



Government of Goa
Office of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Department
Goa Van Bhawan, Old IPHB Complex;
Altinho, Panaji Goa - 403 001



No.5-43(Meeting of Tree Authority)-2022-23-Vol.I-FDN⁴³

Date:- 20.04.2022

To,
The Dy. Conservator of Forests,
North / South Goa Division,
Ponda / Margao - Goa

Sub: Minutes of the joint meeting of the Tree Authorities of North & South Goa Districts held on 13th April, 2022 at 3.00 pm. in the Main Conference Hall, Secretariat, Porvorim - Goa.

Sir,

Please find enclosed herewith the Minutes of the joint meeting of the Tree Authorities of North & South Goa Districts held under the Chairmanship of Dr. Puneet Kumar Goel, IAS, Chief Secretary on 13th April, 2022 at 3.00 pm. for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

(Jiss K. Varkey, IFS)
Dy. Conservator of Forests
Planning & Statistics

Encl: As above

Copy to:-

1. North Goa Tree Authority
 - (i) The Hon'ble MLA, Calangute.....Member
 - (ii) The Hon'ble MLA, Aldona.....Member
 - (iii)The Adhyaksha, North Goa Zilla Panchayat, PanajiMember
 - (iv)The Hon'ble Mayor, Corporation of the City of PanajiMember
 - (v) The Collector, North Goa District Member
2. South Goa Tree Authority
 - (i) The Hon'ble MLA, CurchoremMember
 - (ii) The Hon'ble MLA, CuncolimMember
 - (iii) The Adhyaksha, South Goa Zilla Panchayat, MargaoMember
 - (iv) The Chairperson, Margao Municipal CouncilMember
 - (v) The Collector, South Goa DistrictMember
3. The President, Botanical Society of Goa.....Co-opted Member
4. The President, Mangrove Society of India, Goa Chapter, 48, Nirmiti Sagar Society, Dona Paula Goa.....Co-opted Member.
5. Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board, Saligao, Bardez Goa.....Co-opted Member.

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE TREE AUTHORITIES OF NORTH &
SOUTH GOA DISTRICTS HELD UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF DR. PUNEET
KUMAR GOEL, IAS, CHIEF SECRETARY/ PRINCIPAL SECRETARY (FORESTS) ON
13TH APRIL, 2022 AT 03:00 PM
IN THE CONFERENCE HALL, SECRETARIAT, PORVORIM-GOA**

The list of participants is at Annexure.

At the outset, Chairman welcomed members of the Tree Authorities of North & South Goa Districts and especially the newly elected Members of Legislative Assembly. He informed that the purpose of the meeting is to apprise the Tree Authority of the various directions contained in the order of the Hon'ble High Court dated 08/07/2021 and 22/03/2022. The following points were deliberated upon and directions given for action to be taken accordingly:-

1. Tree Census for the state of Goa

The Chairman directed the Forest Department to ensure that the Notice Inviting Tenders (NIT) for the work of Geo-enabled Tree Census in City Corporation of Panaji (CCP) and Margao Municipal Council (MMC) area is issued before 20th April, 2022. To comply with the directions of Hon'ble High Court dated 08/07/2021 and 22/03/2022, it was decided that till the time the agency is appointed and starts ground level work for the Tree Census exercise for the entire state of Goa, the Forest Department shall start Tree Census exercise in each taluka under the close monitoring of the CCFs and CF and an order to that effect will be issued immediately. It was decided that the manpower be hired by the



Forest Department, if necessary and that all efforts should be made to avoid any delay in carrying out the Tree Census as directed by the Hon'ble Court.

It was decided that each DCF/ACF shall be officer-in-charge for each taluka and shall, under the guidance of respective CCF/CF, constitute and deploy atleast 10 teams per taluka and allot area and weekly targets (approx 250 trees per teams per week) and start the ground level work latest by April 18th, 2022. Order no. 1/1/2021/Forest/Misc/Part 1/53 dated 13/04/2022 has been issued accordingly (copy enclosed).

