



India

34 National Highway 24 Improvement Project

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This project's objective was to promote the smooth traffic flow on National Highway 24, which connects the capital city of Delhi with Lucknow, the capital city of Uttar Pradesh (UP), by widening the section from Ghaziabad to Hapur in UP and also by constructing a 4 lanes bypass, thereby contribute to the improvement of the economic and social environment in the region surrounding the road.

Loan Amount/Disbursed Amount: 4,827 million yen/2,795 million yen
Loan Agreement: February 1995
Terms and Conditions: Interest rate 2.6%; Repayment period, 30 years (grace period, 10 years); General untied
Final Disbursement Date: April 2002
Executing Agency: Ministry of Road Transport and Highway



External Evaluator: Chiaki Nakamura (Global Link Management, Ltd.)
Field Survey: September 2004

Evaluation Result

In this project, the widening of National Highway 24 (from 2 lanes to 4), bypass construction, pavement of existing road, new construction and reinforcement of a bridge and culvert (crossing structure) were conducted almost as planned. The project period exceeded the planned period for adjustment the height of the bypass to consider natural environment. The project cost was lower than planned.

After the project completed, travel time for this section (located between 27.6 km and 48.6 km from Delhi) was significantly reduced from one and half hours to 25 minutes. The annual average daily traffic (AADD) increased from 9,812 vehicles in 2003 to 10,987 vehicles in 2004, or 12%. The volume of transportation grew from 20,400 tons/day of (FY2002 average) to 21,000 tons/day (FY2003 average) for freight and from 100,000 km (FY2002 average) to 105,000 km (FY2003 average) for personnel.

Following this project, development along National Highway 24 is progressing with the building of large store, housing, and a university. In the beneficiary survey, approximately 80% of respondents noted "improved access to markets," and 80% also noted "improvement in income due to increased transport

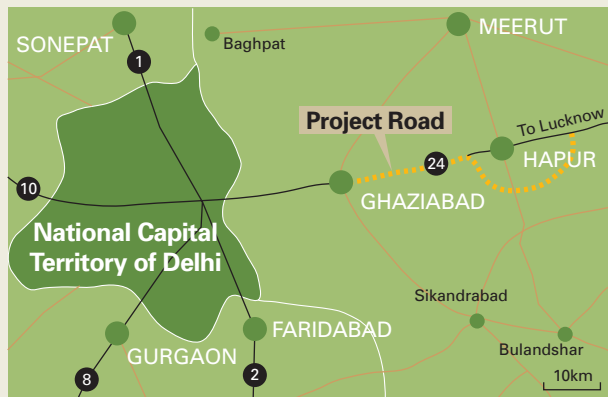
volume and shorter transport time for agricultural products." There are no problems in the technical capacity or the operation and maintenance system of the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), which is in charge of operation and maintenance. Collection of road tolls is going well and the financial status is satisfactory.

Third-Party Evaluator's Opinion

The relevance of this project, which developed part of a major trunk line road, is acknowledged, but there many issues remain concerning the development of the overall road network. There is room for improvement in the selection of operation and effect indicators and methods of verifications in the future.

Third-Party Evaluator: Mr. Bibek Debroy (NGO)
 Obtained a master's degree in economics from Cambridge University. Currently is director of Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies and Delhi representative of the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, Specializing in macroeconomics.

Project Area



Dotted line represents road built/improved by this project



Dental college under construction near the road following the completion of this project