## Justification of locating the project in forest land

The Nilgiris District Headquarters Hospital is situated at Udhagamandalam, which is a 421 bedded hospital. It is <u>the first referral centre</u> for the district and caters to a population of nearly seven lakhs fifty thousand of Nilgiris district and the vast floating population of tourists. On an average, 750 to 800 people are treated as outpatients and 50 to 60 cases are being admitted for inpatient treatment, 150 to 160 deliveries are conducted per month out of which nearly 90 to 100 are caesarean deliveries.

The Nilgiris is one of the famous tourist destination and so heavy vehicular traffic is present especially in summer and second season and huge number of road traffic accidents occur. Nearly 60 to 70 Road Traffic Accident cases are admitted at Ooty GH per month. Man animal conflicts in the Nilgiris District are also on the rise and nearly 4 to 5 cases Of bison, bear or elephant attack are being admitted every month.

Every month around 8 to 10 Cerebro Vascular accident and 8 to 10 Myocardial lschemia( Heart Attack) cases and 20 to 25 poisoning and 2 to 3 snake bite cases are being admitted for treatment in the Intensive care Unit. Around 45 chronic kidney failure patients are undergoing maintanence dialysis in the dialysis unit

The health care of the public of the Nilgiris District is hampered due to non availability of adequate specialists like Cardiologists, Physicians, Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Anaesthetists and Neurosurgeons, Nephrologists, Oncologists, radiologists and gastroenterologists. Due to this we are left with no other alternative choice but to refer the cases to higher centers in Coimbatore, Mysore or Kerala which takes nearly 3 to 4 hours travel time from Udhagamandalam. Lot of precious time is wasted in travel when the patients are referred to higher centers which leads to more mortality.

Many lives of pregnant mothers and Infants are lost due to the travel time during referral. During monsoon times this travel time becomes more' due to disruption of road traffic due to tree falls and landslides. A long standing demand of the public of The Nilgiris District is to establish a medical College in the Nilgiris District which would take care of lot of these issues. Since 30 to 40 percent Of cases admitted in GH Ooty and other taluk hospitals in this district are referred to higher centers for want of specialist, equipments or facilities the establishment of a government medical College in Nilgiris District will enhance the chances of getting more specialists, infrastructure and equipments for the district and reduce the referral of cases to other centers and thereby <u>reducing the Infant mortality</u>, <u>Maternal mortality</u> and general Mortality rates. It would greatly <u>reduce the OOPE(Out Of Pocket</u> <u>Expenditure) of the people</u>, <u>thereby improving their quality of life</u>. It would also help the students of the district study medicine in their locality.

And there is no <u>alternate land is available inside the mandated 10km</u> radius from the headquarters hospital for construction of New Government medical college, which is duly is certified by the District administration, so forest land is required for establishment of New Government Medical College.

10/19 Joint Director of Health Services The Nilgiris@ Udhagamandalam.