

Widening key roads, signals at roundabouts in proposal for revamped Central Vista

ANANYA TIWARI
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WIDENING OF Akbar road, Rafi Marg, and Janpath to 6-8 lanes, installing traffic signals at roundabouts, flyover(s) at intersections — these are among recommendations listed in a traffic management assessment of the Central Vista area, as traffic volume is expected to increase post revamp.

As per the assessment report, made by TATA Consulting Engineers Ltd, traffic along major arterial roads of the Vista will increase annually and after construction of the new buildings. It was submitted by the Central Public Works Department to the Expert Appraisal Committee (Infra 2) in March for environmental clearance.

"Central Vista development/redevelopment adds significant amount of traffic... on Dr Rajendra Prasad Road, Maulana Azad Road, Ashoka Road, Akbar Road, and Shershah Road", and "at three roundabouts (near VP house, Pancha mukhi Chowk, Raisina roundabout)", says the report.

It also states that "Ashoka road and Rafi Marg approaches at the roundabout in the horizon year 2026 will have traffic demand exceeding approach capacity, resulting in significant queue formation..." The analysis also shows an overall impact on the road network due to the revamp in 2026.

Due to this projection, Tata has recommended expansion of the roads. Ashoka and Shershah roads will require "immediate upgrade to 8 lanes" from its present 4 lanes. "Akbar Road, Rafi Marg, Janpath will require to be upgraded to 6 lanes divided configuration in 2026" from its existing 4 lanes, and Akbar Road will require further upgrade to "8 lanes divided configuration in 2039". Dr Rajendra Prasad Road "will require 4 lanes divided con-



figuration in 2031".

A flyover and traffic signals are also recommended at roundabouts. "Intersection traffic volume nearing 10000 PCU/hr usually results in very inefficient and hazardous traffic condition. At this level, provision of grade-separator or flyover is recommended... provision of bypass lanes at major/minor approaches to reduce vehicle delay," says the report.

However, a senior CPWD official said: "We have carried out detailed studies and submitted our proposal for traffic improvement to UTIPEC for approval. It will not be appropriate for me to give details of all traffic improvement measures till these are approved. However, we will provide service roads near entrance/exits of buildings to make them smooth without affecting traffic on main roads. We are also providing Automated People Mover/Light Metro, which will encourage people to use pub-

lic transport. Further, by constructing Common Central Secretariat building, we are not increasing number of officials in Central Vista... more parking space inside buildings will reduce vehicles presently being parked on roads..."

Meanwhile, issuing clearance to the new PM residence, VP enclave constructions, Common Central Secretariat — all estimated to cost Rs 13,450 crore — the EAC put forth recommendations for a detailed traffic management plan during construction. This is to "ensure service of roads... may not get adversely impacted during implementation of the project...", it said during its 63rd meeting on April 12-13 held via video conferencing.

The document, however, does not mention impact of redevelopment on traffic in the area, air pollution, or recommendations made on widening of roads or other traffic mitigation strategies.

ARMY INSTITUTE OF NURSING, GUWAHATI CORRIGENDUM

Reference to the original advertisement published in the newspaper on 14th April 2021. Scheduled date i.e. 27th Jun 2021 for conduct of online Admission Test is hereby postponed. Fresh date will be notified in due course of time.

Army Institute of Nursing Guwahati extends the dates for submission of online applications for admission into B.Sc(Nursing) Course are as under-

- (i) Till 15th June 2021 - Without late fee
- (ii) From 16th June 2021 - With late fee Rs 100/- to 30th June 2021

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