

**MINUTES OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY (GSWA)**

**TYPE OF MEETING:** REGULAR GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEETING.

**DATE:** 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST 2024;      **TIME:** 2.00 PM ONWARDS

**VENUE:** MURGAON MUTT SANKUL SAMITI, SHRI VIDYADHIRAJ BHAVAN, DR, F.L. GOMES ROAD, VASCO-DA-GAMA, GOA-403802.

**THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY DR. PRADIP SARMOKADAM, HEAD OF NODAL AGENCY AS AUTHORIZED TO CHAIR THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE (GC) OF GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY (GSWA)**

The following members attended the meeting:

**Day 1**

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Head of Nodal Agency (HNA) for GSWA & Member Secretary (MS), Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)	Convenor as Chairperson of the 17 <sup>th</sup> Grievance Committee meeting on Day 1
2.	Adv. Sapna Mordekar	Member
3.	Ms. Nadia Shekoli, Deputy Director, Department of Urban Development	Ex-officio member
4.	Shri Gajesh P. Shirodkar, Joint Mamlatdar III Vasco	Representative of Collector South
5.	Shri Krishna Salkar, Hon'ble MLA of Vasco Constituency	Special Invitee
6.	Shri. Girish Borkar, Chairperson, Mormugao Municipal Council	Special Invitee
7.	Shri. Yatin Kamurlekar, Chairperson, Biodiversity Management Committee Vasco MMC	Special Invitee



- The attendance for the Grievants present for the 17th 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 Maimollem Lake (Mormugao)**

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 which grievances were addressed.

**Vaishali Shailesh Shetye, Brasinho Filomeno M. Barreto, Leo Rodrigues, Apricio De Assencao De Cristo De Sa Pereira, Theresa Zuzarte Acharya, Maria Raynor Pereira, Melquiades Elray Pereira, Jean Paul Pereira, Leslie Pereira, Stanley Pereira, Willam Rodrigues, Sanket D. Naik & 71 others, Krishnanath Kashinath Naik, Joaquim Rodrigues, Andrew Rodrigues, Ramrai Babuso Naik was represented by Adv. Fawia Mesquita.**

Legal Counsel Adv.Fawia Mesquita representing the grievants said that the land belonging her parties falls in Maimollem Lake wetland notification is marked as paddy field in the ODP as well as land records and that paddy field is not a wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017. She also stated that the grievants are stakeholders, declared tenants and should be allowed to continue with their traditional activities. She also further stated that the grievants should be allowed to construct in their respectively owned areas as the



prevailing laws. She said that the currently land belonging to the grievants is uncultivable due water pollution and the sewage water being accumulated in their agricultural lands, hence Government should take appropriate actions to restore the lands considering it's a urban waterbody so the grievants can cultivate the land. HNA, GSWA explained that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and agricultural activity is also permitted. Existing FAR/FSI should be permitted. GC explained that cultivation of paddy is also a eco-system service of the wetlands and is classified as pre-existing rights & privileges and is protected. Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to new construction within the 50 meter from the mean high flood level observed in the past ten years calculated from the date of commencement of Wetlands rules, since it is beyond the purview of Grievance Committee and request GSPCB to check for the water pollution and sewage contaminating the Maimollem Lake.

**Manesh C. Arolkar (Former Chairperson, Mormugao Municipal Council)**

The Grievant was present in person, and presented the grievance that there exist a hindu crematorium which falls within the notified wetland area of Maimollem Lake and its development of which should be allowed. HNA, GSWA explained that all pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and the rules depict no prohibition on construction in the Zone of Influence. However Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with regards to construction in the 50-meter from mean high flood level as depicted on draft notified map.

**Jagdish Tirodkar & Manisha Tirodkar:**

The Grievants were present in person and stated that they own the plot, PT. sheet no.159, Chaltano. 1 & PT. sheet no.159, Chaltano. 15 is depicted as paddy field in the land records and intend to continue with the agricultural activity. However due to discharge of sewage in the land has become uncultivable and bad odor indicates pollution the land also the prohibition on the new construction within notified area will cause distress to the local community. He sought clearance whether agricultural tenants will be allowed to cultivate the land and the lands requires restoration.

GC explained that Agriculture is permitted activity as it's a pre-existing right & privilege. However regarding desire to do new construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority.



