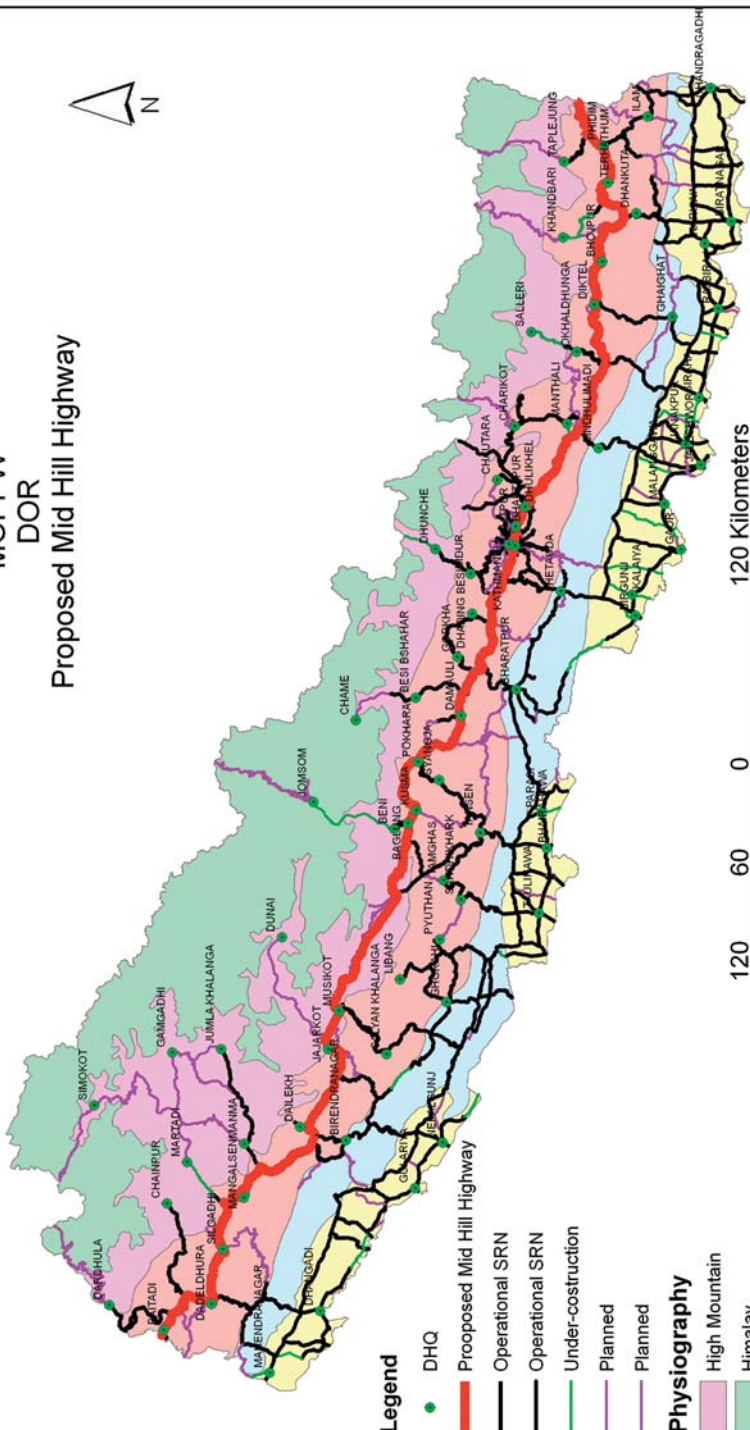


MOPPW DOR Proposed Mid Hill Highway



120 60 0 120 Kilometers

Source: HMIS, DOR



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Physical Planning and Works

Vision Paper - 2007

"New Physical Infrastructure- Foundation of the New Nepal"

1. PREAMBLE

It is the main responsibility of all Nepalis to contribute to the establishment of inclusive, democratic, federal and republican Nepal by safeguarding the limited rights achieved through the 10 year long Peoples War and 19 day long Peoples Movement. The popular force (Nepal Communist Party Maoist), which was instrumental in eliminating the old feudalistic socio-political structure, is now bestowed with the responsibility of creating a new Nepal through special emphasis on developing physical infrastructure of the country. In this transitional period, Ministry of Physical Planning and Works has proposed new vision and progressive programme for building people centred and sustainable physical infrastructure that will lay the foundation of new federal structure of the state and its governance system.

