

Site Inspection Report

Design & Construction of Bridge across river Mandovi at Panjim Including Approaches on NH-17 between Pundalik Nagar junction (Porvorim) to Mercedes Junction

The Private Forest area proposed for clearance under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the development of Design & Construction of Bridge across river Mandovi at Panjim Including Approaches on NH-17 between Pundalik Nagar junction (Porvorim) to Mercedes Junction located in Penha de Franca Village, Bardez Taluka North Goa District, Goa State has been inspected by the undersigned on 28/12/2017.

Total Private forest area required for the said project is 0.6648 ha. which falls under following survey numbers:

Sr. No	Village	Taluka	Sy.No	Forest area	Legal status
1	Penha de Franca	Bardez	90/1	0.3097	Private Forest identified by Karapurkar committee
2			105/1	0.1114	
3			90 (Part)	0.0578	
4			34 (Part)	0.1290	
5			35 (Part)	0.0520	
6			89 (Part)	0.0049	
Total				0.6648	

The said Private forest area has part sloppy & part plain terrain with dense tree vegetation & is adjoining to Goa Mumbai NH-17. The area is not vulnerable to soil erosion. The area appears to be frequented by wild animals like Wild Boar, Hare, snakes & avifauna such as Peacock and Jungle Fowl, though no direct sightings was noticed at the time of site inspection.

Enumeration of trees has been carried out within the Private forest land proposed for diversion and the total number of trees actually required to be cut for the project by user agency is 39.



Tree species like *Ceiba pentandra*, *Alestinioia scholaris*, *Terminalia bellerica*, *Carea arborea*, *Bombax ceiba*, *Xylia xylocarpa* & Misc. are found. Entire stretch of private forest area along the proposed alignment is having dense & uniform tree vegetation. The overall average **canopy density** of the area is about **0.4**. No violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has occurred in the proposed Private forest area for diversion.

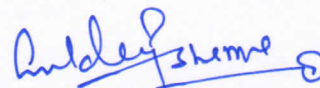
The part of the proposed alignment of road passing through the Private forest area is outside Eco Sensitive Zone of Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary.

The project aims to decongest the traffic at the various critical junctions such as Pundalik Nagar, Malim jn, Bus stand circle and Mercedes round about. The project consists of cable stayed bridge over river Mandovi and the main bridge viaduct bifurcating to the split ramps at Mercedes circle and Ponda Bye pass. The bridge is intended to save time and reduce the fuel cost of the commuters and directly aid in curbing the air and noise pollution.

Recommendations: Since the requirement of Private Forest land is bare minimum and the project being site specific with no alternate available, the diversion of 0.6648 ha of Private Forest area is recommended to the user agency.

Date: 04/01/2018

Place: Ponda- Goa



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North Goa Division