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TNM impact: ST commission takes suo motu action against illegal land sale in Attappady

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) started the enquiry based on a ground report by The News Minute about the large scale land alienation and grabbing that is going on in Attappady.



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The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) has taken suo motu action against land alienation and illegal land sale in the Attappady tribal region of Kerala's Palakkad district. NCST started the enquiry based on a ground report filed by The News Minute about the large scale land alienation and grabbing in Attappady. Referring to the TNM article "[In Kerala's Attappady, illegal sale of protected tribal lands continues unhindered](#)," an NCST notification said, "a news item dated 1.07.2022 on the subject mentioned above has been received by this commission and this commission has taken suo motu cognisance in this matter and decided to investigate it."

In a notice dated June 6, 2023 addressed to the Kerala Chief Secretary VP Joy, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Bennichan Thomas, and other concerned officials, the NCST had demanded an explanation on the issue.

TNM had reported that a major part of the land in Attappady is disputed and the lands that the tribal communities claim are theirs are now owned by other immigrants. The Adivasi people of the area assert that the documents owned by these immigrants, proving their authority over these lands, were fabricated with the help of government officials.