

JUSTIFICATION

(FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN PROTECTED FOREST AREA)

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH), Government of India has proposed “Bharatmala Pariyojana” an Umbrella scheme of road development project through National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), National Highway, Industrial Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL) and State Public Works Departments (PWD) at an estimated cost of INR 5,35,000 crores. This is the second largest highways construction project in the country after NHDP, where in almost 50,000 km of roads are targeted across the country. This project aims to improve connectivity particularly on economic corridors, border areas and to remote areas with an aim of rapid and safe movement of cargo to boost exports. International trade considered as a key aspect in this scheme and North-eastern states have been given special focus.

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has been entrusted with the work of Preparation of Detailed Project Report for Six laning of Sherpur to Dighwara (Ganga Bridge Part of Patna Ring Road) section of NH-131G (from Design Ch. 0+000 km to Design Ch. 15+020 km) under Bharatmala Pariyojana (Lot-5/Pkg-7) in the state of Bihar.

Project stretch falls in the state of Bihar. Bihar is in eastern India. It is contiguous with Uttar Pradesh to its west, Nepal to the north, the northern part of West Bengal to the east, and with Jharkhand to the south. Bihar covers a total area of 94,163 km² (36,357 sq mi), with an average elevation above sea level of 173 feet (53 m). It is dominated by a vast stretch of fertile plain which is divided unevenly by the Ganges River. Central parts of Bihar have some small hills, such as the Rajgir hills. Bihar has reserved Forest area of 6,845 km² (2,643 sq mi), which is 7.27% of its geographical area. The State has 26 nos. of National Highways with aggregate length 5301 Kms.

The project is starting from “Sherpur” at Design Ch.0+000 Km to connect Dighwara at Nh-19 Dighwara Bypass Design Ch. 15+020 Km on NH-19. The length of project road is 15.020 Km.

The proposed road would act as the prime artery for the economic flow to this region. It will enhance economic development, provide employment opportunities to locals, strengthen tourist development, ensure road safety, provide better transportation facilities and other facilities such as way side amenities etc. Vehicles operating cost will also be reduced due to improved road quality.


Project Director
 NHAI, PIU, Patna-II

Sufficient care has been taken during the design stage to avoid acquisition of forest areas located along the project road. No Forest area identified along the proposed alignment, however at some locations (crossings point of roads/railway line/canal/drain/river bund etc.), the proposed project falls in notified protected forest areas declared for management purposes and diversion of protected forest land is unavoidable.


Signature of User Agency
Project Director
NHAI, PIU, Patna-II