

**MINUTES OF 3<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE TO REVIEW  
THE PRIVATE FOREST AREAS IDENTIFIED BY STATE LEVEL EXPERT  
COMMITTEE (THOMAS AND ARAUJO COMMITTEE) ON PRIVATE  
FOREST HELD ON 10.02.2020**

A meeting of the Review Committee appointed by the Government of Goa vide Notification No. DCF (WP)/Pvt. For/16(THC)/2013(WZ)/19-20 dated 21/01/2020 to review the provisionally identified Private Forest areas by Thomas & Araujo Committee, was held on 10.02.2020 at 11 am in the chamber of Conservator of Forests (Conservation), Junta House, Panaji Goa under the chairmanship of Conservator of Forests (Conservation), Panaji Goa to review the timeline as per the directions of PCCF, Goa. Following attended the meeting:

<b>1</b>	Additional Collector, South Goa District	Member
<b>2</b>	Director of Settlement and Land Records	Member
<b>3</b>	Asst. Director, Representative Director of Agriculture	Member
<b>4</b>	Asst. Conservator of Forests, Headquarters, North Goa Division	Member
<b>5</b>	Asst. Conservator of Forests, Headquarters, South Goa Division	Member
<b>6</b>	Dy. Conservator of Forests, Working Plan Division, Ponda.	Member Secretary
<b>7</b>	Dy. Conservator of Forests, North Goa Division, Ponda.	(Special Invitee)

To reconsider the timeline the Committee reviewed each item of work to complete the task assigned-

- i) **Digitisation of Survey numbers and superimposition on high quality forest cover map:** Digitisation of Survey numbers, superimposition of digitized data on high quality forest cover and preparation of KML files to

be sent to the North and South Goa Division for field verification and survey is a time consuming and technical work. Till now, 30-40% data has been digitized by GIS cell of Working Plan Division and as soon as high quality Forest Cover Map is received from FSI (tentatively March 2020), the work of superimposition of digitized data and preparation of KML files will be started.

Digitisation of remaining survey numbers is going on and will be completed during monsoon period. However, posting of additional Technical Assistants (TAs) is must and will help in expediting this process.

ii) **Advertisement for inviting objections from land owners:**

Advertisement for inviting objections/representations, contact details and correspondence address from land owners, whose land is identified as provisional private forest by Thomas and Araujo committee will be issued immediately and work of compiling and collating objections will start simultaneously. Review Committee will start hearing as soon as enumeration and survey of a particular patch is completed. The process of hearing will continue during Monsoon season. However, it was proposed that the time limit of inviting objections/representations, contact details and correspondence address from land owners should be one month instead of three months. This supersedes agenda item number 4.2 of the second meeting held on 03.20.2020.

iii) **Survey no-wise details of offence cases/ court cases/ FC diversion matters:**

Survey no-wise details of offence cases/ court cases/ diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes will be sought from North and South Goa Division in the beginning and will analysed with respect to high resolution forest cover map and field data during the Monsoon season.

iv) **Time required for enumeration of trees on ground and survey:**


It was observed that primary consideration on requirement of time is on enumeration of trees on ground and survey of the area qualifying the three criteria of private forest. Territorial Divisions informed that on average enumeration of trees on ground is 1.0 ha/day by a team. Since there are 12 territorial ranges, therefore 12 ground verification teams must be constituted and Range Forest Officer should be made nodal officer from Forest Department. If these 12 teams are deployed in each range to work for 25 days

in a month than approximately an area of 3 sq. Km private forest can be verified in a month.

Since, approximately 32.0 sq. Km is provisionally identified by SLEC (Thomas & Arajao Committee), therefore minimum 11 months will be required for field work itself. Further, field work cannot be done in monsoon season (However, Monsoon months can be utilised for works mentioned at serial numbers **i** to **iii** as above).

v) Director, DSLR observed that timeline is already ambitious and cannot be further stretched as it will affect other responsibilities/works of the Departments. Accordingly, it was unanimously decided by all the members that the time line which is already decided in the last meeting (held on 03/02/2020) is reiterated for completion of the work.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks.

  
 (Deep Shikha Sharma) IFS  
 Dy. Conservator of Forests (Working Plan  
 Division)/ Member Secretary

**No. MS/REV-PF/DCF/WP/2019-20/ 961**

**Dated:- 10.02.2020**

**To**

- 1 Conservator of Forests, Conservation, Junta House, Panajim
- 2 Director, Settlement & Land Records, Panaji
- 3 Director Agriculture
- 4 Dy. Conservator of Forests Head Quarter, Panaji.
- 5 Dy. Conservator of Forests Head Quarter, North Ponda
- 6 Dy. Conservator of Forests Head Quarter, South Margao.
- 7 Additional Collector, Revenue Department, Margao South
- 8 Additional Collector, Revenue Department, Panaji North
- 9 Legal Cell, Forest Department, Panaji.
- 10 Office copy.