L&T wins twin Delhi-Meerut RRTS corridor contracts

The L&T construction, a wholly owned subsidiary of Larsen & Toubro, has recently bagged two contracts to build the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) of the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Corridor from National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) in Uttar Pradesh. Senior Vice President and Head - Heavy Civil Infrastructure, L&T Construction, V Desai, said, elaborating that the company is delighted to have been entrusted with responsibility to develop the challenging project, a first-of-its-kind for India which is the reaffirmation of its proven capability to build faster and reliable mass transit systems that are in sync with strategic goal of aiding rapid transportation infrastructure development. The scope of work in the project included executing a new, dedicated, high-speed and high-capacity rail system in the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Corridor. In fact, RRTS is distinct from metro transit systems as it caters to passengers traveling relatively longer distances with fewer stops and at higher speeds. The design speed for the project is 180 kmps with an average operational speed of 100 kmp/h. The two contracts for RRTS have been secured for packages starting from Dubai to Modi Nagar and from Modi Nagar to Shahabdi Nagar for a distance of about 32 km viaduct including 7 elevated rail stations.

UPMRC plans six new metro corridors in Lucknow

The Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (UPMRC) has decided to extend the services of metro rail in every nook and corner of the state capital. A DPR of the East-West Corridor has been prepared and sent to cabinet for approval. The new corridors will be added to the UPMRC's future requirement of the masses. The new corridors will cater to the emerging transport connectivity in future, MD, UPMRC, Kumar Kashishav said, claiming that there is a plan to develop the metro rail system in the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut state & central governments. He also stated that the population of Lucknow would exceed 45 lakhs in the next 5 years and the new corridors will cater to the emerging transport requirement of the masses. The new corridors would include: Corridor-1: Secretariat-CG City South, Corridor-2: CCS Airport Metro Station-Munshi Pulia-Jankipuram and all these corridors would be added to the UPMRC's future projects.

BMRCL initiating tunneling work on 6.29-km stretch

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCCL) in a recent announcement claimed that it is all set to start tunneling works on the new Green line extension to add 6.29 km to the existing 24.2 km stretch covering Nagasandra to Yelahanka areas on the metro line. It has also decided to add 6.465 km to the existing Purple Line, which is 18.1 km from Mysuru Road station to Baiyappanahalli and has already procured two tunnel boring machines to construct tunnels from Dairy Circle to Nagawara covering 14 km long stretch, Managing Director, Ajay Seth, said, elaborating that it is also commencing commercial operations on the extended metro line on Kanakpura Road and Mysuru Road as per schedule. The extended Green Line (Yelahanka to Anjanapura) has been planned to make functional from August 15, Independence Day, and the extended Purple Line (Mysuru Road to Kengeri) from November 1, the day of Karnataka Rajyostava. In addition to this, it is also prepared to stave off the challenges of land acquisition as in case the acquisition of NICE land gets delayed, the existing depot at Peenya on Green Line and Baiyappanahalli on Purple Line will be used for commencing regular operations, he insisted.

Maharashtra earmarks Rs. 63,557-cr for infra projects

The government in Maharashtra has laid emphasis on infrastructure development across the state and has earmarked a whopping investment worth Rs. 63,557 crore. This amount is in addition to the Rs 2 lakh crore infra projects currently under various stages of implementation in Mumbai Metropolitan Region and also in the rest of the state. The state government has proposed Rs 3,500 crore to complete the Konkan Marine Highway in three years, Rs 15,000 crore ring roads with a length of 170 km to divert the traffic entering the Pune city from outside. The government will also launch the construction of 40,000 km of rural Road Development Scheme with an outlay of Rs 1,501 crore and Urban Road Development Scheme of Rs 1,000 crore in 2020-21. Deputy CM, Ajit Pawar said, elaborating that the financial restructuring of the Rs 55,000 crore Mumbai Nagpur Samruddhi Express way has saved the interest outgo following the allocation of Rs 8,500 crore. Krishi Samruddhi Kendra at 20 places along the Samruddhi Expressway will also be developed to generate more revenue. The Pune-Pimpri Chinchwad Metro project will be extended with the development of new lines from Shivaji Nagar to Shewale Wadi, Maan to Piraupat and that the expansion of Vanaj to Ramwadi metro up to Chanchandi Chowk-Vanjaji-Ramvadi-Wagholi will also be carried out at an investment of Rs 1,656 crore. The government has granted an in principle approval to start tourist and passenger transport from Mira Bhayander to Dombivli on Vasai-Thane-Kalyan route under the National Waterways program. The government will provide Rs 500 crore to the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) to purchase new 1600 luxurious buses replacing older ones and an outlay of Rs 200 crore and another Rs 200 crore has been earmarked for the modernization of MSRTC bus stations, he added.
T he NHAI has recently floated tenders for different packages under Ahmedabad-Dholera Greenfield Alignment entailing a combined investment of Rs. 3,367 crore. The projects and packaged included the construction of four lane expressway from Sardar Patel Ring Road to Sindhrj Village on NH-753 in Ahmedabad on EPC model under Bharatmala Pariyojana (Package-I) costing Rs 774.53 crore. Also for the construction of four lane expressway from Sindhrj village to Vejalka village with a length of 48.520 km of Ahmedabad-Dholera Greenfield Alignment of the same highway in Ahmedabad district on EPC Mode under Bharatmala Pariyojana (Package-II) costing Rs 913.77 crore and the construction of four lane expressway from Vejalka village to Start of DSIR Zone from 48.520 km to 71.060 km of Ahmedabad-Dholera Greenfield Alignment (NH-751) in Ahmedabad district on EPC mode under

