

## **Agra-Lucknow green-field expressway gets expedited**

### ***PPP monitoring committee reviews concept report, alignment finalised***

**Lucknow | August 27, 2012**

Implementation of State's ambitious Agra - Lucknow green-field eco-friendly expressway project is progressing well within timeline fixed for it. State Public Private Partnership Monitoring Committee (PPPMP) headed by Infrastructure & Industrial Development Commissioner (IIDC), **Anil K Gupta reviewed the draft concept report submitted by consultant M/s Redicon India Pvt Ltd and finalised the alignment for the expressway here today.**

To be built on 'minimum distance formula' through PPP mode, the **finalised alignment proposes** around 270 Km long six-lane (extendable to eight lanes) expressway **starting from proposed Agra ring road close to Yamuna expressway and passing through Fatehabad, Shikohabad, Saifai, NH-92 near Etawah, NH-91 near Kannauj, NH-25A near Malihabad will culminate at inner ring road at Lucknow.** According to the draft concept report, there would be **five toll-plazas, eight interchanges with 7.5 metres service lane along the expressway and 80 under passes, 135 cattle passes, four public amenities.** Draft concept report has fixed the project execution time of **3 years.**

**PPPMP asked** the consultant to incorporate design parameters for a speed of 120 Km/hour on the proposed expressway. Committee also observed that it should be clearly specified in the concept report that the **Concessionaire will have to acquire land himself, while the state government will only facilitate it.** Moreover, **final concept report will also include provision for optional Annuity or Toll -based revenue models, setting up two fuel stations, linkages to existing industrial clusters of potato based food processing in and near Agra, glass-work of Firozabad, Attar (perfume) industry of Kannauj and leather of Kanpur.**

**IIDC Anil K Gupta said, "The finalised alignment has been derived on the criteria of maximum utilisation of barren/waste and low cost land in the influence area." "To make the expressway economically inclusive, small Mandies (agro-markets) to benefit farmers, schooling facilities for their wards and medical-care facilities will be developed along with eco-friendly green belt and water bodies with a view to protect environment and rain harvesting,"** he added.

**IIDC further informed, "Consultant has been asked to include alternative bidding processes for selection developers on the basis of either the entire expressway as a single project or in packages of growth centre to growth centre. Besides, Master-plans of cities along the alignment have to be synchronised with expressway, so that, there is no hurdle in execution of project later on."**

**CEO, U.P. Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA), Mukul Singhal informed** that comments of UPEIDA/PPPMP on Draft Concept Report would be given to the Consultant early next month and then the Final Concept Report would be accepted by 'PPP Monitoring Committee'.

Apart from cutting short the travel time between Agra and Lucknow to 3 hours from the present 7 hours, the access-controlled expressway will help the swift transportation of perishable produce of farmers to bigger markets and boost the tourism along the alignment as it will link to already functional Yamuna Expressway between Greater Noida and Agra.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, Infrastructure & Industrial Development - **Sanjay Prasad**; Special Secretary, Infrastructure Development, **Dr Roshan Jacob** and **senior officials** of departments of Finance, Irrigation, Planning, Housing, Urban Development, Environment, etc.