### **Ajay Kanolkar**

The grievant was present in person and informed that he has a plot with survey no. PT. sheet no. 121 Chaltano.53-A which falls in buffer zone, has substantial plantation in the area, and existing small structure, however he wants to construct beyond the existing plinth & 50-meter setback.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level.

### **Elias Barreto & Jose Cleto Henriques**

The grievant was present in person and stated that he has property having PT. Sheet no. 149, Chaltano.32,52,77,81, 115(P), & 120 (P) and Jose Henriques owns plot having PT. Sheet no.149 Chaltano.60, with permission from Naval Department to construct which falls in Zone of Influence and Buffer zone of the draft notified wetland and is notified as settlement zone hence he expressed that undue prohibition on the developmental activities will cause undue distress to the community. He requested that there should be no prohibition on construction activity.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level.

### **Eugenio Rodrigues**

The Grievant was present in person and informed that he is owner of the property surveyed under PT. Sheet no.129 Chaltano.2 & 8 and PT. Sheet no.121 Chaltano.44. falls in the buffer zone and the prohibition on the construction will cause substantial economic hardship also will reduce the market value of the property.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level i.e. Buffer Zone.

### **Sushant M. Tirodkar & Sanvi Tirodkar**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that they own the plot, PT. sheet no.159, Chaltano. 1 & PT. sheet no.159, Chaltano. 15 is depicted as paddy field in the land records and intend to continue with the agricultural activity. However due to discharge of sewage in



the land they are unable to cultivate the land also the prohibition on the construction will casue distress to the local community. GC explained that Agriculture is permitted activity.

However Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level i.e. Buffer Zone.

#### **Dempo Properties & Investments PVT LTD**

The Legal Counsel Adv. Gaurish Kogaonkar, representing the grievant that the grievant owns property of 2940 sqmts which falls in the buffer zone that is 50 meter from mean high flood level and is used for traditional mundkars with their respective dwelling houses , hence undue restriction on the construction in the buffer zone should be removed.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level i.e. Buffer Zone.

#### **Confraria De Santissimo Sacramento E De Nossa Senhora De Guia**

The Grievant was represented by Attorney Raimundo Godinho, owning the plot having PT. Sheet no.129 Chaltano. 26 which falls in wetland notification, the Grievant per say do not object wetland notification however strongly objects the prohibition on construction activities in the buffer zone which will cause great hardship if finally notified, hence the restruiction should be relaxed or removed.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level.

#### **RamShankar Pal**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that he is owner of property bearing PT. sheet no.130 Chaltano 107-A, the plot falls in the buffer zone and he wants to construct in the said plot and the prohibition on new construction will cause him hardship.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level i.e. Buffer Zone.

#### **Ramdas P. Borkar**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that he is tenant of plot having PT. Sheet no. 100 Chaltano. 5/3 and PT. Sheet no. 100 Chaltano. 5/20 and said that he should be allowed



to do cultivation there should be no restrictions on the usage of his land. GC explained that Agriculture is permitted activity. HNA, GSWA explained that all pre-existing rights & privileges are protected.

#### **M.N. Constructions**

The Grievant was represented by Suresh Rao Aithal holding plot with PT. sheet no. 121 Chaltano.105 c, d , with structures under Chaltano. 26,27, 30, 32 , 31 and also property under PT. sheet no.121 Chaltano. 106 which falls in the wetland notification as buffer zone. The area is notified as settlement zone by the Government hence prohibition on construction will cause great economic hardship hence the new constructions should be allowed with existing land use status considering the investment made & future plans.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level i.e. Buffer Zone.

#### **Confraria de Bom Jesus Das Santas Almas de Igreja De Vasco da Gama**

The Grievant was represented by Ralph Trindade and stated that he has plot having PT. sheet no. 129 Chaltano.22 which falls in wetland notification, the Grievant per say does not object wetland notification however strongly objects the prohibition on construction activities in the buffer zone which will cause great hardship if finally notified, hence the restriction should be relaxed or removed.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level i.e. Buffer Zone.

#### **Cirilo Antonio Carvalho**

The Grievant was present in person and informed that he has agricultural tenancy right over survey no. (Lote) 129/14 and 15/3/148 and has family plot bearing PT. Sheet no. 149 with Chaltano. 62,64,60, 61 which is used for residence and plantation of fruit bearing trees & Surwhere they use the land for agriculture and use that water from lake also has existing house.

GC informed that agriculture is permitted activity and repair and renovation of the existing structure with 5 meter setback is permitted subject to the permissions from other concerned authorities.



