

Copy of Government Order No-Go.(P)No.101/70/LED dated 2-4-1970 Land Reforms (A) Department - Trivandrum.

Abstract:- Forests – Recommendation of the sub committee appointed by the Consultation committee of Parliament on Kerala Legislation – eviction of encroachers from Government Forest Lands – modification to earlier Orders – issued.

Read:-

1. G.O.P.289/69/Agri.dated 7-6-1968.
2. Letter No.BV.14584/68 dated 15-4-1969 from the Secretary, Kerala State Electricity Board.
3. Letter No.B3-39521/69 dated 31-12-1969 from the District Collector, Trivandrum.

ORDER

In the Government Order read above, Government after considering the recommendations of the subcommittee of the consultative Committee of Parliament on Kerala Legislation and passed certain orders on the question of eviction of encroachers etc. from Government Forest Lands. Ever since the issue of orders by Government on the recommendations of the sub committee (Maniyangadam Committee) there have been demands from various quarters for a reconsideration of certain decisions on grounds that these decisions are detrimental to the interests of the occupants of the forest lands who have been in possession of the lands for the last so many years and have made valuable improvements and constructed permanent houses. It is also contended that the forest lands in many of the places from where eviction has been ordered are not absolutely required for purposes of Hydro Electric Schemes, Irrigation Projects and wild life sanctuary and hence could be assigned to the occupants thereof. Government have reexamined the position in regard to certain decisions taken in the Government Order read above and are pleased to order, in partial modification there of the following.

2. Neyyar Dam Area:- In Item 3 (c) of the recommendations, the sub committee recommended that the lands in Neyyar Dam area should be given to the occupants on permanent registry and that there should be no eviction before that. The recommendation of the Sub committee was not accepted by Government and the Secretary, Board of Revenue was asked to report on the extent of eviction required in the area.

3. The District Collector, Trivandrum has recommended that in view of the hardship that will be caused to the occupants by eviction the financial commitment involved in the eviction and the possibility of protecting the reservoir by insisting on proper soil conservation the lands within the five chain belt area may be leased out to the actual occupants without limit of time. The recommendation of the District Collector, Trivandrum to lease the lands without limit of time and with proper safeguards for soil conservation is accepted.

4. Area between Periyar – Chinnar and Kalyanaparatha.

In item 3 (f) of the recommendations, the sub committee recommended that no eviction should be done from the area either for forest conservation or for future projects, that the whole area should be assigned on registry to the occupants and that if the Government or the Kerala State Electricity Board require the land at a later date the same may be acquired then.

On this recommendation no decision was taken in the Government Order read above but the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and the Secretary, Kerala State Electricity Board were asked to report about the possible new projects or extension of projects in the area with a view to taking a decision in the matter. The Secretary, Kerala State Electricity Board reported that there are proposals to divert the streams in the area between Chinnar – Periyar and Kalayanaparatha to Perinjankutty reservoir and that it is proposed to have only small pick up weirs across the streams so as to minimize distributives to occupants. The scheme is proposed to be taken up only along with the Perinjankutty project. Considering the possible delay and uncertainty the Board agreed to lease the lands in question to the occupants with proper clauses to release the area whenever required for the project. Government considers that the lands in question can be assigned to the occupants on registry and they order accordingly.

Pampa Valley Area.

5. In item 3(g) of the recommendations the sub committee recommend that the Pampa Valley Food Production area lying on both sides of the river Pampa need not be included in the game sanctuary and as its occupants need not be evicted. While accepting the recommendations, Government directed that strict measures should be adopted to see that there is no further encroachment in the area. The fact of having prohibited further encroachment in the area. does not necessarily mean that the occupations in the area prior to the issue of the order would not be regularized. In respect of occupations prior to the order steps will be pursued for the assignment of the area in favor of the occupants.

Sd/-
Secretary (Land Records)

To
The Secretary, Board of Revenue,
The Chief Conservator of Forests, etc.,

Endt.on G2-14130/70 dated 8/16-4-1970

Copy forwarded to the Conservator of Forests, Trichur for necessary action.

Sd/-
For Chief Conservator of Forests.

G1-17009/70/5-8-71

Copy of G.O.(P)No.101/70LRD. dated 2-4-70 to M1.Section for information and necessary action in respect of the question of cardamom lands within the original preservation area.

For Conservator of Forests.

kp/23.9