The main responsibility of Ministry of Physical Planning and Works is to increase access of common Nepali people to infrastructure like road transport, water supply, building and housing and to replace centralized and feudal state structure by a new federal state structure. It is necessary to bring backward geographical regions to the national mainstream by identifying infrastructure at the national, regional and local level so that people of Nepal get freedom from age-old economic backwardness and social oppression.

2. BASIC CONCEPT

To achieve the above-mentioned goals, the following basic concepts have been proposed:

- a. Regional balance will be achieved through urbanization of rural areas.
- b. State structure, which is Kathmandu centred, will be converted into decentralized model of federal state.
- c. Remote, deprived and backward regions like Karnali will be brought to the national mainstream through development process.
- d. Considering the land locked situation of Nepal, additional transit points at Indian and Chinese borders will be opened.
- e. Special emphasis will be given for maintaining judicious balance between Himalayan, mountain and Terai region and building a self-reliant physical infrastructure at regional level.
- f. The old system of spreading limited financial resources and using the people, as the vote bank will be abolished.
- g. Urban development will be guided through industrialization and physical infrastructure will be developed by utilizing the national human capital and expertise.
- h. Governments role will be made people friendly by promoting public-private partnership and mobilizing the national capital to full extent.
- i. Physical infrastructure will be developed in an equity basis by ensuring benefits to oppressed class, community, religious and ethnic groups, gender and regions so that national interest, which will be in line with nationality, democratic republic and federal state structure, is ultimately safeguarded.
- j. Emphasis will be given to socio-economic transformation by focusing on peoples participation in the project cycle e.g. project identification, formulation, implementation and operation.
- k. Existing backward and rural based economy will be replaced by planned human settlement and urban development that will be oriented towards industrialization of the country.

- l. Planned urban development will be achieved through identification of small, medium and large urban centers.
- m. Policy of planned development will be adopted by identifying provincial capitals and physical infrastructure will be built on the basis of its relevance to federal state structure.
- n. Special measures will be adopted to curb corruption and irregularities in construction, financial and administrative sector. Large contracts will be broken into small packages in such a way that it can be implemented by mobilizing the community participation.
- o. Priority will be given to local resources, means and indigenous techniques and art in the development of physical infrastructure. Instead of concentrating on large projects only, large, medium and small projects will be implemented on a proportionate basis.
- p. Considering the increasing urbanization of the country, efforts will be made to create a new ministry for urban development.

The following strategy will be adopted to implement the above basic concepts:

3. STRATEGIES:

3.1. Roads and transport

Let us strive for development of roads to ensure access for all.

- a. Constructing the Mid-hill East West Highway in addition to the existing East- West Highway in Terai will reduce the remoteness and inaccessibility of most of the regions of the country.
- b. In addition to improving the existing Hulaki marga in Terai, parallel roads will be constructed in Inner Terai and the mountain region.
- c. Nepal will be developed as a transit route between India and China by opening additional boarder points and constructing a network of North- South roads.
- d. Under SAARC Multi-modal transport system, priority will be given to four roads and two railway lines. Similarly, upgradation of East- West Highway and Terai- Kathmandu- Kodari Highway which is a part of the Asian Highway will be given due priority.
- e. Road network will be developed in such a way that the nearest road head will be reached within four hours in the hilly region and two hours in the Terai region.
- f. Alternative transport routes such as electric railway lines, ropeways and waterways will be developed and linked to the roads network.
- g. Considering the landlocked situation of Nepal and extrovert model of development, a balanced approach will be adopted in maintaining relationship with India and China through an introvert model of development.
- h. Fast track will be constructed to connect Kathmandu with Terai.
- i. Accessibility of Karnali region will be improved through development of roads network.

3.2. Water Supply and Sanitation

Safe drinking water is everybody's right and good sanitation is the hallmark of healthy living.

