

## **Inspection report of Divisional Forest Officer Kasaragod – Construction of Cherupuzha-Kozhichal hill high way**

I have inspected the proposed site of Cherupuzha- Kolichal reach of Hill High way passing through the Forest Area of Kanhangad Range on 02.02.2021. The total length of road passing through the forest area is 2780m. The proposed road is having a width of 12m inside the forest. The total area of the required forest for Hill High Way can be classified into three reaches based on the area and type of forest.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Reach**

The first reach is for 1040 m and going through the boundary of Maruthom Mala Vested Forest (VFC item No. 50) starting from Elephant wall in Maruthom Section. The forest is on the left side of the proposed road. The forest type is semi-evergreen. 7 (seven) trees are to be felled in the reach. Rocky outcrops are there along the widening portion at slopes of 30 to 40 degree which will have to be cut or removed. To avoid landslides proper side protection methods are to be adopted in the area. Cutting and removal of rocks will result in further sliding of the forest soil which have to be arrested using retaining walls or other effective engineering measures. The Maruthom tribal colony is on the downhill side of this proposed site. Hence, the safety of people living around the project area has to be taken very seriously.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reach**

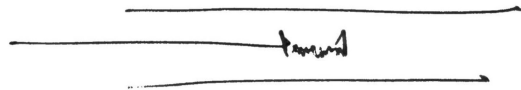
The second reach of the proposed length inside the forest passes through the Popular Estate (VFC Item No.46) and the length is for 1240m. Both sides are forest and composed of mainly moist deciduous forest type. Rocky outcrops are there along the widening portion at slopes of 30 to 40 degree which will have to be cut or removed. Cutting and removal of rocks will result in further sliding of the forest soil which have to be arrested with retaining walls or other effective engineering measures. A total of 3 (three) trees are to be cut and removed for the project. A water fall comes at 600m. The required forest area is from uphill side (the left side) and the downhill side (right side) is very steep.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Reach**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> reach of the proposed project inside the forest passes through Kavunthala Vested Forest under Bheemanady Section. This site is around 10 km far from the 2<sup>nd</sup> reach. The total length of the road is 500m starting from

Kattamakavala to Kavunthala Junction. The forest type is moist deciduous predominately of *Xylia xylocarpa*. As per the surveyed points for the road widening, there are 21 No. of forest trees is to be removed. No rocky patches are noticed.

The total length of road is 2780 in 3 reaches. The total number of 31 trees are to be removed for this project and 5 number of jundas (cairns) will be damaged in the road widening. The total area required for diversion is 0.64148Ha. The vegetation type varies from semi evergreen to moist deciduous and has dense canopy



Divisional Forest Officer  
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