

MINUTES OF THE 15th GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY (GSWA)

TYPE OF MEETING: REGULAR GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEETING.

DATE: 13th AUGUST 2024; **TIME:** 2.00 PM ONWARDS

VENUE: ROOM NO.407, 4TH FLOOR, SOUTH GOA COLLECTORATE, MATHANY SALDHANA ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX, OFFICE OF DISTRICT COLLECTOR, SOUTH 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:

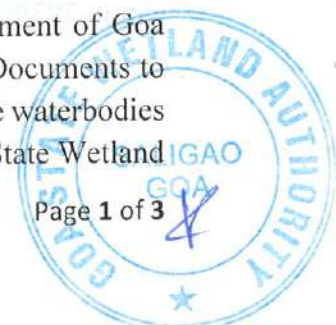
Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Hon'ble Rtd. Judge Desmond D'Costa	Chairperson
2.	Adv. Sapna Mordekar	Member
3.	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Head of Nodal Agency (HNA) for GSWA & Member Secretary (MS), Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)	Convenor
4.	Shri. Nicolau Rodrigues, Office Superintendent, representative of Block Development Officer, Directorate of Panchayat	Representative of Directorate of Panchayat
5.	Shri. Apricio D'Costa, Junior Engineer, Water Resource Department	Representative of WRD

- The attendance for the Grievants present for the 15th 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: Personal hearing to the objections regarding draft notification of Zuari Lake (Sancoale) & Kamala Lake (Benaulim)

At the onset HNA, GSWA explained in brief the entire process of Wetlands Identification & Notification in the State of Goa as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017. He informed that Space Application Centre in year 2009 prepared National wetlands Atlas and depicted the presence of 550 waterbodies in the State of Goa. Further Government of Goa entrusted the task of segregation of these waterbodies and preparation of Brief Documents to CSIR- National Institute of Oceanography. After the segregation and removing the waterbodies falling under CRZ Regulations, Forest laws and mining pits, temple ponds, Goa State Wetland



Authority finally identified 44 waterbodies as wetlands. The Brief documents Once approved by GSWA the wetlands are draft notified for 60 days wherein its open to receive objections & suggestions. After receiving the grievances, the grievances are addressed by the Grievance committee of GSWA. Once the Grievances are addressed, GSWA takes final decision regarding final notification of Wetland. Following this the grievances were addressed.

Zuari Lake

Zuari Industries Limited & Paradeep Phosphates Limited

Both the entities were represented by Senior Counsel Adv. Sandesh Padiyar. He placed forth grievance that Zuari Lake is not a Wetland but a man made reservoir specifically constructed to attain the industrial unit's water requirement. The reservoir was built in 1972 as the PWD water supply is insufficient. It is buffer tank. The water from the tank is supplied to the industrial unit through a well laid pipeline. It is part of the industrial unit. The team from the industrial unit presented a detailed presentation on the entire facility of the Zuari reservoir to substantiate their opposition to the notification. The main contention of the entities was that Zuari Lake does not qualify as Wetland but a artificial reservoir and should be allowed to continue with the activities as it is.

The GC decided to refer the contention of Zuari Lake is not a wetland but a reservoir to the Goa State Wetland Authority.

Balchandra Anant Wagle

Grievant was represented by his son Sachin Wagle and informed that there is existing plantation and falls within Zone of influence of the draft notified wetland.

GC informed that activities like agriculture & plantation are allowed activities within wetland notification.

Kamala Lake

Carmeline Fernandes represented by Adv. Felicia Fernandes

The advocate Felicia Fernandes represented Carmeline Fernandes and informed the GC committee that their property with survey no.403/1 and 403/2 is falling under wetland notification of Kamala Lake and the grievant cultivates the land traditionally and also has coconut plantation.

The GC informed that the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and farming/agriculture is permitted activity within wetland notification.

Lourenco Goes

The grievant was present in person and informed the GC committee that their property falls within 393/6-I and there is old existing house.



GC informed that the repair/renovation of the existing house is permitted subject to the permissions from other concerned authorities and also 5-meter setback is included during preparation of Land use land cover map in the brief document prepared by CSIR-NIO.

Pascoal Goes

The Grievant was present in person and informed that their property falls under survey no. 393/6-H and there is existing house.

GC informed that the repair/renovation of the existing house is permitted subject to the permissions from other concerned authorities and also 5-meter setback is included during preparation of Land use land cover map in the brief document prepared by CSIR-NIO.

Marina Joaquim & Francisco Goes

The grievant was present in person and informed that their property falls under survey no. 393/6-f and there is existing house.

GC informed that the repair/renovation of the existing house is permitted subject to the permissions from other concerned authorities and also 5 meter setback is included during preparation of Land use land cover map in the brief document prepared by CSIR-NIO.

Biodiversity Management Committee Benaulim

The members present of the BMC Benaulim requested demarcation of the wetlands and pollution of the waterbodies should be addressed at the earliest.

GC committee informed that once the wetland is finally notified Lake Management Committee will be manage the wetlands sustainably and demarcation of the wetland will be conducted.

Conclusion: Regarding Zuari Lake the GC decided to refer the contention of Zuari Lake is not a wetland but a reservoir to the Goa State Wetland Authority. The GC informed that the pre-existing rights & privileges are already included in the Schedule III and Schedule IV hence protected and farming/agriculture is permitted activity within wetland notification. GC informed that the repair/renovation of the existing house is permitted subject to the permissions from other concerned authorities and also 5 meter setback is allowed wherein expansion of the existing structure is allowed also subject to the permissions from other concerned authorities. GC decided to that final decision regarding final notification to be taken by authority.

Agenda 2: Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.

Nil. Since there was no other matter to discuss, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks by the Head of Nodal Agency, GSWA.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pradip Sarmokadam".

Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam
Head of Nodal Agency, GSWA



GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY

GRIEVANTS PRESENT FOR THE 15TH GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY HELD ON 13TH AUGUST 2024 IN Room no 407, Seminar Hall, South Goa Collectorate, Mathany Saldhana Administrative Complex, Office Of District Collector, South Goa FROM 2.00 P.M. ONWARDS.

Sr. No.	Grievants	Signature
1	NILESH G. DESSAI	
2.	PANKAJ. J. NAIK	
3	Anand Rajadhyaksh	
4.	Mohesh Naik	
5.	Sonal Kulkarni (Asst. Legal Mgr. ZAC)	
6.	Prateesh Gawas	
7.	AD SENIOR ADV. SANDESH PATILYAD.	
8.	ADV. PRAYASH SHIRODKAR	
9.	Nicolau Rodrigues	
10	Paulo D Souza (Consultant lake)	
11	Sachin Wagle	

GE members excluded
AC members
Panchayat
Panchayat