- a. Since water is the basic need of the people, it is the duty of the state to provide safe drinking water to its people. Safe drinking water will be provided to all the people by 2017 A.D. by identifying new sources and completing water supply projects.
- b. Water supply projects will be tied up with sanitation programmes in such a way that people will be saved from epidemic caused due to the contamination of the sources of water.
- c. Provisions will be made for sewerage system so that the rivers and streams of Kathmandu Valley are kept clean.
- d. Water supply projects identified and prioritized by users will be implemented with their active participation. Priority will be given to include economically weaker section, oppressed class and *Dalits*. (Untouchables) in the leadership of user committees.
- e. Women's leadership will be encouraged in public awareness campaigns for water supply and sanitation.
- f. Extraction of ground water leads to lowering of water table, which may cause subsidence of ground. Hence rainwater-harvesting technology will be promoted to conserve water table and meet the growing need of water.

3.3. Housing, Building and Urban Development

Affordable shelter, safe buildings and healthy cities- the dream of all Nepalis.

- a. Small, medium and large urban centers will be identified and appropriate infrastructure will be provided as per the national urban policy.
- b. Integrated physical infrastructure shall be developed to encourage the concept of compact settlement.
- c. As per the model of physical infrastructure development programme will be launched in the proposed capitals of provincial units as for the federal model.
- d. Appropriate programmes will be launched to address the issues of

squatter settlements. Housing and employment will be tied up to make the programme sustainable.

- e. In order to make buildings in rural and urban areas, National Building Code will be made mandatory. Training to masons and technicians will be organized in all the regions of the country.
- f. Infrastructure will be developed in the countryside to initiate urbanization of rural areas and reverse the process of ruralization of the urban areas.
- g. As per the model of federal structure of the state, damaged infrastructure will be reconstructed.

3.4. Kathmandu Valley

Healthy and green city Kathmandu s dream

- a. In order to ameliorate the acute shortage of water in Kathmandu Valley, Melamchi Water Supply Project will be implemented within the stipulated period. Existing sources of water will be utilized and new sources will be tapped and rainwater harvesting will be encouraged at household level.
- b. Roads will be constructed along the corridor of Basmati, Bishnumati and Dhobi Khola.
- c. Greeneries will be expanded through tree plantation along the roads, riverbanks and public spaces.
- d. Planned urban development programmes will be launched to check uncontrolled urbanization.
- e. In order to relieve traffic congestion, junction improvement, roads upgradation and network expansion programmes will be launched.
- f. Strict enforcement of building byelaws will be ensured.
- g. Effective programmes will be launched to address the issue of squatter settlements.
- h. Based on the land use plan, Kathmandu Valley will be developed as the administrative, cultural and tourism center. Similarly satellite cities will be developed on the periphery of Kathmandu Valley.
- i. Drinking water fountains and public toilets will be provided in major public places.

4. PROGRAMMES:

4.1 Kathmandu Valley Campaign

4.1.1. Short-term programmes (1 year)

- Black topping of widened Soaltee mod- Kalanki Road
- Start widening. Of Kalanki- Nagdhunga Road.
- Start construction of 3 km long track road on the northern part of the Ring Road.
- Continuation of physical improvement of the Ring Road by clearing illegal encroachments.
- Launching Guided Land Development and Land Pooling Programmes.
- Provision of safe drinking water to the residents of Kathmandu Valley.

4.1.2. Medium Term Programmes (3 years)

- Opening of new track road from Ring Road (Golf Course) to Bagmati(Guwheshori).
- Completion of widening of Kalanki- Nagdhunga road.
- Completion of 3 km long track road along the northern part of the Ring Road.
- To reduce the traffic jam in Kathmandu, construction of Chobhar Bridge, Godavari bridge (2 nos), Bishnumati bridge, Bagmati Bridge (Shankhamul), Bagmati bridge (Sundarijal), Bagmati bridge (Buddhanagar) will be started.
- Completion of survey and design of the proposed Outer Ring Road.
- Construction of a road along Dhobikhola corridor will be started.
- Widening of Kathmandu- Bhaktapur road will be started.
- Continuation of junction improvement and provision of traffic light in the urban road of Kathmandu.

