

## **SITE INSPECTION REPORT**

I along with Assistant Conservator of Forests, Karwar Sub-division, Range Forest Officer, Karwar, Range Forest Officer, Survey duty, Karwar, field staff, and User Agency inspected the proposed diversion of 8.80388 ha. of forest land in F.Sy.No: 52A1A of Agra Village, Karwar Range, Karwar Division in favour of M/s. Ramashree Construction Company, Kodibag, Karwar taluka, Uttar Kannada District. The following observations were made during the site inspection:-

- 1) There is a proposal for diversion of 8.80388 ha. of forest land in Agra village Forest Sy.No. 52A1A and 0.455 ha. non forest land in Sy.No. 52A2A for establishing stone quarrying, dumping yard and approach road.
- 2) The proposed land is situated in Agra F.Sy.No. 52A1A in Karwar Range, Karwar Division.
- 3) The proposed land is Reserve Forest notified as per Notification No:8608 dated: 07-01-1896
- 4) The said land is rocky terrain which is degraded and 230 mtr. away from NH-66(17).
- 5) There is hard granitic formation in the proposed area.
- 6) There are no tree growth in the proposed area. Only bushes are there which is exposed toward western side.
- 7) In Agra Forest Sy.No. 52A1A 0.494 ha. was diverted to the same User Agency as per Stage-II order of GOI No:4-KRB-754/2010-BAN/1531 dated: 13-07-2012 and GOK No: FEE-160-FFM-2010 dated: 13-08-2012 from with the lease period from 2012-13 to 2022-23.
- 8) There was a re-diversion of 0.051 ha. for the expansion of NH-66(17) in Goa-Karnataka Border-Kundapur Section as per GOI Order No: F.No. 4-KRA-973/2013-BAN/698 dated: 07-10-2020 and GOK Order No: APJ/37/FLL/2020 dated: 07-11-2020.
- 9) Because of re-diversion of forest land to NH-66(17) there is issue of safe distance from National Highway which may lead to closure of quarrying. Even though there is a lease period till 2022-23, the safe zone prevents the quarrying.
- 10) A report was submitted by User Agency which was obtained from Dr. V.R.Sastry, Professor of Mining Engineering, National Institute of Technology (NIT), Karnataka, Surathkal, Government of India on the assessment of the impact of blasting operation carried out in proposed stone quarry area. As per the report "the ground vibrations generated from blasting operations in the newly proposed stone quarry in Forest Survey No. 52A1A will not have any impact on the stability of rock slope

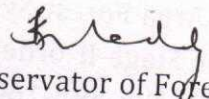


towards the National Highway-66. Similarly, the ground vibrations generated due to blasting operations to be carried out in the newly proposed stone quarry will not have any effect on the stability on NH-66, as the intensity of ground vibrations is dying down to insignificant levels from 100m distance from blast site. Also, there is a hard rock barrier of about 230m width between the newly proposed stone quarry and the NH-66. Moreover, the rock formation itself presents a favourable slope condition (from stone quarry side) due to the joint orientation favourable for stable slopes. The slope study analysis carried out clearly indicated extremely safe rock slope conditions. Blasting operation carried out with 32 mm diameter blastholes of 1.5 m depth and, electric short delay detonator system of initiation are quite safe. Blast results were good and very safe from viewpoints of ground vibrations, noise and fly rock, and will not cause any instability to the NH-66 and the adjoining rock slopes".

- 11) Uttara Kannada District has around 80% area under forest, hence there is no revenue land and/or private land suitable for stone quarrying. The letter obtained from the Deputy Commissioner, Uttara Kannada District is perused.
- 12) There is a huge demand of stone for developmental works like road construction, building construction in Uttara Kannada District.

Considering above observations, I recommend for the diversion of 8.80388 ha. of forest land in Arga F.Sy.No:52A1A to the User Agency for establishing stone quarrying, dumping yard and its approach road as per provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Place: Karwar  
Date: 24-09-2021

 24.09.21  
Deputy Conservator of Forests,  
Karwar Division, Karwar.