CHECKLIST: 04

<u>A DETAILED NOTE ON THE PROJECT</u>

Government of India has decided to develop Delhi - Katra Expressway to improve the efficiency of freight & transport movement in the region. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is the nodal agency to implement the project. NHAI has appointed M/s. Feedback Infra Pvt. Ltd., Gurugram as the DPR consultant for the proposed project.

The proposed project is Development of Package-17 (KM 515+000 to KM 566+475) of Phase-II of Delhi-Katra Expressway. The project starts at Km. 515.000 at Kunjwani Chowk in Jammu District and ends at Km 566.475 at village Parthal of Katra Tehsil in Samba District in the UT of J&K. The total length of the proposed project alignment is 51.475 Km. About 36.2511 ha. of Forest area shall be affected by the development of proposed project. There are three Wildlife protected areas located along the project highway i.e. Bahu Conservation Reserve, Ramnagar Wildlife Sanctuary & Nandini Wildlife Sanctuary. The project will also require approx. 67.7195 ha of Non-forest land.

The proposed project will improve connectivity from Delhi to Katra. The development will also improve the connectivity between the UT of Jammu and Kashmir with the major cities of Punjab State, Haryana State and the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

At present, the connectivity between Delhi and Katra is either through NH-44 or through a combination of NH-352, 52 & 703, 703B, 54 & 44, which are 4/6 lanes. The proposed expressway shall bring down the travel distance and result in time savings of commuters. Moreover, the proposed route will be developed as access-controlled expressway which will improve road safety, save travel time and cost, generate employment, decongest existing routes, boost tourism and commercial activities in nearby areas etc. The proposed project shall improve trade efficiency and bring economic growth in the region.

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