

## **Justification for locating the project in the Forest land**

### **Name of Project: Improvements to Hill highway road from Kolichal to Cherupuzha Km 0/000 to 30/770**


Hill Highway Project, one of the prestigious projects of Government of Kerala, is envisaged to form a north south connectivity of the state through the eastern hilly portions of the state connecting nine districts for a length of 1267 Km. The project is proposed to be included in KIIFB as per Budget speech 2017-18 with a total financial outlay of 3500 Crores.

Kolichal- Cherupuzha stretch of hill highway is an existing bituminous road passing through forest. The existing carriage way width of the bituminous surface in the forest portion is 3.00m. In this project, it is proposed to widen the carriage way width to 7.00m with 2.50m wide berm at both sides requiring a total land width of 12.00m.

The total length of the project is 30.770Km out of which only 2.780 Km road is passing through forest. The alignment of the route was fixed by NATPAC (National Transportation Planning and Research Centre) after conducting detailed survey. There is no alternate route possible excluding the forest area and this proposed alignment require the minimum forest area.

Hence I may request that favourable orders may be issued for availing the forest land for the proper completion of the project.

Kasaragod  
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EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
PWD ROADS DIVISION  
KASARAGOD