

# NOTIFICATION OF ERAVIKULAM-RAJAMALAI SANCTUARY

(Kerala Gazette No.14 dated 8<sup>th</sup> April 1975)

PART I

Section IV

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Agriculture (Forest Misc.) Department

## NOTIFICATION

No.8907/FM-3/75/AD Dated, Trivandrum 31<sup>st</sup> March 1975

S.R.O. No.325/75.—Whereas the Government of Kerala consider that the area, the situation and limits of which are specified in the schedule below, is of adequate ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological, natural and zoological significance;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub section (1) of section 18 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, (Central Act 53 of 1972) the Government of Kerala hereby declare the said area to be a Sanctuary, to be known as the Eravikulam-Rajamally Sanctuary for the purpose of protecting, propagating and developing wildlife and its environment.

### SCHEDULE

Situation and Limits of the said area

North: The boundary commences from the point where the K.D.H.P. Village boundary meets the inter-state boundary between Kerala and Tamil Nadu at point 5540' (1689 m). From that point the boundary runs along the inter-state boundary passing through peaks with altitude of 3984' (1214 m), 5011' (1527 m) 5885' (1794 m) and 7388' (2252 m) to Parattumala 7033' (2144 m). Thence turning south-east the boundary reaches Kumarikkal malai 8273' (2522 m).

East: Thence the boundary follows the K.D.H.P. Village boundary along the ridge through Kattumalai 8373' (2552 m) and then to Perumalmala 7726' (2355 m) till it reaches Tirumudi 5676' (1830 m).

South: Thence the boundary follows the western boundary of Chattamanar estate (Thaliar group), Northern boundaries of Vagavurrai and Nyamakad estates to meet the K.D.H.P Village boundary about 3 km. south west of Rajamala peak 7209' (2197 m).

East: Thence the boundary follows the K.D.H.P. Village boundary to Rajamalai 7209' (2197 m) and thence along that boundary and ridge, up to Umayamala 8001' (2439 m) passing through Anamudi 8841' (2695m). Thence it runs along the K.D.H.P. villages boundary to Sambamalai 7581' (2311 m) and thence to Bhima Malai 4719' (1438 m) and from there turns in a north-east direction to Kolukkumalai 7137' (2175 m) and then proceeds in a northerly direction to the starting point at 5540' (1689 m) passing through Erumai malai 7495' (2284 m) and Erumalpettimalai 6999' (2133 m).

By Order of the Governor

T.R.SUKUMARAN NAIR

Additional Secretary

### **Explanatory Note**

The necessity of declaring the Eravikulam-Rajamally area as a Game Sanctuary was pointed out by the State Chief Conservator of Forests, based on a recommendation of the Wildlife Board that such a declaration would be highly essential to preserve the Wildlife in the area, in general and especially

the Nilgiri Tahr, a rare animal vanishing at an alarming rate due to indiscriminate shooting by people. Requests urging speedy action for the above declaration were received by Government from different corners, including the Government of India. The area in question is of adequate ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological, natural and zoological, significance. In consideration of all the above aspects, Government consider it absolutely necessary to declare the said area as a 'Game Sanctuary' under section 18 (i) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972; and this notification is intended to achieve the above project.

### **External Boundaries**

Corporate estates, reserved forests and Protected Areas bound the Park on all sides. The boundary description is as follows:

**North:** The boundary commence from the point where the Kannan Devan Hills Produce Village boundary meets the interstate boundary between Kerala and Tamil Nadu at point 5540' (1689m). From that point the boundary runs along the interstate boundary passing through peaks with altitude of 3984' (1214m), 5011' (1527m), 5885' (1794m) and 7388' (2252m) to Perattumala 7033' (2144m). Thence turning south-east the boundary reaches Kumarikkal Mala 8275' (2522m).

**East:** The boundary follows the Kannan Devan Hill Produce Village boundary along the ridge through Kattumalai 8373' (2552m) and then to Perumalmai 7726' (2355m) till it reaches Tirumudi (5676' (1830m)).

**South:** The boundary follows the western boundary of Chattamunnar Estate (Thalayar group), northern boundaries of Vaguvurrai and Nayamakkadu Estate to meet the Kannan Devan Hill Produce Village boundary about 3 km south west of Rajamala peak 7209' (2197m).

**West:** The boundary follows the Kannan Devan Hill Produce Village boundary to Rajamala 7209' (2197m) and then turning north-east, the boundary reaches Sambamalai 7581' (2311 m) and thence to Bhimamalai

4719' (1438m) and from there turns in a north-east direction to Kolukkumalai, 7137' (2175 m) and thence proceeds in north direction to the starting point at 5540' (1689m) passing through Erumamalai, 7496' (2284 m) and Erumapetti malai, 6999' (2133 m).

The boundary notification is vague in some areas where the distinction between National Park, reserve forests and tea estates is not clear enough. The boundaries along the south-western part, where two fingerlike protrusions extent to the west on either sides of the Rajamallay/ Pettimudi Divisions of Neymakkad Tea Estate, still remain vague. For the rest of the Park, the boundaries are clear and demarcated. On the south-eastern boundary between Lakkom Kudy and Chattamunnar, a small portion (about 5 ha) has been under occupation ever since the inception of the Park.

Since the notification follows the ridges, the ecological boundaries extend into the surrounding forest areas of Munnar Division, namely Anaimudi and Kudakkad Reserves.

### **Internal Boundaries**

At present, the Park is not properly divided into Sections and Beats.  
*The entire area is under Chattamunnar Forest Station.*