MCC to study feasibility of RUB through NITK

Effort Towards Tackling Traffic Congestion Issue

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mangaluru: In a bid to resolve traffic congestion on the busy Pandeshwar-Mangaladevi road, the Mangaluru City Corporation (MCC) will be seeking the support of the National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK) to conduct a feasibility study. The study will explore the possibility of constructing a railway underbridge (RUB) across the railway line at Pandeshwar, which has been a major cause of concern for the people of Mangaluru.

AT PANDESHWAR

The level crossing at Pandeshwarturns into a major traffic bottleneck in the city, as more than 25 passenger trains travel to Bunder for stabling daily. Once the construction of the twin RUB across the level crossing at Mahakalipadpu and the four-lane road from Jappinamogaru to the city being taken up by the Mangaluru Smart City Limited (MSCL) are completed, the traffic flow to the city via Pandeshwar is likely to increase considerably. Currently, vehicles are made to wait for a long time on both sides of the level crossing at Pandesh-



BUSY AREA: Vehicles wait at the level crossing, at Pandeshwar in Mangaluru

war, whenever trains pass.

Organisations and people's representatives have been demanding the Palakkad division of the Southern Railway alleviate the daily traffic woes of thousands of commuters at Pandeshwar, Dakshina Kannada MP Brijesh Chowta, who took up the matter with the Southern Railway officials, directed the MCC to write to the NITK and conduct a study. "Let us prepare a plan to construct RUB at Pandeshwar through the NITK and send the same to the Southern Railway. The MCC should seek a comprehensive report to address the issue, from the NITK," the MP said at a district development coordination and monitoring committee (DISHA) meeting on Friday.

According to MSCL officials, the twin RuB at Mahakalipadpu is likely to be completed by Dec. Later, the MSCL will develop approach roads on both sides within a month. The road from the NH-66 at Jappinamogaru to Mangaluru city has been closed to facilitate the construction of RUB at Mahakalipadpu. Thousands of commuters from Ullal, Thokkotu, Deralakatte, Konaje, Talapady and Kerala will benefit if the twin RUB at Mahakalipadpu is opened. Further, the construction of a new RUB at Pandeshwar will ease the traffic congestion.