

Information

Matheran, the smallest hill station in the Northern Western Ghats of Maharashtra is about 7.2sq.km in area. The word Matheran means 'forest' (ran) on the 'head' (mathe). It is experiencing the impacts of large scale and unplanned tourism and related development. It is located between Mumbai-Pune urban belt and situated at a distance of about 64 km South-East of Mumbai (Karjat Taluka, District Raigad) and 81 km from Alibaug, the district headquarter. Another metropolis, Pune lies at a distance of about 125 km in South-East direction. Geographically Matheran plateau lies between 18° 55'N Latitude and 73° 51'E Longitude and it is to the west of main range of Western Ghats. The deep ravines around it are covered by dense forests and the top of hill is a large plateau. Its general height above MSL. is 759m and the highest point on it is at 803.45m. Matheran has witnessed the increase in tourism, the annual number of tourists in Matheran ranges from 2.51 lakhs in 1999 to 4.95 lakhs in 2010 with an average increase of 20,000-22,000 tourists per month. A serious implication of this spurt in the tourist number is excessive stress on tourism facilities besides odd transport facilities. This has exerted pressure on the local civic body (Matheran Municipal council) which is an active administrative body managing Matheran. It has its own rules and orders under the authority of Government for the guidance of visitors and others. These rules state that no vehicle should be permitted in MMC limits. So Matheran is different than all the other hill stations; it does not have multiple Points of entry, which controls illegal access, unlike other hill stations. The only vehicle road is up to the Dasturinaka, the outer limit of corporation. Vehicles are not allowed in Matheran Municipal limits.

There is no any weekend place for Mumbaikars and punekars except Lonavala and Matheran so MMRDA proposed to improve infrastructure connecting Hill Stations within MMR Area. At present MMRDA has achieved satisfactory improvement in infrastructure within Mumbai & Mumbai Suburban City.

Matheran Territory falls in MMR, region, MMRDA has decided to push up Matheran to make an impression broadly on world's map as special tourism Identity. It is hill station in Raigad district in the state of Maharashtra. The deep ravines around Matheran are covered by dense forest & the top of hill is large plateau. The average Tourist towards Matheran is increasing by 20 to 22 thousand per annum from last 15 years & in 2010 it was 4.95 Lacs. At present it is a risky transport facilities & connecting length from Neral to Matheran is to the tune of 6.7 K.M. At present width of road is less than 2 lane & it is proposed to widen it as per available shoulder width.

The provision of new retaining wall along valley side in the missing length between existing Retaining wall is considered & for existing retaining wall rising up to parapet level above G.L. is considered. Cement Concrete wall abutting hill side road edge is considered. However Metallic crash barrier proposed at critical location.

Traffic plying on hill is mostly of tourist vehicles. Widening & Improvement to existing roads upto 2lanes for alength of 6700 Meter is proposed by providing 50mm BM, 50mm DBM &25mm A.C.

There are 3 slab drains, which are considered for reconstruction.Slab drains are of 3m span & thickness of slab400mm in m35. Abutments provided are m35 as per IRC. All 37 Nos. of H.P. drains considered for reconstruction. All H.P. drains are of NP 3 – 1000 mm dia.