



Rathataka One state. Many worlds. Department of Tourism

Government of Karnataka Tourism Department

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JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATION OF TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT LAND

This centre is a sacred place of Puranic importance and is located half a km from the village Alati situated nine km northeast to the taluk centre Nagamangala. A record from Nagamangala dated 1173 A.D. refer to this place 'Halatti' and a record from Dodda Jataka dated 1512 A.D. refers to this 'Aletigrama'. The local villagers refer to this as 'Halti' and the nearby hill as Haltigiri. This is a hill in the mountain range along the road from Nagamangala to Tumkur in the southnorth direction.

The cave temple of Malleshwara on the peak of the hill can be reached through the steps from east to west. Record dated 1605 A.D. refer to the grant given to a certain Singalideva Odeya by his disciple Muddanna son of Chikki. The grant included '14 gulige honnu' for the construction of a mud bund to the tank called 'Devarakatte' and the interest of three Hanas per Gulige Honnu for the purpose of the perpetual lamp to the god. The reference to the coin 'Gulige Honnu' is significant.

Another record of the same date refers to the construction of a door to the main entrance caused by a certain Mallayya. The Malleshwara linga on the hill is in a spacious cave. A legend says that after killing his mother Renuka, Parasurama visited this place to cleanse his sin by getting the darshana of the deity Malleshwara. He used his axe to cut the boulder to make a way to the cave temple, worshipped the deity and sat on a high boulder, opened his food packet to eat. The food flowed down the boulder as milk. Hence, the place got the name 'Halti'. The beginning of the cave is spacious, the inner part goes on reducing and one has to crawl to see the deity. This significant cave temple is a natural marvel. At the bottom of the hill, is a centre called 'Swargashrama'.

This is one of the major piligrimage centres in Mandya district. Huge number of piligrimages and devotees visits this temple throughout the year. The attractive spots of this village are as follows.

- Swargashrama Mallikarjuna Swamy temple (located at top of the hill)
- Pandavara kuteera Mooru kallu gundu (Three rocks formed a beautiful structure)

- kalyani (a water body just below the temple)
- Forest and wild life (Different types of plants and trees and some wild animals, birds)
- Caves

At present steps facility is existing at this destination. In order to provide other essential basic tourist amenities to the tourists who visit this destination Department of Tourism, Govt of Karnataka has takenup the current Project with the following major components.

- 1. Cement Concrete road
- 2. Cement Concrete Drainage
- 3. Cement Concrete Bridge
- 4. Revetment

The major appropriate site for the implementation of this project has been located at Halathi village, after considering various factors such as Soil Investigation, Elevation, feasibility of the land for the said project etc., Based on the Surveys conducted current site has been found to be most Efficient and no other locations fulfil above Criteria to be able to serve the requirements of the Headwork location.

Development of Tourist connectivity road is the main component of the project including Sub components like CC Drainage, CC Bridge and revetment are most efficient under Flat land (Forest land) and connecting road for laying of pipeline (Forest land) also required to be located at the elevation. Present location at Halathi Village is most suited one and there isn't any alternate location which can fulfil all the above criteria for the efficient development of Tourism infrastructure facilities.

Hence, the implementation of the above project is much essential. It will be verymuch helpful for the development of religious Tourism in this area. Without this project there will be difficulty to tourists/devotees/piligrimages for smooth and pleasant tourist experience. So the implementation of this project is to be done on priority basis that's why the diversion of forest land is required in the identified location since this land is most suitable as per the requirements of the current project.

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