



With environment nod, Hindon elevated road clears last hurdle

OPENING SOON GDA requests chief minister to inaugurate 10.3km elevated road, Ghaziabad's first

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GHAZIABAD: The state environment impact assessment authority (SEIAA) on Friday awarded the much-awaited environment clearance to Hindon elevated road. With this, the road can be thrown open to the public. Officials said that they have urged the chief minister to inaugurate the 10.3km-long road.

With the environmental and legal hurdles over, the commuters will be able to get a signal-free connectivity to Delhi border. The project will serve as a six-lane, signal-free bypass for those travelling to Delhi from Ghaziabad and western UP areas. Once operational, commuters will be able to drive down from Ghaziabad to the East Delhi border in 15 minutes while maintaining the permissible speed of 80kmph.

The road, which is built on 228 pillars apart from the ground surface near Raj Nagar Extension, will also be a boon to travellers who will land at the Hindon airbase once regional flights commence operation from under the regional connectivity scheme. The road ends 1.5km away from the airbase.

"With the grant of environmental clearance, all hurdles have been removed. We have requested the UPCM to inaugurate the project. A decision is expected soon. The remaining work on rotaries, especially at Vasundhara, is being expedited and will be complete by end of May," GDA vice-chairperson Ritu Maheshwari said.

Work for rotary on the CISF Road at Vasundhara was delayed and may lead to congestion up to NH-24 once the road is opened. "We are going to hold a meeting to chalk out a traffic



■ The state environment impact assessment authority granted much-awaited environment clearance to the 10.3km Hindon elevated road in Ghaziabad. SAKIB ALI/HT PHOTO

THE ROAD WILL ALSO BE A BOON FOR PEOPLE WHO WILL LAND AT THE HINDON AIRBASE ONCE REGIONAL FLIGHTS COMMENCE OPERATION FROM UNDER REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY SCHEME

management plan in case there is congestion at the CISF Road due to rotary work," Maheshwari added.

Completion of the project was scheduled for April 2017.

The work was delayed due to several factors, including shifting of high power transmission lines, delayed construction of a rail overbridge near Vasundhara, and litigation with obtaining an environmental clearance.

CPWD okays second elevated road in project feasibility meet

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GHAZIABAD: The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) officials have said it is feasible to construct the 2.5km elevated road on GT Road, the Ghaziabad development authority (GDA) officials said on Friday.

The authority had engaged the CPWD to study the feasibility of building an elevated road on GT Road, and give cost estimates of other infrastructure projects in Ghaziabad.

Authority's chief engineer VN Singh said that CPWD has found it feasible to construct a

second elevated road of 2.5 km in Ghaziabad from Ghanta Ghar to the GT Road. The stretch is highly congested and is flanked by hundreds of commercial establishments.

"CPWD officials have found the project feasible and have asked for funds from GDA for the survey. Further, a detailed project report (DPR) will be prepared. The cost of the project will be estimated later. During the meeting on Friday, they submitted plans and designs of the other projects as well," authority's chief engineer said.

The authority officials estimate that the 2.5km elevated

they say

➤ We will hold a meeting to chalk out a traffic management plan in case there is congestion at CISF Road due to rotary work.

RITU MAHESHWARI, vice-chairperson, GDA

➤ Cost for mechanised multilevel parking lot at Raj Nagar is ₹125 crore. We have asked CPWD to reduce the cost as we have a budget of ₹20 crore.

VN SINGH, chief engineer, GDA

road could cost ₹200 crore.

The GDA has asked CPWD to start preparing the DPR for the 2.5km elevated road. The report has to be submitted in 15 days.

"The estimated cost for other major projects, such as the mechanised multilevel parking lot at Raj Nagar District Centre is pegged at ₹125 crore. We have asked CPWD to reduce the cost as we have a budget of ₹20 crore and can go to a maximum of ₹30 crore," Singh added.

CPWD has also submitted a plan for revamping three entrance gates—Ghanta Ghar, Dasna Gate and Delhi Gate—to the old Ghaziabad city.