Task Force drawing Rs. 100 Lakhs-cr infra projects’ pipeline

T he Union Government has constituted a task force spearheaded by Secretary Department of Economic Affairs to draw up the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) involving an investment of Rs 100 lakh crore to be invested till 2022-25 financial years. To achieve the target the task force already had detailed deliberations with different stakeholders, including Ministries, State Governments, infrastructure companies, developers, bankers, NBFCs, and industry associations, chairman of the task force, Abhijit Chakraborty, said. To start with, the Ministry of Finance has released the summary of the report of the task force on NIP for FY 2019-2025 with recommendations on certain generic reforms. The task force in its detailed report will provide its recommendations on changes required to several key sector-wise policies and other reform initiatives by the Central and State Governments very shortly. The NIP is a co-operative effort of all the Ministries/Departments of Union Government, States and the private sector and that an action plan has been worked out to accomplish the ambitious target of infrastructure investment in the next five years, he added.

Bharatmala Package-III entailing Rs 746.55 crore investment. Construction of four lane expressway from start of DSIR Zone of Ahmedabad district to Adholei village of Bhavnagar district from Ch. 71.00 to Ch. 109.019 section of Ahmedabad Dholera Greenfield alignment in Gujarat on EPC under Bharatmala Pariyojana (Package-IV) involving an investment of Rs 932.32 crore and that the assigned works on these stretches will be completed in 24 months, NHAI said in an official statement.

Kolte-Patil in JV plans 5.4-acre realty project in Pune

T he Pune-based realty developer Kolte-Patil Developers has entered into an agreement with UK-based realty developer Planet Smart City to jointly develop a 5.4 acre land parcel in Pune. In this connection, Kolte-Patil’s subsidiary Kolte-Patil I-Ven Townships (Pune) and the UK developer, KPI & Planet, will be developing the land parcel jointly in the profit sharing model. This is quite a unique deal which earns land monetization benefits as well as profit sharing cash flows from the incremental planned development, resulting in strong returns, Group CEO, Kolte-Patil Developers, Gopal Sarda, said, adding that the company has visibility from a business development and existing portfolio launch perspective in Mumbai operations and largely plan to use as the growth capital.

The said land parcel is in sector R-10 in Kolte-Patil Developers township project Life Republic in Pune and has a residential development potential of 7.6 lakh sq ft in terms of saleable area. The project Life Republic is spread across 400 acres and at present, 4.2 million sq ft has already been delivered in the project.

A&M Group forays into Indian infrastructure sector

T he Europe based leading Infrastructure building player, A&M Development Group, has announced its entry into Indian infrastructure sector. To start with, the company is setting up its office in India as Oberoi-A&M Infra-Consortium Pvt Ltd and after that A & M and Polaris Energy Resources Inc. (USA) will take up the development of mega infrastructure projects in India largely on the EPC and finance model. The priority infrastructural and development projects within India will include low cost housing, roads, bridges, metro networks, international and domestic airports, hydroelectric & irrigation dams as well as smart cities, said Arch. Khhaled Sadek Egyptian / German (CEO & Director - Europe & North America) A & M Development Group, while making the announcement affirmed that its readiness and willingness along with Polaris to mutually undertake (via EPC+F) Engineering, procurement & construction projects up to an initial value of US$ 20 Billion. A&M’s clients span the industrial spectrum, including diversified Industrial, Automotive &Commercial Vehicles, Banking 

& Finance, Oil, Water Pipes and Utilities. It will also be donating Ten Percent of its profits, towards the PM relief fund in order to affirm their participation on the after math of the Carona-Covid 19 epidemic in India. Mr. Inderjot Singh Oberoi, Director Oberoi-A&M Infra-Consortium India said “We affirm to support our projects with and through our financial capability from funds overseas financial Institution partners. A&M International Development & Investment B.R.C.”

