

safeguard the basic Doctrines of land governance. **The Committee was not expected to take corrective measures as these measures fall within the statutory responsibilities of different authorities, empowered under the various laws, primarily under the Kerala Land Assignment Act, 1960, the Survey and Boundaries Act, 1961 and the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.** This Committee was required to lay down the set of actions that need to be taken to bring some extent of order in land administration in the areas concerned.

The recommendations made in this document towards the maintenance of land records and protection of public lands, if implemented, could still lead to the possibility of protecting public lands, including sanctuaries and thus setting an example for not just Idukki District but for the entire State.

2. A BRIEF ACCOUNT ON LAND DETAILS OF VATTAVADA AND KOTTAKAMBOOR VILLAGES

Vattavada and Kottakamboor villages are part of the erstwhile Anchunadu area that were surveyed and assessed as a separate hill circuit, way back in early 1900, leaving a large swathe of unassessed lands between the cadastral limits of the Anchunadu hill circuit and Tamil Nadu boundary on the Eastern side and KDH village boundary on the Western side. These 'no man's lands' which were unassessed were mostly revenue Poromboke or Tharisu as per Section 3(2) of the Kerala Land Conservancy Act, 1957 and small portions were covered by different notifications under various forest laws.