4.1.3. Long term Programmes (20 years)

- Completion of extension of track road along the Ring Road.
- Completion of road along the river corridors of Bagmati, Bishnumati and Manohara.
- Black topping of 27 km long Ring Road after widening it to four lanes.
- Construction and improvement of 116 km radial road under road network system of Kathmandu.
- Opening of dead end roads.
- Construction of a middle ring road in Kathmandu.
- Construction of Kathmandu- Hetauda fast track.
- Completion of Melamchi Water Supply Project.
- In order to meet the water demand of Kathmandu Valley before completion of Melamchi Water Supply Project, alternative sources of water along the foothills will be exploited.
- Enactment of Kathmandu Valley Urban Development Council Act so that coordination between the local bodies and government agencies will be improved and Kathmandu can be developed as a single administrative unit and a cultural and tourist center.

4.2. Roads and Transport

Regular maintenance will be carried out on 7000km of road and periodic maintenance will be carried out on 1000 km of blacktopped road. In addition to this, periodic maintenance of important urban roads and extension of Performance Based Maintenance Contract to Strategic Road Network (SRN) will be done. Efforts will be made to clear the roads during monsoon by deploying equipment in strategic locations. Programmes for improvement of junctions and provision of traffic lights will continue.

4.2.1. Short Term Programmes

- District headquarters of Bajhang, Sankhuwasabha, Mustang, Khotang and Jajarkot will be connected by road.

- A total of 30 motorable bridges will be constructed.
- Two of the narrow bridges along Pathlaiya- Dhalkebar section of East West highway will be widened to allow two-way traffic.
- Detailed design of 25 bridges will be completed.
- Garbage collection points in the urban roads will be provided with the cooperation of municipalities.
- Completion of road improvement works under Road Network Development Project (RNDP).

4.2.2. Medium Term Programme(3 years)

- Proposed Martyr Road that connects Gorahi, Nuwagaon, Tila, Thawang, Mahat gaon and Rukumkot and Hilsa- Simikot Road will be completed on a priority basis.
- District headquarters of Manang, Solukhumbu, Dolpa, Mugu, Humla and Bajura will be connected by road.
- Completion of Galchi- Trishuli- Dhunchhe road, which connects the Chinese border. Priority will be given to construction of Biratnagar- Kimathanka road, Janakpur- Lamabagar road, Thori- Narayangarh- Gorkha- Larke pass road, Bhairahawa- Butwal- Baglung- Mustang- Lomathang road, Nepalgunj- Surkhet- Humla- Hilsa road, Brahmadevmandi- Jogbudha- Satbanjh- darchula- Tinkar road and other roads linking north south transit points.
- Construction and improvement of Kathmandu- Birgunj road, Kathmandu- Kakarbhitta- Phulbari road, Kathmandu- Nepalgunj road, Kathmandu - Bhairahawa Sunauli road which are a part of SAARC multi-modal transport network will be completed.
- Construction of Birgunj- Raxaul- Kolkata- Haldia railwayline, Birgunj- Raxaul- Katihar railway line, which are a part of SAARC multi-modal transport network, will be initiated.
- In order to improve traffic flow, narrow bridges in Pathlaiya- Dhalkebar section of East West Highway will be widened.
- The ongoing development works under Sub-regional Transport Facilitation in Bhairahawa, Birgunj and Kakarbhitta will be completed.

- Completion of improvement works of 536 kms of road under the first phase and improvement works of 500kms of road under the second phase of Indian cooperation. Survey and contract award of 500km of road under the third phase will be expedited.
- Construction of bridges along the roads, which connect the district headquarters, will be completed. These include Martyrs Road, Thori-Barpak-larke pass road, Okhaldhunga, Diktel, Solukhumbu road, Sunkoshi bridge and Harkapur bridge.
- Completion of rehabilitation of 500km of roads .
- Completion of upgradation of a total of 25 roads.
- Continuation of construction of 600 km in 9 sectors of the proposed mid hill East West Highway.
- Construction of four numbers of large bridges under turnkey (Design and Build) basis.

