

**JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST LAND AND DETAILS OF
ALTERNATIVES EXAMINED**

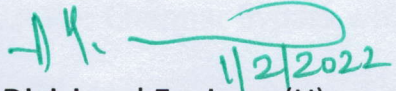
Construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) in lieu of Level Crossing No.32 between Vandalur and Tambaram Railway Stations near Perungalathur is an important project on the GST Road Corridor, since Perungalathur is the south entry point to Chennai City via Tambaram and also to the Chennai Bypass which will connect the Northern part of the Chennai City and also connect NH48 leading to Bangalore, Karnataka, NH 16 leading Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.

This ROB project will eliminate traffic conflict not only with the railway line but also enhance the connectivity between to Perungalathur and Peerankaranai on either side of the GST Road. On Peerankaranai side, this ROB arm connects with the proposed Tambaram Eastern Bypass, one of the new link roads proposed in the Second Master Plan of Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) notified in the year 2008.

This Bypass link will be a critical link for bypassing traffic to reach Chennai City particularly Velachery, Thiruvannamiyur and Adyar areas and provide good connectivity to the IT corridor and the East Coast Road (ECR), thereby significantly reducing traffic congestion in locations like Tambaram, Chromepet and Pallavaram on the GST Road.

The merging portion of the ROB alignment from GST Road side Rotary with the Bypass is from Ch.0/0 - 0/425. Out of this 425m, 0/240 - 0/425, 185m length of the ROB alignment passes through Vandalur Reserve Forest (RF) land, necessitates its diversion.

The alternate alignment avoiding diversion of the Forest land is not feasible since ROB alignment is based on the Standard Geometry requirements of Rotary Type Road Over Bridge Design, National Highway ROW requirements, Level Crossing location and presence of Peerkankaranai tank and also the present proposed alignment of Tambaram Eastern Bypass. Hence Diversion of forest land to an extent of 0.9547 Hectares is inevitable, for completing the ROB Project.


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