Govt grants security nod to Rs. 29,560-crore Jewar Intl. Airport

In a big boost to the country’s aviation sector, the Central government has recently given security clearance to Swiss firm Zurich Airport International AG for developing Rs. 29,560 crore Jewar International airport on the western fringes of Uttar Pradesh in the NCR region, Principal Secretary, Uttar Pradesh government, SP Goyal said, recalling that the company had emerged as the highest bidder to build the Greenfield Airport in Jewar, on Jawaharlal Nehru Marg. By becoming the highest bidder, Zurich Airport International AG had outbid many infra building giants including Adani Enterprises, DIAL and Anchorage Infrastructure Investments Holding. It will be the biggest airport in the country and the entire project will be spread over an area of 5,000 hectares and the first phase of the Jewar International Airport would be spread over an area of 1,334 hectares and will cost Rs 4,588 crore. The Noida International Airport project is being managed as well as operated by the Noida International Airport (NIAL), a special agency floated by the government and now the government is eyeing to start the operations of the first phase of the Jewar airport by 2022-23. By the end of the fourth phase, the airport is likely to have six runways. The Jewar International Airport will be at a distance of 130 km from Agra, 72 km from Delhi’s IGI airport, 40 km from Noida, and at a distance of 28 km from Greater Noida.

UP pushes Rs. 25,000-cr big ticket infra projects

The state government in UP has recently fast tracked big ticket infra projects across the state involving an investment of Rs. 25,000 crore, Deputy CM, Keshav Prasad Maurya, said adding that the process of reactivating economic activities has already started, which has engaged large number of local and migrant labors. The construction work on as many as 1,300 projects is currently in full swing under the supervision of PWD and UP Bridge Corporation and Rajkya Naman Nirman Nigam (RNN). Of the total number of projects, PWD alone has taken up 1013 projects entailing a whopping investment of Rs 11,800 crore. The PWD projects alone are engaging 12,819 laborers. Similarly, the 88 projects of UP Bridge Corporation, costing over Rs 3100 crore with a total number of 1,896 workers and that RNN is also executing 199 projects worth over Rs 10,533 crore with strong work force worth 5,000 laborers.

BMC gives nod to 200 real estate projects in Mumbai

Shortly after the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) started giving permissions to private real estate projects in the city for carrying out pre-monsoon construction amid lockdown, the civic body approved more than 200 projects out of the 350 applications it received. The pending approvals are being scrutinized, and approval will be given very shortly, chief engineer of the BMC’s development plan department, Vinod Chithore, said, adding that the local body has allowed resuming pre-monsoon works at the constructed or under construction sites, where works had commenced prior to March 14 and were left uncompleted due to the lockdown. Niranjana Hirandani, managing director of Hirandani group, said, his company has resumed work at the ongoing projects in Powai, Thane and Panve across the three locations with over 3000 workers. The site administration uniformly takes all the necessary prevention measures like fumigation, disinfectant, wearing mask and gloves, staggered labour spread, sanitization to follow the best guidelines practice. These include the construction of retaining walls, work of shore piling to protect against landslides, waterproofing of terraces and exposed areas, completion of basements and other sub-soil works. Also, several developers have lamented that while construction permission is being given for projects where labors are available on the site, but travel permission for supervisors, engineers on the site is becoming challenging owing to approvals taking the more time, they said.

Bombardier bags Rs. 2,577-cr rolling stock contract

Bombardier Transportation has recently won the rolling stock tender for the Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System, the National Capital Regional Transport Corporation, the company said in an official statement. The contract involved an investment of about Rs 2,577 crore and it includes procurement as well as maintenance of the train sets. The air-conditioned RRTS trains will have economy as well as business class (one coach per train) and a coach reserved for women passengers. The entire rolling stock for the corridor will be manufactured in India, marking 100 per cent local manufacturing. The train sets will be manufactured by Bombardier Transportation India Private Limited at their Savli plant in Gujarat under the “Make in India” initiative of the central government. The RRTS train will be designed keeping in mind high acceleration and high deceleration that the train needs to undergo, given the maximum operational speed of 160 kmph and stations at every 5-10 km. As per the terms, the delivery of the rolling stock will start in 2022, the NCRTC, which comes under the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry, said that the broad scope of work includes design, manufacture, supply, testing, and commissioning of 30 train sets of six cars each for operating regional transit services and then train sets of three cars each for operating local Meerut transit services.
Kerala kicks start construction of Rs. 658-cr tunnel project

