

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

I have inspected the area to be diverted on 13th Nov. 2017 along with Assistant Conservator of Forests, South sub division, Bangalore and Range Forest Officer, Kaggalipura Range, Bangalore Division and Engineers from NHAI incharge of the project. It was explained to me about the design of the lane which has to be widened. The project is required urgently because of the heavy flow of traffic on that stretch which connects KM. 438.475 (Proposed KM 435.250) Harohalli to 461.550 (proposed Km 458.420) Nice Road section of NH-209. The area required is bare minimum.

It is brought to the notice that earlier BMRCL had applied for diversion of 6.33 ha. of forest land in the same stretch, but it was planning to construct a metro rail depot exactly in the stretch which is frequented by elephants and is the only area left connecting both sides of forest across NH-209. The other part of the forest falls within Devika Rani Roerich Estate and further connects it to B.M. Kaval Reserve Forest.

This project was dropped because of objections from Forest Department and the metro project was realigned such that it did not pass through the said stretch.

Now, since the existing lane will be widened, which is going to increase the flow of traffic, underpasses for elephant to move across the road is a must and this has been discussed with the Project Director, NHAI and they have already submitted 2 options of designs to this office. This is to be approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt. of Karnataka for mitigating any future conflict and once approved will be submitted to the Project Director, NHAI for compliance and constructing this as part of widening the road.

In light of the above, the proposal for diversion of 1.894 ha. of forest land in U.M.Kaval Reserve Forest may be accepted.


**Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Bangalore Urban Division, Bangalore**