

**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 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
WAYANAD/7TH RESPONDENT**

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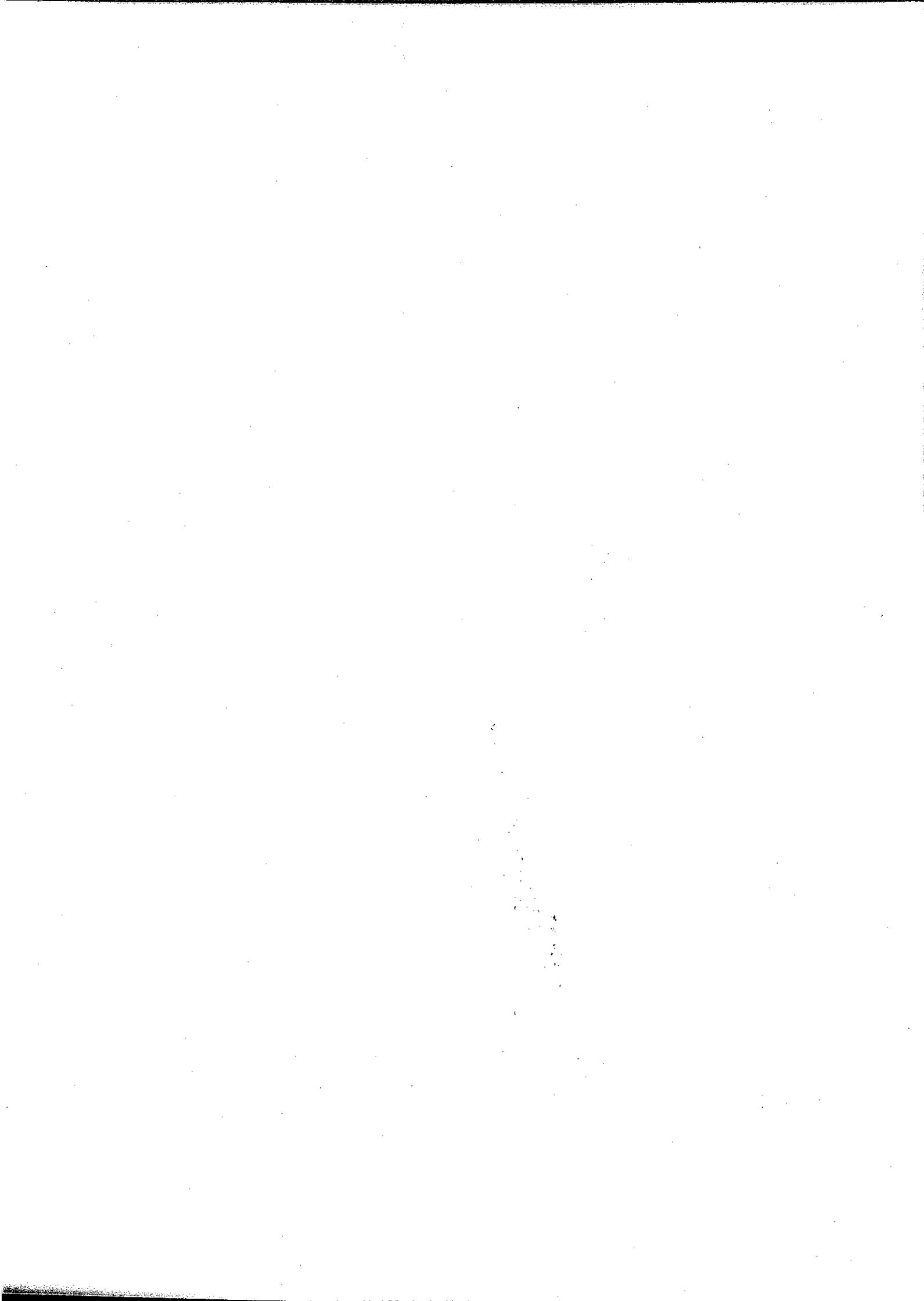
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Dated at Chennai on this the 07th day of August, 2025.

for. G. V. J. 7/8/25

M/s. E.K.KUMARESAN

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



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REPORT

Report submitted before the Honourable National Green Tribunal, South Zone, Chennai, submitted by the 7th Respondent, the Chairperson, DDMA & District Collector, Wayanad, regarding OA No. 227/2024 (SZ).

This report addresses Original Application No. 227/2024 (SZ). The Mundakkai – Chooralmala landslide in Meppady Grama Panchayat, Wayanad district, occurred during the early hours of July 30, 2024. This catastrophic event, triggered by intense rainfall, led to significant hill collapses, devastating the areas below. The disaster is recognized as one of Kerala's most severe, resulting in 298 fatalities, hundreds of injuries, and widespread displacement, leaving many landless and homeless.

Actions pertaining to preparedness, response, recovery, rehabilitation, and mitigation have been undertaken in accordance with the Disaster Management Act 2005. The Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) has submitted a specific report to the Honourable National Green Tribunal concerning these measures.

In addition to these the Chairperson, DDMA & District Collector, Wayanad, recognizing the potential for disaster due to the prevalence of high-rise buildings in Wayanad, which could lead to significant loss of life during a landslide or earthquake, the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Wayanad, convened meetings on May 27, 2015, and June 17, 2015. In the interest of disaster prevention, the DDMA deemed it is essential to control and regulate the construction of high-rise buildings within Wayanad district. Consequently, exercising its powers under Section 30(2)(iii) and 30(2)(v) of the Disaster Management Act 2005 (Act 53 of 2005), the DDMA issued Order No. 2014/21178/12/H3, dated June 30, 2015. This order directed Secretaries of all Local Self-Government Departments (LSGDs) in Wayanad district, the District Town Planner, Wayanad, and the Environmental Engineer, Pollution Control Board, Wayanad, to refrain from issuing permits for the construction of any building exceeding specified height measurements within the district's geographic areas.