The group includes technical arms such as A&M Developments Egypt, A&M International Development & Infrastructure SRL, (Romaonia), Ing Mantovani SA (Italy), Paghera Landscape (Italy - Egypt), A&M Development & International Development & Infrastructure AG (Germany), A&M CFC Construction Association (Italy - Egypt), A&M Development El Salvador SA (El Salvador), Clarin Sports Facilities (Italy - A&M Infra-Consortium India said “We affirm to support our projects with and through our financial capability from funds overseas financial Institution partners. A&M International Development & Investment B.R.C.”

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always looking for a better way
Planet City in JV launches 1,000 affordable units

Planet Smart City in partnership with Kolte Patil Developers has planned to build 1,000 affordable apartments over an area of 21,000 sqm in Life Republic townships, in Pune, Maharashtra. The former, which is a global leader in the construction of smart affordable housing, will use technological expertise and social innovation programs of the Kolte Patil Developers. The smart affordable homes will integrate modern functional design with environmental solutions and Internet of Things technology. Residents will have access to a wide range of shared services, designed to improve quality of life and strengthen the community. These services will be powered by the free Planet App, by which residents can also control services in their smart homes, interact with the sharing economy and engage with each other to coordinate community activities. Work is slated to start in the next quarter of the current fiscal. It is the first real estate project in India by Planet Smart City following its recent expansion into the country through the launch of its smart advisory services. The move, announced at the World Urban Forum in Abu Dhabi, will see Planet develop with third party real estate developers and government agencies to provide its offer for integrating smart solutions into urban environments, Global CEO of Planet Smart City, Giovanni Savio, said. While Group CEO, Kolte Patil Developers, Gopal Sarda, said that the company is happy to partner with a global real estate developer like Planet Smart City township project Life Republic in Pune.

S. Pallonji starts construction of tallest towers in Bengal

The construction work on the townships of the tallest tower in Howrah on the suburban Howrah city in West Bengal is set to start as addressing concerns of the members of developers’ association Credai-MCHI through a video conference, when he reiterated that there is a need for developing infrastructure to boost the economy. To achieve the targets, the government has envisaged a very ambitious highway development programme ‘Bharatmala Pariyojana’ which includes construction of about 65,000 km national highways and under phase-I of the program, the government has approved implementation of 34,800 km of national highways with a target of five years with an outlay of Rs 5.35 lakh crore. Prior to this, the ministry had kept a target of 30 km per day for construction of highways and achieved it and now it is aiming at 60 km per day as the speed of development of the road projects would be 2.5 times faster. The highest ever highway construction achieved recently when NHAI completed construction of 3,979 km of national highways in FY 2019-20, which was the highest ever highway construction achieved in a financial year. In fiscal FY2019, the NHAI had constructed 3,380 km of national highways.

NHB kick starting big ticket road infra projects

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is launching 59-65% of the big-ticket expressway and highway projects where labor force is stationed in camps at project sites. The projects include the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway, Amritsar-Jaipur Expressway, Dwarka-Meerut-Varanasi Highway, Trans Haryana North-South Expressway. The construction work on these projects would resume shortly as so far as availability of labor is concerned, the contractors have stationed them at project sites and steel plants, refineries are in functional mode and there should be no concern on raw material. The official claimed that there are enough stocks in the pipeline and on project sites for work to resume. In fact, the government is prioritizing projects that are linked with industrial clusters to ensure efficient management of the supply chain. Two key areas where the government is looking at is restarting work on highway projects depending on their economic importance and, second, where laborers are present at the project site. Once the cement manufacturing companies see an uptick in construction activity, they should also get back in action aggressively and availability of raw material should not be a concern. It may be recalled that the guidelines issued by the home ministry allowed work to resume on construction projects within the limits of municipal corporations and municipalities where workers are available on site and no workers are required to be brought from outside. The government is banking on infrastructure projects to kick-start the economic activity in the country.

