

**The proposed Aranmula Greenfield Airport:  
its potential ecological, social and economic impacts-  
a preliminary appraisal**



**Salim Ali Foundation  
Thrissur**

**Sálim Ali Foundation**

A Charitable Trust registered in 2006 with a mission:  
“Biodiversity Conservation and Food security”

The proposed Aranmula Greenfield Airport:  
its potential ecological, social and economic impacts-  
a preliminary appraisal

March, 2012

Contact:

**Sálim Ali Foundation**

Ayyappan kavu Road

Kanimangalam Post

Thrissur 680027

Mobile: 0944637288

[vsvijayan@yahoo.com](mailto:vsvijayan@yahoo.com)



## ***Salim Ali Foundation***

***Kanimangalam Post  
Thrissur 641 046, Kerala***

***[salimali\\_fund@yahoo.com](mailto:salimali_fund@yahoo.com); [vsvijayan@yahoo.com](mailto:vsvijayan@yahoo.com)***

### **Preface**

Of late, the conflicts between conservationists and developers have become too frequent that both the parties, quite often, waste their energies as the developers are unwilling to realise the need and significance of sustainable development and, hence fail to take decisions favouring the common good. Again, such conflicts are often stemmed from the failure to recognise the development priority for the country; primary requirements of a large majority of citizens are invariably ignored for the luxury and comforts of a few.

Both these are applicable to the proposed KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd project. Essentially, the decision has to be taken weighing: (a) the benefits of a few people from four districts of Kerala for their national and international travel at the cost of the life and livelihood of a large number of local people, (b) the loss of about 1417 ha of paddy lands and wetlands, whose potential benefits to the local people are worth Rs. 315 to 445 crores annually, just for the benefit of a few people for their air travel, (c) further loss of paddy lands to the tune of 1417 ha, that too at a time when the State is expected to arrest further dwindling of the paddy land and expand it as much as possible to meet the annual requirement of 45 lakhs tonnes of paddy against the current production of barely six lakhs tonnes.

The Salim Ali Foundation, a non profitable Charity Trust whose mission is “biodiversity conservation and food security” took up a rapid assessment on the potential ecological, social and economic impacts of the proposed airport.

The study reveals that the vital flood plains of Pumba, proposed to be reclaimed for the airport, shall inevitably be protected for ever for the common benefits of lakhs of people. There may be alternative sites for an airport but, certainly, not so for the vast expenses of paddy and wetlands which serve the local people.

Let the land of temples with the sacred river Pumba and its floodplains remain unaltered to maintain the heritage village’s profitable century old harmonious relationship between the people and their surroundings – the wetlands, paddy lands and sacred groves.

29 March 2012

Dr. V. S. Vijayan  
Chairman

Sub-titles	Page
Airport project in brief	1
Resources needed for the Aranmula Airport	2
Impact of the project on the ecology of the area	2
Biodiversity	<b>2</b>
Ecosystem of the area	3
Intangible values of the Wetlands and Paddy fields that would be lost	4
Tangible benefits of the wetlands in Aranmula and its adjoining villages	5
Dislocation of families	5
Water requirement of the project	6
Loss and damage to the cultural heritage of the area	6
Booming prices for land	6
Environment Impact Assessment of the KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd.	6
The EIA is silent on major environmental issues	8
Do we really require an Airport in Aranmula?	9
A note on the background of the proposed Aranmula Airport	9
Recommendations	<b>11</b>
Annexure 1: List of plants recorded in and around the proposed airport area	13
Annexure 2: Fish fauna of the Aranmula area	17
Annexure 3: Avifauna of the Aranmula area	19
Annexure 4: Letter of the Thasildar	31
Annexure 5: Copy of the High Court judgement	32
Annexure 6: Government of Kerala's order declaring Industrial Area	35
Annexure 7: Copy of the answer given by the Ministry of Civil Aviation in the Parliament	37
Annexure 8: Copy of a letter from Ministry of Defence to M.P.	38
Fig. 1. Overall view of the air port site	22
Fig. 2a. Land cover showing Industrial Area declared by the Government of Kerala	23
Fig. 2b. Industrial Area declared by Government of Kerala with Survey Numbers	24
Fig. 3 A view of the wetlands	25
Fig. 4 A view of the wetlands	25
Fig. 5. A view of Kozhithodu	26
Fig. 6. A close view of Kozhithodu showing silt accumulation	26
Fig. 7 A view of the Valiyathodu with wetlands and paddy fields	27
Fig. 8. A view of the Valiyathodu with paddy lands on either side	27
Fig. 9 Another view of the Valiyathodu	28
Fig. 10. Reclaimed area with part of the hill bulldozed	28
Fig.11. Reclaimed area with rubber plantation at the rear	29
Fig. 12 Another view of the reclaimed area	29
Fig.13 Poster frequently seen in the area	30

**The proposed Aranmula Greenfield Airport:  
its potential ecological, social and economic impacts -  
a preliminary appraisal**

The report presents the major impacts of the proposed airport on the biodiversity and ecology of the wetlands and paddy lands in Aranmula and its adjoining villages along with an analysis of the tangible and intangible benefits of this significant ecosystem. It further analyses: (1) the EIA conducted by Enviro Care, India Pvt. Ltd for the KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd, who proposes the airport; (2) the need for an airport at Aranmula and, (3) the inevitable need for restoring the paddy land and resuming paddy cultivation in the area, which was mostly abandoned in the area for a few years for reasons not attributable to the farmers. Economic aspects are not covered in detail; only those aspects related to wetlands and paddy lands are dealt with.

**Airport project in brief**

- 1) A Chennai based business group, namely KGS Group, known as KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd is proposed to build a private Greenfield Airport in an area extended to Aranmula, Kidangannur and Malapuzhaserry villages, Kozhencherry Taluk, Pathanamthitta District, Kerala (Fig. 1, 2a & b).
- 2) The area required for the proposed Airport is 500 acres as given in the EIA report and also the papers submitted to the Government of Kerala. But in their website it is given as 700 acres. ([www.kgsaranmulaairport.com](http://www.kgsaranmulaairport.com))
- 3) The total cost is estimated at Rs 2000/ crores. Reliance group will have 15% stake in the project
- 4) The need for the Aranmula Airport, according to the proponents as given in the EIA report are:
  - a. “Aranmula is centrally located in between the existing International Airports at Thiruvananthapuram and Cochin at about 138 Km. The proposed Airport will have a direct influence to the central Travancore region”
  - b. an airport in Aranmula would serve the increasing demands of air passengers from Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, Idukki and some parts of Alappuzha districts. “Out of the foreign and domestic tourists’ arrival to Kerala, these four districts together accounts for about 21 per cent of foreign tourists and 14 per cent domestic tourists”
  - c. the proposed Airport will provide infrastructure to Sabarimala pilgrims who wish to travel by air
  - d. an airport in Aranmula would serve the travel requirements of non-resident Keralites, foreign and domestic tourism and,
  - e. the airport in Aranmula will be a great facilitator for the Maramon Convention, one of the biggest conventions of Christians accounting for about 1,00,000 pilgrims

## Resources needed for the Aranmula Airport

According to the available information and EIA report of the KGS Airport Ltd, the project would require:

- 1) 500/700 acres of land, out of the 500 acres, about 400 acres are paddy fields (Aranmula Pancha) and wetlands
- 2) 12,000 litre/day of water during the first phase, and 58,500 litre/day during the second phase. The total requirement of raw water for this airport will be 7.55 KLD,
- 3) A 23 m wide four lane approach road from the Aikkara Junction to the terminal building and, from Parumootumpadi Junction to Aikkara Junction. For both, land has to be acquired.
- 4) The power requirement during the operational phase in the first phase would be 2 MVA and, in future 4.0 MVA
- 5) The major materials required are steel, cement, sand, metal, bricks, flooring tiles/stones, artificial wood, sanitary and hardware items, electrical fittings, water, etc (quantity has not been given anywhere in the EIA report).
- 6) Massive quantity of sand for filling the vast expanse of paddy field, around 400 acres

## Impact of the project on the ecology of the area

- 7) The rapid assessment carried out by the Sálim Ali Foundation (SAF) brings out the salient features of the ecology of the area; the irreparable damage that the airport will cause to the ecosystem, biodiversity and the people. On the whole four days were spent in the field making direct observations, discussions with local people individually and in groups. The team comprised four members, one each of a botanist and fish expert and, two ornithologists/wetland experts.

## Biodiversity

- 8) Only three aspects of biodiversity; plants, fishes and birds - the major aspects of biodiversity of the area, could be covered within the limited available time.
- 9) **Plants:** On the whole 212 species of plants were recorded from the area. Of these, 27 are endemic to the Western Ghats and 110 are economically important, mainly for its medicinal properties. Of the 212 species, 88 are wetland species which include those found along the earthen bunds and in wet areas (Annexure 1).

**Fishes:** In total 60 species, including those reported in the present and earlier studies were recorded from the area (Annexure 2). Out of which 42% of the fishes are endemic to the Western Ghats; 6.6 % endangered and 5% vulnerable. 48% are of commercially high value fetching exorbitant prices in the market. The species such as *Wallago attu*, *Channa marulius*, *C. striata*, *Labeo dussumeiri*, and *Horabagrus brachysoma* are highly sought after. Among these, *Labeo dussumeiri* is an icon of Pumba fishery resources and it is endemic to the rivers

- 1) feeding the Vembanad lake. About 10 % of the total species found are of ornamental value. It may be noted that 35 species are migratory; migrating from the river Pumba to the paddy lands and wetlands for breeding.

- 2) **Birds:** The present study recorded 80 species of birds, while 85 were recorded in 2006 by the Kottayam Nature Society. Both together, 103 species have been located from the area (Annexure 3). Of these, 8 species are migratory and two, namely Oriental Darter and Black-headed Ibis, are in the Near Threatened category of the IUCN.