The state government in Kerala has recently launched the construction work on the 6.5-km long and the third longest tunnel in country involving an investment of Rs. 658 crore. The government has accorded permission for the two-lane tunnel road in the Anakkampoyil-Kalladi-Meppadi corridor that would run parallel to the landship-prone Tharaprassey pass that links Kozhikode to Wayanad. On completion, the tunnel will be the third longest in the country. Kerala’s longest is the 9.62-metre tunnel at Kuthiran, between Thrissur and Palakkad. The alternative subterranean road would be 30-km shorter than the present ghat road. Approach roads and a 70-metre bridge over the Irinjalakuda river are part of the project. The Konkan Railway Corporation, which prepared the detailed project report, will execute the project on a turnkey basis, Minister for Public Works G. Sudhakaran said, adding that the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIFIB) has made available funds for the tunnel road. In addition, the Cabinet has also given the nod for Rs 39.98 crore Perumon bridge across Ashtamudi Lake in Kollam district. The proposed bridge will link Perumon and Munnaruthittu and also the Rs 34.39 crore Naluchra bridge across the Pampa river to link Thottappally and Naluchra in Alappuzha district also got the approval.

Telangana approves Rs. 996-cr Kaleshwaram Link-III project

The Telangana government has accorded revised administrative sanction to the work of Kaleshwaram Project Link-III package involving an investment of Rs 996.013 crore. The project involves lifting of 11.635 TMC of water in 120 days from mid Manair Reservoir at Sircilla (V) to Upper Manair Reservoir at Narmal (V), Gambiraopet (M) and RajanajaSircilla district. The approval includes tender premium subject to that the Engineer-in-Chief (Irrigation), Hyderabad, is responsible for the correctness of the provisions made and quantities in the revised estimate. The Engineer-in-Chief (Irrigation), Hyderabad, should ensure that necessary provision for this work is made in the budget. As per the initial revised approval, the estimate of cost of the work was Rs 911.32 crore for Kaleshwaram Project Package No 09 excluding Malakapur reservoir and including vehicle package of size 15 mtr x 10 mtr x 5 mtr and packing of 300 mtr and additional works under re-engineering.

Calcutta metro restarts works on Noapara-Airport line

Metro Railway in Calcutta has resumed its work on the stretch between Noapara and the city airport that is scheduled to be commissioned sometime in 2021 and is being handled by Metro Railway while Rail Vikas Nagar (RVNL) is in charge of all other ongoing projects in the city. The Noapara-Airport link is crucial as it will not only have the largest underground railway yard in the country to handle the trains from three directions but also connect Barasat in the city’s northeastern suburbs, salt ranges and Mahanagar Project. The same bidder, adding that the stretch, though not too long, had several challenges, including the removal of encroachments from railway land and demolition of structures along the way.

NNHDL invites bids for Rs. 182-cr road project

To strengthen the road network across the north and eastern fringes of the country, the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NNHDL) has invited bids for the construction of a road project in Nagalaj, said an official spokesperson, claiming that the project in question was a pre-projects scope of work including the construction of two-lane road with paved shoulder of Kohima bypass road stretch connecting NH-39 (new NH-02), NH-150 (new NH-02), NH-01 (new NH-231) and NH-39 (new NH-02) from design point 0.00 km to design point 11.550 km (design length 10.550 km). The project is slated to be constructed on the engineering procurement and construction (EPC) model under SARDP-NE (Package-II) and it will be executed on a lump sum basis, with an investment of Rs 182.44 crore, he added.

MMRDA launches works on 17-km long metro line in Mumbai

Shortly after selecting two new contractors, Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has restarted the construction works on metro line 7 covering a distance of 17 km between Dahisar and Andheri stretch. Prior to this, MMRDA cancelled the contract of Simplex infrastructure as it was given a contract for the distance of 5.5 km from Aarey junction on western Express Highway of metro line 7, Metropolitan Commissioner, RA Rajeev, said adding that they were serious of completing the metro projects within stipulated timelines. Simplex infrastructure was awarded a Rs 368 crore contract however, just 75% of the work has been completed and now, the contract has been given to new contractors. J Kumar, which has received the contract, will work for product while NCC will focus on the station work. The commuters now will have to wait for three more months than what was scheduled to hope on a ride on Metro 2A (Dahisar-DN Nagar) and Metro 7 (Dahisar East – Andheri East). The two metro rail corridors were to be operational by December this year but now MMRDA is looking at another three-month delay with the migrant worker gone, he added.