(Action by: PCCF, Forest Department)

2. Tree felling proposals to be submitted for critical study by Tree Authority

The matter was deliberated in detail. Shri. Michael V Lobo, Hon'ble MLA Calangute raised the concern that it shall be a matter of grave inconvenience to the public if proposal of tree felling relating to single houses/ dwelling units are brought to the level of tree authority rather than the tree officer and suggested that single house units may be excluded so that such individual applications for tree felling may not be delayed. On deliberations and as per the recommendation of the Forest Department and considering the suggestion of the elected members, it was decided that that the concession for single house units can be given, but rest of the proposals to be brought to the level of Tree authority before placing them before competent authority for decision, till further orders. An Order to that effect will be issued immediately to comply with the Hon'ble High Court's



directions. The Chairman directed the Forest Department to communicate this Order to all departments/User Agencies for strict compliance. Order no. 1/1/2021/Forest/Misc/Part 1/54 dated 13/04/2022 has been issued accordingly (copy enclosed).

(Action by: PCCF, Forest Department)

3. Technical committee report for specifying standards for plantation and replantation of trees in different landscapes / land use

The technical committee submitted the final report to the Tree Authority and Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Chairman, Technical Committee briefed the findings/recommendations. A total of 67 number of Tree species have been recommended for plantation in six different Eco-climatic zones in Goa. On the recommendations of the Forest Department, the committee accepted the Technical Report and directed to take necessary action in publishing the same for effective implementation.

[Action by: Member Secretaries (Tree Authority), Chairman (GSBB)]

4. Plantation in lieu of trees felled

A status report from the Forest Department was sought with respect to the Trees felled for Public Projects and the replantation status in lieu thereof. In case of non-compliance by the Departments, the diversion of budget for the same to Forest Department shall be examined for compliance of the directions. Shri.



Michael V Lobo, MLA Calangute suggested that planting of trees may be taken up involving respective Panchayats along the stretches of MDR roads. He also suggested that a general approval may be obtained from PWD.

5. The Chairman directed that the next meeting of the Tree Authority will be scheduled on 21stApril, 2022 at 10:00 AM with the following agenda:

- a. Status of the NIT for the Geo-enabled Tree Census in CCP and MMC.
- b. Status and Ground Work done by the Committees/Groups formed for the Tree Census (Taluka wise).
- c. Feedback on the Technical Committee Report.
- d. Action Plan based on the Technical Committee Report.
- e. Status report on the felled trees under public projects and replantation.

Further, PCE(PWD) and CEO, Mopa Airport Project be also invited for the next meeting. **(Action by: Forest Department)**

6. **Compliance of Hon'ble High Court Orders:**

The Chairman further directed that the senior officers of the Forest Department at the level of CCF/CF, as nominated by PCCF, should be designated as the Member Secretary for the meetings of the Joint tree Authority of the North and South Goa and shall be responsible for convening and coordinating the meetings of the authority and issuance of minutes w.e.f. next meeting. Further, the said officer should personally attend the Hon'ble Court on future dates. Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Chairman, Technical Committee also agreed to be present



during next hearing before the Hon'ble High Court on 27/04/2022, in this matter to brief regarding findings of the technical committee.

[Action by: PCCF, MS (GSBB)]

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.



(Dr. Puneet Kumar Goel, IAS)
Chief Secretary and Chairman, Tree
Authority

Date: 18.04.2022

File No. 5-43-GEN-2021-22-FD/
Encl: List of participants.

Copy to: -

1. Hon'ble MLA, Calangute
2. Hon'ble MLA, Aldona
3. Hon'ble MLA, Curchorem
4. Hon'ble MLA, Cuncolim
5. The Hon'ble Mayor, Corporation of the City of Panaji, Panaji, Goa.
6. The Adhyaksha, North Goa Zilla Panchayat, Panaji.
7. The Adhyaksha, South Goa Zilla Panchayat, Margao.
8. The Chairperson, Margao Municipal Council, Margao.
9. The Collector, North Goa District-Goa.
10. The Collector, South Goa District- South Goa.
11. The President, Botanical Society of Goa.
12. The President, Mangrove Society of India, Goa Chapter.
13. Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, MS, Goa State Biodiversity Board.
14. The PS to the Chief Secretary, Goa for kind information of CS.
15. The Commissioner, Corporation of the City of Panaji, Panaji-Goa
16. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Altinho, Panaji-Goa.
17. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Altinho.
18. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Administration), Altinho, Goa.
19. The Conservator of Forests (Conservation), Altinho, Panaji-Goa.
20. The DCF, North Goa/South Goa (Member Secretaries)
21. The Dy. Conservator of Forests (All)
22. Guard file.