

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

Construction of Grade Separator Connecting Medavakkam- Sholinganallur road junction, Medavakkam-Mambakkam road Junction, Mount-Medavakkam Road junction in Marmalong Bridge-Irumbuliyur Road at Medavakkam is an important project on the Velachery Tambaram Road at Medavakkam.

The areas directly connected to these Junctions are the fast-developing Chennai Suburbs Such as Velachery, Tambaram, Madipakkam and Mambakkam. The Road Net-work connected to the Project Road and the Junctions connects the residential area of Velacherry and Chennai's IT Hub on Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR) – now known as Rajiv Gandhi Road which runs from Madhya Kailash to Siruseri. From Velacherry Road (Road Connecting Vellacherry and Tambaram) a road takes off leading to Mambakkam and this road connects the Residential Area of Velacherry to Vandalur – Kelambakkam Road which in turn connect NH45 and Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR) and East Coast Road (ECR) – SH49. Another branch of Vellacherry Road (the road connecting Velacherry and Tambaram) is Medavakkam Main Road and it joins SH109 at Kilkattalai. SH109 connects NH45 (at Pallavaram), Kilkattalai, Kovilambakam, Pallikarnai and Subbarayan Nagar on Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR).

Thus, the Junctions mentioned above connect residential and industrial hubs situated at Southern and South Eastern Chennai and of late tremendous increase in traffic flow is witnessed due to growth in IT and other Industries in the said areas. The traffic volume during morning and evening peak hours is very high and serious

congestion at these junctions is observed. And, thus, some viable measures to ease the traffic at these junctions are urgently warranted

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 Peerkankaranai on either side of the GST Road. On Peerkankaranai 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, Thiruvanmiyur 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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The proposed Grade Separator (GS) covers three Junctions and they are

- 1) Velacherry Road – Sholinganallur Road Junction at Medavakkam,
- 2) Velacherry Road – Mambakkam Road Junction &
- 3) Mount Medavakkam Koot Road Junction.

The areas directly connected to these Junctions are the fast developing Chennai Suburbs - Velacherry, Tambaram, Madipakkam and Mambakkam. The Road Net-work connected to the Project Road and the Junctions. From Vellacherry Road (Road connecting Velacherry and Tambaram) Sholinganallur Road (also known as ECR Link Road) takes off which thus connects the residential area of Velacherry to the Chennai's IT Hub on Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR) – now known as Rajiv Gandhi Road which runs from Madhya Kailash to Siruseri. From Velacherry Road (Road Connecting Velacherry and Tambaram) a road takes off leading to Mambakkam and this road connects the Residential Area of Vellacherry to Vandalur – Kelambakkam Road which in turns connect NH45 and Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR) and East Coast Road (ECR) – SH49. Another branch of

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