

Jivdani Passenger Funicular Ropeway at Virar, Maharashtra

by Shree Jivdani Devi Sansthan

SECTION B- BRIEF SUMMARY

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BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

The proposed project titled “Jivdani Passenger Funicular Ropeway” shall be developed at Village-Virar, Tal- Vasai, District-Palghar, Maharashtra- 401305 by Shree Jivdani Devi Sansthan, Virar SHREE JEEVDANI DEVI SANSTHAN, VIRAR which is a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) incorporated under the Companies Act for implementation and operation of Jivdani Passenger Funicular Ropeway at Shree Jivdani Devi temple, at S. No. 398, Virar -E, Virar, Maharashtra on S.no Class A/Land/ 346/ year 2017-18 dated 25/10/2017 in order to promote tourism & modal shift to transit and reduction in traffic congestion in the region. The project was granted Environmental Clearance vide letter no. SEAC-2008/CR.26/TC2 dated 17.09.2009 by Maharashtra SEIAA for development of Ropeway based on Monocable pulsed fixed Grip Passenger Ropeway being developed by M/s Damodar Ropeways and Construction Co. (P) Ltd. on behalf of Jivdani Devi Mandir Trust. Thereafter, construction works had been started but due to change in technology of ropeway, the work had been stopped at the site.

The project was then applied at SEAC (Maharashtra) for modernization of the ropeway project which was deferred due to few conditions.

The project being a Ropeway falls under Item 7 (g) of the schedule of EIA notification, 2006 under category A due to applicability of general condition as the project lies at 4.6 km E from ESZ of Notified WLS (Tungreshwar WLS) under Wildlife Protection Act 1972.

About Shree Jivdani Devi Mandir Trust: Shree Jivdani Devi Mandir Trust is a registered charitable trust in Maharashtra that manages the affairs of Shree Jivdani Devi Temple. The Trust appointed M/s Yashita Automotive Engineering Pvt Ltd, as Technical Consultants for carrying out initial studies and prepare a feasibility report for the project. Large numbers of devotees take Darshan at Shree Jivdani Devi Temple, Virar East, every day and particularly on holidays and festival days. Presently, their journey to the Temple is arduous as they have to climb over 900 steep steps up the Jivdani hill to reach the temple. The Managing Trust for the Temple, Shree Jivdani Devi Sansthan studied various alternatives to provide transport facilities to the devotees to climb the hill.

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Tourist Traffic: Jivdani Temple is a place is visited by over 10000 people in normal days however during festival days approx 40000 people visit the temple.

Brief Description of the Project:

SI No.	Particular	Unit	Details
1	Plot Area	m ²	19500
2	Number of Terminals	No.	2
3	Carrying capacity	PPH	1200 per Direction
4	Hours of Operation	Hr	12
5	Length of ropeway	m	400
6	Number of Cabins	No.	4
7	Travel Time	min	3

About Ropeway

Funicular Ropeway project is proposed to be developed from Lower point of the path till temple site, which would cover an aerial distance of about 400 meters. The proposed ropeway lies at a distance of 4.4 km of ESZ of the Tungreshwar Wildlife Sanctuary. The total area required for the construction of Terminal Stations and Line Towers would be about 19,500 m².

The proposed land was being used by pilgrims to go by foot before construction of stairs. Thus, No trees lies in the alignment of the proposed ropeway. During the construction activities for the proposed terminal stations there will be fugitive emissions such as particulate emission etc. on small scale. During the operation phase, the proposed ropeway will not involve major air emissions, however, for the reduction of air emissions and noise emissions due to the projects in the surrounding areas, 3 m barricading/ enclosure will be provided all along the construction site.

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Ropeway operation is an environment friendly, non-polluting transport system. As a stand-by arrangement, one DG set of capacity 500 kVA will be installed for power backup. DG set will be bought acoustically enclosed and will meet the emission standards prescribed by CPCB. The noise emission sources during construction phase will include use of Machineries/equipments to be deployed at site. The DG set of 500 kVA will be installed with proper anti - vibration pads. The system will be operated mainly on Electricity. DG sets will be used only at the time of electricity failure.

Total water requirement has been estimated as 43 KLD during normal days and during festival days or holidays, the water requirement will increase to 164 KLD. The source will be VVMC. Water shall be used mainly for flushing, drinking, washing and miscellaneous uses. The wastewater generated during normal days will be 35 KLD and during festival days/ holidays days will be 137 KLD which will be treated in STP of 165 KLD.

Solid waste will be generated by ropeway users inform of Biodegradable waste (food waste & flower waste) and Non Biodegradable waste (Paper, Leaf plates etc). The waste will be 500 kg/day (108 TPA) in normal days and 2000 kg/day (300 TPA) during festival /holidays. Biodegradable waste of quantity 350 kg/day (75 TPA) during normal days and 1400 kg/day (210 TPA) during festival days will be treated in Organic Waste Converter to get converted into manure. An Organic waste converter of 500 kg/day will be installed which not only will convert organic waste to manure but also the flowers from devotees will not cause huge dumps of flowers in the area rather these will also be converted to manure which will be sprinkled all over the hill so that more and more number of trees can grow and make the area greener.

The alignment falls within a Forest land which has been diverted for development of terminal stations & line towers. 1.95 ha. of area of forest land has been diverted. This activity has been carried out as per the guidelines of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. A compensatory afforestation plan will be done.

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There will be no displacement or immigration of the human population. Disabled, elderly and weak people would get an opportunity to visit the holy place through the proposed ropeway. The ropeway, being infrastructure project, will have its effect on the local economy by increase in visitors and by increase in the period for which the place can be accessible.

Safety Plan The ropeway system will be installed to be of best engineering standards in accordance with the relevant Indian and International standard codes.

Benefits of the Ropeway After installation of the ropeway the following benefits to the local people/ pilgrims of the area is envisaged:

- Old people can also reach Ropeway with an alternative mode of transport to Jivdani Devi Mandir.
- The travel time to reach the temple will reduce from 45 minutes to 3 minutes.
- More convenient way to reach Temple, thereby handling capacity of the existing temple increase.
- Beautiful view of the area.
- Provision of direct and indirect employment to the nearby people.