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Cabinet okays five signal-free roads, upgrade of seven others

Special Correspondent

To ensure smooth flow of traffic, the State Cabinet has decided to develop five signal-free corridors in Bangalore.

A meeting of the State Cabinet held here on Tuesday decided to develop five signal-free roads — Dr. Rajkumar Road (Yeshwanthpur Circle to Okalipuram Road), Hosur Road (Central Silk Board to Vellara Junction); Outer Ring Road (Mysore Road junction to Central Silk Board); Old Airport Road (Vellara junction to Kundalahalli via Whitefield), and Mehkri Circle to Hope Farm via Old Madras Road.

Sources in the government told *The Hindu* it was decided to take up road improvement work near Vidhana Soudha. Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. had been told to expedite the work near its project area.

To ease traffic

The Cabinet decided to upgrade seven major roads in the central business district and bids would be invited under Tender SURE (Specification for Urban Road Execution).

The roads to be upgraded are St. Mark's Road, Residency Road, Richmond Road, Cunningham Road, Vittal Mallya Road, Commissariat Road and Museum Road. The Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) would upgrade these roads. The decision was taken to avoid traffic congestion in the central business district.

The BBMP had discussed the road projects in detail and negotiated the price for works.

The government has proposed to develop 45 roads in the city under the SURE. It was proposed to develop seven roads under package I, six roads under package II and five roads under package III.

A sum of Rs. 200 crore has been set aside for road-widening work in the 2012–13 BBMP budget.