



RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT  
RAJYA SABHA

Member of Standing Committee on Defence  
Member of Consultative Committee on Defence  
Member of Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps  
Co-Chairman, Vigilance & Monitoring Committee, Bangalore Urban District  
Vice Chairman, National Military Memorial Management Trust, Bangalore

30 June, 2016

Dear Dr Rajkumar Khatri Avare,

As a citizen of Bengaluru and a Member of Parliament from the city, I write to you expressing my concern over the proposed steel flyover from Basaveshwara Circle to Hebbal flyover.

I express severe disappointment in that / as the proposed project is neither citizen-driven nor plan-driven.

The strong opposition sparked for the proposed project is the evidence of the fact that Bengalureans are willing to assert their right to have a say in the development of their city. Our people and our city and state deserve better than what we are seeing today. They deserve a Government and institutions that work in partnership with citizens, rather than the current situation of conflicts between residents and Government.

The problems Bengaluru is facing, specifically with respect to Transport & Traffic Management is to do with more fundamental issues of planning and institutional performance in terms of delivering public services less to do with structure or size of the city.

As you are aware, following details are not available in the public domain for scrutiny and transparent deliberations and it is the primary responsibility of an executing agency to share all project related data and details in public domain.

1. Specifications of the project such as detailed plan, cost & timeline including Detailed Project Report (DPR).
2. Details of land (Public & Private) required along with status of such acquisition.
3. Details of various impact study including environmental & heritage - Media reports suggest 500 or more fully grownup trees will be cut down.
4. Details of structural design and issues of maintenance, aesthetics and beauty of our city.
5. Details justifying reasons for why only Steel Flyover and not concrete flyover like any other existing flyovers in the city with a possibility of interlinkages with future constructions and elevated corridors, if any.



6. **Details of existing infrastructures need to be demolished** – Media reports suggest that the Sankey road flyover near BDA office, the two flyovers at Veterinary College and CBI office junctions will be demolished in addition to magic box at Cauvery junction and two skywalks near Sofia School junction and near HMT Bhavan. **You agree with me that all these are constructed only few years ago using taxpayers' money.**
7. This project is not part of the Master Plan, whereas many other works that should have been taken up under the Master Plan have not been carried out. By taking up such works now, what will be the impact of the rest of the Master Plan in this area - has BDA studied that? And if so, what is the proposed revision to the Master Plan as a result of building this project? In general, it would be advisable if the agency did not carry out projects that are not streamlined into the Master Plan, either at the beginning, or through a statutory process for revisions.

I believe it is not something so casual that giving less than 48 hours to citizens to respond on email - and that too, a wrong email id appeared in the newspapers - should be presumed as adequate! The administration and civic bodies must respect the opinion of citizens and recognize their right to participate in consultations on major projects as this 6.7 km long steel flyover is going to be.

I hope that action in this regard will be initiated immediately and the BDA will make an honest attempt to discuss in detail about this project through public consultation and publish all details on its website.

I remind you that BDA is dealing with public money and is accountable for the use/misuse of same. At a time when there are several questions about recent and past conduct of BDA in this regard, I hope that in the interest of transparency full facts, details and impact will be placed for a thorough and honest attempt at a public consultation before this project is taken to MPC for approval as is expected.

Looking forward to your early reply in this regard.

Sincerely,

**RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR**

**Dr Rajkumar Khatri, IAS**  
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