ANNEXURE II

Justification for Locating the Project in Forest Land

Project Name: "Development of Economic Corridors, Inter Corridors, Feeder Routes to improve the efficiency of freight movement in India under Bharatmala Pariyojna (Lot-2/UP/pkg-1 : Sonauli to Gorakhpur km 0+000 to km 81+204 of NH- 29E)), in the State of Utter Pradesh.

The National Highway authority of India, has decided to take up the development of Sonauli to Gorakhpur Section of NH-29E in the state of Utter Pradesh for capacity augmentation, safe and efficient movement of traffic by upgrading to 4-lane/6-lane with paved shoulder configuration based on the traffic demand.

The project road starts at Sonauli and passes through Nautanwala, Kolhai Bazar, Parsoni,

Bhaiya farenda, Campierganj, Peepiganj villages. and terminates at Gorakhpur.

The existing project road predominantly has a carriageway width ranging from intermediate to two lane with paved shoulder. The existing width is incapable to cope up with the increasing traffic. Being a national Highway, the project road requires up gradation to 4/6-lane with paved shoulder configuration.

Entire length of the stretch passes through plain terrain, this section has gentle horizontal geometry mostly straight. Vertical geometry needs substantial improvement to met HFL criteria as per IRC SP 73 2015. In adequate carriageway width and lack of adequate safety appurtenances including highway lighting at built up ares are major causes for accident along the stretch.

The junctions present at the built-up areas are lacking channelization, signs, place identification boards, markings and maintenance. The pedestrian crossing facilities such as zebra crossings and sings are nowhere observed.

The total length of the project stretch is 81.208 km.

The proposed widening requires diversion of 8.1078 ha of forest land in campierganj range District Gorakhpur

The diversion of forest area has limited to the minimum that satisfies the National Highway standards.