

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
(SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI)**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 227 OF 2024(SZ)

In the matter of:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the news item published in The Hindu, Chennai edition paper dated 30.07.2024, titled **“Wayanad landslides Live updates : 54 killed, over 100 feared missing in Kerala hill station; relief operations delayed”**.

-VS-

Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate change and
State of kerala

.....Respondent(s)

**REPORT FILED BY SECRETARY, ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT/4th RESPONDENT**

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Dated at Chennai on this the 13th day of March, 2025.

for... E.K.K. Kumaresan
13/3/25

M/s. E.K.KUMARESAN

Standing Counsel for State Government of Kerala - NGT(SZ) Chennai Bench

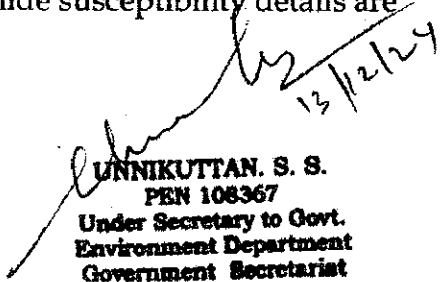
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Report filed on behalf of the 4th respondent in compliance with the order dated 27-09-2024 of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in OA.No.227 of 2024

The Hon'ble NGT, in its judgement dated 27.09.2024, has directed to submit the additional details regarding the number of villages in Wayanad District as mentioned in the Madhav Gadgil Committee report and how many of them are landslide-prone villages.

Accordingly, it is submitted that, as per the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP) report (Madhav Gadgil report), Eco-Sensitive Areas are classified as ESZ1, ESZ2, and ESZ3, and the units are in Taluks and not in Villages. As per the Western Ghats Expert Ecological Panel (Gadgil) Report available in the public domain, it is ascertained that all the 3 taluks in Wayanad District are designated as ESZ1. The Taluks that come under the ESZ1 category in Wayanad District are Vythiri, Mananthavady and Sulthan Bathery. Therefore, all the villages in the Wayanad District come under ESZ1. The list of villages is attached as Annexure I. It is submitted that since the WGEEP was constituted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), further information may be obtained from the Ministry.

It is further submitted that, as per the landslide susceptibility map (2010) published by the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), 33 out of 49 villages in Wayanad District are susceptible to landslide hazards. The village-wise landslide susceptibility details are given as Annexure II.


UNNIKUTTAN. S. S.
PEN 108367
Under Secretary to Govt.
Environment Department
Government Secretariat

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Annexure-I

List of Villages in Wayanad district as per WGEEP Report

S. No	Taluk	Village	Village Area (Sq. km)
1	Mananthavady	Anchukunnu	30.38
2	Mananthavady	Cherukattur	18.30
3	Mananthavady	Edavaka	26.26
4	Mananthavady	Kanjirangad	44.04
5	Mananthavady	Mananthavadi	54.67
6	Mananthavady	Nalluoomad	20.75
7	Mananthavady	Panamaram	31.85
8	Mananthavady	Payyampally	26.02
9	Mananthavady	Periya	62.67
10	Mananthavady	Porunnannur	27.89
11	Mananthavady	Thavinjal	52.05
12	Mananthavady	Thirunelli	147.15
13	Mananthavady	Thondernad	96.70
14	Mananthavady	Thrissilery	54.59
15	Mananthavady	Valad	17.63
16	Mananthavady	Vellamunda	36.90
17	Sulthan Bathery	Ambalavayal	16.53
18	Sulthan Bathery	Cheeral	26.32
19	Sulthan Bathery	Irulam	51.69
20	Sulthan Bathery	Kidanganad	181.57
21	Sulthan Bathery	Krishnagiri	31.41
22	Sulthan Bathery	Kuppady	28.78
23	Sulthan Bathery	Nadavayal	36.66
24	Sulthan Bathery	Nenmeni	43.45
25	Sulthan Bathery	Noolpuzha	118.21
26	Sulthan Bathery	Padichira	53.55
27	Sulthan Bathery	Poothady	22.39
28	Sulthan Bathery	Pulpally	67.69
29	Sulthan Bathery	Purakkady	28.10
30	Sulthan Bathery	Sulthan-Bathery	20.68
31	Sulthan Bathery	Thomattuchal	38.50
32	Vythiri	Achooranam	20.37
33	Vythiri	Chundel	17.01
34	Vythiri	Kalpetta	38.16
35	Vythiri	Kaniyambetta	38.52
36	Vythiri	Kavummandam	16.50
37	Vythiri	Kottapady	56.48

