## PROCEEDINGS OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (WILDLIFE) AND CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN, KERALA

## PRESENT: V.GOPINATHAN, IFS

- Sub: Eviction of encroachments in Perinjankutty 1978 Teak Plantation of Adimali Range of Munnar Forest Divisionoperation conducted on 10.02.2012 - award of "Good Service Entry" to Forest Officials – Orders Issued – reg:
- Read : 1. Lr.No.C3-7447/2008 Dated 13..02..2012 of the Chief Conservator of Forests, HRC, Kottayam.
  - 2. Lr.No.M4-74446/2008 Dated 13.02.2012 of the Divisional Forest Officer, Munnar.

## Order No. Pro(4) 3605/2005 Dated 18.02..2012

Perinjankutty 1978 Teak Plantation is in Adimali Range of Munnar Forest Division. The plantation is of 202 ha in extent and having a length of about 8 kms along the side of the Perinjankutty thodu. The above plantation was subjected to encroachments in September, 2008 by tribals who were originally assigned land in Chinnakanal area of Munnar Forest Division. The attempts of the Forest Department to effect summary eviction did not succeed as the encroachers were tribals forced to vacate from Chinnakkanal due to constant threat from wild animals. However, though tribal families were less than 20 in number, many other land grabbers and anti-social elements joined them and eventually put up large number of sheds in Perijankutty plantation. Our attempts to evict the encroachers were kept in abeyance due to various reasons and also for understanding the social implications of such an act. However, Hon'ble Minister for Forests, Sports and Cinema in the Senior Forest Officers meeting held on 17.01.2012 gave his consent

to evict all the encroachments from the area barring the tribals who had shifted from Chinnakkanal area.

The eviction operation was a complex one due to the extensive nature of encroachments, topography of the area and other social issues involved. It required meticulous planning and close co-ordination with Revenue and Police Departments. Finally, the operation of eviction was planned and carried out on 10.02.2012 which commenced at 10.30 a.m and completed at 5.30 It involved the presence of 350 police and 350 forest p.m. personnel. 125 Forest Watchers were also participated in this operation. All the sheds put up by the encroachers barring those belonging to tribals from Chinnakkanal were demolished and the area completely freed from encroachments. 43 men and 19 women were arrested in the operation. The operation was completed in a smooth and efficient manner without any adverse media reaction or allegations of atrocities. The credit for executing such an operation goes to the meticulous planning and leadership. After examining the reports and gathering information from other sources, I am convinced that but for the leadership and dedication of the following officers, the eviction would not have been completed so efficiently and smoothly.

- Sri.Bennichan Thomas, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests (HRC), Kottayam.
- 2. Shri.George Vargehse IPS, Superintendent of Police, Idukki
- 3. Shri.V.N.Saji, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Munnar
- 4. Dr.N.C.Induchoodan, Divisional Forest Officer, Munnar
- 5. Sri.P.P.Pramod, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer, Kothamangalam
- 6. Sri.V.K.Francis, Divisional Forest Officer, Mankulam
- 7. Sri.Justin Stanley, Divisional Forest Officer, Marayoor
- 8. Sri. Saby Varghese, Wildlife Warden, Idukki
- 9. Sri.C.Babu, Assistant Conservator of Forests, SIP, Kottayam
- 10. Sri.G.M.Kochukanjiram, Divisional Forest Officer, FS, Kothamangalam
- 11. Sri.B.Sajeev Kumar, Divisional Forest Officer, Flying Squad, Idukki.

The assistance rendered by Sri.George Varghese IPS, Superintendent of Police, Idukki and Shri.V.N.Saji, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Munnar are separately acknowledged and appreciated by a communication we have sent to the Director General of Police and State Police Chief, Kerala.

As a token of appreciation and recognition of the excellence shown in discharging their duty in connection with the eviction of encroachments in Perinjankutty 1978 Teak Plantation on 10.02.2012, I, V.Gopinathan, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden hereby award "**Good Service Entry**" to the following Officers of the Forest Department.

- 1. Sri.Bennichan Thomas, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests (HRC), Kottayam.
- 2. Dr.N.C.Induchoodan, Divisional Forest Officer, Munnar
- 3. Sri.P.P.Pramod, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer, Kothamangalam
- 4. Sri.V.K.Francis, Divisional Forest Officer, Mankulam
- 5. Sri.Justin Stanley, Divisional Forest Officer, Marayoor
- 6. Sri. Saby Varghese, Wildlife Warden, Idukki
- 7. Sri.C.Babu, Assistant Conservator of Forests, SIP, Kottayam
- 8. Sri.G.M.Kochukanjiram, Divisional Forest Officer, FS, Kothamangalam
- 9. Sri.B.Sajeev Kumar, Divisional Forest Officer, Flying Squad, Idukki.

V.Gopinathan Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala.

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The Individuals (through their Head of Office) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (SF) The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Admn/Vig/Protection/S.R, Kollam/N.R, Kozhikkode) The Chief Conservator of Forests (HRC), Kottayam The FD (PT), Kottayam. The Conservator of Forests (I & E), Kottayam The Divisional Forest Officer, Munnar/Kothamangalam/ Mankulam / Marayoor /F.S, Kothamangalam / F.S, Idukki.

The Wildlife Warden, Idukki.

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