

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST LAND

KIIFB-Hill Highway: Improvements from Karimkallummoozhy to Plachery:

Ch0/000 to 7/500 Km

Hill highway Project, one of the prestigious project of Kerala Government is envisaged to form a North South connectivity of the state through the eastern hilly portions of the state, connecting 9 districts for a length of 1267.00 km. The project is proposed to be included in KIIFB as per the Budget speech 2017-18 with a total financial outlay of 3500 crores. Kottayam is one of the 9 districts included in the project. Total length of Hill Highway under Kottayam district is 23.00 Km. The portion from Mundakayam to Karimkallummoozhy (15.50Km) is the part of NH 183A and the portion from Karimkallummoozhy to Plachery (7.50Km) is under Roads Division, Kottayam,. The road passes through Poonjar & Kanjirappally LACs and Erumely & Manimala gramapanchayaths.

The existing Right of Way (ROW) width for Hill Highway proposed is a minimum of 12.00m at all points of the road and the Local Self Government bodies have agreed to get free surrender of land from side by land owners wherever this minimum width is not available.

The portion from Plachery to Kanakapalam (4.50Km) is passes through Ponthapuzha forest region . At some locations, the forest land abuts the road and available ROW is less than 12.00 m. In order to develop the road to Hill Highway standards, ROW at these stretches also has to be widened and widening is possible when land is made available from Forest department.

Hill Highway can be made possible only if required land is obtained from Forest land as the alignment passes through these stretches and there is no other alternative other than getting forest land. The application for obtaining Forest land is now submitted in this situation and request that favourable orders may please be taken in this regard.

Thiruvalla

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