NMDC on overdrive to offset adverse impact of Covid-19

In a bid to offset the adverse impact of Covid-19, which has already affected 40% output, the country’s leading miner, NMDC has heightened mining activities and ramped up production to full capacity. Summit Deb, director (personnel) NMDC, said in a media statement. The director, who is due to take over as the next chairman, said that its biggest customer segment—the steel industry—has been running at less than half the capacity due to the imposition of the lockdown when NMDC had cut production by 30-40% as its major steel industry customers cut back production by 30-40% as its major steel industry customers cut back production by 30-40% as its major steel industry customers cut back production by 30-40% as its major steel industry customers cut back production by 30-40% as its major steel industry customers cut back production by 30-40% as its major steel industry customers cut back production by 30-40% as its major steel industry customers cut back production by 30-40% as its major steel industry customers cut back production by 30-40% as its major steel industry customers cut back production by 30-40% as its major steel industry customers cut back production by 30-40% as its major steel industry customers cut back production. The country’s leading miner, NMDC, said it is going to ramp up production to full capacity and is looking at another three-month delay with the migrant worker gone, he added.

NHBCL launches works on 17-km long metro line in Mumbai

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Govt implements Shekatkar Committee report on border roads

In a major boost to build strategic roads along India’s northern border with China, the government recently implemented three important recommendations relating to border road infrastructure, recommended by the Shekatkar Committee in 2016. The recommendations accepted aimed at speeding up road construction in remote areas of the border belt, providing easier access to the military and leading to socio-economic development in the border areas.

First, the government has accepted Committee recommendation — to outsource road construction work beyond optimal capacity of Border Roads Organization (BRO), which was aimed at bringing in private sector road construction agencies and taking the load off a heavily overstretched BRO struggling to maintain the existing network of borders roads and highways and also building new roads that require reinvestment in the road network since independence. To ensure oversight, the government has made it mandatory to adhere to the Engineering Procurement Contract (EPC) for executing all projects that cost more than Rs 100 crore.

Secondly, the government has accepted Committee recommendation that makes it easier to introduce modern construction plant, equipment and machinery. For this, the BRO’s – enhanced procurement powers for domestic and foreign procurements from have been increased from Rs 7.5 crore to Rs 100 crore. This is deemed essential, with the BRO engaged in sophisticated road and tunnel construction projects, such as the Atal Behari Vajpayee Tunnel near Manali that underpasses the Rohtang Pass; and the 85-kilometre-long road on the Kalaash Mansarovar route from Dharshul to Lipulekh (China Border).

For such projects BRO has recently indicted Hot-Mix Plant 20/30 TPH for speedier laying of roads, remote operated hydraulic Rock Drills DC-400 R for hard rock cutting, a range of F-90 series of self-propelled snow-cutters/blowers for speedier snow clearance, defence ministry said in an official statement.

Noida: Calcutta Corporation floats tender for Rs. 187-cr road project

In an attempt to build top class road network in the north eastern region, the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation (NHIDCL) recently floated a tender for road works in Assam. The scope of work in the project involves widening and improvement of the existing road stretch through four-lane with paved shoulder from 113.300 km to 131.500 km of Kwekram to Tamarg-Manja section (Package-K) of NH-29 under the Bharatmala Paryajovana, said an official spokesperson, claiming that the assigned

Stimulus sharpens HFCs fund raising potentials

The stimulus package of the government helped lift the mood of debt investors as Housing finance companies (HFCs) manage loans to customers in the sub-prime market. The spread or differential between top-rated corporate bonds and government papers — a barometer of calminess — narrowed to 90-100 bps immediately after the government announced the relief package, compared with 100-100 bps prior to this. The gauge went for a drastic change as HDFC bonds with two-year maturity fetched 7 per cent as it raised Rs 5,000 crore. Non-banking finance companies are slowly coming back to primary bond sales with number of queries rising, said Ajay Manglani, managing director at JM Financial, adding that market appetite is gradually going up for NBFC papers. Market awaits more clarification on NBFC package, he said. Tata Housing mopped-up Rs 200 crore after paying 9.1 per cent to raise the three-year money. Indiabulls Housing Finance generated Rs 1,030 crore, offering 9.1 per cent with three-year maturity.

