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PREFACE

A reference is invited to the prefatory remarks in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government No.1 (Commercial) 2005 where a mention was made that reviews of the performance of Companies/Corporations by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India are presented in separate Reports.

This Report examines the Construction of Highways by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) under National Highways Development Project (NHDP), Phase-I including its planning and funding mechanism. This Project envisaged up-gradation to four/six lane of the existing two lane wide National Highways on Golden Quadrilateral linking the four metro cities of Delhi-Mumbai-Chennai-Kolkata, North-South Corridor linking Srinagar and Kanyakumari and East-West Corridor connecting Silchar and Porbandar.

The Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) was engaged as our technical consultants for the review. The technical inspection of four Project Implementation Units (PIU) including seven stretches was done by CRRI.

This Report as set out in the succeeding chapters is based on test check of records of NHAI Head Office and 32 stretches spread over 12 States covering 21 PIUs, inputs included in CRRI Reports and the discussions held with the Management of NHAI and the Ministry.

The cases mentioned in the Report are among those which came to notice in the course of audit conducted during the year 2003-04 and during earlier years wherever relevant.

