

**Copy of note containing Justification in respect of
Proposal for Diversion of Forest Land for Construction of Minor
Irrigation Tank at Village Nirukhe, Taluka- Kudal District- Sindhudurg**

The project is of Technical Nature, it is to be constructed at the location where it suits technically as well as economically. For finalising project site, comparison of various alternatives was carried out. These alternatives consist of various field investigations. After comparing different alternatives, ultimately the present project site is finalised on its technical and financial feasibility. Such as availability of foundation rock at minimum depth, submergence of villages and its area, minimum forest area under submergence etc. The Survey numbers of Identified Forest Land as per the dictionary meaning of forest and in time to expert committee under the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996. These land were first acquired under Maharashtra Private Forest Acquisitions Act-1975 and later restored to original owners under section 22A of the Act. At the time of Original Administrative approval in 1983 of the scheme the village records (7/12) etc. was not showing record of any forest land, hence the question of planning the scheme in forest area does not arise.

The proposed site is 2 K.M. upstream of Local Nalla near village Nirukhe. Project with annual utilisation of 3.712 M cum is feasible having benefit cost ratio of 2.07. While catchment area of project is 2.54 square K.M. (0.98 square miles). Village Nirukhe or any other village is not going under submergence. There is no opposition for construction of project by the local people of village Nirukhe. This project is having Irrigable command area of 287 Ha to be irrigated by pipe distribution Network.

The site is selected for the following benefits

- 1) Land coming under submergence is minimum
- 2) B/C ratio is $2.07 > 1$ as per norms of the Irrigation department

3) Any village goathan or its part is not going under submergence. Total land required for the project is 35.787 Ha, out of this Forest Land going under submergence is 18.94 Ha and Private land is 16.847 Ha respectively.

5) Mitigating / beneficial impacts.

a) The project involves 16.847 Ha. of private land and 18.94 Ha of Forest land totaling of 35.787 Ha of non-fertile land. It will irrigate 287 Ha of fertile land.

b) The compensatory afforestation area is adjoining the forest area

c) Most environmental impact due to loss of forests would be mitigated over 10-15 years due to large scale afforestation and the project seeks only a spatial and temporal adjustment.

d) Afforestation with rare / endangered / medicinal plants would help conserve them and also improve the habitat for rare birds.

e) Afforestation would help counteract the degradation caused by shifting cultivation in the past.

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Date - 24/05/2021
Place - Kankawali