M. S. S. S.
District Collector
Wayanad

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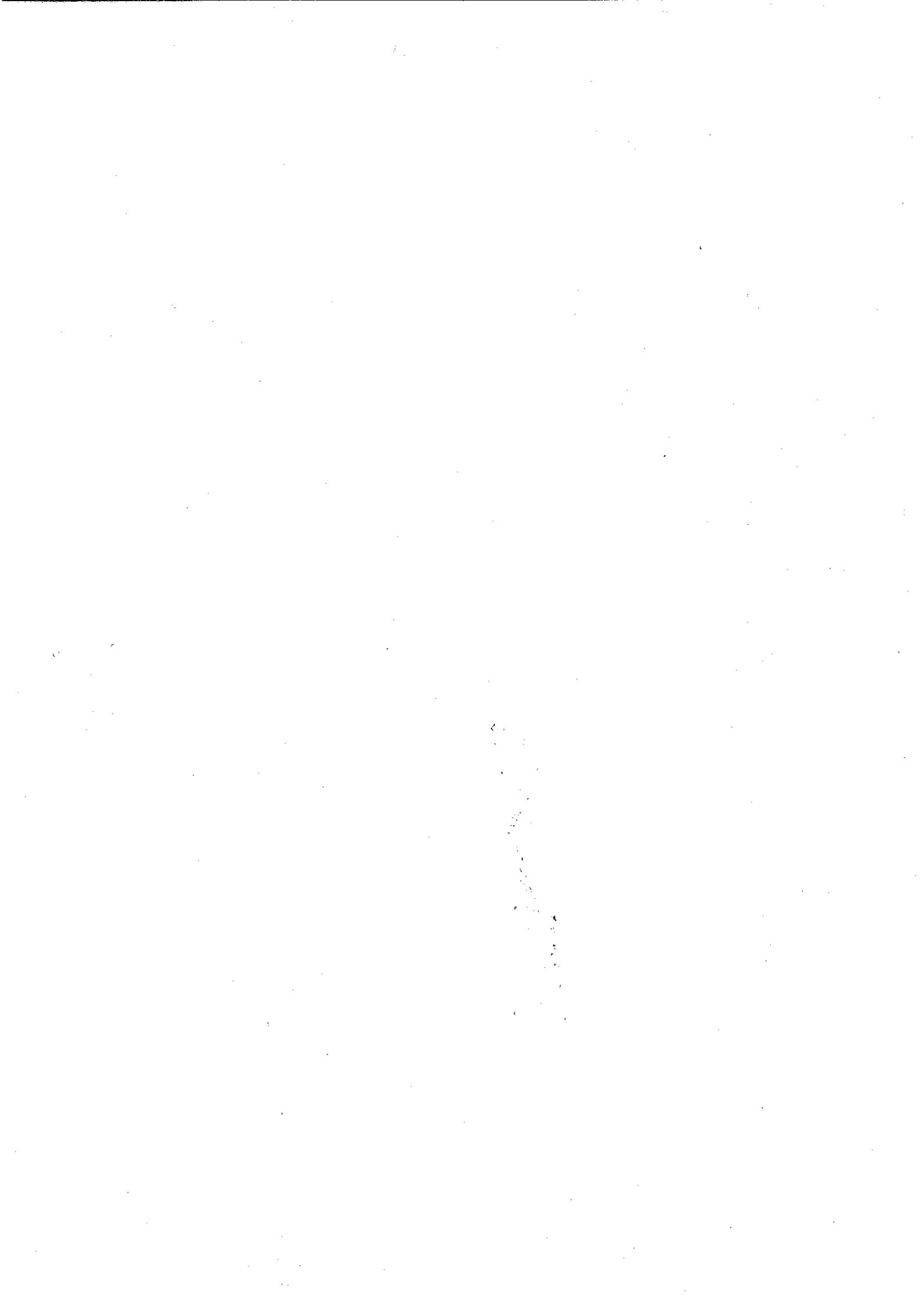
The District Disaster Management Authority, Wayanad, at its meeting on August 19, 2019, thoroughly deliberated and concluded that it is imperative to regulate and prohibit constructions, control land development activities, and manage quarry operations in landslide hazard-prone areas and other regions of the district to mitigate future disasters. Furthermore, the Landslide Zonation Map of Wayanad district is accessible at <http://sdma.kerala.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/KL-Landslide.jpg>. This map delineates areas within Wayanad district susceptible to landslides. Similarly, the Flood Hazard Zonation Map of Wayanad district is available at <http://sdma.kerala.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/KL-Flood.jpg>. Both of these maps are integrated into the Disaster Management Plan of Wayanad District. On October 12, 2022, the Chairperson, DDMA & District Collector, Wayanad, issued Order No. DCWYD/3128/2022/DM3 concerning soil cutting activities in Wayanad district. This order mandates compulsory 1.5m bench cutting for every 3m height/depth of soil cutting exceeding 3m in total depth/height. Additionally, prior permission from the DDMA, Wayanad, is required for soil cutting exceeding 6m in height/depth.

It is further submitted that 140 encroachments have been identified in Wayanad district to date. Of these, 115 encroachments have been removed since 2010. Actions are currently underway to remove the remaining encroachments.



CHAIR PERSON, DDMA &
DISTRICT COLLECTOR, WAYANAD

District Collector
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