### **Comunidade of Mormugao**

The grievant was represented by Antonio Maximiano Pereira stated that the grievant owns the plot bearing PT. sheet no.100 Chalta no. 5/1 to 5/18 , PT. Sheet no. 99 Chalta no. 11/1 to 11/8 of Vasco City of Mormugao, which is depicted as paddy field in the land records and is cultivated by tenants since centuries. Currently due to clogging of sewage water and water pollution, dumping of Construction & Demolition waste by illegal entities have rendered the fields uncultivable. Further restrictions imposed by Wetland notification will grossly affect the community.

The GC decided that the grievant should be heard by Authority.

### **Shaikh Altaf Daud**

The grievant was present in person and stated that PT. sheet no. 139 Chalta no. 71 to 74(P) his paddy field and should not be considered as wetland as paddy field is not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level i.e. Buffer Zone.

**Mormugao Planning & Development Authority:** Representatives present however no representation made.

### **Savio Correia**

The Grievant was present in person and expressed the need for protection of wetland and hence expressed the support for the wetland notification. He further stated that wetland notification is good step towards water security. However expressed opinion that since Maimollem Lake is urban wetland hence certain the relaxations & guidelines should drafted by the authority. Wetlands should be categorized so that separate guidelines can be made applicable. HNA, GSWA informed that GSWA has already classified the lakes into pristine and urban wetlands and drafted guidelines for the demarcation of zone of influence especially towards construction within 50 meter from mean high flood level. Local community should taken into consideration. The sewage discharged into the lake should be immediately stopped as it has rendered the agricultural lands un-cultivable. GC decided to communicate the suggestions of grievant to the authority.



### **Vilma Paul**

The Grievant was represented by legal counsel adv Sherwyn Correia and informed that the grievant owns plot bearing Chalta no. 38 PT. sheet no. 139 & Chalta no. 66 of PT. Sheet no.149 which is ancestral property of the grievant and is depicted as settlement zone by the Government. Further he stated that as per Brief document 59 % is fallow land is agricultural land and not a water body hence cannot be categorized as wetland. On the Survey map shows strips of lands which is generally done to depict paddy field strip, hence the entire identification of Maimollem Lake as wetland is erroneous.

The GC decided to refer the classification of Maimollem lake as wetland to authority as its identification as wetland is questioned by grievant. HNA, GSWA explained that fallow land left unused for long time inundated with water can be qualified as wetland. Further the legal Counsel representing the grievant claimed that the notification is against the right to property since the grievant is deprived of his right to use the land as per their own wish and that the right to property should be considered pre-existing right.

### **Stella Andrew**

The grievant was present in person and informed that she has existing house and intends to know the implication of wetland notification on repairs and renovation of existing structures.

GC informed her all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities.

### **Kennedy Sequeira**

The grievant present in person stated that he owns a plot bearing PT. sheet no. 149 Chaltano.51 is paddy field as per land records and should not be considered as wetland as paddy field is not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 . Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. He further claims that his plot is at high elevation.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level i.e. Buffer Zone.

### **Anthony Barreto**



The grievant was present in person and stated that PT. sheet no. 149 Chalta no. 74 is paddy field and should not be considered as wetland as paddy field is not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 ,hence his area should be excluded from notification. . Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with regards Grievants intention to do new construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level. GC informed that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities.

#### **Manuel Sequeira**

The grievant was present in person and stated that he owns plot with PT. sheet no. 149 Chalta no. 104 is a paddy field and not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with regards to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level .GC informed that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities.

#### **Alfredo Xavier Gonsalves & Crislogo Francisco Gonsalves**

The grievants were present in person and stated that they own plot with PT. sheet no. 139 Chaltano. 17 (P) are paddy fields and are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. GC informed that the said property is already depicted as settlement zone on the land use land cover map of the brief document of the Maimollem Lake. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland.



GC clarified that even a temporary waterbody can be identified and notified as wetland under wetland (Conservation & Management) rules

**Manuel E.S. Pereira**

The grievant was present in person and stated that he owns plot in notified wetland area and paddy fields and are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be excluded from notification. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. GC informed that the said property is already depicted as settlement zone on the land use land cover map of the brief document of the Maimollem Lake. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that if the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland.

