

**Title: Reg: Exclusion of Angel Valley of Erumely Panchayat from the forest land and Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR)**

**SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMTHITTA):** I request the Government to take urgent steps to exclude Angel Valley of Erumely Grama Panchayat, Kottayam District from the Periyar Tiger Reserve. According to the recent notification issued as per the direction of the Hon?ble Supreme Court, the area comes under forest land and is included in Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR). Before Independence, the Government of Thirukochi gave approval for using the land for cultivation under the ?Grow More Food? Scheme to overcome the food shortage in 1945. Therefore, people started cultivation and settlement in these places well before the declaration of the Wildlife Protection Act in 1972. As per Government Order GO(P)289/69/Agri. dated 07/06/1968, Angel Valley (Pampa Valley) was exempted from forest land, and after that, the PTR came into existence in 1978. The UDF Government in Kerala, granted Pattayam for nearly 502 hectares of land to 1200 households. Most of the people are farmers, living for more than 70 years are facing evacuation. I request the Government to take immediate steps to exclude Angel Valley of Erumely Panchayat from the forest land and the PTR at the earliest.