

**MINUTES OF THE 14th MEETING OF GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY
(GSWA)**

TYPE OF MEETING: REGULAR MEETING.

DATE: 27th SEPTEMBER 2023;

TIME: 4.30 PM Onwards

VENUE: "CONFERENCE HALL, FIRST FLOOR MINISTERIAL BLOCK,
SECRETARIAT, PORVORIM, BARDEZ, GOA

**THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY SHRI. NILESH CABRAL, HON.
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND
CHAIRPERSON OF GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY.**

The following members attended the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri. Nilesh Cabral, Hon. Minister for Environment & Climate Change	Chairperson GSWA
2.	Shri. Arun Kumar Mishra IAS, Secretary (Environment & Climate Change)	Member (Ex-Officio)
3.	Shri. Deepesh Priolkar, Director & Rep. for Secretary, Directorate of Fisheries	Member (Ex-Officio)
4.	Shri. Jabestin A, Rep. for Chief Wildlife Warden Deputy Conservator of Forest (HQ), Department of Forest.	Member (Ex-Officio)
5.	Under Secretary, Rep. of Secretary, Revenue Department	Member (Ex-Officio)
6	Director, State Remote Sensing Centre	Member (Ex-Officio)
7	Dr. Sneha Gitte IAS, Director, Department of Environment & Climate Change, Member Secretary, Goa State Wetland Authority (GSWA)	Member Secretary, Goa State Wetland Authority (GSWA)



8.	Shri. Johnson Bedy, Director, Directorate of Survey & Land Records (DSLRL)	Special Invitee
9.	Shri. Dhiraj R. Vagle, Deputy Director, Rep. of Secretary, Directorate of Tourism	Member (Ex-Officio)
10.	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board	Member (Ex-Officio), Head of Nodal Agency, GSWA
11.	Shri. Krishnakant S. Patil, Superintendent Engineer, Water Resource Department	Representative of Water Resource Department
12.	Shri. Shantaram Ghantkar, Superintendent Engineer, Water Resource Department	Representative of Water Resource Department
13.	Shri. K.V. Ramanathan, Technical Director, NIC	Special Invitee
14.	Smt. Pratima Kavlekar, Rep of DSLRL	Representative of DSLRL
15.	Dr. G. N. Nayak, Retd. Professor, Department of Marine Science.	Expert Member GSWA
16.	Arch. Mangesh Prabhugaonkar, Landscape Architect	Expert Member, GSWA
17.	Prof. Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Department of Economics, Goa University	Expert Member, GSWA
18.	Shri. Devanand Kavlekar, Senior Technical Officer, CSIR-NIO, Dona Paula	Expert Member, GSWA
*19.	Adv. Atrey Kakodkar, Practising Advocate	Co-opted Member, GSWA
20.	Smt. Asavari Kulkarni, Environment Officer, V.M. Salgaocar & Brother Pvt. Ltd.	Co-opted Member, GSWA
21.	Arch. Hyacinth Pinto, PWD, Sustainable Architect empanelled by GSWA	Special Invitee
22.	Dr. Mandar Nanajkar, Scientist, CSIR- NIO	Special Invitee
23.	Dr. Akhil V.P., CSIR-NIO	Special Invitee

*For the meeting Secretary (Forests), Secretary(Urban Development), Secretary (Rural Development), Member Secretary, Goa State Pollution Control Board, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of the regional center of MOEF&CC, Dr. Sreekanth G. B. (ICAR – CCARI), Shri. Mahesh Patankar, were unable to attend.



At the outset, Chairperson GSWA, Shri. Nilesh Cabral, extended a warm welcome to the Chairperson and the Members to 14th Goa State Wetland Authority (GSWA) Meeting.

The following Agenda was transacted:

Agenda 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 13th Authority Meeting.

The Minutes of the 13th Authority Meeting of GSWA were placed before the Authority members for confirmation. The same was confirmed.

Proposed by Dr. G. N. Nayak, Expert Member GSWA, Retd. Professor, Department of Marine Science.

Confirmed by Arch. Mangesh Prabhugaonkar, Expert Member, Landscape Architect.

Agenda 2: Action Taken Report of the 13th Authority Meeting

Action Taken Report of the 13th Authority Meeting of GSWA was placed before the Members present for perusal. Agenda No. 1,2,3,4,5 were complied & approved. Regarding Agenda 6, it was informed by HNA, GSWA that process of recommending Raia lake as Ramsar site can be initiated after final notification of Raia lake as Wetland.

Agenda 3: Approval for waterbodies identified by TC for Draft Notification.

