

A Highway Bringing New Possibilities to the Heart of Central India: Boregaon to Shahpur

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Khandwa and Burhanpur, a booming agricultural powerhouse in Madhya Pradesh and central India's banana hub, produces over 1.7 million metric tons of bananas annually, sending a daily flow of 140 heavily loaded trucks to domestic markets and international ports. For years, these trucks had to depend on narrow, damaged roads that slowed this movement, increased their travel time and made transportation a difficult task. That story is now about to change with the emergence of Boregaon to Shahpur section of NH-753L as a modern four-lane highway corridor under the ambitious Bharatmala Pariyojana.

The Boregaon to Shahpur section of NH-753L is a strategically important stretch that forms part of a larger corridor extending further up from Boregaon Bujurg to Muktainagar in Maharashtra. Developed by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, the corridor promises to redefine inter-state connectivity between Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. It is being developed at an estimated cost of ₹944 crore and is spread across nearly 47 kms, with 85 percent of construction almost complete. Once fully completed, this route will emerge as a faster, safer and more efficient alternative connection between Indore and Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar (Aurangabad) and become a major inter-state transport axis while strengthening the regional logistics network.

Strengthening Farm-to-Market Connectivity

The project passes through agriculturally rich regions known for crops such as banana, cotton, soybean and wheat. For local farmers and transporters, these better roads directly translate into faster market access and lower transportation costs.

For villages in the region, the highway is already being seen as a major improvement in daily life. Asha Kaithwas, Sarpanch of Jhiri Panchayat in Burhanpur district, highlights how difficult transportation had become due to the poor condition of the old road. According to her, heavy vehicle movement was earlier extremely challenging because of damaged surfaces and potholes. With the new highway taking shape, truck movement has become significantly smoother, helping both farmers and transporters move agricultural produce more efficiently.

The corridor includes 1 Railway Over Bridge (ROB), 7 Major Bridges, 20 Minor Bridges, 98 Culverts, 3 Light Vehicle Underpasses (LVUPs), 5 Small Vehicle Underpasses (SVUPs) and 6 Vehicular Underpasses (VUPs). Many of these structures have been designed to ensure that local connectivity is not disrupted and movement between villages, farms and nearby areas remains smooth and uninterrupted.

Bringing Cities Closer

Gopal Kadutemkar, a cold storage operator from the Shahpur-Burhanpur region, explains that Jalgaon lies around 90 kms away while the Maharashtra border is only about 10 kms from the area. He believes the biggest advantage of the project will be how much closer Indore and the Malwa region will feel after

completion. Faster travel, reduced transportation costs and smoother movement are expected to benefit local businesses, emergency travel and daily commuting alike.

For many residents near Shahpur and Burhanpur, connectivity to Maharashtra has always been of significance because of the region's closeness to the state border. The new highway will make access to nearby cities and healthcare facilities much easier upon completion.

Project Snapshot: Boregaon–Shahpur Section of NH-753L

- Project Cost: ₹944 Crore
- Total Length: Nearly 47 kms
- Construction Progress: Around 85% complete
- Key States Connected: Madhya Pradesh & Maharashtra
- Major Connectivity: Indore – Khandwa – Burhanpur – Jalgaon – Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar
- Key Infrastructure: 1 ROB, 7 Major Bridges, 20 Minor Bridges, 98 Culverts, 14 Underpasses
- Nearly 26 km bypass to decongest towns and urban areas
- 19 km service roads for safer local movement

Designed for Faster and Safer Mobility

One of the defining features of the project is its carefully planned future-oriented infrastructure development. This includes the development of an extensive bypass system with nearly 26 kms of bypass forming a significant portion of the total alignment for

diverting heavy and through traffic away from towns and populated areas. This will

reduce congestion, pollution and travel delays in urban areas. Simultaneously, 19 kms of service roads are being constructed to facilitate safe and convenient movement for local traffic. These will provide connectivity to rural areas, agricultural fields and small settlements, ensuring that local commuters can travel safely without entering the main highway.

A Boost to Inter-State Connectivity

The route further extends towards the Muktainagar region in Maharashtra, establishing a strong inter-state linkage. The corridor moves much beyond local connectivity and contributes to the creation of a well-structured transportation network linking Indore, Khandwa, Burhanpur, Jalgaon and Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar.

One of the most significant aspects of this project is its role in emerging as a strong alternative economic corridor between Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. At present, traffic movement between Indore and Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar largely depends on traditional routes that frequently experience congestion, narrow carriageways and longer travel durations, affecting both passenger and freight mobility. The development of the entire stretch from Boregaon Bujurg to Muktainagar as a modern four-lane corridor will provide a faster, safer and more efficient alternative route, especially for heavy vehicles and freight transport.

Access to essential services such as education, healthcare and emergency response services will become more easier with the development of the corridor.

A New Ray of Hope

For people living along the Shahpur–Burhanpur belt, the Boregaon–Shahpur section of NH-753L represents far more than a stretch of concrete and asphalt. As Kadutemkar, the local cold storage operator, explains, the road will bring hospitals, markets, industries and opportunities closer to communities that have long depended on distant connections for even basic needs.

By strengthening links between Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra while drawing Indore and the Malwa region nearer than ever before, the corridor is poised to reshape everyday life itself — turning long, uncertain journeys into swifter, safer and more connected drives.



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