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Diversion of 7.7 Ha. of Forest Land (6.76ha of Protected Forest land and 0.938ha of Reserve Forest Land) for Widening & Strengthening of road stretch at Khanvel Junction to Kherdi Border in the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman, Diu (Proposal No: FP/DN/ROAD/35897/2018)

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

A proposal, for diversion (under FCA-1980) of 7.7 Ha of Forest Land (6.76 ha of Protected Forest land and 0.938ha of Reserve Forest Land) for non-forestry purpose i.e Widening & Strengthening of road stretch at Khanvel Junction to Kherdi Border in the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman, Diu, had been received by this office from Executive Engineer, Road Division, PWD, Dadra & Nagar Haveli. The site inspection of the land involved in the proposal has been done by the undersigned along-with the representatives of the User Agency and the Range Forest Officer, Central Range, Khanvel, Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

The proposal envisages the widening of the existing 7m road to a width of 10 m along with shoulder and provision for utilities on either side. The total area thus involved would be 7.7 Ha over the 7.3 km of road. A significant portion of the area proposed for diversion is Protected Forest Area on either side of the existing road. However a small portion i.e 0.938 Ha of Forest Land in survey No.13 & 21 of village Chauda, Khanvel and Survey No. 32 & 33 of village Kherdi, passes through Reserved Forest Area declared as DNH Wildlife Sanctuary. Thus a small portion of the road i.e 888 m (inclusive of RHS and LHS of 444 m each) has Sanctuary area on both sides of the road. The DNH Wildlife Sanctuary was notified vide 7-2/30-FD/WL/133 dated 23rd November, 2000 and the Eco Sensitive Zone of the DNH Wildlife Sanctuary was notified vide S.O 2313 (E) dated 4th September, 2015. The ESZ for DNH WLS has been defined as "*...an area upto One Hundred Metres (100 metres) from the boundary of the Dadra and Nagar Haveli Wildlife Sanctuary on all sides or upto the right of way (Sanctuary side) of an existing road passing near the Sanctuary whichever is less....*"

However, a road existed before the declaration of Wildlife Sanctuary in Dadra and Nagar Haveli and the RoW of 45 metres for the road was declared vide notification No TPS/107 (53)/97/166 dated 3rd March, 1999 i.e prior to declaration of Dadra & Nagar Haveli Wildlife Sanctuary. Thus, the area proposed for diversion is of two categories i.e Reserved Forest declared as WLS (0.938 ha.) and Protected

Ranjan
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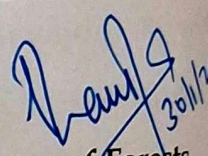
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Forest (6.76 ha.). There is no endangered / endemic species flora and fauna found in the forest area proposed for diversion and total number of trees be felled in the proposed area for diversion is 743. However all attempts to save as many of the 743 trees will be taken by the Dept and User Agency during the time of execution. The user agency has not violated the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and no work has started without proper sanction.

Hence, the proposal for diversion of 7.7 Ha. of Forest Land (6.76 ha of Protected Forest land and 0.938ha of Reserve Forest Land) for Widening & Strengthening of road stretch at Khanvel Junction to Kherdi Border in the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Havel and Daman, Diu is **recommended.**

Place : Silvassa

Date : 30/01/2024


30/1/24
Conservator of Forests

U.T of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu