Site Inspection Report

I have inspected the proposed site for Construction of Jio Digital Fiber underground OFC Cable from **Karkala to Agumbe** through Reserve Forest in various village of Udupi and Shivamogga District on 21-02-2022.

The proposed area falls under both Kundapur territorial division and Kudremukh wildlife Division, Karkala. However, the proposed area falls under the Non Forest area in Kukkundoor, Hirgana, Marne, Varnga Village of Karkala Taluk and Mudradi, Hebri & Nadapalu Village of Hebri Taluk. which doesn't come under Reserve Forest in the Jurisdiction of Kundapur Division. Whereas the proposed area falls under Reserved Forest in Kudremukh wildlife Division, Karkala.

During inspection, the required linear project area applied under Forest Conservation Act 1980, runs along the alignment of State Highway (from point Bachappu[N13.45030, E75.01962] to point Kaikamba [N13.47559, E75.02699]) and then along the alignment of National Highway 169A (from point Kaikamba [N13.47559, E75.02699] to point Agumbe [N13.50013, E75.88359]) of Kudremukh wildlife Division, Karkala, within the used width limits of the said road. Upon inspection it is found that the project doesn't require removal of any trees. Once the work is completed the area remains undisturbed and there is no lasting negative impact of the project. The impact is limited and restricted to the installation phase. Since the land required by the project (for laying optical fiber cable is all along a public highway the impacts to forest is minimal.

The project will improve the mobile and internet connectivity of the region which is essential for its overall development. It is an important project with least impact on Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary. It is recommended that the forest land of extent is 0.36 ha., that is the total length of 12Km and 0.3 wide may be diverted for the project.

Hence, the proposal may be considered for clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 with recommendation of Construction of Jio Digital Fiber underground OFC Cable from Karkala to Agumbe through Reserve Forest in various village of Udupi and Shivamogga District, with conditions noted by Deputy Conservator of Forests, Kudremukh wildlife Division, Karkala in his recommendation.

Chief Conservator of Forests, Mangaluru Circle, Mangaluru.

Date: 07.03.2022 Place: Mangalore