Karnataka continues with Rs. 13,000-cr big ticket infra projects

The Karnataka government has decided to continue with key infrastructure projects despite the shortage of labour due to take care of the adverse impact of Covid-19. The mega projects include irrigation projects, metro rail construction and other infrastructure ventures. Rakesh Singh, principal secretary, water resources, said adding that with at least 70% of unirrigated land, Karnataka sets aside adequate funds each year to increase to build the required infrastructure and to provide water to the growing farming purposes. The state CM has announced that at least Rs 7,200 crore has been earmarked this year’s budget including Rs 627 crore for micro irrigation, Rs 5,000 crore for Kalesa Banduri, Rs 1,500 crore for the Yettinahole project and around Rs 5,000 crore for a number of lift irrigation projects. Even the much-delayed metro rail projects across Bengaluru will continue as planned. Similarly, senior officials from the Bengaluru

CorpGini: Realtors need to re-align quickly to stay relevant

Every real estate professional wants to grow their business and marketing plays a vital role in reaching the right audience and leaving an impact on them. CorpGini in association with BW, Elegance Enterprises and Go Smart Bricks curated a Virtual Panel Discussion on ‘Re-Thinking Real Estate Marketing Considering the COVID Situation’, which presented the best of minds of real estate marketing. The objective was to gather inputs and try to capture the mood of industry leaders and evangelists alike, to help stakeholders come together, evaluate, plan ahead and discuss opportunities in what definitely are tumultuous times for the industry at large.

Welcoming the panelists and participants, Neha Jain, co-founder, CorpGini, said, “We bring you second series of AEC following the overwhelming success of the first series held earlier. Our goal is to help corporate in the real estate sector to make informed decisions. We are not just restricted to having discussions, but also went ahead and identified solutions by startups that would be relevant for real estate marketing initiatives. This Virtual Panel Discussion organized by CorpGini is an opportunity to collaboratively explore solutions,” she affirmed.

CEO and Founder, Elegance, Pawan Gupta, who moderated the session, stated, “The real estate landscape is going significant changes due to COVID-19 and many of the changes will be permanent; social distancing, work from home, will become the new norm. It is vital for the real estate industry to re-imagine the current and post COVID scenario that would influence the customer journey like never before. Identifying the important changes in the journey from discovery, selection to transaction, would be the key driver for communication and marketing strategies going forward. Accelerating the use of digital technology and analytics is inevitable now. Digitization steps such as virtual tours, enabling immersive experience, chatbot, website information architecture, online booking enable key in the current context. Builders need to re-align and respond quickly to this new norm to stay relevant,” he pointed out.

Calcutta gives go ahead to start metro projects

Among others Ravi Vilas Ngam and Alokita Metro Rail Corporation have been granted permission to resume work on the New Garia-Airport Metro Ink and East-West Metro strictly adhering to the guidelines related to the Covid-19. Meanwhile Calcutta Municipal Corporation has also cleared 129 infra projects to be executed within its jurisdiction. The civic body has directed builders that workers have to stay at the construction site and cannot step out. Also, no construction material — bricks, cement, sand or steel — can be procured from outside and work has to be carried out with materials present at the site. The civic body official said adding that it received applications for 265 projects and only the ones that are outside containment zones had been allowed to resume work with a rider that in case any resident tests positive for Covid-19, work has to be stopped immediately and police have been empowered to stop construction work if any contractor found violating the Covid-19 norms.

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IRCON-RZD International inks MoU for joint cross-country infra ventures

IRCON International IRCON, a public sector enterprise, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with RZD International LLC, a subsidiary of Russian Railways Company to explore opportunities for joint development of railway and allied infrastructure projects in India, Asia, Africa and Latin America. The MoU, which was signed by Chief General Manager (Business Development), IRCON International, Parag Verma and Provisional Director General of RZD International LLC, Sergey Stolyarov, wherein both the parties agreed to form a joint Indian – Russian working group to look into ways of developing strong partnership to coordinate, plan and subsequently implement projects in field of railways and other infrastructure, not only in India but also in countries of mutual interest.

