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KANARA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

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Ref No. 2023-24/0305

19th July, 2024

Capt. Brijesh Chowta
Hon'ble Member of Parliament,
Dakshina Kannada.

Respected Sir,

Sub.: Issues with regard to Mangaluru – Bengaluru road connectivity owing to Shiradi and Sampaje Ghats.

Greetings from Kanara Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI), Mangaluru.

I, on behalf of KCCI and its members congratulate you on being elected as the Member of Parliament of Dakshina Kannada. We are thrilled to observe that you are very enthusiastic and have appropriately identified the critical areas for the development of this region.

All our members are very happy to note that your kindself had taken the lead to arrange for the visit of the Hon'ble Union Minister of state for Railways, Shri V. Somanna and highlighted about the burning issues affecting the development of railway infrastructure.

We have also been informed through the press that you have taken personal interest along with other MPs of the region and had a personal discussion with the Hon'ble Minister of Roads Transport and Highways of India, Shri Nitin Gadkari seeking his intervention for completion of Mangaluru - Hassan (NH 75) four laning and development of four laning from Mani to Kushalnagar (NH - 175) which are critical for connecting the New Mangaluru Port, industry as a whole and to have a robust connectivity to Bengaluru, Mysuru and entire hinterland. By developing this road connectivity which is critical for boosting the economy of two districts, Mangaluru and Udupi, it would promote tourism including religious, medical tourism, education centers, industries and general public of this region by and large.

To connect all these centers and to gear up with the needs and aspirations of general public and industry, the Shiradi Ghat (NH 75) i.e from B.C. Road to Sakleshpur and NH 175, both arterial roads for the development of a robust connectivity to this region with the hinterland is very critical. However, presently the condition of the said roads as on date has drastically deteriorated and rendered unmotorable. The respective district authorities of Hassan, Madikeri, and Dakshina Kannada have suspended the



vehicular movements completely - both passenger and commercial from 18th July, 2024 till date by issuing public notification.

To mention some of the short comings, it would be pertinent to draw your attention that since past 25 years due to the vagaries of nature that is during monsoon, the entire stretch of the ghat and due to slow pace of the completion of National Highway four laning (NH 75), the roads especially in the Shiradi Ghat section, (Maranahalli up to Donegal) becomes unmotorable from July to November every year. This is the perennial problem which entire industry takes the serious brunt and the general public is put to lot of hardships. In addition, the rapid transport system and supply chain system is disrupted causing inconvenience to the general public and industries.

With this incessant rain, entire stretch of roads, which is just completed from Sakleshpur to Hassan and near Maranahalli to Addahole section there is a landslide leading to complete suspension of vehicular movement from 18th July, 2024 till date. On account of the suspension of vehicular movement to and fro Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts, it has been totally disconnected and have become an island causing financial loss and disruption of economic activities. In light of the above enumerated facts, following are our petitions for your immediate personal attention.

- 1) Expediting the four laning work of NH 75 connecting B.C. Road to Sakleshpur.
- 2) Immediate restoration of vehicular movement by restoring the road and make it motorable 24/7.
- 3) The stretch between Addahole to Maranahalli needs total concretization as this is posing as a critical point, where every year between July and October, the road connectivity is totally disconnected on account of landslides.
- 4) The 10 Kms stretch even after persistent persuasion, the National Highway authorities has not found permanent solutions to overcome the recurring problem and road becomes unmotorable for six months of the year. This needs to be immediately restored and a mechanism should be evolved to bituminize and on long term basis concretized.

Prayer:

- 1) Your personal intervention for immediate relief in restoration of all types of vehicular movements (passenger and commercial) in both the ghats, i.e. NH 75 and NH 175.



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- 2) Release of Emergency Relief Fund for restoring and asphaltting the 10 kms stretch of Addahole to Maranahalli and continuous maintenance of the roads throughout the year.
- 3) We request you to expedite the above projects of four laning cited above which are essential for the economic development of the districts and also in the interest of the general public.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,

For **KANARA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

ANANTHESH V. PRABHU
DIRECTOR / PRESIDENT
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Affiliated to:

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi. | Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Bengaluru.

Confederation of Indian Industry (Southern Region), Bengaluru/Chennai. | Bangalore Chamber of Industry & Commerce, Bengaluru. | Indian Merchants' Chamber, Mumbai.

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