## Site Inspection Report of Shri Santosh Fadte, Dy. Conservator of Forests, North Goa Forest Division, Ponda- Goa

## Project Name:- Construction of Approach Road (Expressway) to Mopa Airport at Dhargalim village of Pernem Taluka.

The Private forest area proposed for diversion under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is for the construction of approached road (Expressway) to Mopa Airport at Dhargalim village of Pernem Taluka.

The area is located in Private Forest bearing Sy. No. 337 (6503 Sqmt), Sy. No. 339 (22260 sqmt.) and Sy. No. 340 (120 sqmt.) in village Dhargalim of Pernem Taluka. The site has been inspected by the undersigned alongwith the Range Forest Officer, Pernem, Sub-Divisional Officer, Mapusa and the representative of the User Agency Shri Vaibhav Vaze, Civil Aviation Officer on 17.04.2021.

Total Private Forest area applied by the User Agency for the diversion of Private Forest is 28883 sqmt. The Proposed Private Forest area is 500 sqmt. away from the Dhargal PWD road & Irrigation Cannel and forms part of dry deciduous forest. The area canopy density is found to be around 0.4 to 0.5. The land is undulating & partly hilly laterite rock. The area consist of crop composition of miscellaneous forestry species.

The Private Forest area proposed to be diverted has 75 nos. of Forestry Trees in Sy. No. 337, 463 Nos. in Sy. No. 339 and Nil nos. in Sy. No. 340. The area appears to be frequented by wild animals like Indian Guar, Wild Boar, Sambhar Deer, Porcupine, Jungle Hare, Snakes & Aifauna such as Jungle Fowl etc though no direct sighting was noticed at the time of site inspection. No violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 has been observed in the Proposed Reserved Forest area proposed for diversion. The proposed forest area is outside any Eco-Sensitive Zone.

It is learnt from the proposal submitted by the user agency that the project aims at construction of approach road (Expressway) to Mopa Airport. Since the present proposed airport is connected with a village road and once the airport is operational there will be manifold increase in the movement of traffic both passenger and cargo. Therefore airport needs to be connected with approach road for seamless movement of traffic.

**Recommendations**: Since the present proposed approach road (Expressway) is designed with minimum diversion of Private Forest land with minimum trees 538 nos of trees, which mostly consist of pole crops. And considering the movement of traffic both passenger & cargo an area of 28883 sq mt of private forest area is recommended to the user agency.

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