

NEWS BRIEF

Flood Risk, Sharp Curve And DPR Errors Raise Concerns Over Bengaluru's Hebbal Tunnel: Report

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Prefer

*A representative image of a tunnel.*

The proposed short tunnel at Hebbal Junction in Bengaluru will do little to ease traffic and will instead push the jams elsewhere, according to a [study](#) by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

Released on Tuesday (25 August) by the IISc Sustainable Transportation (IST) Lab, the report said fresh bottlenecks would form near the Veterinary Hospital and Esteem Mall, with queues spilling back towards Mekhri Circle and the tunnel's benefit falling to nil over the years.

The study, written by Professor Ashish Verma of the institute's Department of Civil Engineering, compared the tunnel with an underground metro and found the latter far cheaper per user. On a per-passenger-trip basis, the tunnel works out to about Rs 5.23 against Rs 0.86 for the metro.

Measured against capacity in passengers per hour per direction, the figures stand at roughly Rs 13.74 lakh per unit for the tunnel and Rs 2.26 lakh for the metro. On either count the tunnel is about 6.12 times costlier, which the report said means six times the public money for the same gain.

The lab also pointed to what it described as substantial mistakes in the project's Detailed Project Report.