### **Ecosystem of the area**

- 3) The *puncha* paddy fields and wetlands in Aranmula, Mallappuzhassery, Kidangannur, Elanthur, Mezhuveli and in the adjacent villages (fig. 3, 4) form the flood plains of river Pumba and have become an inseparable part of not only the overall ecology of the area, but also the culture and heritage of this area.
- 4) As the proposed airport area and the contiguous paddy lands and wetlands are the flood plains of river Pumba, they serve as natural flood control in the area whenever the river Pumba overflows, reducing the impacts of flood on the local population and their lives considerably.
- 5) On the onset of monsoon in June when the water began draining into river Pumba, a large number of fishes migrate upwards against the current to the wetlands and paddy fields for breeding. The wetlands act as ground for egg laying, hatchery and nursery. In September when the activities for *puncha* initiates, they migrate down into river Pumba which act as feeding ground.
- 6) For centuries, water from paddy fields and wetlands that spread over Aranmula, Mallapuzhassery, Kidangannur, and the adjacent villages used to be drained into river Pumba through Valiyathodu also known for some distance as Kozhithodu before it joins river Pumba (Fig. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9).
- 7) When an earthen approach road was constructed across Valiyathodu at Nalkalickal to facilitate renovation of Nalkalickal bridge, it acted as a bottle-neck for the flow of water both-wise, between river Pumba and paddy fields.
- 8) As a result, water from rain and overflow from the Valiyathodu, got stagnated in the paddy fields making it impossible for farming.
- 9) The deteriorating ecological condition of the Kozhithodu also adversely affected the water flow. Soil erosion and high degree of siltation have made the Kozhithodu almost non-functional (Figs. 5 & 6)
- 10) Construction of the air strip has aggravated the gravity of water logging in most parts. Farming was forced to be abandoned in most areas since 1999.
- 11) Purchase of pieces of paddy lands here and there for the airport since the last 10 to 12 years or so has fragmented the padasekharams, making farmer collectives difficult to function.
- 25) Aged and experienced farmers who have been farming for generations in the area claim that the yield of paddy used to be around five tonnes per hectare in the area which was corroborated by the officials of the local Agricultural Department.

### **Intangible values of the Wetlands and Paddy fields that would be lost**

- 26) The most significant loss, due to the proposed airport in Aranmula, will be the disappearance of a large extent of wetlands and paddy fields, that too in a State that produces hardly 11% of the total requirement of rice.

- 27) The total area of wetlands that would be reclaimed is not clear. The area that the KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd. require is about 500 – 700 acres. The area notified as Industrial Area by the Industrial Department is 500 “acres”. Whether it is 500 acres or hectares is not clear. Using the survey numbers included in the Notification, a map was prepared by Mr. Sreeranganathan, Retd, Sr. Artist/ Photographer of the Rubber Board who is a resident of Aranmula (Fig 2b.). The total area, according to this, is about 500 ha, out of which the wetland is about 214 ha. Since the KGS group has asked 500 acres (202 ha) in the first phase, all analyses are based on the 500 acres.
- 28) One of the most significant values of these paddy lands and wetlands, not yet measured but experienced, is the contribution that they make in maintaining the water level in the wells and ponds in the villages around.
- 29) These wetlands and paddy lands serve as reservoirs, maintaining the water and drain it into river Pumba during the lean period, thus functioning as a natural irrigation system.
- 30) Even if no cultivation is made, and if the paddy fields are left as such, their ecological services go unhindered. The water levels in the wells and ponds in the neighbouring villages continue to be maintained.
- 31) Local residents of the area, especially farmers are quite aware of these and, hence are their strong protests against the destruction of wetlands and paddy fields in the name of an airport.
- 32) These services of the wetlands are called “intangible services” or “indirect services”. There are many more such services, significantly at least 14 of them, such as climate control, soil erosion, carbon storage, waste treatment, nutrient cycling, raw material, food production, genetic resources, recreation and cultural.
- 33) The global average ecosystem services of the wetlands are estimated at Rs. 7, 39,250/ha. Since our wetlands are much more complex, this value will be 3-4 times more. Accordingly the annual ecosystem service values of the wetlands that would be lost for the sake of airport will be between Rs. 35.48 crores and 47.31 crores. In other words the people living in the area get ecosystem services worth Rs. 35.48 to 47.31 crore annually.
- 34) It is to be necessarily considered , that the impact of filling and raising the wetland area for the airport does not confine only to the earmarked 400 acres but goes beyond, affecting all the wetlands and paddy fields over 3500 acres, as it completely bloc the water movement.
- 35) Therefore, the total loss of ecosystem services should be calculated for the entire area, i.e.; for 3500 acres (1417 ha) which would come to Rs. 314 to 419 crores
- 36) To provide these ecosystem services, even if they are just impossible, the cost would be unimaginably high. And, quite impracticable

#### **Tangible benefits of the wetlands in Aranmula and its adjoining villages**

- 37) Tangible or direct benefits from a wetland include among other things, production of fish and paddy.



- 38) In the present area of 1457 ha, if converted back into a cultivable state, the farmers claim that they could produce nothing less than 5 tons per ha pucha, amounting to 7085 tonnes annually. If the procurement price is fixed at Rs.15/kg, it would be worth Rs. 10.63 crores. And, if it is organically produced, it can be at least just the double, i.e.; around Rs 21 crores
- 39) Since the pucha cultivation requires only four months, middle of December to end of April, there is sufficient time left for fish culture. Dr. Padmakumar, Fish Expert from Kerala Agricultural University, advises that a minimum of two tones of fish per ha could be produced annually. At the rate of a minimum Rs.40/kg, in the 1417 ha, the fish production would be worth for Rs. 11.34 crore.
- 40) Accordingly, in the area earmarked for airport, (400 acres) the rice and fish production, would be 800 tonnes of pucha and 320 tonnes of fish; worth Rs. 1.2 crores and 1.28 crores respectively.
- 41) Therefore the total benefits from the paddy fields and wetlands from the proposed airport area (160 ha) would be Rs. 37.96 to 49.79 and, from the total wetlands and paddy fields that would be affected by the airport (1417 ha) would be Rs 335 to 440 crores per year.
- 42) Please note that these figures are tentative, but minimum. The figures on paddy lands are collected from various sources, including the Agricultural Department, maps prepared by the Kerala State Biodiversity Board, Google maps, and the map prepared by Shri. Sreeranganathan of Aranmula.

#### **Dislocation of families**

- 43) Total houses that fall within the area declared as industrial area are not yet physically counted. Nor is there any mention of this in the EIA report of the KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd. The houses that could be counted from the satellite map show 780 houses (Shri. Sreeranganathan, personal communication). Many of the houses would not have been captured in the satellite as they are under tree cover. There would be at least around 1000 houses. If we consider an average three members in a house, the total number would be around 3000. How many of them have to be evicted are not clear. The EIA Report (page 119) categorically records that the existing population in the area has to be evacuated. But yet it fails to mention the number of people to be evacuated.
- 44) Apart from this, since a 23 m wide four lane approach road from the Aikkara Junction to the terminal building and, from Parumootumpadi Junction to Aikkara Junction have to be laid as per the EIA report, all the houses within this area on either side also have to be evicted and, the land acquired. This is not mentioned in the EIA report.

#### **Water requirement of the project**

- 45) Water requirement of the project would be 7.55 KLD which the EIA report says (page34) would be met both from its own bore wells supplemented by the Municipal supply.
- 46) Exploitation of the ground water will make the situation further worse, as the wetlands, the source for charging the water table, will be reclaimed for the airport.

#### **Loss and damage to the cultural heritage of the area**

- 47) The Airport will further destroy the cultural heritage of the area as several age old historic temples and sacred groves are situated within the Industrial Area declared by the Government

- 48) The famous Aranmula temple, about 1500 years old, is just within 200 meters from the borders of the Industrial Area notified.
- 49) An airport in Aranmula would completely change the serenity and peaceful life of the people. There are, it appears, proposals for techno-park, smart City, info-park, Textile Park, food park multi-speciality hospitals and what not after the declaration of setting up the Air port.

### **Booming prices for land**

- 50) All these have helped only the land mafia. Ever since the proposed airport was declared, we were told, the land cost in the area has gone up several folds. A cent costing just Rs. 5000 a year ago in this famous temple town currently demands Rs. 50,000/ to 1, 00,000/. The land mafia is up. As a result, a small piece of land for a common man in the village for construction of a house has become near to impossible

### **Environment Impact Assessment of the KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd.**

- 51) As per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification 2006, the KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd. got an EIA done through a private agency, namely Enviro Care, India Private Limited, based in Madurai.
- 52) The EIA is quite forthcoming when it deals with the structure and design of the airport building, the number of passengers expected to be using it in the first and final phase; the facilities for car parking, the number of cars expected to be parking and taking off; the physical features of the area, such as maximum – minimum temperature, rainfall, humidity, wind rose diagrams, wind speed, air quality, noise environment; the physico-chemical properties of the soil and water; and a sewage treatment plan.
- 53) However, when it comes to the biological scenario, the report is appallingly bereft of facts and figures. And it appears the EIA team has not taken even the minimum required efforts to document the biodiversity
- 54) Still worse is when it talks of the ecology; nothing is given on the ecological impact. This cannot be considered as a shortcoming or in-deliberate omission, as the EIA was done for a project that would completely devastate the paddy lands and wetlands amounting to an eco-catastrophe in the area.
- 55) The statement on vegetation (page 87), supposed to have been based on a survey of 10 km radius of the airport, claims the dominance of species of which except one (*Euphorbia hirta*) are neither present nor expected to be present in the area. The unedited list of plants as presented in the Report is given below:
- “prosopis Juliflora, Cassia auriculata, Morinda coreia, Borassus flabellifer, Cissus, Prosopis Juliaflora, Acacia niolotica, A.planifrons, A.auriculiformes, A.ferruginea, Zizipus Jujuba, Z.mauritiana, Z.xylophyrus, Morinda coreia, E.Corrigiologides, opuntia dilleii, Agave angustifolia, Aloe vera, cassia auriculata, Euphorbia tortilis, E.hirta and few species of grasses. “
- 56) These species could be found only in dry lands. It is surprising that although large part of the area is covered with wetlands and paddy lands, the EIA could not find any wetland species

- 57) In spite of the phenomenal data deficiency, the EIA appears to have been very particular to state that “There are no endangered species in the study area.”
- 58) On the contrary, we could locate 212 species of plants in the area with 27 endemics
- 59) Similarly the EIA report is an apology to the faunistic wealth of the area, especially of the wetlands.
- 60) The EIA claims that “study includes survey of the animal communities such as insects, molluscs, fishes, reptiles, birds and mammals (page 88 of the report)
- 61) However, it does not specify the method followed for studying each group. Certainly the method followed for birds cannot be used for studying the insects or snails.
- 62) Although the EIA claims to have studied the fishes, reptiles and mammals, nowhere in the report does it list out these faunistic elements.
- 63) For any attempt to document the flora and fauna, the study has to be year round or at least seasonal. In the present case the EIA report says: “majority of data on water quality, vegetation, air and noise quality was collected during field studies in August – October 2010”. Even if they have collected the data during this period, that too apparently they have not, the three months data alone are grossly inadequate to assess both the faunal and floral richness of the area; especially for the purpose of impact assessment of a project which threatens total destruction of the ecology of the area
- 64) Interestingly, the report says: “Information on eco-system within study area was collected from the State Agricultural and Forest departments. The important flora species native to the area is enumerated. tests check survey was also under taken to judge the correctness of the data collected” (page 18). Whether this was done so is doubtful, as it is quite sure that no forest or agricultural department official would ever give a list of plants which are not present in their area. On the contrary, if EIA team had consulted the Agricultural department, it would have got valuable information related to the ecology of the area.
- 65) Although the EIA claims to have identified 52 insect species representing 14 orders, the non-inclusion of the list of species, the method followed and, names of the experts who identified the insect species makes the entire claim unacceptable. However, as though the EIA has not committed an omission it says “there are no rare or endangered species”*[of insects]*
- 66) Again, the EIA appears to have either neglected or paid no serious attention to the avifauna (bird fauna) of the area. It has not given the methodology, not even the time spent in the field, but states that 34 species were recorded. But no list is provided. It may be noted that within about five hours, one afternoon and one forenoon, two of us could locate 80 species (list attached). And, the Kottayam Natural History has recorded 87 species; totally the bird list of the area goes to 103 species with two Near threatened species of the IUCN and five migratory species. Needless to say the area will have a large number of ducks and other migratory species during the migratory season.
- 67) Therefore, the statement in the ESA report that “It was found during study period that the location is devoid of any endangered flora and fauna in 10 km radius” is not qualified even to describe as erroneous! In this context, it may be noted that during our visits, we could cover only in around the wetlands which are under the threat of reclamation, and not 10 km radius which the EIA claimed to have covered. Yet, we could locate more than double the number of species of birds.

