

# CM OKs highway worth ₹1400cr in Kosi region

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**Patna:** Chief minister (CM) Nitish Kumar on Thursday approved alignment of a two-lane state highway from Mansi in Khagaria district to Hardi-Chaughara in Supaul district to ensure better road connectivity in the state's most interior riverine part that exists in the bordering area of Khagaria, Saharsa and Begusarai districts. Major parts of this riverine area face flood menace almost every year.



“The highway, to be constructed with an estimated ex-

penditure of Rs 1,400 crore, will have four major bridges on the Bagmati, the Katyayani, the Kosi and the Mrit Kosi rivers,” principal secretary of state road construction department Amrit Lal Meena told TOI.

He said CM Nitish Kumar, who was also accompanied by RCD minister Nand Kishor Yadav and chief secretary Deepak Kumar, made an aerial survey of the riverine area.

After inspecting the riverine region, the CM approved the alignment of the state highways. He asked the RCD officials to begin work on construction of the road and its four bridges as early as possible, Meena said.

“The RCD will soon start tendering process for the state

highway and its four major bridges,” the RCD principal secretary said, adding this 75km-long highway will be known as SH-95. It will link NH-31 at Mansi (Khagaria) and SH-66 at Hardi-Chaughara on the Supaul-Madhepura main road.

Meena said though the SH-95 was notified earlier, it could never take shape because of a missing link of eight kilometres in the riverine area. “The four rivers cross the proposed highways. Because of the presence of these rivers, the road could never come up,” Amrit added.

He said the new state highway would also provide direct connectivity to the famous Katyayani temple where people still go by boats.