

# **Chapter- 1**

## **ABSTRACT**

Uttarakhand has a hilly terrain with high peaks and deep gorges. The contribution of the tourism sector is major in the economy of the state. As such, the development of adequate, safe, and economical modes of transportation is necessary for the overall development of Uttarakhand in general and Kumaon Region in particular which is deprived of faster and safer means of transportation of men and material. Looking into these constraints in the movement of traffic by road, the need was felt to develop all-weather connectivity to Bageshwar for free and fast movement of the traffic throughout the year. Railway lines can serve this purpose due to their heavy load-carrying capacity and speedy movement. People of the region are also demanding a railway line in their area since independence.

The proposed alignment passes through the districts of Champawat, Almora and Bageshwar. It is adjoining Indo–Nepal international border. The project area is sparsely populated. Only two big towns, Champawat and Lohaghat are coming along the corridor. The total population to be served by the railway line is 1625446.

**Land Acquisition:**

A total of 452.046 Hector of land is proposed to be acquired out of which, 279.145 Ha is agricultural private land and 172.901 Ha of forest land.