- 68) The enormity of the shallowness in the biological/ecological assessment of the area is abundantly obvious from the following statements given in page 87: “The environmental interactions of these insects reveal that, they are interrelated and majority of them are useful insects”, and page 88: “The presence of birds at different study sites reveals that there is good relationship between the birds and its habitat along with the vegetation. The maintenance of ecological balance could be seen among study area”. Indeed, a typical desk EIA.
- 69) Land in the area has been recorded as “unclassified” land in page 29 of the EIA report. At no stretch of imagination, could the land in the area be classified so. Mostly the area is wetlands/paddy fields.
- 70) The report in page 28 says that there are no archeological and cultural monuments within 10 km radius. There cannot be a more erroneous statement than this, as the area is dotted with a large number of temples of historical eminence; the famous Aranmula temple is only around 200 from the border of the proposed airport.
- 71) The impact statements in the ESI, especially on the biological components do not deserve any attention. There cannot be a more callous approach than this.

#### **The EIA is silent on major environmental issues**

- 72) The EIA is silent on the major impacts of reclaiming wetlands and paddy fields that extends approximately 400 acres. Worst still, the report does not even acknowledge that it is a wetland.
- 73) As the entire area is the flood plain of river Pumba, whenever water level rises, the entire area gets inundated. Therefore, the wetland areas now marked for the airport has to be raised at least 3-4 feet from the rest of the area. This would amount to filling the wetlands about 10-12 feet high.
- 74) The EIA should have quantified the sand required for this and, also mentioned the source of sand for the same.
- 75) A preliminary assessment made by us shows that it would require a minimum of 96 lakhs tonnes of sand.
- 76) Since the source of material for the already filled up area was a hill close-by, called Karimarathu mala, which was bulldozed (Fig. 10), the source for filling rest of the wetlands cannot expected to be different. It could be some hills which the KGS Group has already purchased. The isolated pieces of land included under the Industrial Area fortify this inference.

#### **One major question: Do we really require an Airport in Aranmula?**

- 77) Kerala State, hardly 600 km in length and average 150 km in width, has already got three airports, namely Trivandrum International Airport, Cochin International Private Airport, Calicut International

Airport and a 4<sup>th</sup> one, a green field airport, at Kannur is being taken up. That means on an average, there is one airport for every 150 Km.

- 78) Incidentally, the Government of India's guidelines for the Greenfield Airport specify that it should be normally 150 km from any existing airport. The distance to Aranmula from both the Trivandrum International Airport and the Cochin international Airport is just 96 km air distance. And, by road from Trivandrum to Aranmula is 122 km and Cochin Airport even less – 104 km.
- 79) It is understood from the press that even now some of the flights from and to the Cochin Airport are being cancelled or adjusted with other air lines because of the lack of passengers.
- 80) The Aranmula Airport, it is claimed, is to cater the needs of mainly the NRIs from four surrounding districts, namely Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, Alappuzha and Idukki. It may be noted that if the air passengers from these districts move to the Aranmula Airport, the Cochin Airport and even the Trivandrum Airport will certainly become not only non-profitable but may have to run at a loss.

#### *A note on the background of the proposed Aranmula Airport*

It may be necessary to give a brief background of the proposed airport to get a clear picture

- 81) Since the last few years, paddy fields in Aranmula area have been bought in the name of a Trust, namely Mount Zion Educational Trust purportedly to fulfil the statutory obligation of having an air strip to commence an Aeronautical Engineering course at its college.
- 82) The local people, we understand, did not raise any objection thinking that it was only for enhancing the educational facilities of the children. However, no sooner than later it was realised that the purpose for which the land was bought was for setting up an airport.
- 83) The Chairman of the Mount Zion Educational Trust, namely Shri. Abraham Kalamannil even told the local people that since there has been no cultivation for the last couple of years, he would begin fish culture.
- 84) The Educational Trust appears to have purchased about 350 acres of land. It was not only bought, but was filled in some parts (Fig. 11, 12) . The vital portion of the Valiyathod was filled disrupting the flow of water between Pumba and the paddy lands and wetlands
- 85) However, on protests of people, a diversion was made through which some amount of flow could be restored to the east and south of the filled area. The portion that ran toward east was completely reclaimed.

- 86) Even some of the revenue land was also filled along with this which the RDO had ordered the Thasildar to recover (Annexure 4 ; copy of RDO's order).
- 87) The material for filling was taken by bulldozing a hill near-by (Fig. 10).
- 88) The farmers got agitated and filed a writ petition in the High Court of Kerala against filling the paddy land and the construction activities. The Court in its judgement dated 24 February 2005 ordered that no construction in the paddy field shall be done unless statutory clearances are obtained (Annexure 5: High Court of Kerala: W. P. No. 3917 of 2005; dated 24 February 2005).
- 89) A business group from Chennai, namely KGS Group came into the picture and they bought 350 acres of land from the Trust/ Abraham Kalamannil, its Chairman and floated a company called KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd.
- 90) The Industrial Department of the Government of Kerala on 8 September 2010, had given approval in principle for the Greenfield airport with a condition that the company *should obtain necessary land without violating the existing rules and regulations* (Annexure 6; copy of the order).
- 91) However, the KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd could not get the land registered in their name, as the district Collector rejected its application since there was a case pending against Shri. Abraham Kalamannil for reclamation of wetland.
- 92) Unfortunately, again, the Industrial Department in a tearing hurry declared the 500 acres required by the KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd. as an Industrial Area, that too just less than a week before the elections to the State Assembly was announced. Industrial Area was declared on 24 February 2011.
- 93) It may be noted that while doing so, the Government had not sought the approval or even opinion of the local Panchayaths thereby violating the Constitutional provisions as per the 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Amendments to the Constitution bestowing the sole right to the Gram Sabha for plan development in the area.
- 94) The local people, raised protests against the Greenfield Airport at the cost of their paddy fields and wetlands.
- 95) The District Collector called a meeting of all concerned parties during the end of December 2011, and as per the news paper report (Hindu December 31, 2011): the meeting “decided to recommend to the Government to de-notify the 500 acres of land declared as industrial area in Aranmula, Mallappuzhassery and Kidangannur villages.” “ The meeting has also decided to stop all further proceedings with regard to the proposed private airport till the notification declaring 500 acres of land spread across the three villages was withdrawn”
- 96) It may be noted that the Ministry for Civil Aviation, according to its then Minister's (Shri. Vayalar Ravi) statement in the Lok Sabha, no permission was granted to the KGS Aranmula Airport Project (Annexure 7 ; copy of the statement made in the parliament)
- 97) The Defence Ministry has also not given permission till the last week of January 2011 (Annexure 8; copy of a letter from the Defence Minister to a Member of Parliament)

## **Recommendations**

- 98) The Government must seriously examine whether Kerala requires a 5<sup>th</sup> Airport, the one proposed in Aranmula. As it is today, the State will have one airport at an interval of 150 km when the Kannore airport is built and commissioned.
- 99) The analysis should consider the data of flight frequency, the airlines which are operating, whether the seats are full, if so, whether additional flights could meet those requirements, the number of national and international passengers from Pathanamthitta, Idukki, Kottayam and Alappuzha,
- 100) If it is convincingly found that an airport is required, that means even with additional services the requirement could not be met, a suitable place other than wetlands, paddy lands and forests may be located.
- 101) Under no circumstances, shall the paddy lands and wetlands be converted, nullifying the Kerala Paddy land and Wetlands Conservation Act, 2008. It may be noted that Kerala was the first in the country to bring out such an act to save its dwindling wetlands and paddy fields. The sagacity and wisdom behind the Act shall not be allowed to become a laughing stock.
- 102) When the State is expected to take concerted efforts to bring every inch of land under cultivation to fill the huge gap between production and demand for paddy; 5 lakh tones and 45 lakhs tonnes respectively, it cannot even think of giving away 400 acres of wetland and paddy lands for an airport. Whether it is run by the Government or a private party is immaterial.
- 103) The Government should immediately bring out a programme to restore agriculture in the area along with fish culture and duck rearing.
- 104) The local people are crying for such a start which would, in a sense, apart from all the economic returns, help restore the cultural legacy of the area.
- 105) It would, certainly, not be a mean task to de-silt the Kozhithodu, restore the Valiyathodu, and removing the litre from the paddy lands to begin agriculture. Whatever may be the mighty task, the Government inevitably owes that to the farmers of that area, as they had discontinued farming for no fault of them, but solely of the Government.
- 106) The Zion Educational Trust (Shri. Abraham Kalamannil) should be persuaded to use the paddy lands already bought by them for paddy cultivation.
- 107) Under no circumstances shall exception be given for converting the paddy lands and wetlands under the Kerala State Paddy lands and Wetland Conservation Act, 2008. The provision for “exception for public purpose” will not be applicable here.
- 108) In all practical purpose, the term “public” in the present context means national/ international passengers who are currently using the airport at Cochin or Trivandrum. The airport is used only for a handful of such selected class of people. Will it then be correct to distinguish this as ‘public purpose’?

- 109) On the other hand, although the wetlands and paddy fields are in private hands, they serve a huge public purpose by controlling floods, nourishing the ponds and wells and serve as breeding ground for a large number of commercially important fishes. This would undoubtedly serve more “public purpose”.
- 110) In short, the airport is for a selected few, whereas the wetlands and paddy lands are for the public. The Government’s choice lies between the two.
- 111) Since the wetlands are a common property, as they serve public purpose, no government can sacrifice the very common property for the benefit of a few.

