

PROJECT NOTE

Deputy Engineer – I (Engineering Division)] Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority, MMRDA Building, Bandra – Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai, has submitted a proposal of widening and improvement of existing Neral Dasturi (Matheran) Road in Karjat Taluka, Raigad District, diversion of 0.9850 Ha. Reserved Forest land. In this proposal Government of India has given permission for widening of existing road vide No. 8B/9/60/93/FCW/630 dated 27/4/1995.

MMRDA propose to widen such road up to width of 9 to 12 meters and had submitted the proposal for diversion of 0.9850 Ha. for seeking permission of Government of India. The site has been inspected by undersigned on 29.11.2016. It was observed that the existing road has at 62 points width greater than permitted. Obviously violation had taken place. This present proposal for widening and improvement of Neral to Dasturi (Matheran) road in Karjat Taluka, Raigad District is proposed on this previously built road.

Historically there was a pathway leading from Neral to Dasturi. In 1995 this road got permission from Government of India under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for widening of existing width up to 7 mtrs. It seems instead of the permissible 7 mtrs the road was extended up to 9 to 12 mtr at 62 points along the road. Violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 seems to have taken place.

Neral-Dasturi (Matheran) road is the only vehicular road available for connecting Matheran Hill Station from Dasturi. Increase in traffic is exerting excessive stress on transportation facilities and safe movement of vehicles. Therefore widening and improvement of the existing road is imperative. Looking into these circumstances this proposal is recommended for the above widening and improvement of this road.


(Jayoti Banerjee)
Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Alibag.