

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA**  
**YOUTH ADVANCEMENT TOURISM & CULTURE DEPARTMENT.**  
**TELANGANA STATE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**Justification for Locating the project in forest area.**

The Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation has proposed to develop the "Integrated Eco-Tourism Project in Rangareddy District", an Eco-Tourism Project that offers a nature-based retreat to Hyderabad's residents and tourists.

The proposed Integrated Eco-Tourism Project shall focus on two major themes:

- **Education and Awareness:** Gaining knowledge and appreciation for nature and the environment through museums, community awareness centres, etc.
- **Adventure and Recreation Tourism:** Exploring nature-themed tourism activities for recreation and adventure, such as lake based activities, arts and crafts centres, camping, biking trails, walking trails, bird watching, stargazing, etc.

The Project is proposed to be developed over an area of 1859.77 Hectares within Reserve Forest lands in the Southern part of Hyderabad in the villages of Kongara Kalan, Kongara Khurd, Eliminedu, Guttalakancha and Salonodubba.

The following Zones and related activities are proposed as part of the Eco-Tourism project:

- **Entry Zone:** Includes the Entry Gate Complex, Visitor Arrival Centre, Parking Area, etc.
- **Recreational Zone**
  - **Educational Sub-Zone:** Includes the Nature Interpretation Centre cum Museum, Amphitheatre, Flower Dome, etc.
  - **Tourism Sub-Zone:** Includes recreational and tourism activities such as:
    - Lake based activities
    - Cottages and associated facilities
    - Adventure activities
    - Arts and crafts village
    - Luxury tents – Forest/Desert Safari style
- **Conservation Zone:** Those areas within the project site with thick forest cover have been identified as part of the Conservation Zone,

which shall be used only for activities such as biking trails, walking trails, camping, etc., and shall not feature any development. Conservation activities shall include soil moisture conservation, protection, fire tracing, assisted natural regeneration, cap planting, afforestation, and management.

The estimated project investment of INR 1010 Crore, spread over the five year investment period, is expected to yield the following benefits:

**Revenue generation:** The potential sources of revenue generation for the Project are:

- a. Entry and parking fees
- b. Cafeterias
- c. User fee for facilities such as green vehicles, toy train, etc.
- d. User fees and rental fees for Adventure activities
- e. Rental fee for log huts and camping facilities
- f. Sales & training in Art & Craft Village

**Employment generation:** As per World Travel and Tourism Council, the travel and tourism sector is estimated to create 125 direct and indirect jobs per million rupees of investment in India. Thus, the Integrated Eco-Tourism Project is estimated to generate 12.8 lakh jobs across the five year development period.

**Sociocultural Development:** Tourism projects are beneficial for triggering sociocultural development by providing social growth opportunities, promoting cross-cultural understanding, and creating a unique identity of a location.

In addition, the Integrated Eco-Tourism project would assist in social development and improved standard of living in the surrounding regions of the project.

**Environmental awareness:** Owing to its nature as an Eco-Tourism Project with components integral to environmental awareness, the Project would create beneficial effects on the environment by contributing to environmental protection and conservation. It would serve to raise awareness of environmental values and act as a prominent example to teach the importance of natural areas.

**Key Influence Factors for Project Location:**

The key influence factors for the Eco-Tourism project location are:

- a. **Availability of large, contiguous areas with pristine green-spaces:** The Integrated Eco-Tourism Project is intended to serve as a nature-based retreat/getaway for population of an urban hub like the Hyderabad region by focusing on two major themes:
  - **Education and Awareness:** Gaining knowledge and appreciation for nature and the environment through museums, community awareness centres, etc.



- **Adventure and Recreation:** Exploring nature-themed recreational entertainment and adventure activities such as camping, biking trails, walking trails, bird watching, stargazing, etc.
- b. **Proximity to a sizeable urban population:** The target demographic for the proposed Integrated Eco-tourism project is an urban population which seeks to unwind and re-connect with nature as part of their work-life balance.

The Integrated Eco-Tourism project is envisioned to serve as a quick-access retreat for an urban hub such as Hyderabad. Locating the Integrated Eco-Tourism Project along the periphery of Hyderabad (as opposed to far-off locations in other forested regions in the State) would enable the Project to tap into the sizeable population of Hyderabad as well as local tourists who are looking for a quick getaway outside Hyderabad and yet within accessible reach from the city.

- c. **High ease of travel connectivity to and within the site:** As mentioned above, the Integrated Eco-Tourism project is intended to serve as a destination tourism project which offers a nature-oriented getaway while also offering the benefit of proximity to potential visitors.

To achieve this result, it is essential to develop the Eco-Tourism Project in a location which meets the following conditions:

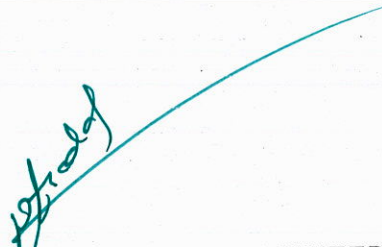
The location should be easily accessible to arriving visitors, especially last-lap connectivity from major roadways to the Project Site itself.

The greenspaces and other natural habitat features within the Project Location should be easily traversable by foot, bicycle and light motor vehicles in comfortable and hazard-free conditions. Hazards in the case of a project of this nature would include dangerous wildlife, sensitive law and order situation, risk of getting lost, etc.

For this purpose, it is essential to develop the Integrated Eco-Tourism Project in a large forested region with vast stretches of greenspaces and with natural features such as rocky terrain, lake/pond formations, etc.


Therefore, by its very nature, the Integrated Eco-Tourism project would require to be situated within forested lands such as those under the Reserve Forest category.

Therefore, it is certified that proposed site of 1859.77 hectares area in Kongarkhurd, Kongarakalan, Guttalakancha, Eliminedu, and Salonidubba of Rangareddy District is very appropriate to the objective of Eco Tourism projects and is the barest minimum required.



SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER.  
TSTDC, HYDERABAD.

'Counter Signed'



MANAGING DIRECTOR,  
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