

ANNEXURE P

HASIRU USIRU

Email/By Hand/UCP

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To:

Mr. Sivasailam, IAS
Managing Director
Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.
Bangalore

11 May 2009

Dear Sir,

As you are aware, there is widespread protest against the destruction of Lalbagh and Lakshman Rao Parks for the southern reach of the Metro construction. *Hasiru Usiru*, a network of individuals and organisations that over the past several years has mobilised public concern for conservation of parks and public commons, has spearheaded these protests based on a very thorough and rationale review of alternatives.

From a detailed analysis of the Detailed Project Report obtained under the Right to Information Act from your office on 02 May 2009, we have learnt that Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd., which conducted the DPR exercise for the Bangalore Metro, considered another alignment to be equally or more feasible than the one being currently implemented through Lalbagh and Lakshman Rao boulevard.

As a matter of fact, the ridership in the alternative route is significantly higher, considering that the Metro line would pass through Jayanagar Shopping and Bus Stand area, where there is ample lands belonging to government agencies that could innovatively be used for a Metro and Bus Transit zone. Further, this alignment also has the fantastic scope of extension towards Banashankari and also Electronics City, which your agency is currently considering.

We are enclosing a detailed pictorial representation of the alignment that passes along K. R. Road as presently proposed, except that the underground section is extended by about approx. 650 metres beyond the National College flyover. Once this physical impediment is overcome, the Metro emerges overground as a cost saving measure on elevated tracks.

Please note that from this point on past M. N. Krishna Rao Park, through Patalamma Temple Street, South End Circle, Elephant Rock Road, 3rd Block circle and then to Jayanagar shopping centre, there is significant cost saving as there are no 90 degree turns that the present R. V. Road alignment has to take (4 such turns in less than 4 kms. which significantly slows down the system and increases maintenance costs, besides destroying park spaces). Additionally, there is ample scope for locating elevated stations on public lands, that also can be expanded in future into parking zones and bus bays as desired for any Metro station. This alternative also provides a smoother flow of Metro trains as they do not have to take sharp right angle turns and pass through more densely populated areas, but on streets that have relatively less traffic than does R. V. Road. The precious gain in saving arterial road space will prove a significant advantage in the course of time when traffic congestion increases.

A significant advantage of this alternative, besides protecting precious and irreplaceable Lalbagh and Lakshman Rao boulevard, is that it would service much denser catchment areas of commuters than the present R. V. Road alignment does. As the DPR confirms, there is no catchment of commuters for the present or in the future within 250 metres of the current alignment through R. V. Road east of Lalbagh and on both sides of the Lakshman Rao boulevard. The alternative we propose passes through arteries of residential and commercial neighbourhoods on either side, and thus increases the financial viability of the system, as well as its speed.

We have broadcasted this alternative all along our protests against the R. V. Road alignment

11-wam 4/12/09
Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.
3rd Floor, BMTG Complex, K.H. Road
Shanthinagar, Bangalore-560 027, INDIA

Received 1 letter along with drawings.
(sealed covers)

and had hoped to provide these details to you when you were kind enough to visit our protest spot on 32nd Cross of Lakshman Rao boulevard on Saturday, 9th May 2009. But unfortunately you did not have much time then for us. Therefore, we are submitting this alternative alignment so that you may bring this to the attention of your superiors in the Government for approval and needful action and ensure that our generation will protect Lalbagh and Lakshman Rao boulevard for posterity, as have previous generations who gifted them for our wellbeing.

Thank you,

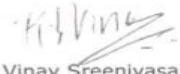
Yours sincerely,



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