---

The team who made the study comprised Dr. Sujanapal (Botanist), Dr. C. P. Shaji (Fish Expert), Dr. Lalitha Vijayan and Dr. V. S. Vijayan (Ornithology and wetland ecology).

### **Acknowledgement**

The discussions with the Agricultural Officers of Aranmula, Mallappuzhassery and, Assistant Director and Deputy Director of Agriculture covering these areas were quite useful. We are grateful to them.

We are grateful to Shri. Sreeranganathan, (Retd. Artist, Rubber Board) and the native of Aranmula, who has been of great help to us during our various field trips and also help organise various group and individual discussions

Many farmers, including Shri. Uthaman shared their experience in farming which helped us to understand the system well.

My special thanks are due to Dr. T. V. Sajeev of Kerala Forest Research Institute for all the efforts he took to bring out the report in a presentable form.



**Annexure 1:**

**List of plants recorded in and around the proposed airport area**

No	Species	Remarks	
1.	<i>Acampe praemorsa</i> (Roxb.) Blatt. & McCann	Orchid	
2.	<i>Acanthospermum hispidum</i> DC.	_____	Wetland
3.	<i>Aerva lanata</i> (L.) Juss. ex Schult.	Medicinal	
4.	<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i> L.	_____	Wetland
5.	<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i> (L.) R. Br. ex. DC.	Medicinal	Wetland
6.	<i>Alysicarpus monilifer</i> (L.) DC.	_____	
7.	<i>Alysicarpus vaginalis</i> (L.) DC.	_____	
8.	<i>Ammannia baccifera</i> L.	_____	Wetland
9.	<i>Aponogeton natans</i> (L.) Engl. & Krause	_____	Aquatic/Wetland
10.	<i>Artocarpus hirsutus</i> Lam.	Medicinal, Endemic	
11.	<i>Axonopus compressus</i> (Sw.) P. Beauv.	_____	Wetland
12.	<i>Barringtonia acutangula</i> (L.) Gaertn.	_____	
13.	<i>Biophytum reinwardtii</i> (Zucc.) Klotzsch.	Medicinal	
14.	<i>Blepharistemma serratum</i> (Dennst.) Suresh	Medicinal, Endemic	
15.	<i>Blumea laevis</i> (Lour.) Merr.	_____	
16.	<i>Blumea oxyodonta</i> DC.	_____	
17.	<i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> L.	Medicinal	
18.	<i>Bonamia semidigyna</i> (Roxb.) Hall.f.	Medicinal	
19.	<i>Briedelia stipularis</i> (L.) Blume	Medicinal, Endemic	
20.	<i>Bulbostylis barbata</i> (Rottb.) Kunth ex Clarke	_____	
21.	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i> Gray	_____	Aquatic/Wetland
22.	<i>Calamus hookerianus</i> Becc.	Cane, Endemic	
23.	<i>Calamus metzianus</i> Schltr.	Cane	
24.	<i>Canthium rheedei</i> DC.	Endemic	
25.	<i>Cardiospermum halicacabum</i> L.	Medicinal	
26.	<i>Centella asiatica</i> (L.) Urban	Medicinal	Wetland
27.	<i>Centotheca lappacea</i> (L.) Desv.	_____	
28.	<i>Ceratopteris thalictroides</i> L.	Medicinal	Wetland
29.	<i>Chamaecrista absus</i> (L.) Irwin & Barneby	Medicinal	
30.	<i>Chamaecrista kleinii</i> (Wight & Arn.) Matthew	Medicinal	
31.	<i>Chrysopogon aciculatus</i> (Retz.) Trin.	_____	
32.	<i>Cinnamomum malabatum</i> (Burm. f.) Blume	Medicinal, Endemic	
33.	<i>Cleome burmannii</i> Wight & Arn.	_____	
34.	<i>Cleome monophylla</i> L.	_____	
35.	<i>Cleome viscosa</i> L.	Medicinal	
36.	<i>Coldenia procumbens</i> L.	_____	Wetland
37.	<i>Colocasia esculenta</i> (L.) Schott	Medicinal	Wetland
38.	<i>Commelina attenuata</i> Koenig ex Vahl	Medicinal	
39.	<i>Commelina ensifolia</i> R. Br.	_____	
40.	<i>Corchorus aestuans</i> L.	_____	
41.	<i>Corchorus olitorius</i> L.	_____	
42.	<i>Corchorus trilocularis</i> L.	Medicinal	
43.	<i>Crassocephalum crepidioides</i> (Benth.) S. Moore	_____	

No	Species	Remarks	
44.	<i>Crotalaria heyneana</i> Graham ex Wight & Arn.	Endemic	
45.	<i>Croton persimilis</i> Muell.-Arg.	Medicinal	
46.	<i>Cryptocoryne retrospiralis</i> (Roxb.) Kunth	Endemic	Aquatic
47.	<i>Cryptolepis buchananii</i> Roem. & Schult.	Medicinal	
48.	<i>Curculigo orchioides</i> Gaertn.	Medicinal	
49.	<i>Curcuma aeruginosa</i> Roxb.	Medicinal	
50.	<i>Curcuma amada</i> Roxb.	Medicinal	
51.	<i>Curcuma ecalcarata</i> Sivar. & Indu	Medicinal	
52.	<i>Curcuma zanthorrhiza</i> Roxb.	Medicinal	
53.	<i>Cyanotis axillaris</i> (L.) D. Don	_____	Wetland
54.	<i>Cyathula prostrata</i> (L.) Blume	Medicinal	Wetland
55.	<i>Cyclea peltata</i> (Lam.) Hook. f. & Thoms.	Medicinal	
56.	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> (L.) Pers.	Medicinal	Wetland
57.	<i>Cyperus compressus</i> L.	_____	Wetland
58.	<i>Cyperus cyperinus</i> (Retz.) Sur.	_____	Wetland
59.	<i>Cyperus difformis</i> L.	_____	Wetland
60.	<i>Cyperus haspan</i> L.	_____	Wetland
61.	<i>Cyperus iria</i> L.	_____	Wetland
62.	<i>Cyperus rotundus</i> L.	Medicinal	Wetland
63.	<i>Cyperus tenuispica</i> Steud.	_____	Wetland
64.	<i>Dendrobium ovatum</i> (L.) Kranz.	Orchid	
65.	<i>Dentella repens</i> (L.) J. R. & G. Forst.	_____	Wetland
66.	<i>Desmodium gangeticum</i> (L.) DC.	Medicinal	
67.	<i>Desmodium heterocarpon</i> (L.) DC.	_____	
68.	<i>Desmodium heterophyllum</i> (Willd.) DC.	_____	
69.	<i>Desmodium triflorum</i> (L.) DC.	Medicinal	
70.	<i>Desmodium triquetrum</i> (L.) DC.	_____	
71.	<i>Dipteracanthus prostratus</i> (Poir.) Nees	Endemic	
72.	<i>Dopatrium junceum</i> (Roxb.) Buch.-Ham. ex Benth.	_____	Wetland
73.	<i>Echinochloa colona</i> (L.) Link	_____	Wetland
74.	<i>Eclipta prostrata</i> (L.) L.	Medicinal	Wetland
75.	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> (Mart.) Solms.	_____	Aquatic/wetland
76.	<i>Elephantopus scaber</i> L.	Medicinal	
77.	<i>Eleutheranthera ruderalis</i> (Sw.) Sch.-Bip.	_____	
78.	<i>Emilia sonchifolia</i> (L.) DC.	Medicinal	
79.	<i>Eragrostis riparia</i> (Willd.) Nees	Endemic	Wetland
80.	<i>Eragrostis uniolooides</i> (Retz.) Nees ex Steud.	_____	Wetland
81.	<i>Eriocaulon heterolepis</i> Steud.	Endemic	Wetland
82.	<i>Eriocaulon quinquangulare</i> L.	_____	Wetland
83.	<i>Eriocaulon sexangulare</i> L.	_____	Wetland
84.	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i> L.	Medicinal	
85.	<i>Euphorbia thymifolia</i> L.	_____	
86.	<i>Evolvulus nummularius</i> (L.) L.	Medicinal	
87.	<i>Fimbristylis aestivalis</i> Vahl	_____	Wetland
88.	<i>Fimbristylis argentea</i> (Rottb.) Vahl	_____	Wetland
89.	<i>Fimbristylis microcarya</i> Muller	_____	Wetland
90.	<i>Fimbristylis narayanii</i> C.E.C. Fisch.	Endemic	Wetland
91.	<i>Fimbristylis tetragona</i> R. Br.	_____	Wetland
92.	<i>Fuirena ciliaris</i> (L.) Roxb.	_____	Wetland
93.	<i>Fuirena umbellata</i> Rottb.	_____	Wetland
94.	<i>Garcinia gummi-gutta</i> (L.) Robs.	Medicinal	

