

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

On 27-08-2019, I along with Assistant Conservator of Forests, Ankola and Karwar Sub-divisions, Range Forest Officers Ankola and Karwar Range, Dy. Range Forest Officers and Sri. Naveen, Site Engineer, NHAI who is the user agency inspected 13 locations where there is need for the additional forest land for the slope correction in the jurisdiction of Karwar Division.

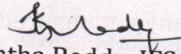
Following observation were made during the inspection.

- 1) The Proposed area is just abutting the Western ghats hill range where many endangered species of wildlife and plant species are present.
- 2) Due to heavy rainfall, there is high level of landslides all along the National Highway-17.
- 3) The soil strata is fragile and the loose soil above the hard rock strata is found to be dangerous and it is sliding when it is saturated with heavy downpour. Sometimes the loose soil all through the soil strata is also prone to sliding.
- 4) In the past two years there were many landslides and people have lost their lives.
- 5) Sri. T.G.Sitharam, Professor in Civil Engineering, Department of Civil Engineering Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore has inspected the areas which are prone to landslides after the loss of public life at Tandrakuli. As per the recommendations of the experts the slope stabilization is planned all along NH-66(17).
- 6) In the Jurisdiction of Karwar division 12.518 ha. of forest land and 0.628 ha. of non forest land is proposed for additional land for slope stabilization.
- 7) As already substantial forest land is diverted and expansion of NH work is going on, the additional land would stabilize the slopes. Without stabilization of slopes there is threat of sliding of fragile hills every monsoon season which would lead to degradation of the forest land and severe erosion.
- 8) The area proposed is barest minimum and unavoidable for the slope correction.

- 9) The landslides have happened at many places and hence to clear the traffic and to save the lives, the slope stabilization measures have been taken up.

Because of the observation stated above hereby I recommend for the diversion of forest land of 12.518 ha. in Karwar Division under Forest Conservation Act 1980 to National Highway Authority of India, Project Implementation Unit, Mangalore for the slope stabilization of National Highway-66(17).

Date: 27-08-2019


(K.V. Vasantha Reddy, IFS.,)
Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Karwar Division, Karwar.

28-08-2019