4.2.3. Long term Programmes(20 years).

- Transit facilities and dry port along Indian (22 nos.) and Chinese (10nos.) border will be developed in such a way that it can handle 10 vehicle at once and can accommodate huge volume of goods.
- Construction of 700km long East West blacktopped road along Inner Terai will be completed.
- Completion of blacktopped 1774 km long East West Highway along Mid hills.
- Standard maintenance of 95 percent of central level roads.
- Upgradation of SAARC Corridor road.
- Upgradation of part of the Asian highway in Nepal.
- The length of central road network will be extended to 9704 kms. Within 10 years.
- Road access will be provided to the people of remote areas by developing north south road network.
- An autonomous road agency will be established with active participation of road users for efficient management of central level roads.
- Involvement of private sector will be increased in the construction

and operation of roads as per the concept of Build Own Operate and transfer (BOOT).

- High priority will be given to East West railway line in the Terai and Raxaul- Kathmandu Lhasa railway line.
- Efforts will be made to connect Kolkatta port by waterways by linking Saptakoshi, Narayani and Karnali rivers to Ganga River in India.
- Ropeways will link some of the tourist destination in the mountains and the Himalayas.

4.3. Water Supply and Sanitation

- Basic quality drinking water will be provided to 350,000 people by completing the on going 80 numbers of schemes.
- High standard drinking water will be provided to 375000 people by completing 17 numbers of schemes under Small Water Supply and Sanitation Project.
- Rehabilitation works will be done in 40 numbers of water supply and sanitation projects, which were completed in the past but yet, to be handed over to the community.
- Rehabilitation of the 50 numbers of water supply schemes, damaged by natural disasters, will be completed.
- Medium and high standard drinking water will be provided to 61000 people of Rajpur (Doti), Letang and Rangeli in Morang, Tin Thana (Kathmandu, Bhadgaon (Tanahu), Bidur (Nuwakot) and Jaluke (Nawalparasi) by upgrading the quality of drinking water.
- Data related to water supply and sanitation will be collected through field surveys in 92 Village Development Committees (VDCs) and municipalities. The collected data will be analyzed and published.
- Arsenic tests will be conducted in 3,50,000 numbers of shallow tube wells in Jhapa, Morang, Mahottari, Chitwan, Dang, Banke and Bardiya districts and contaminated tube wells will be identified. Programmes for elimination and/or reduction of arsenic will be launched.
- Water supply schemes at Khajura of Banke district, Changu-

Jhaukhel- Dubakot of Bhaktapur district, Golbazar of Siraha district and Saljhandi of Rupandehi district will be improved by constructing one deep tubewell in each location.

- Contaminated tube wells will be identified by conducting arsenic tests in 150,000 numbers of shallow tube wells in Rupandehi and Kailali districts.
- Data will be collected in all VDCs and analyzed to establish benchmark of water supply and sanitation situation of the country.
- In order to keep the Bagmati River clean, green belt and interceptor sewer will be provided along the banks of the river and similar model will be replicated in other rivers of Kathmandu Valley.
- Water Supply Act will be drafted to ensure efficient management of drinking water.

4.3.2 Medium term Programmes (3 years)

- Vision paper will be prepared after clarifying the short term, medium term and long term objectives of Department of Water Supply and Sewerage.
- About 16,00,000 people will be provided with the basic standard drinking water by completing 296 numbers of water supply and sanitation schemes which were launched before and during the Tenth Plan period.
- High quality drinking water will be provided to additional 4,15,000 people after completing 18 schemes under Small Town Water Supply and Sanitation Project.
- Basic quality drinking water will be provided to about 8,50,000 people by implementing water supply schemes in 2100 communities in 21 districts under Community Water Supply and Sanitation Project.
- About 800 water supply schemes/projects, which were completed but damaged due to man made or natural disasters will be rehabilitated.
- Programmes for reduction of ill- effects of arsenic contamination will

be launched in priority basis in 20 districts in the Terai.