No	Species	Remarks	
95.	<i>Grangea maderaspatana</i> (L.) Poir.	_____	Wetland
96.	<i>Hedyotis neesiana</i> Arn.	_____	
97.	<i>Helicteres isora</i> L.	Medicinal	
98.	<i>Heliotropium indicum</i> L.	Medicinal	Wetland
99.	<i>Heliotropium keralense</i> Sivar. & Manilal	Endemic	Wetland
100.	<i>Heliotropium marifolium</i> Retz.	_____	
101.	<i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> (L.) R. Br.	Medicinal	
102.	<i>Hygrophila ringens</i> (L.) Steud.	Medicinal	Wetland
103.	<i>Hygrophila schulli</i> (Buch.-Ham.) M. R. & S. M. Almeida	Medicinal	Wetland
104.	<i>Impatiens minor</i> (DC.) Bennet	Endemic	
105.	<i>Imperata cylindrica</i> (L.) Rausch.	_____	Wetland
106.	<i>Ipomoea asarifolia</i> (Desr.) Roem. & Schult.	Medicinal	Wetland
107.	<i>Ipomoea marginata</i> (Desr.) Verdc.	Medicinal	
108.	<i>Isachne globosa</i> (Thunb.) O. Ktze.	_____	Wetland
109.	<i>Isachne miliacea</i> Roth	_____	Wetland
110.	<i>Ixora brachiata</i> Roxb. ex DC.	Medicinal, Endemic	
111.	<i>Ixora coccinea</i> L.	Medicinal	
112.	<i>Justicia pathanamthittiensis</i> Remadevi & Binoj Kumar	Endemic	
113.	<i>Justicia procumbens</i> L.	_____	
114.	<i>Kyllinga nemoralis</i> (J. R & G. Forst.) Dandy ex Hutch. & Dalz.	Medicinal	
115.	<i>Lagenandra toxicaria</i> Dalz.	Endemic	Wetland
116.	<i>Laportea interrupta</i> (L.) Chew	Medicinal	
117.	<i>Leersia hexandra</i> Sw.	_____	Wetland
118.	<i>Leucas biflora</i> (Vahl) R. Br.	Medicinal	
119.	<i>Leucas lavandulifolia</i> J.E. Smith	Medicinal	
120.	<i>Leucas zeylanica</i> (L.) R. Br.	Medicinal	
121.	<i>Limnocharis flava</i> (L.) Buch.	_____	Aquatic/Wetland
122.	<i>Lindernia caespitosa</i> (Blume) Panigrahi	_____	Wetland
123.	<i>Lindernia ciliata</i> (Colsm.) Pennell	_____	Wetland
124.	<i>Lindernia ruellioides</i> (Colsm.) Pennell	_____	
125.	<i>Lindernia viscosa</i> (Hornem.) Merr.	_____	Wetland
126.	<i>Lobelia alsinoides</i> Lam.	Medicinal	
127.	<i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i> (G. Don) Exell m	_____	Wetland
128.	<i>Ludwigia octovalvis</i> (Jacq.) Raven	_____	Wetland
129.	<i>Mallotus atrovirens</i> Muell.-Arg.	Endemic	
130.	<i>Mallotus philippensis</i> (Lam.) Muell.-Arg.	Medicinal	
131.	<i>Marsilea minuta</i> L.	Medicinal	Aquatic/Wetland
132.	<i>Melastoma malabathricum</i> L.	_____	
133.	<i>Melochia corchorifolia</i> L.	Medicinal	
134.	<i>Memecylon randerianum</i> SM & MR Almeida	Endemic	
135.	<i>Merremia turpethum</i> (L.) Shah & Bhat	Medicinal	Wetland
136.	<i>Micrococca mercurialis</i> (L.) Benth.	Medicinal	
137.	<i>Mimosa pudica</i> L.	_____	
138.	<i>Mitrasacme indica</i> Wight	_____	
139.	<i>Mollugo nudicaulis</i> Lam.	Medicinal	Wetland
140.	<i>Monochoria vaginalis</i> (Burm. f.) Presl	_____	Aquatic/Wetland
141.	<i>Murdannia nudiflora</i> (L.) Brenan	_____	Wetland

No	Species	Remarks	
142.	<i>Naregamia alata</i> Wight & Arn.	Endemic, Medicinal	
143.	<i>Nelsonia canescens</i> (Lam.) Spreng.	_____	
144.	<i>Nymphaea nouchali</i> Burm.f.	Medicinal	Aquatic
145.	<i>Nymphaea omarana</i> Hort. ex Gard.	_____	Aquatic
146.	<i>Nymphoides hydrophylla</i> (Lour.) O. Ktze.	Medicinal	Aquatic/Wetland
147.	<i>Nymphoides indica</i> (L.) O.Ktze.	_____	Aquatic/Wetland
148.	<i>Ochlandra scriptoria</i> (Dennst.) C.E.C. Fisch.	Endemic	
149.	<i>Oldenlandia auricularia</i> (L.) K. Schum.	Medicinal	
150.	<i>Oldenlandia corymbosa</i> L.	Medicinal	
151.	<i>Oldenlandia diffusa</i> (Willd.) Roxb.	_____	
152.	<i>Oplismenus burmannii</i> (Retz.) P. Beauv.	_____	
153.	<i>Oplismenus compositus</i> (L.) P. Beauv.	_____	
154.	<i>Oxalis corniculata</i> L.	Medicinal	
155.	<i>Pajanelia longifolia</i> (Willd.) K. Schum.	Medicinal	
156.	<i>Pandanus canaranus</i> Warb.	Endemic	Wetland
157.	<i>Panicum notatum</i> Retz.	_____	
158.	<i>Panicum repens</i> L.	_____	Wetland
159.	<i>Paspalum distichum</i> L.	_____	Wetland
160.	<i>Paspalum scrobiculatum</i> L.	_____	Wetland
161.	<i>Persicaria glabra</i> (Willd.) Gomez	_____	Wetland
162.	<i>Phaulopsis imbricata</i> (Forssk.) Sweet.	Medicinal	
163.	<i>Phyllanthus airy-shawii</i> Brunel & Roux	Medicinal	
164.	<i>Phyllanthus amarus</i> Schum. & Thonn.	Medicinal	
165.	<i>Phyllanthus urinaria</i> L.	Medicinal	
166.	<i>Pilea microphylla</i> (L.) Liebm.	_____	
167.	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i> L.	_____	Aquatic/Wetland
168.	<i>Pogostemon deccanensis</i> (Panigrahi) Press	Endemic	
169.	<i>Polygala arvensis</i> Willd.	_____	
170.	<i>Polygala javana</i> DC.	_____	Wetland
171.	<i>Pycneus pumilus</i> (L.) Nees	_____	Wetland
172.	<i>Pycneus puncticulatus</i> (Vahl) Nees	_____	Wetland
173.	<i>Rauwolfia serpentina</i> (L.) Benth. ex Kurz	Medicinal	
174.	<i>Rhinacanthus nasutus</i> (L.) Kurz	Medicinal	Wetland
175.	<i>Rhynchosyris retusa</i> (L.) Blume	Orchid	
176.	<i>Richardia scabra</i> L.	_____	
177.	<i>Rungia parviflora</i> (Retz.) Nees	_____	
178.	<i>Saccharum spontaneum</i> L.	_____	Wetland
179.	<i>Sacciolepis interrupta</i> (Willd.) Stapf	_____	Wetland
180.	<i>Sagittaria guayanensis</i> HBK	_____	Wetland
181.	<i>Salacia fruticosa</i> Heyne ex Lawson	Medicinal, Endemic	
182.	<i>Salvinia molesta</i> L.	_____	Wetland
183.	<i>Schoenoplectiella juncooides</i> (Roxb.) Lye	_____	Wetland
184.	<i>Schoenoplectus mucronatus</i> (L.) Palla	_____	Wetland
185.	<i>Scleria laevis</i> Retz.	_____	Wetland
186.	<i>Scoparia dulcis</i> L.	Medicinal	
187.	<i>Senna tora</i> (L.) Roxb.	Medicinal	
188.	<i>Setaria intermedia</i> Roem. & Schult.	_____	
189.	<i>Sida acuta</i> Burm. f.	Medicinal	
190.	<i>Sida alnifolia</i> L.	Medicinal	
191.	<i>Spermacoce hispida</i> L.	Endemic	

No	Species	Remarks	
192.	<i>Spermacoce pusilla</i> Wall.	Medicinal	
193.	<i>Sphaeranthus indicus</i> L.	Medicinal	Wetland
194.	<i>Spilanthus radicans</i> Jacq.	Medicinal	Wetland
195.	<i>Staurogyne spatulata</i> (Blume) Koord.	=====	
196.	<i>Staurogyne zeylanica</i> (Nees) O. Ktze.	=====	
197.	<i>Synedrella nodiflora</i> (L.) Gaertn.	=====	Wetland
198.	<i>Syzygium caryophyllatum</i> (L.) Alston	Medicinal	
199.	<i>Syzygium zeylanicum</i> (L.) DC.	Medicinal	
200.	<i>Tabernaemontana alternifolia</i> L.	Medicinal, Endemic	
201.	<i>Tephrosia purpurea</i> (L.) Pers.	=====	
202.	<i>Torenia bicolor</i> Dalz.	Endemic	Wetland
203.	<i>Tridax procumbens</i> L.	Medicinal	
204.	<i>Typha angustifolia</i> L.	=====	Wetland
205.	<i>Typhonium flagelliforme</i> (Lodd.) Blume	=====	Wetland
206.	<i>Urena lobata</i> L.	=====	
207.	<i>Utricularia reticulata</i> Smith	=====	Wetland
208.	<i>Uvaria narum</i> (Dunal) Wall. ex Hook.f. & Thoms.	Medicinal	
209.	<i>Vanda testacea</i> (Lindl.) Rchb.f.	Orchid	
210.	<i>Vernonia cinerea</i> (L.) Less.	Medicinal	
211.	<i>Xenostegia tridentata</i> (L.) Austin & Staples	Medicinal	
212.	<i>Zornia gibbosa</i> Span.	Medicinal	

Notes: (1) 88 species are wetland / aquatic plants. Plants recorded in the wetlands as well as in wet areas are considered as wetland species. (2) 93 are reported to be having medicinal properties

## Annexure 2

### Fish fauna of the Aranmula area (based on present and earlier studies)

No	Species name	Endemism	IUCN category	Remarks
I	Family: Megalopidae			
1	<i>Megalops cyprinoides</i> (Broussonet)			Migratory
II	Family: Anguillidae			Migratory
2	<i>Anguilla bengalensis</i> (Gray)			Migratory
3	<i>Anguilla bicolor</i> McClelland			Migratory
III	Family: Cyprinidae			
4	<i>Barilius canarensis</i> (Jerdon) *	WG		
5	<i>Barilius gatensis</i> (Valenciennes) *			
6	<i>Salmophasia acinaces</i> (Valenciennes)*			
7	<i>Amblypharyngodon melettinus</i> (Valenciennes) *	WG		Migratory
8	<i>Devario malabaricus</i> Jerdon			Migratory
9	<i>Horadandia atukorali</i> Deraniyagala			
10	<i>Rasbora dandia</i> (Valenciennes)	WG		Migratory
11	<i>Tor khudree</i> (Sykes) *		EN	
12	<i>Osteobrama bakeri</i> (Day) *	WG		
13	<i>Barbodes sarana subnasutus</i> (Valenciennes)			Migratory

