

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

Sr. No.	Items		Observation and remarks
1.	Name of the Project and location (Range, Round, Beat)		: Diversion of 0.985 ha of Forest land for widening and improvement of Neral-Dasturi Road in Karjat Taluka, Raigad Distirct.
	Location		
	i)	Division	: Alibag Forest Division.
	ii)	Range	: Matheran
	iii)	Round	: Neral round, Neral (south and north) beat
	iv)	S.No.	: Village Neral S.No. 110 Pt, 333Pt. 331Pt. (Compt. No. 50A) and village Bekare S.No. 101 pt. (Compt 502 pt)
2.	Name of the User Agency		: Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority
3.	Date of site inspection		: 29/11/2016.
4.	Extent (ha) and legal status of forest land proposed for diversion		: 0.9850 ha. Reserved Forest.
5.	a) Details of forest land proposed for diversion and activity-wise break-up of forest land		: Detailed area statement attached on Pg. No.
	b) Density of the forest		: The density is below 0.4
6.	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the user Agency in col.2 of Part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project. If no, recommended area item-wise with details of alternative examined		: Yes .

7.	Whether the proposal involves any construction of building (including residential) or not? If yes, details thereof		:	Yes, details as per area statement attached on Page No.
8.	a.	Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not	:	The proposed area is part of Matheran Eco-Sensitive Zone.
	b.	Details of any rare or endangered or unique species of flora and fauna found in proposed forest land. If so, the details thereof.	:	The proposed area is part of Matheran Eco-Sensitive Zone.
	c.	Aerial distance from the nearest boundary of any Protected Area (km)	:	Beyond 10 Km. from any Sanctuary. But this project area falls in Matheran Eco-Sensitive Zone.
	d.	Remarks about sensitivity of the forest area likely to be affected due to project.	:	There is no adverse effect on the wildlife and birds in the sanctuary or Eco-Sensitive Zone.
	e.	Whether wildlife mitigation plan is required? If, yes, reason therefore	:	No.
9.	Details of vegetation			
	a.	Total number of trees to be felled:	:	No tree felling is required.
	b.	Number of trees to be felled of girth below 60 cm:	:	Nil.
	c.	Number of trees to be felled of girth above 60 cm:	:	Nil.
	d.	Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem in the area	:	Nil.

10.	Background note on the proposal (short summary)	:	Project summary attached on Page No.
11.	Whether the proposal involves any violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980? If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials to be attached	:	Yes. The road which has been built previously has points of violations along the route. The present proposal is proposed on this already built road. This matter has been brought to the notice of User Agency. Certificate regarding violation is enclosed in the proposal.
12.	Whether the proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced person. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been approved by the State Government?	:	No.
13.	Details on catchments and cultivable command area under the project (if applicable)	:	Nil
	Status of catchments area treatment plan to prevent siltation of reservoir (if applicable)	:	Nil
14.	Utility of the Project	:	This project is for widening of the existing Neral-Dasturi (Matheran) road. There is no other alignment possible as this road is the only vehicular road available for the locals and tourists of Matheran Hill Station.
15.	Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural / religious values? Whether any sacred grove or very old growth trees/forests exist in the areas proposed for diversion	:	No.
16.	Any other important information related to the project (Separate note may be attached, if required)	:	No.

17.	Details of documents and photographs enclosed:	:	Photographs enclosed on Page No.
18.	Recommendations of the Inspecting Officer (CCF/CF/DCF)	:	Neral-Dasturi (Matheran) road is the only vehicular road available for connecting Matheran Hill Station from Dasturi. Increase in traffic is exerting excessive stress on transportation facilities and safe movement of vehicles. Therefore widening and improvement of the existing road is imperative. Hence this proposal is recommended for the above purpose for widening and improvement of this road for safety of locals and tourists using this route.


(Jayoti Banejee)
Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Alibag.