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Sr. No	Taluk	Village	Village Area (Sq. km)
38	Vythiri	Kottathara	32.24
39	Vythiri	Kunnathidavaka	32.42
40	Vythiri	Kuppadithara	15.20
41	Vythiri	Muppainad	59.51
42	Vythiri	Muttill-North	17.89
43	Vythiri	Muttill-South	27.60
44	Vythiri	Padinjarathara	39.62
45	Vythiri	Pozhuthana	49.89
46	Vythiri	Thariyod	54.36
47	Vythiri	Thrikkaipata	29.27
48	Vythiri	Vellarimala	51.84
49	Vythiri	Vengapally	21.39
		Total	2131.63

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Annexure-II

List of Villages in Wayanad district as per WGEEP Report and the Landslide Susceptibility Class as per KSDMA*

Sr. No	Village	Village Area (sq.km)	Landslide Susceptibility (LS) Class (sq.km)			Total LS Area (sq.km)	% of LS in Village area
			High	Medium	Low		
1	Anchukunnu	30.38	-	0.43	-	0.43	1.43
2	Cherukattur	18.30	-	-	-	-	-
3	Edavaka	26.26	-	-	-	-	-
4	Kanjirangad	44.04	2.19	4.16	-	6.35	14.42
5	Mananthavadi	54.67	2.54	4.39	0.03	6.97	12.74
6	Nalluornad	20.75	-	-	-	-	-
7	Panamaram	31.85	-	-	-	-	-
8	Payyampally	26.02	-	0.32	-	0.32	1.25
9	Periya	62.67	1.36	4.55	-	5.90	9.42
10	Porunnannur	27.89	-	-	-	-	-
11	Thavinjal	52.05	2.61	4.49	0.84	7.94	15.25
12	Thirunelli	147.15	11.18	20.01	8.95	40.13	27.27
13	Thondernad	96.70	12.14	17.65	2.85	32.64	33.75
14	Thrissilery	54.59	1.58	4.65	-	6.23	11.42
15	Valad	17.63	-	-	-	-	-
16	Vellamunda	36.90	4.22	8.29	-	12.51	33.89
17	Ambalavayal	16.53	0.14	0.92	-	1.06	6.40
18	Cheeral	26.32	-	-	-	-	-
19	Irulam	51.69	-	1.11	-	1.11	2.14
20	Kidanganad	181.57	-	3.29	-	3.29	1.81
21	Krishnagiri	31.41	-	0.04	-	0.04	0.12
22	Kuppady	28.78	-	-	-	-	-
23	Nadavayal	36.66	-	0.63	-	0.63	1.72
24	Nenmeni	43.45	1.02	2.91	-	3.93	9.03
25	Noolpuzha	118.21	-	-	-	-	-
26	Padichira	53.55	-	0.22	-	0.22	0.42
27	Poothady	22.39	-	-	-	-	-
28	Pulpally	67.69	-	-	-	-	-
29	Purakkady	28.10	-	-	-	-	-
30	Sulthan-Bathery	20.68	-	0.13	-	0.13	0.65
31	Thomattuchal	38.50	-	3.85	-	3.85	1-
32	Achooranam	20.37	0.69	0.33	1.96	2.98	14.65
33	Chundel	17.01	-	0.86	-	0.86	5.05
34	Kalpetta	38.16	0.66	3.16	-	3.82	10.01

Sl. No	Village	Village Area (sq.km)	Landslide Susceptibility (LS) Class (sq.km)			Total LS Area (sq.km)	% of LS in Village area
			High	Medium	Low		
35	Kaniyambetta	38.52	-	-	-	-	-
36	Kavummandam	16.50	-	-	-	-	-
37	Kottapady	56.48	12.67	12.86	-	25.53	45.20
38	Kottathara	32.24	-	1.88	-	1.88	5.84
39	Kunnathidavaka	32.42	4.85	10.37	0.18	15.41	47.53
40	Kuppadithara	15.20	-	-	-	-	-
41	Muppainad	59.51	10.06	5.50	-	15.55	26.13
42	Muttill North	17.89	-	0.07	-	0.07	0.39
43	Muttill South	27.60	0.31	1.10	-	1.41	5.10
44	Padinjarathara	39.62	6.41	6.77	0.04	13.22	33.38
45	Pozhuthana	49.89	9.41	2.50	11.36	23.26	46.63
46	Thariyod	54.36	5.30	7.75	9.11	22.15	40.74
47	Thrikkaipata	29.27	2.67	5.34	-	8.02	27.39
48	Vellarimala	51.84	10.91	18.77	-	29.67	57.24
49	Vengapally	21.39	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	2131.63	102.90	159.30	35.32	297.52	13.96