No	Species name	Endemism	IUCN category	Remarks
14	<i>Hypseobarbus curmuca</i> (Hamilton) *	WG	EN	
15	<i>Puntius dorsalis</i> (Day) *	WG	EN	
16	<i>Puntius fasciatus</i> ( <b>Jerdon</b> ) *	WG		
17	<i>Puntius filamentosus</i> (Valenciennes)			Migratory
18	<i>Puntius mahecola</i> (Valenciennes) *	WG		Migratory
19	<i>Puntius punctatus</i> (Day) *	WG		Migratory
20	<i>Puntius vittatus</i> (Day)			
21	<i>Labeo dussumieri</i> (Valenciennes) *	WG		Migratory
22	<i>Labeo rohita</i> (Hamilton)			
23	<i>Garra mullya</i> (Sykes)			Migratory
<b>IV</b>	<b>Family: Balitoridae</b>			
24	<i>Bhavana australis</i> (Jerdon) *	WG		
25	<i>Travancoria jonesi</i> Hora *	WG	EN	
26	<i>Schistura denisoni pambaensis</i> Menon *	WG		
27	<i>Mesonemacheilus guentheri</i> Day *	WG		
28	<i>Mesonemacheilus triangularis</i> Day *	WG		
<b>V</b>	<b>Family: Cobitidae</b>			
29	<i>Pangio goensis</i> (Tilak) *	WG		
30	<i>Lepidocephalichthys thermalis</i> (Valenciennes)			Migratory
<b>VI</b>	<b>Family: Bagridae</b>			
31	<i>Mystus gulio</i> (Hamilton)			
32	<i>Mystus montanus</i> (Jerdon)			Migratory
33	<i>Mystus ocutatus</i> (Valenciennes) *	WG		Migratory
34	<i>Mystus vittatus</i> (Bloch)			Migratory
35	<i>Horabagrus brachysoma</i> (Guenther) *	WG	VU	Migratory
36	<i>Batasio travancoria</i> Hora and Law *	WG	VU	
<b>VII</b>	<b>Family: Siluridae</b>			
37	<i>Ompok bimaculatus</i> (Bloch)			Migratory
38	<i>Wallago attu</i> (Bloch & Schneider)			Migratory
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Family: Clariidae</b>			
39	<i>Clarias dussumieri dussumieri</i> Valenciennes *	WG		Migratory
<b>IX</b>	<b>Family: Heteropneustidae</b>			
40	<i>Heteropneustes fossilis</i> (Bloch)			Migratory
<b>X</b>	<b>Family: Belonidae</b>			
41	<i>Xenentodon cancila</i> (Hamilton)			
<b>XI</b>	<b>Family: Aplocheilidae</b>			
42	<i>Aplocheilus lineatus</i> (Valenciennes) *	WG		Migratory
<b>XII</b>	<b>Family: Synbranchidae</b>			
43	<i>Ophisternon bengalense</i> McClelland			Migratory
<b>XIII</b>	<b>Family : Mastacembelidae</b>			
44	<i>Mastacembelus armatus</i> (Lacepede)			Migratory

No	Species name	Endemism	IUCN category	Remarks
<b>XIV</b>	<b>Family: Chandidae</b>			
45	<i>Chanda nama</i> (Hamilton)			
46	<i>Parambassis dayi</i> (Bleeker) *	WG		
47	<i>Parambassis ranga</i> (Hamilton)			
48	<i>Parambassis thomassi</i> (Day) *	WG		
<b>XV</b>	<b>Family: Nandidae</b>			
49	<i>Nandus nandus</i> (Hamilton)			Migratory
50	<i>Pristolepis marginatus</i> Jerdon			Migratory
51	<i>Etrophus maculatus</i> (Bloch)			Migratory
52	<i>Etrophus suratensis</i> (Bloch)			Migratory
<b>XVI</b>	<b>Family: Gobiidae</b>			
53	<i>Glossogobius giuris</i> (Hamilton)			
<b>XVII</b>	<b>Family: Anabantidae</b>			
54	<i>Anabas testudineus</i> (Bloch)			Migratory
<b>XVIII</b>	<b>Family: Belontiidae</b>			
55	<i>Pseudosphromenus cupanus</i> (Cuvier)			Migratory
<b>XIX</b>	<b>Family: Channidae</b>			
56	<i>Channa diplogramme</i> (Day) *	WG		
57	<i>Channa gachua</i> Hamilton			Migratory
58	<i>Channa marulius</i> (Hamilton)			Migratory
59	<i>Channa striata</i> (Bloch)			Migratory
<b>XX</b>	<b>Family: Tetraodontidae</b>			
60	<i>Tetraodon travancoricus</i> (Hora and Nair) *	WG	VU	Migratory

Note: WG: Western Ghats; VU vulnerable; prepared by Dr. C. P. Shajee

### Annexure - 3

#### Avifauna of the Aranmula area

No.	Species	KNS	SAF
1	Little Greb ( <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> )	*	*
2	Little Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax niger</i> )	*	*
3	Indian Shag ( <i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i> )	*	*
4	Darter ( <i>Anhinga melanogaster</i> )	*	*
5	Little Egret ( <i>Egretta garzetta</i> )	*	*
6	Western Reef Egret ( <i>Egretta gularis</i> )	*	
7	Grey Heron ( <i>Ardea cinerea</i> )	*	*
8	Purple Heron ( <i>Ardea purpurea</i> )	*	*
9	Large Egret ( <i>Casmerodius alba</i> )	*	*
10	Median Egret ( <i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i> )	*	*
11	Cattle Egret ( <i>Bubulcus ibis</i> )	*	*
12	Indian Pond Heron ( <i>Ardeola grayii</i> )	*	*
13	Yellow Bittern ( <i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i> )	*	
14	Chestnut Bittern ( <i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i> )	*	
15	Black Bittern ( <i>Dupetor flavicollis</i> )	*	

No.	Species	KNS	SAF
16	Glossy Ibis ( <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> )	*	
17	Black-headed Ibis ( <i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i> )	*	
18	Asian Openbill ( <i>Anastomus oscitans</i> )		*
19	Lesser Whistling Teal ( <i>Dendrocygna javanica</i> )	*	*
20	Cotton Teal ( <i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i> )	*	*
21	Black-shouldered Kite ( <i>Elanus caeruleus</i> )		*
22	Black Kite ( <i>Milvus migrans</i> )		*
23	Brahminy Kite ( <i>Haliastur Indus</i> )	*	*
24	Western Marsh Harrier ( <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> )	*	*
25	Shikra ( <i>Accipiter badius</i> )	*	*
26	Sparrow-hawk ( <i>Accipiter</i> Sp)		*
27	Peregrine Falcon ( <i>Falco peregrinus</i> )	*	
28	White-breasted Waterhen ( <i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i> )	*	*
29	Ruddy-breasted Crake ( <i>Porzana fusca</i> )	*	
30	Watercock ( <i>Gallicrex cinerea</i> )	*	
31	Purple Swamphen ( <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i> )	*	*
32	Common Moorhen ( <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> )		*
33	Common Coot ( <i>Fulica atra</i> )		*
34	Bronze-winged Jacana ( <i>Metopidius indicus</i> )	*	*
35	Pacific Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis fulva</i> )	*	
36	Little Ringed Plover ( <i>Charadrius dubius</i> )	*	*
37	Red-wattled Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus indicus</i> )	*	*
38	Common Snipe ( <i>Gallinago gallinago</i> )	*	*
39	Green Sandpiper ( <i>Tringa ochropus</i> )	*	*
40	Marsh Sandpiper ( <i>Tringa stagnatilis</i> )		*
41	Wood Sandpiper ( <i>Tringa glareola</i> )	*	*
42	Common Sandpiper ( <i>Tringa hypoleucos</i> )	*	*
43	Black-winged Stilt ( <i>Himantopus himantopus</i> )	*	
44	River Tern ( <i>Sterna aurantia</i> )	*	*
45	Whiskered Tern ( <i>Chlidonias hybridus</i> )	*	*
46	Blue Rock Pigeon ( <i>Columba livia</i> )	*	*
47	Indian Hanging Parrot ( <i>Loriculus vernalis</i> )	*	*
48	Rose-ringed Parakeet ( <i>Psittacula krameri</i> )	*	*
49	Plum-headed Parakeet ( <i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i> )	*	
50	Pied Crested Cuckoo ( <i>Clamator jacobinus</i> )	*	
51	Asian Koel ( <i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i> )	*	*
52	Greater Coucal ( <i>Centropus sinensis</i> )	*	*
53	House Swift ( <i>Apus affinis</i> )	*	
54	Asian Palm Swift ( <i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i> )	*	*
55	Small Blue Kingfisher ( <i>Alcedo atthis</i> )	*	*
56	Stork-billed Kingfisher ( <i>Halcyon capensis</i> )	*	
57	White-breasted Kingfisher ( <i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i> )	*	*
58	Pied Kingfisher ( <i>Ceryle rudis</i> )	*	*
59	Green Bee-eater ( <i>Merops orientalis</i> )		*
60	Blue-tailed Bee-eater ( <i>Merops philippinus</i> )	*	*
61	Indian Roller ( <i>Coracias benghalensis</i> )	*	*
62	White-cheeked Barbet ( <i>Megalaima viridis</i> )	*	*
63	Lesser Golden-backed Woodpecker ( <i>Dinopium benghalense</i> )	*	*
64	Golden-fronted Leafbird ( <i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i> )		*
65	Brown Shrike ( <i>Lanius cristatus</i> )		*
66	Ashy Woodswallow ( <i>Artamus fuscus</i> )	*	*



No.	Species	KNS	SAF
67	Rufous Treepie ( <i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i> )	*	*
68	House Crow ( <i>Corvus splendens</i> )	*	*
69	Jungle Crow ( <i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i> )	*	*
70	Eurasian Golden Oriole ( <i>Oriolus oriolus</i> )	*	*
71	Black-hooded Oriole ( <i>Oriolus xanthornus</i> )	*	*
72	Black Drongo ( <i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i> )	*	*
73	Bronzed Drongo ( <i>Dicrurus aneus</i> )		*
74	Greater Racket-tailed drongo ( <i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i> )		*
75	Common Iora ( <i>Aegithina tiphia</i> )		*
76	Grey-headed Starling ( <i>Sturnus malabaricus malabaricus</i> )	*	
77	Rosy Starling ( <i>Sturnusroseus</i> )		*
78	Common Myna ( <i>Acridotheres tristis</i> )	*	*
79	Jungle Myna ( <i>Acridotheres fuscus</i> )	*	
80	Common Swallow ( <i>Hirundo rustica</i> )	*	
81	Red-rumped Swallow ( <i>Hirundo daurica</i> )	*	*
82	Wire-tailed Swallow ( <i>Hirundo smithii</i> )	*	
83	Oriental Magpie Robin ( <i>Copsychus saularis</i> )	*	*
84	Red-whiskered Bulbul ( <i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i> )		*
85	Red-vented Bulbul ( <i>Pycnonotus cafer</i> )	*	*
86	Streaked Fantail Warbler ( <i>Cisticola juncidis</i> )	*	*
87	Ashy Prinia ( <i>Prinia socialis</i> )	*	*
88	Blyth's Reed Warbler ( <i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i> )	*	*
89	Common Tailor Bird ( <i>Orthotomus sutorius</i> )	*	*
90	Greenish Leaf Warbler ( <i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i> )	*	*
91	Jungle Babbler ( <i>Turdoides striatus</i> )		*
92	Oriental Skylark ( <i>Alauda gulgula</i> )	*	*
93	Tickell's Flowerpecker ( <i>Dicaeum erythrorhynchos</i> )	*	*
94	Purple-rumped Sunbird ( <i>Nectarinia zeylonica</i> )	*	*
95	Purple Sunbird ( <i>Nectarinia asiatica</i> )	*	*
96	Forest Wagtail ( <i>Dendronanthus indicus</i> )	*	
97	Yellow Wagtail ( <i>Motacilla flava</i> )	*	*
98	Grey Wagtail ( <i>Motacilla cinerea</i> )	*	*
99	Paddyfield Pipit ( <i>Anthus rufulus</i> )	*	*
100	Baya Weaver ( <i>Ploceus philippinus</i> )	*	
101	White-rumped Munia ( <i>Lonchura striata</i> )	*	*
102	Spotted Munia ( <i>Lonchura punctulata</i> )	*	
103	Black-headed Munia ( <i>Lonchura malacca</i> )	*	
	Total	87	80

Note: No.4 & 17 are under Near Threatened category of IUCN

KNS= Kottayam Nature Society. (Count done as a part of Asian Waterfowl census on 13<sup>th</sup> DEC 2006). Team members: Dr. B. Sreekumar, Srinilayam, Near Union Club. Kottayam; Dr. N. Unnikrishnan, Chathattil house, Devalokom P. O. Kottayam; Karthik.S. Srinilayam, Near Union Club, Kottayam; Saju Vasan, Eruthikkal Parambil, Velloor PO. Kottayam ; Ajai. P., Poomthottathil House, Neelamperoor PO.

