SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF DR. SIDHANAND KUKRETY, I.F.S., CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS / CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, HYDERABAD CIRCLE IN HYDERABAD (SOUTH) RANGE ON 04/05/2016

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (HoFF) has forwarded an Integrated Eco-Tourism Project in Rangareddy District submitted by the Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad Vide Rc. No. for further scrutiny and processing. This project envisages diversion of 1859.77 ha area in five (5) Reserved Forest Blocks in Hyderabad South Range of Hyderabad Division. Inspected the proposed forest area for diversion on 04-06-2016.

1. Areas proposed for Diversion:

The details of Reserve Forest Blocks requested for diversion are as follows:

Forest Block	Area (ha)
	758.10
	105.11
	310.41
	223.55
	462.60
	1859.77
	Forest Block Eliminedu Guttalakancha Kongara Kalan Kongara Khurd Salonidubba TOTAL

2. General Description:

These five forest blocks are contiguous and form a large chunk of forest in the vicinity of Outer Ring Road of Hyderabad city. As per champion and Seth (1968) classification, these forests fall under Southern dry deciduous scrub Forest (5A/C3/DS1). The topography is generally plain with rocky outcrops here and there. General elevation of the area is 600 Mts. The soil is predominantly red soil with varied degradation due to erosion. Some areas, like in Kongrakalan and Salonidubba have loamy soils due to accumulation of leaf litter in the top horizon.

3. Flora:

Owing to biotic interference the general vegetation is of poor quality. The average crop density of the forest is around 0.2. Most of the natural area are understocked. The important species are Acacia catechu, Acacia holosericea, Aegle marmelos, Albebizzia amara, Anogeissus latifolia, Buchnania lanzan, Butea monosperma, Cassia fistula, Dalbergia paniculata, Diospyros chloroxylon, Terminalia tomentosa, Madhuca indica, Lannea grandis, Writia tinctoria, etc. Plantation species are Cassia siamea, Eucalyptus spp., Pongamia pinnata, Tectona Grandis, etc. Some areas are highly eroded and only hardy species like Albizzia amara, Acacia catechu, Randia dumetorum, Alangium salvifolium, Annona Sqamosa etc., exist. The areas with good soil were converted into plantations. The Forest Department has raised plantation in 812 ha in plain areas; (Eliminedu: 197 ha, Guttalakancha: 85 ha, Kongarakalan: 220 ha, Kongara khurd: 155ha, Salonidubba: 155 ha).

4. Fauna:

There are no any rare/endangered/unique species of Flora & Fauna found in this area. Fauna includes, Black Naped Hare Fox, Jackal, Mongoose, Palm civet, Pangolin, Porcupine and Wild boar, etc. Reptiles include Cobra, Russel's viper, Rat snake, Monitor Lizard, etc. Avifouna consists of common Grey hornbill, Grey Jungle fowl, Pea fowl, Parakeets, Doves, Rock pigeons, Jungle Babblers, Mynas, and Bulbuls etc.

5. Miscellaneous:

There are no protected archeological/heritage site/defense establishments or any other important monument are located in the area. Since the project involves ecotourism activities, except for the areas required for civil work, the diversion of these Forest Blocks is not likely to affect the existing forest.

Chief Conservator of Forests/ Conservator of Forests, Hyderabad