

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING PROJECT IN FOREST AREA

The existing road construction of Shelgaon Telodha- Gotondi- Pitkeshwar- Kati- MDR 192 from Chainage Km. 5/368 to Km. 5/760 and Km 11520 to Km 11/724 and Km. 12/906 to 13/730 connects Baramati- Indapur Palkhi Marg, NH 965 (G) and is an important link to Nira Bhima Cooperative Sugar Factory at Shahaji Nagar.

The entire MDR 192 road is metaled, except 1419.4 m. long stretches from Chainage Km. 5/368 to Km. 5/760 and Km 11/520 to Km 11/724 and Km. 12/906 to 13/730, which are passing through three different patches of Forest Land in Gotondi, Pitkeshwar and Kati Villages. The vehicles are using this existing kaccha thoroughfare through Forest Land to reach Sugar Factory and NH 965 (G) as well. The road is also used by the farmers of surrounding villages for transporting their sugar cane and other Agricultural Produce. A need has always been felt for improvement (Black topping) of the forest part of the road to ensure safety of vehicles transporting the passengers / goods and of the workers/ farmers/ bye passers. After improvement of road passing through forest patch, the stakeholders would be able to give up longer route, consequently saving their time and avoidable spending upon fuel.

The extant road has been included in the Road Development Plan 2001-2021 of the Maharashtra State. The Government of Maharashtra has accorded Administrative Approval for the project of improvement of the extant road. The project is also technically sanctioned by the Chief Engineer, PWD, Pune.

Since, the proposed work is to be carried out in the patch of Forest Land, the project attracts provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The project requires Forest Clearance i. e. prior approval under Section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 from the Central Government. The part of Forest Land admeasuring 0.9936 Ha. is required to be diverted to enable connect the entire stretch of the existing road MDR 192 and put it to its optimal use.

The project involves improvement (Black topping) to only the kaccha part of the existing road which is passing through the Forest land. Hence, no alternative can be substituted for the existing alignment. The project is, therefore, the site specific. The Forest Land proposed for diversion is, thus, unavoidable. The barest minimum Forest Land, to the extent of 0.9936 Ha., is required/ proposed for the project.

Date: 14/10/2021

Place: Indapur

Office Seal:



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