

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

This is to certify that I have inspected the forest area of 0.153 Ha. in Fsy.No: 143 of Gotegali Village in Gopshitta Range proposed for diversion on lease for the purpose of construction of approach road and bridge in favour of Executive Engineer, Public Works Ports & Inland Water Transport Department, Karwar Division, Karwar on 14-11-2016 along with the Range Forest Officer, Gopshitta and staff.

The proposed area is nala area and this nala area adjacent forest area comes under eco class-1 semi-evergreen forest and its co terminus with the Kali Tiger reserve. There was a cart track from Gotegali to Goyar through Sakali Halla near Bargadde as per the survey of India Toposheet published in 1978 based on the survey done in 1975. After that it continues as a foot path till Goyar village. At the point of crossing the stream it is 70 mtr. wide and about 5-6 mtr. deep. There is an officially recognized right of way.

Earlier a jeepable bridge was there on Sakali Halla, 200 mtr. upstream of the original path. The work was done by Zilla Panchayath Engineering Division of Uttar Kannada District. This bridge was connecting about 10 hamlets of Goyar village which currently have population of around 1000 people. This bridge was the only connection to about 30000.00 Ha. of thick forest lying between Anashi-Goyar-Gotegali. It indeed served as an important link even to the forest department also.

In G.O.No:LO.E.463.CRM-2008 dated: 03-11-2008 the road was upgraded into major district road. It was taken over from Zilla Panchayat Engineering Division and developed into a MDR as per the standards of PWD. The track was asphalted. The foot path beyond Sakali Halla was converted into a cart track probably after the bridge construction was over. After crossing Sakali Halla towards east, it is only cart track to Goyar village. In future also it has to continue as such, as it comes in wild life area.

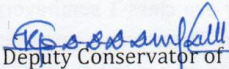
Major portion of the bridge collapsed in October 2009 due to flash, floods. The debris such as piers, ramps etc., are lying at the site even today.

The new bridge construction site was shifted downstream by 200 mts. Where the nala is wide and shallow and the bed is free of rock out crops. This was exactly the same site on which the right of way exists. It is well connected to the road/path on both sides of the stream. Two concrete piers of 9 mt. width, 3.5 mt. height and 1 mt. thickness were built on the side of the nala. Access ramp was also constructed. The stream bed was cleared off loose boulders, slush etc., for starting the foundation work on the eastern half of the nala which falls in the jurisdiction of Kali Tiger Reserve.

After having inspected the site and interaction with the officers concerned and local public opinion that there was a minor violation of Forest Conservation Act. The Forest Guard, Gotegali of Karwar division booked an offence case on 12-03-2015 against the contractors and stopped the further progress of the work.

A proposal has been submitted by the user agency for the release of forest land on lease for the purpose of construction of bridge and road to provide a link to the Goyar village.

Karwar
Date: 14-11-2016


Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Karwar Division, Karwar.