* Landslide Susceptibility Map of Kerala (NCESS, 2010) accessed from <https://sdma.kerala.gov.in/hazard-maps>

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DISTRICT DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

DISTRICT EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

CIVIL STATION, PAINAVU P O - 685603

Phone : 04862-233111, 233130; mobile : 9383463036, 7034447100

email : deocidk@gmail.com

No. **DCIDK/4431/2024-DM1**

Collectorate, Idukki

Date : 07-12-2024

Chairperson & District Collector
District Disaster Management Authority
idukki

Advocate General of Kerala
Kochi

Sir,

Subject :- Disaster Management - Suomoto OA-227/2024 of National
Green Tribunal - report submitting of - reg.

Ref :- 1. That office Letter No.SN2-OA
NGT(SZ)227/2024/2024160347 dated 04-12-2024

Kind attention is invited to the reference cited. The details requested by the National Green Tribunal in OA 227/2024, pertaining to the Revenue Department, are provided below. Kindly prepare an affidavit in this matter if it is deemed necessary for submission by the District Collector, Idukki in the aforementioned case.

(i) The Number of encroachments identified in hill districts of Keala as on date and the number of encroachments removed from the year 2010. ?

A total of 432 encroachments have been identified in the Idukki District, out of which 111 encroachments have been evicted since 2010.

(ii) What measures were initiated to prevent the landslides in hill districts of Keala ?

The district administration is closely monitoring rainfall data from various locations in and around the district to analyze the daily rainfall situation in a localized pattern. Micro-level rainfall analysis is crucial for issuing early warnings.

As part of disaster preparedness, the district administration is preparing a taluk-wise

landslide susceptibility map. This involves interpolating KSEB consumer IDs to identify individuals residing in different landslide-prone zones, enabling the implementation of necessary precautionary measures.

Local Self-Government (LSG) level mock drills on landslides are being conducted under the Rebuild Kerala Initiative to enhance community training in disaster risk resilience.

Additionally, restricting construction activities in red-zone regions identified as landslide-prone is a proactive step being taken to mitigate the risk of landslides in the district.

The District Disaster Management Authority issued Order No. DCIDK/ 4747/2023-DM3, dated 11-06-2024, regarding the construction of buildings in 13 Panchayats in the hilly areas of the district.

As per the order:

Red Zone Restrictions:

- Construction of buildings in the red zone areas of 13 Panchayats in the hilly region is restricted.
- Only residential houses up to a maximum area of 150 m² are permitted in these zones.
- Quarrying activities are strictly banned in the red zone areas of these Panchayats.

Orange Zone Restrictions:

- Buildings in the orange zone are limited to a maximum of three stories.

Inspection and Safety Assurance:

- All construction applications in the red and orange zones must undergo inspection by the engineering wing of the respective Panchayat to ensure the safety of the proposed construction site.
- If further clarification is required, the engineering wing may seek the assistance of the District Geologist./district hazard analyst
- In cases where the Geologist's inspection does not resolve the matter, the application must be forwarded to the District Level Committee for additional inspection and decision-making.

This order aims to ensure safe construction practices and mitigate risks in landslide-prone and ecologically sensitive areas.

Compliance with High Court Directive:

As per the order dated 04-07-2023 of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) 1801/2010, Grama Panchayats must ensure that constructions in these areas adhere to the Indian Standard Code of Practice for Design and Construction of Foundation in Soils (BIS-1987)

Yours faithfully,

DEPUTY COLLECTOR
For District Collector, Idukki

Signed by

Shyju P Jacob

Date: 07-12-2024 13:39:07

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL
GREEN TRIBUNAL
(SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH, CHENNAI)**

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 227 OF
2024(SZ)**

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Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU
based on the news item published in
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landslides Live updates : 54 killed,
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delayed**".

-VS-

Ministry of Environment Forest and
Climate change and
State of kerala

.....Respondent(s)

**REPORT FILED BY SECRETARY,
ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT/4th RESPONDENT**

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