

Name of Project: Diversion of 0.8325 ha. Mangrove land for Construction of Link road from N.H.4 (Mumbai - Pune) to Katai junction .In Thane Dist.

Project Authority: Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA)

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT ON FOREST LAND

The population of the city has grown exponentially over the past few decades. The current infrastructural facilities are under severe stress. Roads, at key junctions, are clogged with vehicles resulting Traffic Jams at peak hours. This affects people's movement across various parts of the city and indirectly affects business and commerce.

People have to run long via Mahape to reach Shilphata and then Kalyan / Dombivali /Badlapur etc. In view of exponential increase in traffic on this route, and to cater to further increase, Mimbai Metropolitan Road Development Authirity (MMRDA) proposes to construct road connecting NH-4 to Katai (near toll naka on Kalyan Shil Road). This new road will help smoothen traffic flows ,shorten the travel distance between Navi Mumbai and towns like Kalyan, Dombivali, Badlapur etc

Since, in the proposed alignment passes through Mangrove Land /Creeks at village Desai and Katai followed by urbanized area. In order to have minimum disturbance, this stretch will be elevated. Since, In the proposed road alignment passes through Mangrove land, Forest Clearance is mandatory for the Mangrove land.

Details of Mangrove Forest land required for the proposed road project road are as under

Sr. no.	District	Taluka	Village	Mangrove Land in Ha.	Legal status	Non Forest Area (Ha.)	Total Ha.
1	Thane	Thane	Kausa	-	-	1.0125	1.0125
2			Shil	-	-	2.2005	2.2005
3			Davale	-	-	7.1775	7.1775
4			Desai	0.8325	Mangroves / Mud flat	9.5580	10.3905
5		Kalyan	Katai		-	6.2730	6.2730
	Total			0.8325		26.2215	27.0540

There is negligible felling of trees in Mangrove area as the link road passing through maximum marshy land and creek. with minimum disturbance of surface in Mangrove area. The project authority is ready to bear the cost of exploitation as directed by the Forest Department. Minimum mangrove land is required i.e.0.8325 ha. as compared to non forest land i. e 22.2215 ha. The proposed road is so aligned that the requirement is barest minimum which is unavoidable. **This project will save time fuel and reduce traffic congestion as well as Pollution.**

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