

SITE INSPECTION REPORT
OF
DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS-NORTH GOA FOREST DIVISION

Four laning of existing Goa Karnataka border –Panaji Goa section of NH-4A from km 97.00 to Km 153.075 in the State of Goa on BOT (Toll) basis under NHDolll (Anmod to Panaji Section)

The area proposed for clearance under Section -2 of Forest (conservation) Act, 1980 for Four laning of existing Goa Karnataka border –Panaji Goa section of NH-4A from km 97.00 to km 153.075 in the state of Goa on BOT (toll) basis under NHDP III (Anmod to Panaji Section) located in Usgao village of Ponda Taluka, North Goa District & Dharbandora , Sangod, Mollem, Collem village of Dharbandora Taluka, South Goa District, Goa State has been inspected by the undersigned on 12/6/2017.

Total forest area required for the said project is 31.53 ha. The detail of the area is as under:-

Taluka/ Village	Survey No.	Forest area proposed to be Diversion (Ha.)	Legal Status of Forest Area
Dharbandora, Mollem	12, 21 & 22	8.87	Un Classed forest
	17	1.73	Private Forest (Acquired by PWD)
	13,14, 15 & 16	3.56	Proposed Reserved Forest area
	Total	14.16	
Dharbandora, Calem	34	0.06	Proposed Reserved Forest area
Dharbandora, Sangod	30 & 27	5.55	Un Classed Forest
	37, 17, 16, 15 & 9	6.72	Proposed Reserved Forest area
	Total	12.27	
Dharbandora, Dharbandora	95, 98, 57 & 2	1.08	Un Classed Forest
	93, 73, 21 & 207	3.81	Proposed Reserved Forest area
	Total	5.46	
Ponda, Usgao	252	0.15	Reserved Forest area
Total Forest Area for Diversion		31.53 Ha.	

An area of 1.73 ha of Survey Number 17 of Mollem Village is an identified private forest area which has been acquired by the user agency. However claims or litigation, if any, arising from anyone in this property shall be responsibility of the user agency, as this office has processed the said piece of land in this project solely from the forestry point of view.

The forest area required for the project has been demarcated by erecting concrete poles by the user agency. The said forest area is having mostly flat terrain with in between undulating terrain. Dense tree growth is available all around this highway extension project. The area is frequented by wild animals like Spotted Deer, Wild Boar, Bison, Indian Hare, leopard, snakes and avifauna such as Peacock and jungle Fowl, though no direct sightings was noticed at the time of site inspection.

Enumeration of trees has been carried out within the forest land proposed for diversion and a total of 8102 nos. number of trees are found. The species includes *Terminalia tomentosa*, *Terminilia paniculata*, *Anacardium occidentale*, *Terminalia bellerica*, *Carea arborea*, *Holarmena antidysenterica*, *Bahunia lanza*, *Tercona grandis*, *Artocarpus integrifolia*, *bombax ceiba*, *Xylia xyocarpa* & other Misc. spp. The entire stretch of forest area along the proposed alignment is having dense & uniform tree vegetation. The overall average **canopy density** of the area is about 7. No violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has occurred in the proposed forest area for diversion. The site is not prone to soil erosion.

The nearest distance from the boundary of Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary is at 0.60 km and hence part of the proposed road falls inside Eco- Sensitive Zone Area. There are various locations along this proposed highway extension proposal which are used by the wild animals such as Indian Gaur, Sambhar deer, Spotted Deer, Wild boar, Leopard and others. Therefore in order to provide safe passage to these wild animals, 6 under passes and 1 overpass was desired by this office and were intimated to the user agency. Accordingly these safe passages have been accepted by the user agency and accordingly the design has been revised to incorporate 6 under passes and 1 over pass in the existing design of the proposed Highway extension.

Following civil structures are also coming within the alignment of the proposal namely:

1. Round Forest office, Dharbandora & its compound wall
2. Forest Nursery Dharbandora
3. Boundary wall at various locations along the existing highway.

Recommendations: Since the requirement of Forest land is bare minimum and the project being site specific with no alternate available, in larger public interest, the diversion of 31.53 ha of Forest area is recommended to the user agency with following conditions:

1. That the User Agency shall save those trees which are falling in the vacant spaces to be created in between Main Highway and service road on either side of this project and also in the median area wherever possible.
2. The user agency shall diligently construct the proposed under passes and over pass for safe animal passage.
3. The user agency shall reconstruct all the civil structures which are falling in the alignment of the high way extension.
4. Appropriate provision for the existing Forest Check Post at Mollem shall be kept in the proposed Toll Plaza complex in Sy. No 12 and 21 of Mollem Village Dharbandora Taluka.
5. For the safety of wildlife and education of commuters on animal movements, 100 wild animal crossing signages be installed by user agency along the proposed highway.
6. In order to better equip the executive forest protection staff of Collem and Ponda Range for forest and wildlife management activities, in the proposed diversion Forest area, the user agency shall provide 2 Four Wheelers (4WD) and 5 motor cycles.



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Date: 29/04/2019

Place: Ponda - Goa