Authority members thoroughly discussed and deliberated about all the waterbodies presented based on identification by technical committee of GSWA. It was informed by CSIR- NIO that even though the said waterbodies are identified as wetlands they fall under the purview of Coastal Regulation Zone. Authority decided that GSWA may not notify the said waterbodies as Wetlands as they are already protected under the purview of CRZ Rules.

Authority members unanimously agreed that following waterbodies were to be excluded from the application of Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules



2017, namely Banastarim lake, Canturlim Lake, Gawli- Maula Lake, Curca Lake, Khandepar Lake and Malebhat Lake.

Agenda 4: Presentation by CSIR- NIO regarding the project “Identification and Wetlands in Goa”

Dr. Mandar Nanajkar, Scientist, CSIR- NIO and Dr. Akhil V.P., CSIR-NIO presented before the Authority members the progress on project “Identification and Wetlands in Goa”. After the brief presentation the authority members directed NIO to give specific breakup of 550 waterbodies as the lakes under Forest area and CRZ area, mining quarries, Temple Lake, paddy fields and the remaining waterbodies that could be potentially identified as Wetlands and considered under Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules 2017. Chairperson very clearly directed CSIR- NIO to provide the specifics about the location of each wetland, whether in CRZ or protected and those which are potential wetlands and those which are waterbodies or tanks or others beyond the qualification of wetlands within a week's time. This was unanimously agreed by all the GSWA members. Further authority members unanimously decided that once the numerical specifics of waterbodies along with nomenclature as per Form I & XIV of DSLR are obtained from NIO, the waterbodies falling under the purview of CRZ and Forest to be communicated to respective departments requesting them to submit the action taken and further plan by them to ensure conservation and management these waterbodies.

Agenda 5: Presentation by Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. Regarding draft notification of Zuari Lake based on their submission to the office of GSWA.

Authority members unanimously decided that since Zuari Lake is under process of draft notification, the appropriate authority to hear the grievances is the Grievance Committee of GSWA after its draft notification.

Agenda 6: Conceptual approval for “Framework Management Plan” Nanda Lake.



Arch. Hyacinth Pinto, PWD, Sustainable Architect empanelled by GSWA presented the detailed interventions for sustainable development and framework / integrated management plan on Nanda Lake (Ramsar Site). She explained in detail the Developmental plan to be executed on the periphery of the lake.

Arch. Mangesh Prabhugaonkar provided various specific inputs and suggestions on the developmental plan giving special emphasis on topography, vegetation and hydrology and the entire Nanda Lake should be universally accessible and should be provision for emergency services.

Authority members further also suggested that local community should be involved in the process, the lighting should not affect the bird life with regulated footfall. HNA, GSWA also suggested that Green Crematorium should be included in Developmental Plan.

Authority members collectively approved the developmental plan by the Arch. Hycinth which is to be communicated to WRD after incorporating inputs provided by the authority.

Agenda 7: Status of Incorporation of Wetland notified areas in Form I & XIV of Directorate of Settlement & Land Records

Regarding the above agenda, Director, Directorate of Settlement & Land records informed that Wetlands could be included in the property Register. A representative from NIC informed that the depiction of wetlands on property register could be completed within a week's time.

Further Authority unanimously decided that the communication to be made to Revenue Department to depict the wetland areas in the form I & XIV of land records in the remark column.

Agenda 8: Status of Cognisance regarding illegal construction in the buffer zone of notified wetland Pilerne Lake



HNA, GSWA informed that authority members in pursuance to above agenda that a site inspection is conducted by GSWA and show cause notice will be issued to the violator, which will be the scrutinised by Technical Committee and decision will be taken by Technical Committee of GSWA. Enforcement of the decision will be done by the respective District Collectors.

Authority members decided that continuous monitoring is required for the finally notified wetlands for which a tender could be floated requesting monitoring services using artificial intelligence technology.

Agenda 9: Engaging drama/art colleges to have street plays to create awareness regarding wetlands

HNA, GSWA informed that there is lack of awareness regarding wetlands in the State of Goa. Authority members unanimously decided that competitions could be held and the winners could be asked to perform the skits, etc at various places by providing them logistic and financial support and even short films category should be included for competitions. The competitions could be held before World Wetland Day (WWD) 2024 as pre WWD '24 event.

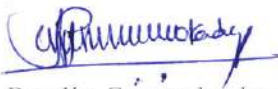
Agenda 10: Any other matter with the permission of the chair.

a. Lack of staff as GSWA office.

HNA, GSWA informed the Authority regarding the less staff at GSWA office. The Authority members recommended Director Environment & Climate Change to depute Scientific Staff from Department the at GSWA office till the staff for GSWA is recruited as approved during the last authority meeting.

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




Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam
**Head of Nodal Agency,
Goa State Wetland Authority**