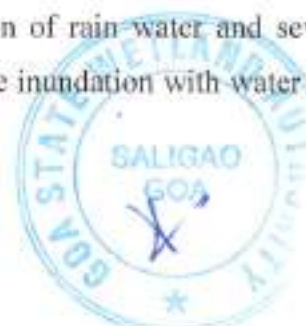
**Antonio Maximiano Pereira**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that he owns plot bearing PT. Sheet no. 100 Chaltano. 5/7, PT. Sheet No. 149 Chaltano.70, PT. Sheet no.148 Chalta no.6, PT. Sheet no.149 Chaltano.67,69, 107, 108,109, 116 falls under wetland notification. The said property is paddy field hence cannot be notified as wetland as paddy fields are exempted from wetland notification as wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017. He said that currently the land is flooded due to the accumulation of rain water and sewage which is blocked due to the culvert built by Railways. He stated that mere inundation with water should not qualify as wetland.

GC explained that Agriculture is permitted activity. HNA, GSWA explained that all pre-existing rights & privileges are protected.

**Severina D'Costa**

The grievant was present in person and stated that they own a plot bearing PT. Sheet no. 121 Chaltano. 43 sub division 3 falls under wetland notification. The grievant further stated that the said property is paddy field hence cannot be notified as wetland as paddy fields are exempted from wetland notification as Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017. Currently the land is flooded due to the accumulation of rain water and sewage which is blocked due to the culvert built by Railways. The mere inundation with water cannot qualify



as wetland. The grievant intends to cultivate once the debris & construction & demolition waste covering the fields is removed.

GC explained that Agriculture is permitted activity. HNA, GSWA explained that all pre-existing rights & privileges are protected under the Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017.

**Damodar Navasso Arondekar**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that he is holding plot bearing PT. sheet no.100 Chaltano.5/1 where he used to practice agriculture and the plot is under ownership of Comunidade of Mormugao. He also stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification. He said that the currently the land belonging to the grievants is uncultivable due water pollution and the sewage water being accumulated in their agricultural lands, hence Government should take appropriate actions to restore the lands so the grievants can cultivate the land.

GC informed that the agriculture is permitted activity in the wetland notification and regarding pollution, communication will be made to GSPCB.

**Suresh Subha Rao Aithal**

The Grievant was present in person and he is attorney for Mr. Matires Amaro Henriques and presented the grievance that he has a plot bearing PT. sheet no.99 Chalta no.13 and 2/6<sup>th</sup> owner of PT. sheet no.99 and Chalta no. 12 has agriculture, plantation and existing structure. He also stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification. He said that the currently the land belonging to the grievants is uncultivable due water pollution and the sewage water being accumulated in their agricultural lands, hence Government should take appropriate actions to restore the lands so the grievants can cultivate the land.

GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland.

**Kusum Tirodkar**



The grievant present in person and stated that she has a plot & an existing house which falls under wetland notification has existing house. GC stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland.

#### **Filomena Sequeira**

The grievant present in person, owning plot bearing PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no. 105(P) falls under wetland notified area. She also stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence her area should be exempted from notification. Further the grievant intends to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. GC informed that the said property is already depicted as settlement zone on the land use land cover map of the brief document of the Maimollem Lake. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland.

#### **Matilda Carvalho**

The grievant was present in person and stated that she is owner of plot bearing PT. Sheet no.139 Chalta no.31, which falls under wetland notification. She has existing house. She also stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence her area should be exempted from notification. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. GC informed that the said property is depicted as part of contiguous pre-existing settlement area including 5 meter setback on land use land cover map of Maimollem Lake prepared by CSIR-NIO. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5-meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland.

#### **Paixao Menezes**

The grievant was present in person and stated that he is owner of the land bearing PT. Sheet no. 122 Chalta no.34 falls under wetland notification. He has existing house. He expressed intention of new construction in Buffer Zone.



GC informed that the said property is depicted as part of contiguous pre-existing settlement area including 5 meter setback on land use land cover map of Maimollem Lake prepared by CSIR-NIO. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland. Regarding the proposal of new construction GC decided to refer it to authority.

#### **Esmeralda Barreto**

The Grievant was present in person, stated that she owns plot bearing PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.73, PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.75(P), PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.68, PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.78, PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.80, PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.71, PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.72 PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.76, PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.74, PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.77, PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.79, PT. Sheet no. 149 Chalta no.81 PT. Sheet no. 100 Chaltano.51(P), PT. Sheet no. 100 Chaltano.17 have a existing house which falls under wetland notification and is notified as settlement zone. She also stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence her area should be exempted from notification. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland.

