

## **Justification for locating the project on forest land**

- M/S Nidhi Stone is a partnership firm located at village-Tuked, Ta-Mandavi, Dis-Surat (Gujarat). It has been granted 1 -ha. Quarry lease of blacktrape materials. Government of Gujarat issued a letter of intent under the Gujarat minor mineral concession rules 2010 as letter No. GS/QL/8484/10/3848 on date- 11/04/2011.
- Considering the fact that the geographical presence of project, only proposed diversion of forest land is available adjoined to the existing Nidhi Stone Project. There is no other alternative land available in surrounding area except neighbouring forest land adjoining the lease area. Also east and west side private land of tribale farmer;adjoint to nidhi stone not want to sale his land (map attached herewith). Nidhi stone has 1 Ha. Quarry lease and the remaining mining material is found at very deep end and that too of weak grade. Forest land adjoining the lease area has relatively good quality and quantity of blacktrape (minor minerals) at shallow depth.Hence diversion of 6.9702 ha. Forest land is unavoidable.
- We propose 6.9702 Ha. diversion of forest land (out of 67.83 Ha.) from block No.436 Moje village- Tuked, taluka-Mandvi, District- Surat in favour of Nidhi Stone. Because of Various infrastructure projects of national importance are undergoing in nearby areas such as:
  1. Delhi-Mumbai Expressway (8 lanes)
  2. Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed bullet train.
  3. Delhi-Mumbai industrial corridor(DFCC)
  4. National Highway 48
  5. National Highway 56(Vapi – Shamlaji NH 56)
  6. Various government housing schemes, flyover bridges and canals.
  7. Road and Private infrastructure development in Surat and adjoining districts.
- Further, new public and private infrastructure projects will come up in the future in nearby areas too. Successful capacity expansion would fulfill the deficient supply of essential construction materials from above mentioned projects and hence would help to avoid delay in completion of project. Further, it will boost the local economy also. Since our project will catalyse local sourcing of material, due to reduction in transportation cost it will have a positive impact on the quality of the project.
- Currently Nidhi Stone provides direct employment to 50 -100 unskilled and semi skilled human resource from surrounding tribal villages. Construction

material demands from 60-75 villages spanning between 2 district get satisfied by materials supply from Nidhi Stone.

- A Successful capacity expansion would generate an estimated new employment of 200-250 unskilled and semiskilled human resource of tribale people. Further, it will also generate indirect employment down the chain also.
- Government of Gujarat recovers revenue of Rs 40-60 lacs per year in forms of Royalty, GST, electricity and transportation bills etc from Nidhi Stone.
- A successful capacity expansion would stand to boost the revenue for government of Gujarat.
- Under current circumstances, Nidhi stone has no alternative land for long time mining, hence to continue and expand the capacity, diversion of 6.9702 ha. of adjacent forest land to Nidhi Stone for mining purpose is essential.
- A successful capacity expansion would lead to increase consumption of electricity power, fuels, vehicles and mining equipment's, hence boosting the economy.
- In view above details, there lies a huge potential of increasing:
  1. Government revenue.
  2. local employment and skill development.
  3. Support to infrastructure development.
  4. Boost in local economy.
- Plus Point Consider in this proposal is that the land proposed for raising Compensatory Afforestation(C.A) by Nidhi Stone is of good quality which is able to generate and compensate the Ecosystem Goods and services(EG&S) lost from non-forestry use.Also land is adjoining to the Reserved Forest areas to ease their management by Forest Department and ensure their protection in future.Land also having water resource for Plantation/Nursery and animal habitation.

For, NIDHI STONE

PARTNER

