

BRIEF NOTE ON THE PROJECT BY PROJECT AUTHORITY

OOTY:-

Ooty is the district head quarters of Nilgiris district of Tamilnadu which is popularly known as the Queen of hill stations and is one of an important and Interesting Tourist spot of Tamilnadu. The habitants of Nilgiris district mainly depending on road transport for their day to day activities. All essential commodities for the district are being transported through road transportation only. Nilgiris district is basically a horticulture district and its economy is based on the commodity crops of tea, Coffee and spices followed by important vegetables like potato, cabbage, carrot and other fruits. It is the largest producer of tea in Tamilnadu. An enhanced road network will improve the transportation of agricultural commodities to the nearest marketing centers so a better transportation network is the main requisite of Nilgiri people. This alternate route to Ooty is one such ideal network which is necessary for the upliftment of habitants of Nilgiris district.

SCHEME AND AUTHORITY:

During the District Collector's conference held on 14.11.2011 an announcement was made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamilnadu for exploring the possibility of opening a new route to Ooty (via) Karamadai vide G.O Ms No.42 Highways & Minor ports (HQ1) Department Dated: 21.03.2012 to connect Nilgiris district with other districts of Tamilnadu to enhance the road infrastructure in Nilgiris district.

ROAD TRANSPORT SYSTEM OF PRESENT TRAFFIC SCENARIO:-

The Nilgiris district is mainly connected by two roads to the rest of Tamilnadu

1. Kothagiri road (Ooty-Kotagiri-Mettupalayam-Sathy-Gobi-Erode road – SH 15)
2. Coonoor road (Nagapattinam – Gudalur – Mysore road – NH 67)

. During Rainy season both Kothagiri and Coonoor roads were very often get blocked by unpredicted massive landslides, which affects the transportation network and the Nilgiris district is virtually cut off from the rest of Tamilnadu.

Hence it is necessary to form an alternate route to Ooty (Via) karamadai through Mulli, Geddai, Perumpallam, Kundha and Kaikatty for maintaining uninterrupted traffic during natural calamities and mitigation programme.

IDENTIFICATION OF ALTERNATE ROUTE:

The Existing road network in Nilgiris district which connects Ooty with rest of Tamilnadu were thoroughly examined and three possible alternative routes from Karamadai to Ooty was identified other than Ooty – Mettupalayam road and Kothagiri road.

The feasible three alignment studied are

1. **Alignment 1:** Karamadai -Velliangadu - Perumpallam - Geddai - Manjur - Ooty
2. **Alignment 2:** Karamadai - Velliangadu - Mulli - Parali - Kolacombai - Kaikatty - Ooty
3. **Alignment 3:** Karamadai - Bujaganur - Nellithurai - Pillur - Parali - Kolacombai - Kaikatty - Ooty

Out of the above three feasible alignment, the alignment 1 Karamadai -Velliangadu - Perumpallam - Geddai - Manjur – Ooty is the best possible alignment which requires only merging and improving the geometrical features of existing roads and involves less acquisition of Forest land. This route also has no negative impact on the environmental and moreover does not affect the wild lifes.

The total length of proposed alternate route to Ooty (Via) Karamadai is 94.00 km out of which 39.80 km length road lies in Coimbatore district and is being maintained by Coimbatore Highways Construction and Maintenance wing. 54.20 km remaining length lies in Nilgiris

district and is being maintained by Ooty Highways Construction and Maintenance wing. The Details of alternate route is as follows.

Roads in Coimbatore District:

1. Karamadai – Dhayanur road (MDR - Plains) km 0/0-11/0	= 11.00 km
2. Dhayanur – Velliyangadu road (ODR - Plains) km 0/0-5/6	= 5.60 km
3. Velliyangadu – Perumpallam road (EB road 0/0-3/8 - Plains, forest road km 3/8-23/150 - Hills) km 0/0-23/200	= 23.20 km.
Total	39.80 km

Roads in Nilgiris district:

1. Kundha – Perumpallam road km 0/0-22/0 (ODR – Hills)	= 22.00 km
2. Udhaigai–Avalanchi-Kundha-Thaishola Road km 31/8-30/8 (MDR – Hills)	= 1.80 km
3. Coonoor – Kundha road km 30/0-19/0 (MDR – Hills)	= 11.00 km
4. Udhaigai – Kikatty road km 15/4-0/0 (MDR – Hills)	= 15.40 km
5. NGM road km 429/0-433/0 (NH 67 – Hills)	= 4.00 km
Total	54.20 km
Total	94.00 km

The length of road passing through forest area is 36.60 km, which has to be geometrically improved to avoid any accidents for which 56.548 Hec of forest land to be transferred from Forest department to Tamilnadu Highways department. As a compensatory twice the land viz., 113.096 Hec of land has been identified by Tamilnadu Government for afforestation as detailed below.

S.No	District	Taluk	Revenue village	Area in Hec
1	Coimbatore	Mettupalayam	Tholampalayam	36.250
2	Coimbatore	Mettupalayam	Kemmarampalayam	23.750
3	Nilgiris	Ooty	Solur	53.096
	Total			113.096

This project is inevitable and it is not only improve the socio economic of the tribal communities of Nilgiris district but also improve nations economy.

670 15/1/16
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