

**Name of the Project: Improvement of Gola-Shahjahnpur section of State Highway No. 93 from Km 0.000 to Km 49.000 in Lakhimpur Kheri district and from Km 49.000 to Km 59.000 in Shahjahanpur district of Uttar Pradesh**

**JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST LAND**

The widening of project road sections is to be undertaken within the existing ROW from "Gola-Shahjahanpur section of State Highway No. 93" from Km 0.000 to Km 49.000 of SH-93 in Lakhimpur Kheri district and from Km 49.000 to Km 59.000 of SH-93 in Shahjahanpur district of Uttar Pradesh. The existing road is of sub standard two lane configurations with earthen shoulder. It is proposed to widen the existing road section to standard 2-lane configuration with 1.5 paved shoulder and 1.0 m earthen shoulder on either side. The traffic flow on this road section has increased considerably and hence warrants immediate requirement of two lane with paved shoulder. The existing Right of Way (ROW) of the road is in general 30 m. The linear plantation within the ROW of this road section has been notified as Protected Forest. The project road section from Km 12.800 to Km 15.600 passes through Reserved forest area (Jungle No. 13). The reserved forest is located adjacent to the edge of the road formation width on both sides of the road. The widening of the project section is proposed within the existing ROW except for small section between Km 12.755 to Km 12.940. At Km 12.755 a single lane brick arch minor bridge is located across Kathna River. The detailed investigation of this bridge reflects that bridge at Km 12.755 runs nearly full and part of bridge approach (about 400 m from bridge site) on Gola side gets overtopped and the bridge is in dilapidated condition. In view of hydraulic and structural deficiency in existing arch bridge, it is proposed to construct a new 2 Lane Bridge parallel to present location to smoothen the traffic flow and to avoid road accidents at this location. Due to proposed construction of new bridge, approach road on the Shahjahanpur side will fall in Reserved forest land from for a length of 140 m from Km 12.800 to Km 12.940. So construction of approach road to new bridge and widening of the existing road section of reserved forest area will require diversion of a small area of 1.998 Ha. No additional land acquisition is proposed for the project except for the reserved forest section due to construction of bridge approach and widening of existing road section in this stretch. Since the project section is widening of already existing road, the existing alignment has been followed for the project.

- The road side plantation within existing Right of Way (ROW) along the project road has been notified as Protected Forest (PF) and that is the only option left for widening of the road.
- On the basis of traffic census the road widening is necessary.
- Reserved Forest is only option for the construction of approach of the proposed bridge on western side of the Kathna river and widening of the existing road in the reserved forest stretch as the boundary of the reserved forest (Jungle No. 13) is located adjacent to the road formation width on both side.



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(Signature of User Agency)