GC informed that the said property is depicted as part of contiguous pre-existing settlement area including 5 meter setback on land use land cover map of Maimollem Lake prepared by CSIR-NIO, however decided to refer the query to authority, GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland.

#### **Victor Luis Pereira**

The grievant was present in person and stated that he is owner of plot bearing PT. Sheet no.122 Chalta no.18 falls under wetland notification. He further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland.



GC informed that the said property is depicted as part of contiguous pre-existing settlement area including 5 meter setback on land use land cover map of Maimollem Lake prepared by CSIR-NIO. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland.

#### **Confraria De Nossa Senhora das Mercês**

The grievant was represented by Rosario Pereira (President) & Attorney Ana Rusada Pereria, they stated that the institute owns plot bearing PT. Sheet no.129 Chalta no.23& 24 falls under wetland notification. The said plot which falls in the 50 meter from mean high flood level and is used for traditional activities and institutional purposes, hence undue restriction on the construction in the buffer zone should be removed.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level.

#### **Simon Pereira**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that he is the owner of plot bearing PT. Sheet no. 122 Chalta no. 1,2,3 which falls under wetland notification and is shown as vegetation on land use land cover map on Brief document but has valid sanad and intends to do construction, he further claims to have Naval Sanad and NOC and the said land is classified as settlement zone by the Government.

Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level.

### **Day 2 of the 17<sup>th</sup> Grievance Committee meeting of Goa State Wetland Authority**

**THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY SHRI JOHNSON FERNANDES, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE, MEMBER SECRETARY, GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY, CO-CHAIRPERSON, GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE (GC) OF GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY (GSWA)**



Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1	Shri. Johnson Fernandes, Director, Department of Environment & Climate Change, Member Secretary, Goa State Wetland Authority(GSWA)	Co-Chairperson
2	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Head of Nodal Agency (HNA) for GSWA & Member Secretary (MS), Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)	Convenor
3	Ms. Nadia Shekoli, Deputy Director, Department of Urban Development	Ex-officio member
4	Adv. Sapna Mordekar	Member
5	Shri Krishna Salkar, Hon'ble MLA of Vasco Constituency	<i>Special Invitee</i>
6	Ms. Pallavi Mishra, IAS, Asst. Collector North Goa	<i>Special Invitee</i>
7	Shri. Yatin Kamurlekar, Chairperson, Biodiversity Management Committee Vasco MMC	<i>Special Invitee</i>

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 Maimollem Lake (Mormugao)**

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, following which grievance were addressed.

**Sanjay Ankush Redkar & 29 Others**

The Sanjay Ankush Redkar was present in person and represented 29 others, stated that earlier Maimollem lake was paddy field and was cultivated by local community. He extended support for Maimollem wetland notification. He further added that PT, Sheet no.148 Chalta no.15/3, PT. sheet no.101, 121, 120 and PT, Sheet no.92,93,99 also display characteristics of



wetland hence needs to be added as additional area under wetland notification or remove the existing paddy fields if additional area cannot be added. The sluice gates needs to be repaired so the maximum potential of the Maimollem Lake can be utilized. Further he stated that discharge of sewage water and dumping of construction & demolition waste should be stopped. He also added that the repair and renovation of existing traditional houses should be allowed. He informed that there are no ongoing crematorium activities in the Maimollem lake hence should be removed from wetland notification.

GC decided to refer that the matter of adding additional area to Maimollem lake to Authority. While with respect to existing houses, that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland.

#### **Bruno Menino Gonsalves**

The grievant present in person stated that he is owner of plot bearing PT. Sheet no. 158 Chaltano.22 falling under wetland notification with a existing house in the said plot. He further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification however agricultural activities should be allowed. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. GC informed that the said property is depicted as part of contiguous pre-existing settlement area including 5 meter setback on land use land cover map of Maimollem Lake prepared by CSIR-NIO. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland. GC also added that Agriculture is permitted activity. The grievant requested for ground truthing. Gc decided to refer the same to authority.

#### **Santosh Korgawkar**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that owning plot bearing PT. Sheet no.121 Chaltano.106(P) falling under wetland notification and already has existing house. He further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification. Further the grievant intended to



do new construction in the area notified as wetland. GC informed that the said property is depicted as part of contiguous pre-existing settlement area including 5 meter setback on land use land cover map of Maimollem Lake prepared by CSIR-NIO. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland.