Sergey Stolyarov, Managing Director, IRCON, S. K. Chaudhary, Chairman & Provisional Manager (Business Development), Ircon International, Parag Verma and Provisional Director General of RZD International LLC, Sergey Stolyarov, wherein both the parties agreed to form a joint Indian – Russian working group to look into ways of developing strong partnership to coordinate, plan and subsequently implement projects in field of railways and other infrastructure, not only in India but also in countries of mutual interest.

Commenting on the MoU Chairman & Managing Director, IRCON, S. K. Chaudhary, said, “IRCON has been constantly looking to suspend construction due to the clamping of airspace and reduce fuel costs and flying time, but also helps sectors like Coal, Minerals, Defence Production, Airspace management, MROs, Power distribution companies, space sectors and Atomic energy. In the first two announcements, she had announced measures related to MSMEs, nontanking finance companies (NBFCs), migrant workers engaged daily wage workers who have been left jobless due to the shutting down of works across sites. The nodal agency and contractors are strictly adhering to Central guidelines in regards to coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, said an official spokesperson.

Telangana clears 57 real estate & mines projects

A major relief to real estate developers and those engaged in quarry and mining sectors, the state Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIIAA), issued clearances to as many as 57 real estate and allied projects. Most of the projects were lined up for the environmental clearances either regarding areas surrounding Hyderabad or stone and metal quarrying projects. A few steel units were also on the list and almost all the projects have been approved for the issuing of environmental clearances by the SEIIAA. Around nine proposals for mining of sand at Kothagudem from the Godavari river were also given go-ahead signal by the Telangana State Mineral Development Corporation. Most of the real estate ventures that were approved for environmental clearances were projects proposed in areas either Serrilangampally mandal of the IT corridor area or in Medchal-Malkajgir district, mainly in Quthbullapur, Bachupally and Gandimaisamma regions, claimed an official spokesperson.

AAL targets Rs. 13,000-cr investment in 12 airports

According to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman the Rs 20 lakh crore stimulus packages will bring in Rs 1,000 crore benefit to aviation sector per year as an additional investment of Rs 13,000 crore is being made in 12 airports auctioned in first and second rounds. The move will not just bring in optimal utilization of airspace and reduce fuel costs and flying time, but also helps sectors like Coal, Minerals, Defence Production, Airspace management, MROs, Power distribution companies, space sectors and Atomic energy. In the first two announcements, she had announced measures related to MSMEs, nontanking finance companies (NBFCs), migrant workers engaged daily wage workers who have been left jobless due to the shutting down of works across sites. The nodal agency and contractors are strictly adhering to Central guidelines in regards to coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, said an official spokesperson.

Decks cleared for Rs. 1,968-cr highway project Kerala

Decks have been cleared for the construction of the six-laning of the National Highway 66 with the Standing Financing Committee of MoRTH clearing the first 39-km corridor from Thalapady to Chengalp in Kasaragod. Once the MoRTH issues the order, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) can open tenders and the formalities can be completed to award the work. The six-lane corridor from the Kerala-Karnataka border, with an RoW of 415 m and estimated to cost Rs 1,908.84 crore, will be completed in two and a half years. The state government has targeted to develop eight projects that are aimed to be started this year. The works of 18 km long Thalassery-Mahar bypass is in full swing and that starting work on the 28.6 km of Kozhikode bypass, into six lanes, has already been started, the CM claimed.

GNIDA starts construction work on flyover in NCR

The Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA) has recently resumed the construction work at a bridge across the Hindon River, connecting areas of Noida and Greater Noida in the NCR region. The bridge is scheduled to come up with eight lanes with a width of 29 metres between Greater Noida’s 60-metre-wide road in Knowledge Park-III, which is an educational hub, and Noida’s sectors 146/147, at an investment of Rs 65 crore. The work on this project was suspended for more than two months but the authority had to suspend construction due to the clamping of a nationwide lockdown. The project has, The Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA) has recently resumed the construction work on a flyover at the site across the Hindon River, connecting areas of Noida and Greater Noida in the NCR region. The bridge is scheduled to come up with eight lanes with a width of 29 metres between Greater Noida’s 60-metre-wide road in Knowledge Park-III, which is an educational hub, and Noida’s sectors 146/147, at an investment of Rs 65 crore. The work on this project was suspended for more than two months but the authority had to suspend construction due to the clamping of a nationwide lockdown. The project has.