Decks cleared for Rs. 1,046-cr realty projects in NCR

Supreme Court constituted Committee has recently allowed NBCC to start work on Leisure Park Phase one and two, Leisure Park-River View and Kingswood in Smart City, comprising 4489 units commanding valuation worth Rs. 1,046 crore. It may be recalled that last month, NBCC had started the process of completing nine housing projects of the Amrapali Group including eight projects in Greater Noida - Leisure Valley Villas, Verona, Ardee City, Yguna, Golf Homes, Dream Valley Ph 1 Villas & Ph 2, Enchante, Terrace Homes and Tropical Garden in Centurian and Crystal Homes in Silicon at Noida with a total number of housing units of 27,223 valuing at Rs.5,769 crore. Supreme Court, last year had asked NBCC to start execution of two stalled projects to begin with, namely: Eden Park (Noida) and Castle (Greater Noida), comprising 618 Units which the company had the achieved the milestones. Now there is no embargo on movement of material and now the group is also resuming work on the 42, the 63-storey luxury residential project at Chowringhee that was halted when the Covid-19 lockdown was announced and the company is assessing the materials and manpower available on the site and will resume construction work immediately, said, president of Credai-Belagavi, Shroff. Sushil Motla said.

Govt. hikes road building targets to 60-km per day

The government of day has set an ambitious target of 60 km per day highway construction and this was confirmed by Union transport minister, Nitin Gadkari, while addressing concerns of the members of developers’ association Credai-MCHI through a video conference, when he reiterated that there is a need for developing infrastructure to boost the economy. To achieve the targets, the government has envisaged a very ambitious highway development program ‘Bharatmala Pariyojana’ which includes construction of about 65,000 km national highways and under phase-I of the program, the government has approved implementation of 34,800 km of national highways with a target of five years with an outlay of Rs 5.35 lakh crore. Prior to this, the ministry had kept a target of 30 km per day for construction of highways and achieved it and now it is aiming at 60 km per day as the speed of development of the road projects would be 2.5 times faster. The highest ever highway construction achieved recently when NHAI completed construction of 3,979 km of national highways in FY 2019-20, which was the highest ever highway construction achieved in a financial year. In fiscal FY2019, the NHAI had constructed 3,380 km of national highways. The minister further reiterated that infrastructure development is necessary to generate jobs and accelerate economy. Unless liquidity is generated from the country’s infrastructure, be it development of water systems, power, transport, communications, railways, shipping and ports, it will not be able to grow at the desired pace.

NBFCs & HFC beat up on Rs. 10,000-cr RBI’s infusion

Non-banking finance NBFCs, banks and housing finance companies (HFCs) are upbeat after the approval of Rs. 10,000 crore as they will get help after the RBI announcement of a second round of measures to help liquidity at a time the country battles the coronavirus, said real estate firms and consultants. The central bank, besides slashing the reverse repo rate, is targeting long-term repo operations (TLTRO 2.0) for an aggregate amount of Rs 50,000 crore. To avail funds, banks have to invest in the bonds and debentures of NBFCs among others. It provided funds for refinancing to National Housing Bank (NHB) to support housing finance companies. NBFCs and HFCs have accounted for over 60 per cent of developers loans and now developers can expect more funds from NBFCs and HFCs, said Niranjan Hiraniandani, managing director at Hiraniandani group. While Anuj Puri, chairman of Anarock Property Consultants said that an allotment to NHB is a big move for the real estate sector reeling under the liquidity crisis. It will help provide capital to HFCs and eventually provide major relief to developers battling liquidity issues in COVID-19 times. Central bank, in a measure helping borrowers said that the 90-day non-performing asset (NPA) norm would exclude moratorium period, meaning there would an asset classification standstill for all such accounts from March 1, 2020 to May 31, 2020. Kamal Khetan, chairman and managing director of Sunteck Realty, said that the relaxation of asset classification norms will ease the stress on NBFC lending to the real estate sector besides ensuring stable costs of funds and avoiding distress sale of assets by developers.
About a month after the work for the multiple infrastructure projects across the city came to a standstill due to nationwide lockdown, the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA), has resumed work on the multiple infra projects in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR). Joint metropolitan commissioner BG Pawar said, claiming that the work on the Kalani Ring Road and the Rajnouli road over bridge at Bhiwandi has been commenced and also the MMRDA has secured nod to start work for the Mumbai Trans-Harbour Link (MTHL) and has also started work on the Kalingar flyover. It may be recalled that it had earlier planned to open the flyover for motorists by next month but it got delayed and now the nodal agency is starting work outside Mumbai first. MMRDA has 11,000 laborers at its different project sites to ensure smooth resumption of the various projects across the metropolitan region, metropolitan commissioner, MMRDA, RA Rajape, claimed.

