

regulated tourism that will be environment-friendly and ecologically sustainable. The land mafia that systematically grabbed lands from small patta assignees or / and encroached on public lands, should be evicted from there. Government needs to realise that if the area loses its picturesque beauty and pristine serenity, no tourists would visit the place. If planned professionally, the Tourism sector in the State can make huge gains by protecting and showcasing this area, the Western Ghat's heartland, the Shola forests and the rare Neelakurinji tract. [Action: Tourism Dept.]

10. Allowing transfer of land through Power of Attorney should not be permitted and should be totally banned especially within the statutory alienation period in the case of assigned lands. As will be evident from the Revenue records, in many cases, even though the initial transfer is through Power of Attorney, this gets converted into an eligible transfer based on which Revenue Department even carries out mutation. The extent of misuse of Power of Attorney is extensive and the *modus operandi* should be understood by the Government and corrective action taken. Hence, transfer of land through Power of Attorney during the statutory non-alienation period of assigned lands may be totally banned. An important advice to the verifying officials: just by collecting the details of registered Power of Attorneys executed at SROs of Devikulam and surrounding SROs, transferring the possession of assigned land by Tamil migrants to the present land holders / predecessors after 1993, the entire land grabbing details and the persons involved can be easily traced out. [Action: Registration Dept. and Revenue Dept.]
11. The leasing of Revenue lands by the Forest Department for the paper industry or for any other purpose should be discontinued. Where the lease is still in vogue, the Lease Agreement should be made tripartite