In response to media queries, a GNIDA spokesperson said, “This project will be 10 per cent of the stimulus package focused on agriculture and allied activities. This will be 10 per cent of the country’s Gross Domestic Product or GDP and the details of the package are being revealed in a phased manner, he added.

NHAI invites bids for Rs. 99.72-cr flyover project

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has invited bids for the construction of a flyover in Andhra Pradesh, said an official spokesperson, adding that the scope of work in the project involves construction of three-lane flyover on the western side including design with a length of 0.300 km [existing 1096.210 km (before Jyothi Mahal Junction)] and also to design 2.770 km [existing 1098.680 km (beyond Ramesh Hospital Junction)] on NH-16 in Andhra Pradesh. The project will be awarded on the engineering, procurement, construction (EPC) model and that the project involves an investment worth Rs 99.72 crore and commands a completion period of 18 months, he added.

DMRC restarts construction of Phase-IV metro project

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has recently resumed the construction work of its much-delayed Phase IV project and the extension of the Airport Express Line (AEL) and Grey Line (Dwarka-Najafgarh). In the guidelines on lockdown measures, the work on the projects was allowed where workers are available on site and no workers required to be brought from outside. DMRC had prepared a detailed standard operating procedure for the resumption of construction work following the guidelines as workers were available at its sites. Currently, DMRC has about 3,500 workers available across five to six different sites in the city including actual work sites of DMRC.

The 4.3-km-long Dwarka-Najafgarh section of Grey Line was allowed where workers are available on site and no workers required to be brought from outside. DMRC had prepared a detailed standard operating procedure for the resumption of construction work following the guidelines as workers were available at its sites. Currently, DMRC has about 3,500 workers available across five to six different sites in the city including actual work sites of DMRC. The 4.3-km-long Dwarka-Najafgarh section of Grey Line was allowed where workers are available on site and no workers required to be brought from outside. DMRC had prepared a detailed standard operating procedure for the resumption of construction work following the guidelines as workers were available at its sites. Currently, DMRC has about 3,500 workers available across five to six different sites in the city including actual work sites of DMRC.
Karnataka clears 164-km rail line to Western Ghatsthe state government in Karnataka has recently cleared Hubballi-Ankola 164.44 km long railway line, which is proposed to be passing through the Western Ghatst, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. According to a site inspection report submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), nearly 80% of the proposed railway line passes through the dense forest lands. The total land required is 995.64 hectares, including 956.4 hectares of forest land, 184.6 hectares of wetland, and 189 hectares of dry land. The principal chief conservator of forests with the Karnataka forest department and a member of the KSIVB, Sanjayi Mohan, said that the people of North Karnataka want development and jobs and this project will ensure both. This railway line was primarily planned to serve the freight traffic and to link the west coast to the Karnataka hinterland for socio-economic development of northern and Haverabad-Karnataka region. The present mode of road transport is seasonal and is inaccessible for five months during monsoons. As per the project layout, the main reason for proposing a new broad-gauge line was for the transportation of iron and manganese ore from Bellary to Hospet region to the upcoming ports at Tadri (near Anoka) and Kanwar on the western coast of Karnataka, and also to the existing ports of Vasco and Magdian in Goa.

NOIDA permits contractors to start construction work

According to Chief Executive Officer of NOIDA Authority, Ritu Maheshwari, about 30 construction and infrastructure projects have been given permissions to start work with around 860 labour. Out of the total 3550 applications, 1660 applications have been rejected so far as they are ineligible and come under the containment zone. Sudhir Shrivastava, Vice President, Noida Entrepreneurs Association praised the effort of NOIDA Authority for this permission. He also said that after more than 40 days of lockdown now industries of NOIDA have started to resume their work, but it will take some time to streamline the work. He also said adding that some factory owners who reside outside NOIDA are facing difficulty to enter in NOIDA due to sealing of NOIDA-Dehli Border. He further said that the administration should take notice of this problem. Because many factories in NOIDA bring raw materials from Haryana, but as the Delhi-Gurugram and Delhi-Faridabad borders are sealed, they are facing issues of raw materials. R K Arora, Chairman, Supertech, and President, Naredco Uttar Pradesh said that his company has got the permission of some of their projects in NOIDA and Gurugram. Supertech has around 28 projects running in NOIDA, Greater Noida, and Gurugram and that construction work has already been started in these projects wherever his company got permission from local authorities.

