

## **Project Justification**

**Project: Construction of six-lane highway from Chittoor to Thatchur (NH-716B) from Km 0.000 (Bangalore Chennai Expressway) to Km.126.550 (Chennai Peripheral Road) in Chittoor District in Andhra Pradesh and Tiruvallur district in the state of Tamil Nadu**

The Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways (MORTH), Government of India is implementing “Bharatmala Pariyojana”, an umbrella program for the highways sector. This focuses on optimizing efficiency of freight and passenger movement across the country by bridging critical infrastructure gaps through effective solutions like development of economic corridors, inter-corridor, national corridors efficiency improvement, border & international connectivity roads, coastal & port connectivity roads and expressways.

In pursuance to above program, NHAI is undertaking “Chittoor - Thatchur Section, a newly declared highway as NH-716B” under the *Bharatmala Pariyojana* (Lot-3). The proposed project starts from Ch. 0.000 at Km 152 of Bangalore Chennai Expressway and ends at Ch. 126.550 near Chennai Peripheral Road in the state of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. The project road is entirely a new Greenfield highway.

Three alternatives alignments were studied in order to minimize the ecological impacts. These options were studied considering the alignment merits and demerits. The alignment will provide direct connectivity to Kamarajar (Ennore) and Kattupalli ports through Bangalore – Chennai expressway. The alignment will ensure seamless connectivity without mixing with Chennai city traffic for Bangalore traffic.

The project will give significant economic benefits to the State. Development of highway will lead to better connectivity and will play a significant role in reducing the pollution due to traffic congestion in city area as well as it will help in changing the socio-economic condition of the people living in the region. Installation of proper road safety system through signage, barricades, crash barriers, noise barrier etc. on project road will further enhance the road safety and minimize human-animal conflicts. The project will also generate direct and indirect employment to the local people of the State. The indirect benefits include savings in vehicle operating costs, less fuel consumption and decreased cost and time of passenger travel.



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