

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST AREA

The Passenger Ropeway System proposed from the bottom of the hill to the Kade Pathar Khandoba temple at the hill top at Jejuri town, Pune District has been finalized after detailed site investigations, reconnaissance surveys and numerous consultations with Temple Trust, locals and other stakeholders. Out of various alternatives, three selected options were also studied in detail on Engineering, Environmental, Social and Financial considerations.

After evaluating all the possible feasible alignment, forest land could not be avoided as the hill on which the Khandoba Temple is situated and required to be connected by Ropeway, is surrounded with forest from all sides. Since this location of Temple is fixed, in order to connect it from any side from the foothill, forest land shall compulsorily be required. Hence without locating the alignment on forest land, the Passenger Ropeway could not be completed. However, requirement of forest land is kept at minimum by locating Upper Terminal Station (UTS) on Private land belonging to Temple Trust. Further, the Ropeway alignment earmarked with 10m wide strip on forest land shall move sufficiently above ground level beyond tree height with a minimum clearance of about 5 meters. Thus, the tree cover on forest land falling in the alignment of Ropeway shall remain intact and undisturbed. Hence requirement of forest land is restricted only to Lower Terminal Station (LTS), Line Towers and Parking/Utility provisions.

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