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To
The Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Government of India, Pratiyaman Bhawan, New Delhi

Sir,

Sub:- Destruction of ~~the~~ forests by the Forest Department in Kerala.

We are writing this letter to bring to your kind attention two of the latest instances of destruction of forest by the Kerala Forest Department itself. It happens in the North Wayanad Forest Division in Nayanad district of Kerala.

1. High altitude areas in the Western Ghats have a unique ecosystem called Shola-grassland. Shola-grasslands harbour a large number of ~~species~~ endemic and endangered species of ~~flora~~ flora and fauna, including the Nilgiri Tahr, Liontailed Macaque, Nilgiri Langur, and Nilgiri Martin.

The Kerala Forest Department is ~~constructing~~ constructing 5 cottages each in the Shola-grasslands of Brahmagiri and Muneestharam Mudi in the North Wayanad Forest Division in Nayanad district for use as ~~resort~~ tourist resorts. They have already constructed the buildings ~~covered by~~ surrounded by wire fencing in the habitat of ~~elephant~~ ^{gaur} elephants and tigers. They have also constructed jeepable roads to these hills ^{using 4x4}. This is a flagrant violation of:

(a) the guide line of MOEF and CC for ecotourism that no new constructions should be ~~taken~~ made inside reserve forests;

Snowy Egret (American)

Australasian swamphen
(Prophyro melanotos)

occurs in eastern Indonesia,
the Moluccas, Am and Kai Islands,
as well as in Papua New Guinea
and Australia. It is also found
in New Zealand, where it is
known as ~~Pie~~ Pūketo, a term
derived Māori language.

The A. Swamphen used to be
considered as a subspecies of
Purple Swamphen.

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