

(Emblem)

**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

**Abstract**

Forest & Wildlife Department – Creation of Buffer Zone to the Silent Valley National Park and formation of ‘Bhawani Forest Range’ with two Forest Stations at Anavai and Thudukki and Creation of Posts – Sanctioned – Orders Issued.

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**FOREST AND WILDLIFE (F) DEPARTMENT**

**G O (MS) No. 36/07/F&WLD, Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 11.06.2007**

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Read: Letter No. WL11-480/06 dated 07-02-2006 of the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Thiruvananthapuram.

**ORDER**

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests as per his letter read above submitted a proposal for the creation of Buffer Zone to the Silent Valley National Park. The Silent Valley National Park is only 89.52 sq.km in extent. The park is bounded by Attappady and Mannarkkad Ranges of Mannarkkad Forest Division on the eastern and southern sides and by Kalikavu Range of Nilambur south Forest Division on western and northern sides. Though the Silent Valley National Park as such is accorded good protection, the surrounding areas of the Park are subjected to severe disturbances and destruction by ganja cultivators, poachers and illicit brewers, who pose a constant threat to the integrity of the National Park. In view of the impending ecological damage to the National Park, there has been a demand from conservationists, scientists and environmentally conscious public to form a buffer zone to Silent Valley National Park. The Management Plan for the National Park also contemplates creation of a buffer zone. As per the proposal, the buffer zone is to be created around the park carving out 109 sq.km area from Mannarkkad Division and 39 sq.km from Nilambur South Division.

2. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has proposed that out of the total area (i.e. 148 sq.km) of the buffer, 94 sq.km may be managed as a separate Range under the Silent Valley National Park with headquarters at Mukkali and may be named as “Bhavani Forest Range” and two Forest Stations may be set up under the proposed Range at “Anavai” and “Thudukki”. The remaining 54 sq.km may be brought under the existing Silent Valley Range of the Silent Valley National Park and may be managed accordingly. In order to tackle the formidable problem of illicit

cultivation of ganja and poaching in the areas of the proposed buffer, the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests proposed the creation of a sufficient number of additional posts for providing effective protection to the buffer zone.

3. The Government have examined the proposal in detail and they are pleased to accord sanction for the creation of a Buffer Zone to the Silent Valley National Park having an extent of 148 sq.km. Sanction is also accorded for the formation of a separate Forest Range under the Silent Valley National Park with Headquarters at Mukkali. The new Range will be named as “Bhavani Forest Range”. Two Forest Stations, one at Anavai and the other at Thudukki are also hereby ordered to be formed under the newly formed “Bhavani Forest Range”.

4. The boundary descriptions of the Buffer Zone to the Silent Valley National Park, the newly formed “Bhavani Forest Range”, the portion of the Buffer Zone included in the existing Silent Valley Range and the Anavai and Thudukki Forest Stations are shown in Appendices I, II, III and IV to this order respectively.

5. The Government are also pleased to sanction the following new posts and redeployment as shown in the Table below for the effective protection of the newly formed Buffer zone:

Sl.No.	Designation and Scale of Pay in Rs.	No. of posts to be found by redeployment	No. of posts newly sanctioned.
1.	Assistant Wildlife Warden (Range Officer) – (11070-18450)	1	0
2.	Wildlife Assistant - (7990-12930)	0	1
3.	Deputy Range Officer - (7480-11910)	0	2
4.	Forester - (6680-10790)	2	2
5.	Forest Guard - (4990-7990)	10	14
6.	L.D. Clerk - (4990-7990)	1	0
7.	Driver - (4990-7990)	0	1
8.	Peon - (4300-5930)	1	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>

6. Orders indicating the names of the offices from which posts are re-deployed will be issued separately for which the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests will submit proposals to Government forthwith.

(By Order of the Governor)

L.RADHAKRISHNAN  
Secretary

To

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Thiruvananthapuram.  
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Thiruvananthapuram.  
The Chief Conservator of Forests (Administration/Wildlife/ Protection / Development).  
The Accountant General (A & E/ Audit), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram (This is issued with the concurrence of Finance Department).  
The Finance Department (Vide U.O No. 31484/AW-A2/07/Fin dated 27-04-07).  
The Director, Information and Public Relation Department – for publicity.  
General Administration (SC) Department  
Power Department  
SF/OC.

Copy to:- Private Secretary to Chief Minister  
Private Secretary to Minister (Forest and Housing)  
Private Secretary to Minister (B & SC & Power).

*Forwarded / By Order*

*Section Officer*