

Justification of the Project

1. Background

The excellence demonstration of Gujarat State Highway Project¹ by Government of Gujarat (GoG) - Roads and Buildings Department (R&BD) and the World Bank (WB) are now continuing with their successful partnership.

The Government of Gujarat (GoG) through Roads and Building Department (R & BD) has initiated the “Second Gujarat State Highway Project (GSHP II)” under financial assistance from the World Bank which is another teaming up and effort towards empowering the communities with enhanced road infrastructure and building the capacities of stakeholders participating in Second Gujarat State Highway Project (GSHP II).

As part of the GSHP II, Vallabhipur to Ranghola State Highway (SH 39) is proposed for Strengthening and Rehabilitation of Existing 2L+PS+HS with construction of side drain and bus shelter and bus bays.

2. The Project Road

The project corridor falls in Saurashtra region of the state, starts at km 0+900 near Vallabhipur town and ends at km 27+532 near Ranghola town on Bhavnagar Rajkot State Highway, with a length of 26.632 km comprising State Highway 39, enhances connectivity between Central Gujarat and Saurashtra. This project will provide an alternative interstate connectivity for long distance traffic and improve connectivity for tourism and industrial places in Southern part of Saurashtra in Gujarat.

3. Traffic Movement:

This corridor enhances connectivity between Central Gujarat and Saurashtra. Alternative interstate connectivity for long distance traffic and improves connectivity for tourism and industrial places in southern Saurashtra in Gujarat and connects two important Highways such as NH 51 and SH 36 and 38 as depicted in the map below:

4. Road Condition Improvement:

The project proposal is to strengthen the existing pavement by using innovative materials such as geogrid and soil stabilization techniques. This will enhance the riding quality of the road and reduces the travel time of the commuters.

5. Strengthening of Bridges:

Few of existing cross drainage structures are in poor condition, reconstruction and strengthening of them will give seamless connectivity to the commuters.

6. Road Safety Enhancement:

The improved design with improved geometry and better road condition, road side hazards such as tress on edges, poles, widening of narrow culverts the road safety situation shall improve. This will add on to the Project road safety and help in reducing number of accidents

¹ GSHP, 2001-2007 one of the most successful WB assisted state highway project, set many benchmarks for others to follow.

7. Project Benefits

The benefits of the corridor are:

- Ease in traffic movement.
- Provides faster and safer connectivity between regions and beyond Gujarat state.
- Due to proposed development, population residing in the project district will get benefitted.
- As per Census 2011, population residing along the corridor (10 villages abuts the corridor) is 47,919 and that of the entire Bhavnagar district is 28,80,365. The proposed development is expected to generate employment during construction and operation period.
- The project also intends to make this corridor one of its kind having safety and environmental benefits through integrated non-motorised zones and landscaping aspects throughout the corridor.
- The proposed development will bring overall development of region and State as well.



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