the plinth area by 5 meters from all around the existing structures. The Agricultural activities are permitted. The extraction of water will be monitored by LMC. Further the area under notification will not be extended. The major Stakeholders in the LMC can be Comunidade. The Lake Management Committee will monitor the implementation of Integrated Management Plan. The pre-existing rights and privileges like management of Sluice gates by the tenants will be permitted and protected.

Antonio Jose Pereira

Antonio Jose Pereira was present in person. He had apprehension that his pre-existing activity of wedding venue in Buffer Zone will be prohibited. He also had queries that temporary structures like pandals may not be allowed in the buffer zone due to wetland notification.



GC explained him that all the pre-existing rights and privileges are protected under wetland notification as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017.

Mrs. Chitra P. Mahatme & Mrs. Shraddha Nivritti Naik

Mrs. Chitra Mahatme & Mrs. Shraddha Nivritti Naik represented by Kishor Bandekar. He explained that they have existing open hall. He also said that the government should pay them compensation since the wetland notification is restricting their rights. He had apprehension that his traditional activities will be hampered.

GC explained him that all the pre-existing rights and privileges are protected under wetland notification and regarding the contention of compensation the GC decided to refer it to the Authority for final decision.

Antonio Correia & 226 others

Antonio Correia was present in person and raised the grievance about whether agricultural activities will be allowed if Chemical fertilizers are used in agriculture.

GC explained him that agricultural activity is permitted activity in the wetland notification.

Shri. Domnic John Fernandes

Dominic Fernandes was present in person and informed that his grievance was already addressed in the previous grievances.

Shri Santiago Rodrigues

Santiago Rodrigues was present in person and informed that his grievance was already addressed in the previous grievances.

Comunidade of Verna

There was no representation from Comunidade of Verna.

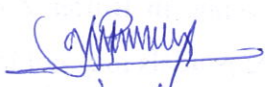
Verna- Nagoa Agricultural Tenants Association

The representative from the Verna- Nagoa Agricultural Tenants Association informed that their grievances are already presented by VP Verna.

Agenda 4: Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.

Nil. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by the Head of Nodal Agency, GSWA.




Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam
Head of Nodal Agency, GSWA



GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY (GSWA)

ATTENDANCE

Time: 03:00 pm onwards

Date: 05/02/2024

Venue: 03rd Floor, Conference Hall, Goa State Pollution Control Board, Saligao, Bardez - Goa

Purpose: 13th Grievance Committee Meeting of Goa State Wetland Authority regarding grievances received for draft notification of Lagoa de Cima (Chandor - Salcete), Ambulor Lake (Verna - Salcete) as wetland under Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017

Sr. No	Name	Contact details	Signature
1	JULIO D'SILVA	9420977516	
2	ESTEFANIO DIAS	9922770095	
3	PAMELA CASTANHA	9822131254	
4	NEVILIE GAMA (BMC chairwoman Verna)	9763133378	
5	Najia Amita D'Costa (Sarpanch) Verna	7038715824	
6	Vinod P. Shinde V.P. Secretary Verna	9511742853	
7	Agneta Rodrigues	9923537260	
8	Antonio Correia	9822104317	
9	Antonio Jose Pereira	7774982003	
10	Lishor Bandekar, e-mail: pradip@mahatmaindia.com. bandekar.km@gmail.com.	982210477	
11	Menino Xavier	7887916314	
12	Dominic John Fernandes	7972580756	
13	Mrs. Lisha Gauncar	7972580756	