SAF: Sálím Ali Foundation. Team members: Dr. Lalitha Vijayan and Dr. V. S. Vijayan



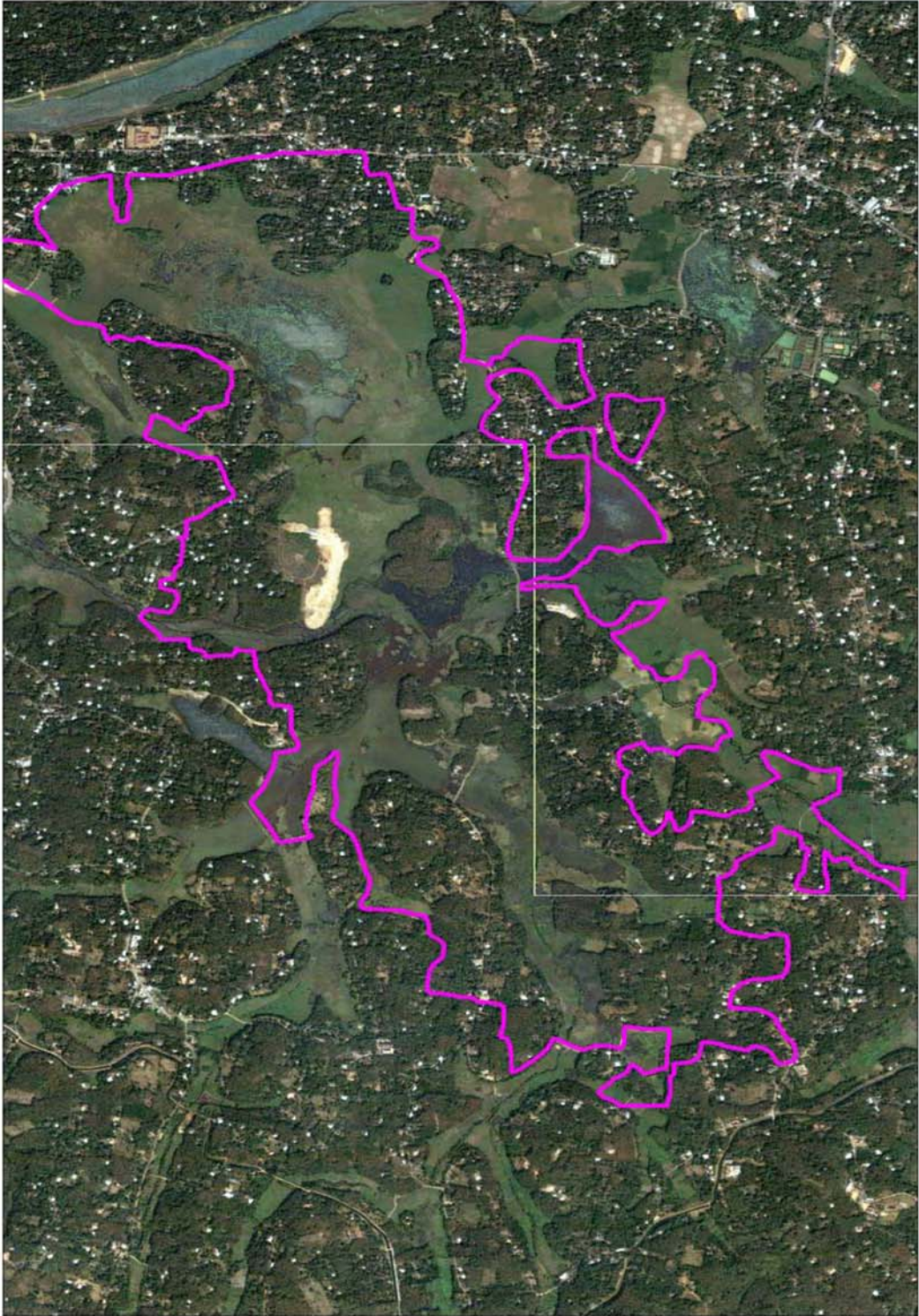


Fig. 2a. Land cover showing Industrial Area declared by the Government of Kerala

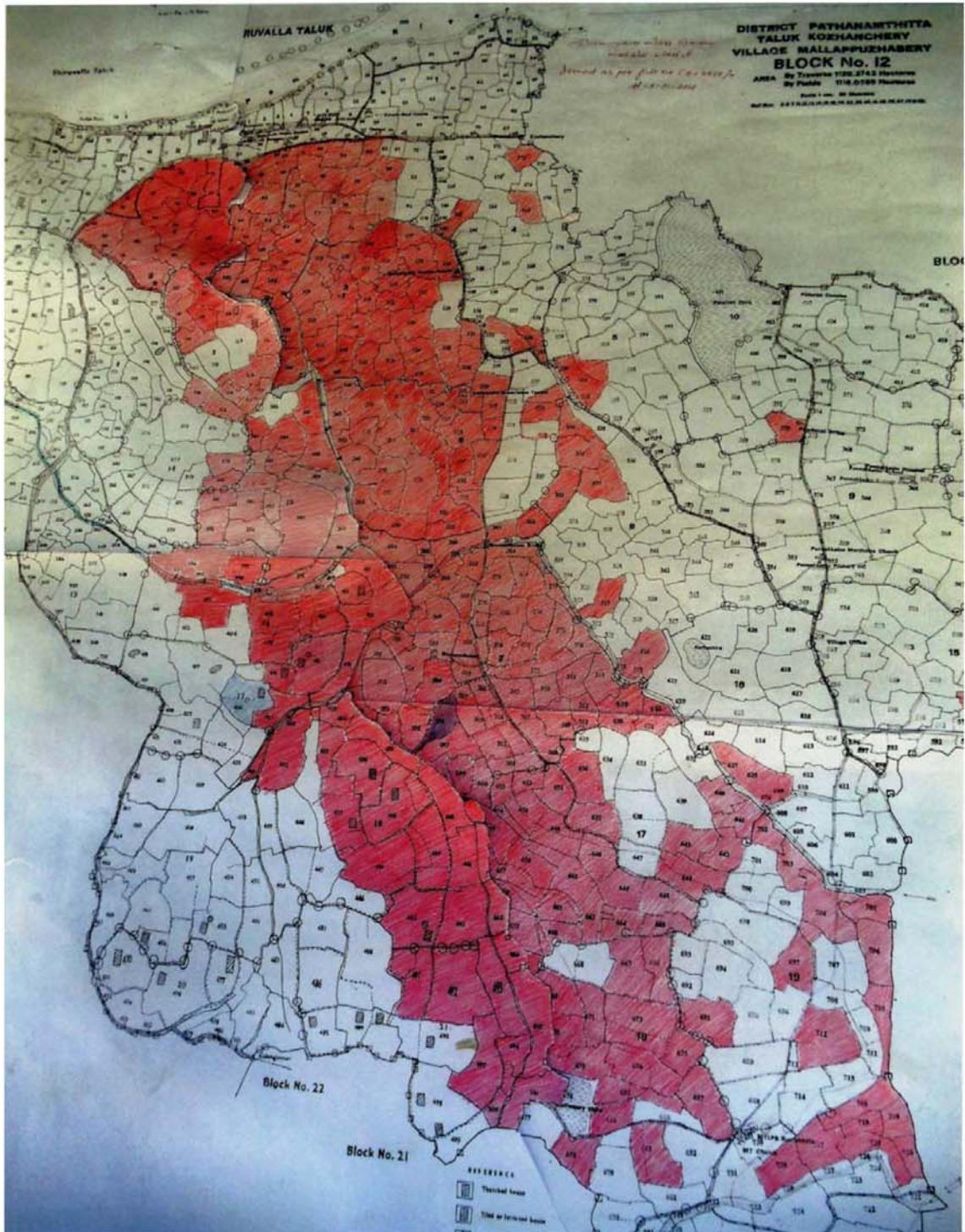


Fig. 2b. Industrial Area declared by Government of Kerala with Survey Numbers



Fig. 3 A view of the wetlands



Fig. 4. A view of the paddy land



Fig.5. A view of Kozhithodu



Fig. 6. A close view of Kozhithodu showing silt accumulation



Fig. 7 A view of the Valiyathodu with wetlands and paddy fields



Fig. 8 A view of the Valiyathodu with paddy lands on either side



Fig. 9 Another view of the Valiyathodu



Fig. 10. Reclaimed area with part of the hill bulldozed





Fig.11. Reclaimed area with rubber plantation at the rear



Fig. 12 Another view of the reclaimed area



Fig.13 Poster frequently seen in the area



Annexure 5

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT :-

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE J.B.KOSHY

&  
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE V.RAMKUMAR

THURSDAY, THE 24TH FEBRUARY 2005 / 5TH PHALGUNA, 1928

W.P.C.No. 3917 of 2005(H)

PETITIONER:

CHARITABLE EDUCATION SOCIETY,  
KOZHENCHERRY, PATHANAMTHITTA DISTRICT.  
REP. BY ITS CHAIRMAN, K.J.ABRAHAM.