- Arsenic tests will be conducted in 7 districts in the Terai and efforts will be made to supply arsenic free drinking water by reducing arsenic level or identifying alternative sources of water.
- Additional 11,50,000 people will be provided with medium and high quality water by improvement works in already completed or ongoing water supply schemes. For such schemes, priority will be given to settlements with a population of 10000 or more.
- Sanitation programmes will be launched to serve 25,00,000 people. Under this programme, total of 2840 schools and communities with active cooperation from stakeholders will take the lead in providing toilets in the schools and communities.
- Solid waste and sewerage management policy and guidelines will be formulated in coordination with Ministry of Local Development and municipalities. Sewerage and drainage projects will be implemented on the basis of such policy and guidelines.
- Interceptor sewers will be constructed on both banks of Bagmati River from Tilganga to Shankhamul and sewage treatment plant in Kodku (Balkumari) will be improved to make it operational. The treated water from the plant will be discharged into the Bagmati River. Similar provisions will be made in other rivers in an integrated manner.
- The policy for mobilizing NGOs, INGOs and CBOs will be revised and implemented.

4.3.3. Long term Programmes (20 years)

- Department of Water Supply and Sewerage will be involved in the implementation of large and complex water supply projects where as it will facilitate the implementation of small projects at the local and provincial level.
- Water supply and sanitation projects will be implemented with a broad national goal of providing basic quality drinking water and sanitation facility to hundred percent populations by 2017AD.
- By the year 2027, half of the total population will have medium and

high quality drinking water supply. For this adequate number of water treatment facilities will be developed by the Department of Water Supply and Sewerage.

- Sewerage system with treatment facilities will be provided in emerging urban settlements and district headquarters where medium and high quality drinking water supply is available.
- Constructing sewage treatment plants at appropriate locations will check river pollution in the major urban centers including Kathmandu Valley.
- The monitoring of the water supply and sanitation projects will be carried out at the central level.
- Women will be extensively involved in public awareness campaign on safe drinking water and sanitation at the provincial and local level.
- Software packages will be made available from the centre for implementing programmes at the provincial and local level.

4.4. Buildings, Housing and Urban Development

4.4.1. Short term Programme (1 year)

- Physical development plans will be prepared for three model towns (one each in eastern, central and western region) and 15 model villages (5 each in Himalayan, Mountain and Terai region).
- Master Plans will be prepared for planned resettlement of squatters and *kamaiyas*.
- Tree plantation and footpath improvement programmes will be carried out in public places and roads.
- Appropriate landfill sites and related infrastructure will be provided in all the 58 municipalities.
- The building byelaws will be strictly enforced in municipalities.
- Physical Planning Act and regulations will be enacted so that approval of physical development plans; revision and implementation of the same will be carried out in a transparent and responsible manner.

4.4.2. Medium term programmes (3 years)

- A national task force will be formed to prepare land use plan and physical development as per the federal model.
- The detailed physical development plans of three model towns (one each in eastern, central and western region) and 15 model villages (5 each in Himalyan,Mountain and Terai region) will be implemented.
- The resettlement of squatters and *Kamaiyas* will be completed as per the approved master plans.
- Physical development plans will be prepared in 30 emerging and small towns and periodic plans will be prepared for 12 municipalities.
- Digital base maps will be prepared for 30 additional municipalities.
- Roads and drainage master plans will be prepared for 48 municipalities and 88 urbanizing VDCs.
- Urban infrastructure will be provided in 30 towns.
- Land development programmes will be implemented in 30 locations.
- Four thousands affordable houses will be provided to low-income households.
- Appropriate coordinating mechanism will be developed between town development committees and municipalities.

4.4.3. Long term Programmes(20 years).

- Integrated physical development plans will be implemented in Kathmandu Valley to develop it into a center of administration, culture and tourism.
- Population pressure in the Valley will be released through development of satellite town around Kathmandu Valley.
- Appropriate physical and social infrastructure will be provided for ensuring planned development of provincial capital cities.
- Planned urban development programmes will be launched in small towns and market centers.
- Scientific and pragmatic programmes will be launched to provide affordable housing to squatters, *kamaiyas*, *Dalits* and single women.

- Training programmes will be conducted for disseminating earthquake safety knowledge and skills to masons.
- Growth corridors like Attariya- Dhangadhi, Kohalpur- Nepalgunj, Pathlaiya- Birgunj and Itahari- Biratnagar will be developed in a planned way.
- Physical development plan of the entire country based on federal model will be prepared and implemented.
- National housing programme will be implemented to provide safe and affordable shelter for all.

- July 11, 2007

