

**JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN PROTECTED
FOREST AREA**

The Government of India has decided to take up the development of various road stretches/Corridors in the central part of the country to upgrade the road network to meet the growing traffic requirement in this part of the country by augmenting the road capacity for safe and efficient movement of the traffic of selected road stretches for NH Connectivity to Backward Areas / Religious / Tourist Places (BRT) Scheme.

In pursuance of the above the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)/ National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) have decided for construction of four laning of Rajauli-Bakhtiyarpur section from Km 47+723 to Km 54+405 of NH-31 (Package-I), Nawada district in the State of Bihar to improve the efficiency of freight movement.

Project stretch falls in the state of Bihar an Indian state considered to be a part of Eastern as well as Northern India. It is contiguous with Uttar Pradesh to its west, Nepal to the north, the northern part of West Bengal to the east, with Jharkhand to the south.

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, and provide better transportation facilities and other facilities such as way side amenities. Vehicle operating cost will also be reduced due to improved road quality.

Sufficient care has been taken during the design stage to avoid acquisition of forest areas located along the project road. However at some locations the proposed project falls in protected forest areas and diversion of protected forest land is unavoidable.

Dated:

Place: **Patna**

Signature of User Agency

Project Director

National Highways Authority of India
Project Implementation Unit
Office Seal . PATNA