BY ADV. SRI.T.S.JOHN  
SRI.M.S.RADHAKRISHNAN NAIR

RESPONDENTS:

1. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,  
PATHANAMTHITTA.
2. DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, PATHANAMTHITTA.
3. CIRCLE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, KOZHENCHERRY.
4. SUB INSPECTOR OF POLICE, ARAMMULA.
5. KERALA STATE KARSAKATHOZHILALI UNION  
(K.S.K.T.U.), REP. BY ITS DISTRICT SECRETARY,  
K.S.K.T.U. OFFICE, PATHANAMTHITTA DISTRICT.
6. K.K.SIVANANDAN, KOTTACKAKAM,  
EDAYARANMULA P.O., PATHANAMTHITTA DISTRICT.
7. M.T.DAMODARAN, KOTTACKAKAM,  
EDAYARANMULA P.O.
8. P.D.MOHANAN, PANAMTHOTTATHIL,  
EDAYARANMULA P.O.
9. V.C.CHELLAPPAN, THURUTHIMALA,  
EDAYARANMULA P.O.
10. AJAYAKUMAR, POIKAYIL,  
EDASSERYMALA, ARAMMULA.

R1 TO R4 BY SR.G.P.SRI.G.SURARSHAN  
R5 TO R10 BY ADV. SRI.V.N.ACHUTHA KURUP

THIS WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) HAVING BEEN FINALLY  
HEARD ON 24/02/2005, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY DELIVERED  
THE FOLLOWING:

**Annexure 5 contd.**

J.B.KOSHY & V.RAMKUMAR, JJ.

W.P (C) No.3917 of 2005

Date: 24th February 2005

JUDGMENT

Koshy, J.

According to the petitioner, they want to start a Flying School and Aeronautical Engineering College. For that purpose, they have purchased large extent of property which includes 90 acres of paddy fields as well as 30 acres of rubber plantations. According to the contesting respondents they have no objection in doing any construction work in the rubber plantations or garden land. Their only objection is in making any construction in the paddy field without getting statutory clearance.

2. In the above circumstances, police protection should be given to the petitioner for doing their work in the garden land and rubber plantations. For conducting survey in paddy field, no obstruction should be caused and police protection should be given for the

Annexure 5 contd.

:: 2 ::

No.3917 of 2005

same. However, any building activities or development activities can be done in the paddy field only if they have got statutory clearance.



The writ petition is disposed of accordingly.

Sd/-  
J.B.KOSHY  
Judge

Sd/-  
V.RAMKUMAR  
Judge

tk's

1/1 true copy

2  
Sd/-

True Copy

*Handwritten signature*  
Brendine

Annexure 6



കേരള സർക്കാർ

സംഗ്രഹം

വ്യവസായ വകുപ്പ്- പത്തനംതിട്ട ജില്ലയിലെ ആറന്മുളയിലെ ഗ്രീൻഫീൽഡ് എയർപോർട്ട്-കമ്പോളിൽ അർബിട്രേഷൻ ഉൾക്കൊണ്ട് പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കുന്നു.

വ്യവസായ (ബി).വകുപ്പ്  
 സ.ഉ (സാധ) നം. 1262/2010/വ്യവ തീയതി, 08.09.10, തിരുവനന്തപുരം

പരാമർശം : 1. ചീഫ് ഓപ്പറേറ്റിംഗ് ഓഫീസർ, കെ ജി എസ് ആറന്മുള എയർപോർട്ട് ലിമിറ്റഡ് ന്റെ 12/04/2010 ലെ 3230/കെജിഎസ് അറന്മുള എയർപോർട്ട് നം. കത്ത.

2. മാനേജിംഗ് ഡയറക്ടർ, കിൻഫ്ര യുടെ 11/06/2010 തീയതിയിലെ KIN/MDO-17109-10 നമ്പർ കത്ത്.

ഉത്തരവ്

രണ്ടായിരം കോടി രൂപയുടെ മുതൽമുടക്കും, 500 ഏക്കർ സ്ഥല പ്രദാനം ചെയ്യുന്ന പരിസ്ഥിതിക്കിണങ്ങുന്ന ഒരു വിമാനത്താവളമാണ് പത്തനംതിട്ട ജില്ലയിലെ ആറന്മുള പ്രദേശത്തെ ഗ്രീൻഫീൽഡ് എയർപോർട്ട് വിഭാവനം ചെയ്യുന്നത്. പ്രത്യക്ഷമായി 1500 പേർക്കും പരോക്ഷമായി 6000 പേർക്കും തൊഴിൽ നൽകാൻ കഴിയുമെന്നും ഈ ബൃഹദ് പദ്ധതി പൂർത്തിയാകുമ്പോൾ പത്തനംതിട്ട, കോട്ടയം ഇടുക്കി, ആലപ്പുഴ എന്നീ ജില്ലകളിലെ വിനോദസഞ്ചാരം, തീർത്ഥാടനം, വാണിജ്യ തുടങ്ങിയ മേഖലകളിലെല്ലാം വൻകുതിച്ചു ചാട്ടം സാദ്ധ്യമാകുമെന്നും അതുവഴി സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെയും, തദ്ദേശ ഭരണ സ്ഥാപനത്തിന്റെയും റവന്യൂ വരുമാനത്തിന് ഗണ്യമായ വർദ്ധനവുണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ കഴിയുമെന്നും, കൂടാതെ മദ്ധ്യ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ പ്രവാസി ജനതയ്ക്ക് ഈ പദ്ധതി പ്രത്യേകിച്ചും പ്രയോജനപ്രദമായിരിക്കും എന്ന പരാമർശം ഒന്ന് കത്തിൽ സൂചിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. പദ്ധതിക്കാവശ്യമായ 500 ഏക്കർ ഭൂമിയ്ക്ക് 350 ഏക്കർ കമ്പനി തന്നെ നേരിട്ട് ഭൂമി ഉടമകളിൽ നിന്നും വാങ്ങിയിട്ടു എയർപോർട്ടിന്റെ പ്രാരംഭ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾ തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

**Annexure 6 contd..**

2. പദ്ധതിയുടെ നടത്തിപ്പിനുമുമ്പ് പദ്ധതിപരിധിയിൽ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളത് പറയുന്ന ക്ഷേത്രങ്ങൾക്കാണ് പരാമർശം ഒന്നിൽ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളത് :


1. എയർപോർട്ടിനു വേണ്ടി നിരാക്ഷേപ പത്രം (NOC) നൽകുക;
2. അധികഭൂമി കൈവശം വയ്ക്കുന്നതു സംബന്ധിച്ച സീലിംഗ് നിയമത്തിൽ (Land Reforms Act, 1963 ) നിന്നും കമ്പനിയെ ഒഴിവാക്കുക;
3. 2008 ലെ കേരള നെൽത്തട തണ്ണീർ സംരക്ഷണ നിയമത്തിൽ (Kerala Paddy Field and Wet Land Conservation Act, 2008)- ൽ നിന്നും ഇളവു നൽകുക.
4. ഭൂമി ഏറ്റെടുക്കൽ നിയമത്തിനു കീഴിൽ 150 ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലം പദ്ധതിക്കായി ഏറ്റെടുത്തു നൽകുക.

3. പ്രസ്തുത പ്രോജക്ട് പ്രൊപ്പോസൽ സർക്കാർ വിശദമായി പരിശോധിച്ചതിന്റെ അടിസ്ഥാനത്തിൽ താഴെപറയും പ്രകാരം ഉത്തരവ് പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കുന്നു.

പത്തനാതിട്ട ജില്ലയിലെ ആറന്മുളയിൽ തുടങ്ങാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന ശ്രീനീഹീൽഡ് എയർപോർട്ടിന് നിലവിലുള്ള നിയമ വ്യവസ്ഥകൾക്ക് വിധേയമായി മാത്രം സ്വന്തം നിലയിൽ ഭൂമി കണ്ടെത്തേണ്ടതാണെന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥയിൽ തയ്യാറായി അംഗീകാരം നൽകുന്നു.

ഗവർണ്ണറുടെ ഉത്തരവിൻ പ്രകാരം  
(ഒപ്പ്/-)  
ശ്രീ. ബാലകൃഷ്ണൻ  
അഡീഷണൽ ചീഫ് സെക്രട്ടറി

1. ചീഫ് ഓപ്പറേറ്റിംഗ് ഓഫീസർ, കെ ജി എസ് ആറന്മുള എയർപോർട്ട് ലിമിറ്റഡ്, കെ ജി എസ് കോർപ്പറേറ്റ് ഹൗസ്, 43 ബസന്റ് അവന്യൂ റോഡ്, അഡയാർ, ചെന്നൈ
2. വ്യവസായ (ജെ) വകുപ്പ്
3. പൊതുഭരണ (എസ് സി) വകുപ്പ്, (vide item no. 4880)
4. സ്റ്റോക്ക് ഫയൽ
5. ഓഫീസ് കോപ്പി

ഉത്തരവിൻ പ്രകാരം  
  
സെക്ഷൻ ഓഫീസർ



## Annexure 7

**RAJYA SABHA 04.08.2011**

• RTI • FAQ • Sitemap • Hindi site

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
COUNCIL OF STATES



You are here: [Home](#) [Business](#) [Questions](#) [Search Questions](#) [Question](#)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
**QUESTION NO 70**  
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2011

### PRIVATE AIRPORT AT ARANMULA.

70 PROF. P.J. KURIAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether a proposal for establishing a private airport at Aranmula has been received by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether final approval for the project has been given; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor, and the time frame by which Government proposes to give clearance to the project?

### **ANSWER**

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION ( SHRI VAYALAR RAVI )

(a), (b), (c) & (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to parts (a), (b), (c) & (d) of the Rajya Sabha Starred ( ) Question No. 70 for 04.08.2011 regarding Private airport at Aranmula.

(a): Yes, Sir. (b): M/s KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd. had submitted a proposal to the Government of India for grant of 'site clearance' for setting up of an International Airport at Aranmula-Pathanamthitta district in Kerala.

(c): The proposal was examined in consultation with Ministry of Defence and Airports Authority of India (AAI) and was not agreed to for site clearance. (d): Does not arise.

Annexure 8



रक्षा मंत्री  
भारत  
MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
INDIA

DO No.19 (79)/11-D (N-II/Ops)/669/361-F/RM/2011 20 January, 2011

Dear Shri Anto Antony,

This has reference to your letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2011 regarding grant of Defence clearance for Greenfield Airport at Aranmula in Pathanamthitta District, Kerala.

2. You would recall that through my letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2010 I had conveyed that this matter was examined in the Ministry and it was found that since the establishment of Greenfield Airport at Aranmula would result in imposing severe restrictions on the availability of airspace for conduct of military flying at Naval Air Station INS Garuda at Kochi, it was not possible to agree for NOC from Ministry of Defence.

3. In view of the suggested change, Naval HQs has been asked to re-examine the matter in consultation with Southern Naval Command at Kochi.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(A.K. Antony)

Shri Anto Antony  
Member of Parliament  
90, South Avenue  
New Delhi-110 011

