

**MINUTES OF THE 11th GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF GOA STATE
WETLAND AUTHORITY (GSWA)**

TYPE OF MEETING: REGULAR GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEETING.

DATE: 1st November 2023;

TIME: 2.30 PM ONWARDS

VENUE: CONFERENCE HALL, 3rd FLOOR, OFFICE OF 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.	Smt. Snehal S. Prabhu, Dy. Collector, (Revenue), Collectorate South Goa	Member
3.	Smt. Durga Kinklekar, Under Secretary (Revenue)	Member
4.	Shri Ganesh K. Barve, Dy. Director, Department of Urban Development.	Member
5.	Smt. Meeksha Naik, Block Development Officer (BDO) II, HQ, Directorate of Panchayat (DOP)	Representative of DOP
6.	Adv. Sapna Mordekar	Member
7.	Shri. Noel Tavares, Block Development Officer	Representative of DOP
8.	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Head of Nodal Agency (HNA) for GSWA & Member Secretary (MS), Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)	Convenor

9.	Smt. Pravisha Bhonsle (VP Secretary)	Representative of BDO Bardez HQ
10.	Representative of Prathamesh Shankardas, Block Development Officer, Directorate of Panchayat	Member
11.	Shri. Apricio Dcosta (JE) Water Resource Department	Representative of Water Resource Department
12.	Shri Simon Pereira, Sarpanch, Village Panchayat Orlim	Invitee

- The attendance of the Grievants present of the 11th GC meeting is attached herewith.

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

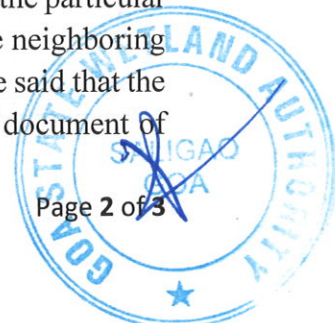
Agenda 1 : Personal Hearing to the objectors regarding draft notification of Orlim Lake (Orlim, Salcete), as Wetland under Wetland (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017.

Head of Nodal Agency, Goa State Wetland Authority (GSWA) Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, explained to the grievants the entire process of Wetland Identification & Notification in the State of Goa as per Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017.

1.Sarpanch/Secretary, Village Panchayat, Orlim along with Biodiversity Management Committee Orlim

Village Panchayat of Orlim through email dated 25th October 2023 requested to give group hearing instead of personal hearing to all the grievants. GC accepted the request and arranged for group hearing. HNA, GSWA confirmed with grievants present that whether any one of the Grievants still required personal hearing in addition and if required the same will be provided. To this grievants present unanimously agreed to have group hearing.

At the onset Smt. Kim Miranda speaking on behalf of Villagers of Orlim Lake affected by the Draft notification of Orlim Lake, informed in her detailed explanation that the Orlim Lake is incorrectly named as Orlim Lake but its name is '*Igorjeche Tollem*'. She said that the particular area in discussion consist of 5 ponds. Water from the ponds is used to irrigate the neighboring fields. The local community traditionally uses the water for further utilization. She said that the Orlim lake is not fed by natural springs. She pointed out the errors in the brief document of



Orlim Lake prepared by CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography. She also pointed out that the Orlim Lake is a temporary waterbody and not a permanent one as mentioned in the Brief Document and the villagers are also against notification of Orlim Lake as a Wetland.

She further asserted that the said Orlim Lake will qualify as paddy field which cannot be categorized as Wetland. There is also existing cultivation which falls in the core water body area as notified. She inquired as to why GSIDC was allowed to built the pathway. She had apprehension about the process of wetland identification & notification & said that they were not informed about the site visit.

Further Shri. Justiniano A.J. Miranda mentioned that many years ago, the said lake was used as playground and cannot be termed as Orlim Lake.

Further Shri. Keith Gracias stated that long time ago, after the dissolution of Comunidade, the Code of Conditions document was drafted and states that the control and ownership of the Lake remains with the owners. He also informed that Village Panchayat of Orlim has passed a Gram Sabha resolution that the local community will maintain & protect the waterbody and should not be notified as wetland.

Furthermore Mr. Stalan Mendes informed that he has property which lies in the buffer zone and has future plans to construct & should not be notified as wetland.


Conclusion: GC explained at length the entire process of Wetland identification & Notification and during site visit CSIR-NIO had met with the local person suggested by local Biodiversity Management Committee of Orlim. GC further informed that pathway or Structure built by GSIDC was prior to the Draft Notification of Orlim lake hence beyond the scope of GC. GC decided that not more than 5 representatives from the Village panchayat along with stakeholders will be allowed to place their views and grievances to the GSWA in its upcoming Authority meeting where the decision regarding the same will be taken.

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

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: 02:30 pm onwards

Date: 01/11/2023

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

Purpose: 11th Grievance Committee Meeting of Goa State Wetland Authority regarding grievances received for draft notification of Orlim Lake (Orlim - Salcete) as wetland under Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017

Sr. No	Name	Contact details	Signature
1.	Shirley Braz	9822133445	Braz
2	Nella Miranda	9923620619	N. Miranda
3	Glen Miranda	9923620122	Glen
4	JEREMY MIRANDA	9561273277	Jeremy
5	Lucy Pimenta (Member of Bio-diversity-Cahim Village)	9850184662	Lucy Pimenta
6	Stalan Mendes	9322922644	Mendes
7	Roy Miranda	9422443855	Roy
8	CHRISTON MIRANDA	9960930075	Christon
9	Donato D'Costa	9823011987	Donato
10	JUSTINIANO A.J. MIRANDA	9637896900	Justiniانو

