



**Maharashtra State  
Road Development  
Corpn. Ltd.**

(A Government of Maharashtra Undertaking)

No. MSRDC/04/EE/2020/ 4254.

Date 3 NOV 2020

### **Justification Letter for Forest Land Diversion**

The Government of India has newly declared the State Highway from "Pandharpur to Sangola" into National Highway (NH- 965C). Present road is an important link between Sangola and Pandharpur the two towns of the Solapur district in the State of Maharashtra. Pandharpur is a pilgrim place and world famous Vitthal Temple is located here. From every corner of the State, as well as people from other States come to visit the temple in festive seasons. The condition of traffic during festive seasons become worst and people faced problem due to road jam. Apart from this the present road falls under one of the agriculture zone of the district Solapur. On this road many cold storages can be seen where farmers keep their agricultural products like fruits, cereals, milk etc. In normal days the traffic is very much heavy. On this road, in Kasegaon village area the road passes through forest land, for which diversion of forest land is required for Rehabilitation and Upgradation of the newly declared NH. Present project road is the shortest and economical route to travel from Sangola to Pandharpur which further, joins National Highway of Mumbai - Solapur - Hyderabad and Miraj city of the State of Maharashtra. At present the width of the road is less as per standard of National Highway so that the Rehabilitation and Upgradation of the road is required in the forest area. Since long time the present project road was passing through this forest area which comes under unclass forest type (Gairan in Possession of Forest Department) and now for widening of the road minimum 2.40 ha land is required.

Therefore, the diversion of the forest land is only choice for widening of the newly declared National Highway: Pandharpur - Sangola (NH- 965C).

**(D.D. Baravkar)  
Executive Engineer,  
MSRDC (Ltd), Pune**