

THE GANDHIDHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(ESTD. 1953)

"CHAMBER BHAVAN", Plot No. 71, Sector 8, Post Box No. 58,

GANDHIDHAM - Kachchh - 370 201.

Phone: +91-02836-220977, 220735 · Mobile: 99250 37814 · Fax: 220888

e-mail: info@gccikandla.com · Website: www.gccikandla.com

No. GCC1/556

Date: 22.02.2017

Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon. Minister of Road Transport Highway & Shipping, Transport Bhawan – 1, Sansad Marg, New Delhi – 110 001

Sub: Widening of the National Highway 8A extension connecting Kandla and Mundra Ports

Respected Sir,

You will be pleased to know that the Gandhidham Chamber of Commerce & Industry is a pioneer Institution in the region of Kandla – Gandhidham to promote trade, commerce and Industry interests since 1953.

We appreciate and congratulate you and your team for the achievement of a record construction of 27 KMs of highway per day, which is highest in the history of construction of National Highways and it is only possible to do so under your visionary and able leadership.

We are constantly in deliberation with our members and business fraternity with reference to their issues and its resolutions. As a part of this exercise, recently our members and transport fraternity in particular have shared their experience of plying commercial vehicles on NH 8A extension connecting Kandla and Mundra Ports. Based on that, a consensus solution emerged among all users and stakeholders is for widening of the NH 8A extension joining Kandla and Mundra Ports to six lanes.

Therefore, we take an opportunity to make hereunder our submission on the captioned subject and request your honour for favors of resolving the issues.

- 1) At present more than 20000 transport vehicles ply daily on this route of 2 lanes and its conversion to all well built 4 lanes highways is in progress for last 3-4 years
- 2) Day-by-day, the number of vehicles getting increased twice due to increased activities around Kandla Mundra.
- 3) NH 8A is a six lane from Samakhiyali to Gandhidham but abruptly becomes four lane highway from Gandhidham to Mundra Port (NH 8A extension) between two of the busiest port of our country i.e. Kandla & Mundra. It is highly inconvenient for the truck operators and drivers to negotiate this reduced width of the highway from 6 lanes to 4 lanes resulting frequent accidents on this stretch.

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4) Most of the trucks and container carriers are heavy with multiple axles to carry heavy load. Hence, it is very difficult for them to negotiate the congestion on 2 lanes & 4 lanes road.

While we do appreciate the present extension work of 4 lanes, further we request your honour to consider concurrently conversion to six lanes in the context of our above submission which will fulfill present and further needs of the transportation on this stretch of NH 8A and will result in to saving of time and cost if the work is undertaken simultaneously with present work of extension of 4 lanes.

We hope, your honour will positively consider our request for the extension to six lanes of the stretch of NH 8A between Kandla to Mundra taking into account of our submission and the futuristic outlook of this region.

Thanking you and looking forward for your positive response in this regards.

Dinesh Gupta President