

**Government of Kerala**

**Abstract**

Land – (Kottayam) C.H.Reserve – Encroachments – action by Forest Department

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**Revenue (A) Department**

G.O.(Ms)No.332/Rev.

Dated, Trivandrum, 27-4-1960.

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Read: Govt. Order (Ms) No.804/Rev. dated 9-8-1958

Govt. Order (Ms) No.1496/Rev. dated 6-11-1958.

D.O.No.15250A1/60/Rev. dated 6-4-1960 to the Dist. Collector, Kottayam.

**ORDER**

In Government order (Ms) No.804/Rev. dated 9-8-1958, Government ordered among other things, that the entire Cardamom Hill Reserve in the Kottayam District situated in the taluks of Deviculam, Peermade and Udumbanchola and Comprising an area of 334 square miles should be surveyed and demarcated and all encroachments therein dealt with, Government also ordered that, until then, the Forest Department should, in the interest of forest preservation, retain control over the tree growth in the area and that in other respects, the control over the lands in the entire Reserve, including areas which were registered, leased or encroached upon, together with the responsibility for detection and disposal of encroachments, should vest with the Revenue Department.

2. Government observes that the above orders have given rise to the impression that the Forest Department cannot take action against encroachments in the Reserve in accordance with the provisions of the Travancore Cochin Forest Act. "Government wish to make it clear that this was not their intention and that for prevention of commission of offences under the Forest Act should make full and effective use of their powers under the Forest Act". Government expect that immediate preventive action will be taken by the Forest Department, if necessary, with the help of the Police Department, wherever attempts at large scale encroachments are made. The Collector of Kottayam will instruct the Superintendent of Police to render full assistance to the Forest Department whenever such assistance is sought.

By Order of the Governor,

K.K. Ramankutty  
Revenue Secretary.

To

The Chief Conservator of Forests,

The Divisional Forest Officer Kottayam.

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