



fountains, wells, kappus, chals,-standpipes and other water works including those used by the public to such an extent as to give a prescriptive right to their use, laid or erected and whether made, laid or erected at the cost of the panchayath or otherwise, and also any adjacent land, not being private property appertaining thereto is vested with the Village Panchayath. Hence by virtue of the afore mentioned section 218 the said Kuruvichira pond situated in the puramboke land is vested with this Panchayath.

2. The pond is now in a stage of total degradation due to severe siltation and the accumulation of waste and debris from the surrounding area. Presently the pond is not in use due to algae and other aquatic weeds, accumulation of waste and debris from surrounding areas. In due course the pond was filled with soil eroded from nearby lands in monsoon showers. Subsequently there was luxuriant weed growth and pond got deteriorated. If current situation continues for a long period, the pond will be totally destroyed. Encroachment and land diversion restrict the natural flow of water into the pond, which will inevitably alter the water budget and may considerably change the natural habitat of the pond, which will adversely affect the pond ecosystem, stability and pond ecology. There is acute shortage of pure drinking water in the ward.
3. In the said circumstances, the Kunnathunad Gramapanchayat has put forward a plan to rejuvenate and renovate and convert the Kuruvichira pond into a drinking water source through de silting, increase its storage capacity, develop ecofriendly boundary wall, repairing of sluices and constructing retaining structures its inlet and outlet arrangements, water treatment plants etc.. The



  
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Panchayath is proposing to construct sidewalls for the purpose of protecting the said public pond and preserve the same so as to be useful to the general public in the said area, without causing any harm to the said grove or the property owned by the petitioner or any other private persons.

4. Regarding the existing biological diversity, discussions with subject experts from Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB) revealed that the plants grown there are common weed plants both aquatic and terrestrial. There are no plants under the category of endangered species or threatened species. Both the flora and fauna included only with commonly found species. The whole area of 21.90 Ares of land may not be required for restoration of the pond and construction of a pump house. The balance surrounding land can be used for creating a "bio-diversity park" by planting indigenous plant varieties. The Grama Panchayath will seek advice and technical assistance from KSBB in this regard. The Grama Panchayath will be in constant touch with Pollution Control Board and is committed to assure the purity of drinking water as per health standards. Thus the implementation of drinking water project also aimed at conserving biodiversity and the prevailing environment.
5. In this project it is proposed to construct a dry rubble masonry side protection wall for the pond without damaging the ecosystem. The accumulated soil shall be removed and the pond will be deepened sufficiently to contain more water. It is also proposed to erect an overhead water tank to store water for irrigation purpose. An eco-friendly pump set is proposed for pumping water from the pond/ Eco-friendly pump will reduce air pollution and noise pollution. an



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Installation of sprinkler heads for irrigating the vegetation in the area during summer is also proposed as part of the project. Renovation of Kuruvichira Pond will solve the water scarcity problems of 75 % of people in Ward No.V. of the Panchayath.

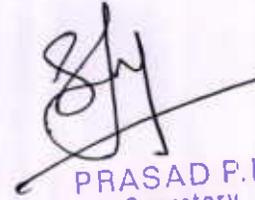
All the facts stated are true

Dated this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021

Secretary

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