**Babuso Subhash Borkar & Sushanti Subhash Borkar**

The Grievants were present in person and stated that is agricultural tenants of plot bearing PT. sheet no.158 Chalta no. 49, wherein they practices agriculture & horticulture but is facing difficulties due to ingress of sewage water. He further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification. GC informed him that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected. Agriculture is permitted activity.

**Fatima Godinho**

The grievant was present in person and stated that she holds plot bearing PT. Sheet no.139 Chaltano.47 and PT. sheet no.158 Chalta no.64 which falls under wetland notification. wherein he practices agriculture but is facing difficulties due to ingress of sewage water. He further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification.

GC informed that the said property is already depicted as settlement zone on the land use land cover map of the brief document of the Maimollem Lake. GC informed him that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected. Agriculture is permitted activity as per wetlands (Conservation & Management)Rules 2017.

**Palmira Viegas e D'souza**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that they own the plot bearing PT. Sheet no 158 Chaltano.75 falling in the wetland notification. She further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exemPT.ed from notification. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. GC informed that the said property is depicted as part of contiguous pre-existing settlement area including 5 meter setback on land use land cover map



of Maimollem Lake prepared by CSIR-NIO. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland. Grievance Committee decided to refer the matter to the authority with respect to construction in the 50 meter from mean high flood level regarding PT. sheet no. 158 Chalta no.85.

**Bhanudas Tano Naik**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that is agricultural tenant of plot bearing PT. sheet no.100 Chaltano.5 sub division 17, wherein he practices agriculture but is facing difficulties due to ingress of sewage water. He further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification as he intends to do agriculture and allied agricultural activities.

GC informed him that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected. Agriculture is permitted activity.

**Bhaskar Naik, Babusso Naik & Rajesh Naik**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that is declared lease holder of plot bearing PT. sheet no.100 Chaltano.5 sub division 12, wherein they practices agriculture but is facing difficulties due to ingress of sewage water. Bhaskar Naik ,further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification.

GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. GC informed that the said property is depicted as part of contiguous pre-existing settlement area including 5 meter setback on land use land cover map of Maimollem Lake prepared by CSIR-NIO.

**Beby Ladu Naik & Babani Ladu Naik**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that is declared lease holder of plot bearing PT. sheet no.100 Chalta no.24 to 27 .He further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per



Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification. Agriculture is permitted activity. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. GC informed that the said property is depicted as part of contiguous pre-existing settlement area including 5 meter setback on land use land cover map of Maimollem Lake prepared by CSIR-NIO.

**Gauresh R. Naik & Sanket R. Naik, Reshma R. Naik**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that they are holding plot bearing PT. sheet no.159 Chalta no.3. He further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. GC further informed that the said property is already depicted as settlement zone on the land use land cover map of the brief document of the Maimollem Lake.

**Ramrai Babusso Naik**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that he is a declared mundkar of plot bearing PT. sheet no.158 Chaltano.15 & PT. sheet no.100 Chaltano.5/6, and has existing house .He further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification.

GC informed him that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland.

**Nayana Narayan Naik**



The Grievant was present in person and stated that he is holding plot bearing PT. sheet no.159 Chaltano.3/15G and has existing house in the said property. GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland. Further the grievant intended to do new construction in the area notified as wetland. GC informed that the said property is depicted as part of contiguous pre-existing settlement area including 5 meter setback on land use land cover map of Maimollem Lake prepared by CSIR-NIO.

**Naresh Naik**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that is agricultural tenant of plot falling under wetland notification wherein he practices agriculture but is facing difficulties due to ingress of sewage water. He further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification. GC informed him that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected. Agriculture is a permitted activity as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017.

**Pandurang Narvekar**

The Grievant was present in person and stated mundkarial of plot bearing PT. sheet no.121 Chaltano.58 and has existing house and cow shed .He further stated that paddy fields are not wetland as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017 hence his area should be exempted from notification.

GC also stated that all the pre-existing rights & privileges are protected and repair/renovation of existing house is permitted with 5 meter setback subject to the permission from other concerned authorities and that the said activity does not affect the ecological character of the wetland. GC informed that the said property is depicted as part of contiguous pre-existing settlement area including 5 meter setback on land use land cover map of Maimollem Lake prepared by CSIR-NIO.

**Soloman Suvatha John & Tohid Hasan Chowdhari**

The Grievant was present in person and stated that, Soloman John holding plot bearing PT. Sheet no. 158 Chalita no.15 and Tohid Chowdhari holding plot bearing, PT. Sheet no. 158