YEIDA allots commercial space around Jewar airport

In a bid to attract industries to invest in a big way on land parcels near the upcoming Jewar airport, the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA), has initiated the process of allotting industrial and institutional plots near the upcoming Jewar airport. By doing so, the agency wants to send a message to the industries that India is open to investment and UP is the best place. In coming days, it is going to allot more plots, additional chief executive officer of the Yamuna Authority, said Shailendra Bhatta, said adding that the process has already started as it interviewed applicants through video conferencing, and based on various parameters, allotment was carried out in a transparent way. Besides, it has also allotted two land parcels for institutional purpose. The Uttar Pradesh government has earmarked about 5,000 hectares of land in Jewar on Yamuna Express for an aviation and transport hub. About 1,300 hectares of land will be handed over to Zurich Airports for the development of the airport in the first phase where the airport is expected to start operations around 2023-24, by when the existing airport is set to exhaust its capacity of more than 100 million.

PNC Infratech wins Rs. 1,412-cr highway contract

PNC Infratech has recently been declared as the L1 (lowest) bidder for a NHAI project commanding a length of 53.95 km, said official sources, elaborating that the contract involved the construction of a four-laning of Meeraul - Nazibabad section of NH-119 (New NH-34) from design chainage km 11+500 (Meeraul) to 105+790 (Jaalabad), in Uttar Pradesh under Bharatmala Pariyojana on Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM) for Rs. 1412.00 crore. Four firms participated in the bidding and when the price bids were opened the PNC’s bid turned out to be the lowest (L1) bidder. The project is to be constructed in 24 months and operated for 15 years after its commissioning. This is the eleventh hybrid annuity highway project secured by the company so far, he claimed.

Bihar launches construction of Rs. 1,216-cr JPNIA airport

Construction work has resumed for a new terminal building at Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport at Patna in Bihar. Nearly 51% work on cargo complex, technical block, fire station, air traffic control tower and multi-level car parking is in full swing. These auxiliary buildings are likely to become operational by March 2021. Two floors of ground plus five multi-level car parking have been completed. Apart from the new terminal building, work has also resumed on the extended areas of the existing terminal building, which will have security area, check-in counters, X-ray baggage machines, frisking booths, shopping outlets, retail segments and lounge facilities. The construction companies have been asked to follow the standard operating procedure (SOP) based on guidelines issued by the Union ministry of home affairs. The project may get delayed by few months due to shortage of workers, days lost due to lockdown and slow pace of work on account of social distancing. There might also be some issues in procuring the raw material and equipment for the construction work. The Airports Authority of India (AAI), Patna, has set the target of completing the construction of the two-storey terminal building by 22 October 2022 for which the Centre has already allocated Rs 1,216 crore for the new terminal which will have the departure lounge on the first floor and arrival area on the ground floor.

Warehousing & Logistics get industry status in UP

The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to accord industry status to warehousing and logistics sector in the state, a move that will help reduce the cost of setting up of parks and units by a fair margin. On the new incentive for warehousing and logistics sector, state’s Industrial Development Minister Satish Mahana has reportedly said that the CM has given consent to this proposal at a recent meeting as this sector had immense potential to create enormous job opportunities required as migrant laborers are returning from other states due to COVID-19 lockdown. He further said that by granting industry status to the sector, the state is on its way to establish itself as a favorable destination for investments. Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner Alok Tandon said that this will drastically lower the cost of setting up units in Uttar Pradesh. As of now, change of land use is charged at 150 per cent of circle rate from agriculture to commercial land use, which will now be only 35 per cent of circle rate as agriculture to industrial land-use change will be applicable now industrial land-use changes will be applicable to Warehousing and Logistics sector units and parks in UP. Principal Secretary, Infrastructure & Industrial Development Alok Kumar said that activities of warehousing and logistics parks and units will be allowed for land-use of ‘industrial land’ of all industrial development authorities in accordance with the provision of ‘UP Warehousing & Logistics Policy 2018’.

Indian Infrastructure & Tenders Week