

INSPECTION REPORT OF DY. CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
WILDLIFE & ECO- TOURISM, NORTH

Proposed Castlerock - Kulem Railway Doubling Project in Mollem
Bhagwan Mahaveer National Park.

The site forms part of the Bhagwan Mahaveer National Park which in turn forms part of the Western Ghats. The area is internationally renowned for its anthropological and natural attributes. The area was notified as Wildlife Sanctuary in 1967 and subsequently Part as National Park in 1978 (107 Sq. Mts). The prominent forest types found in locality are

1. 2 A/C2 West Coast Semi Evergreen forest with its Edaphic and Seral types.
2. E- 4 Lateritic Semi Evergreen forest.
3. 3 B/C2 Southern secondary Moist Mixed deciduous forests.

The wildlife consist of Tiger, Leopard, Gaur, Sambar, Spotted Deer, Sloth Bear, Barking Deer, Mouse Deer, Wild Dog, Indian Otter, Indian Rock Python, Slender Loris, White Bellied Woodpecker, Malabar Tree, Grey Headed Bulbul etc. There are 43 species of mammals, 250 species of birds and several species of reptiles. The floral diversity comprises of species and varieties of angiosperms belonging to different generous families and out of 4000 species of Western Ghats 1500 are endemic to the region.

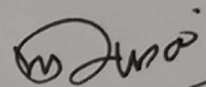
The terrain is mainly on the Western aspect of the Sahyadris. The highest altitude being 461 mts MSL and lowest being 60 mts MSL. The average rainfall is over 5000 mm in the National Park between June to September and length of dry season is six months. The temperature range is from 14°C to 38°C. All the streams in National park are tributaries of Khandepar (Dudhsagar) river which finally joins the river Mandovi.

Important flora species found in the locality are as follows forest wise: - Important Species like Canarium Strictum, Knema Attenuata, Garcinia Gummi Gutta, Mammea Suriga, Diospyros Buxifolic, Biospyros Sardanhae and found in West Coast semi evergreen forests. Rivarian forest consists of species like

Calophyllum apetalum, Lophopetalum wightianum, Hydmorearpus Pentanosa, Entada Rheedei, Gnetum Ula, Chonemorpha Gragrans etc.

Important species like Actinodaphne angustifolia Canthium Dicoccum, Macaranga Pletata, Cagerstvomelic lanceolata etc are noticed in Lateritic semi evergreen forest. Important species like Careya arborea, Billenia Pentagyna, Grewia Tilifolia, Lannea Coromandelica, Terminalia species Schleicheria Oleosa, Xylic Xylocarpa etc Dendrocalamus, Bambusa are found in moist deciduous forest.

The Dudhsagar waterfall is one of the National Parks key feature and is Goa's tallest waterfall and is a tourist attraction, as such is to be protected and all possible effects to protect it is to be taken during the layout of the track.



Dy. Conservator of Forests
Wildlife & Eco- tourism (N)