**L&T wins multiple contracts in local & international arena**

The Power Transmission & Distribution Business segment of L&T Construction has bagged orders both within and outside the country. The business contracts included an order to modernize the power distribution network in a subdivision of Bengaluru Metropolitan Area Zone. In a consortium, another order has been secured for the rehabilitation of substations and transmission lines associated with hydropower plants in Myanmar. With the scope of work involving conversion of high voltage overhead lines into underground cables and creation of additional feeders for load bifurcation, the project will enhance the reliability of the power system. Similar distribution network strengthening orders have been received in the northern and western parts of the subcontinent. It has also bagged orders to set up 220kV, 132kV substations and 132kV cable networks in India, the Middle East and Africa. Additional orders have also been received in ongoing Substation, Transmission Line and Renewable Energy jobs in India.

**MMRDA kick starts key infrastructure projects**

RA Rajeev, claimed.

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**GAIL launches infra projects in north east India**

The Gas Authority of India, is all set to launch major multiple hydrocarbon infrastructure projects of national importance across states, said an official spokesperson, elaborating that with the support of local administrative authorities. It planned to lay high pressure natural gas pipelines, including Urja Ganga project connecting North and East India. In order to kick-start crucial infrastructure projects to enable expansion of the gas-based economy, the company along with its Subsidiary and JV companies, has chalked out catch-up plans for various locations and work fronts to ensure timely completion and avoid any slippages. The company has also facilitated arrangements for continued stay of the migrant laborers working at various sites during the lockdown period for ensuring safety of all concerned, which enabled the company to maintain safe and uninterrupted supplies of liquefied petroleum gas to oil marketing companies and natural gas to the crucial downstream utilities such as fertilizer, power, refineries and city gas distribution.

**Motilal Oswal secures Rs. 1,150-cr for realty projects**

Ensuring smooth flow of funds for its various real estate projects, Motilal Oswal Real Estate (MORE) has generated Rs 1,150 crore from high net worth individuals to invest in housing and commercial ventures across six cities in the country. The fund raising exercise for its India Realty Excellence Fund IV (IREF IV) started in September 2018, and now the final closure has been achieved, Director & CEO Shardad Miftal, said revealing that company has already made an investment commitment of around Rs 550 crore in nine projects from this fourth fund. Its average investment size is around Rs 75 crore as about 80 per cent of its portfolio is residential projects and 20 per cent commercial. The company would be cautious in making further investments from its fourth fund and would wait and watch to understand the impact of global economic slowdown caused by the coronavirus outbreak, he said.

**Centre allows construction work on key projects in Delhi**

Construction work on several major infrastructure projects in the capital including building tunnel under the Pragati Maidan redevelopment plan, the Barapul-3 elevated road near Sarai Kale Khan, the Yamuna basin near Mayor Vish-1, the Shastri Park and Seelampur flyovers in north-east Delhi, and also on the Benito Juarez Road underpass near South Campus of the Delhi University set to start shortly. Government agencies engaged in construction activities has already started assessing the inventory of construction material and labor availability, official PWD sources said. It may be recalled that Centre has granted conditional approval for such activity in areas where there are no coronavirus disease (Covid-19) containment zones. The decision to allow in-situ construction has come as a relief to several Delhi government agencies because a large number of infrastructure projects have been stuck since last November, when construction activity was banned due to high air pollution levels in the city and though the ban was lifted on February 14, only to be re-imposed when the national lockdown was announced. Though the availability of workers may be a challenge because several thousand migrant workers left the city for their towns and villages after the lockdown was announced, as such work will proceed at a slow pace.

**Govt pushes the pace of project awards & clearance of dues**

Road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari recently claimed that highways construction is to be increased up to two-three times to kick start economic growth. Infrastructure building, including waterways, power, transport and communication, needs to be doubled in order to bring back liquidity in the market, amid the crisis due to the outbreak of covid-19 in the country. The transport ministry has also directed officials to make the best use of the lockdown, work overtime and complete pending work such as clearing dues to contractors, speeding up project approvals their delivery and implementation process, so that construction work can resume on fast tracked basis. In an address to the nation earlier, the PM said that the lockdown has been extended till May 3, however the government is considering resuming economic activity in a phased manner, including opening up certain sectors starting from April 20, to ease the hardships of daily wagers, farmers and small businesses. The clearance of contractors’ dues will create liquidity and he has also asked NHAI and its arbitration units to decide matters within three months. He also called upon the industry to look up upon the present crisis as a challenge and opportunity especially as some countries are looking to move away their investments from China, and India can be one of the best options for them.

**NHAI sets to start Chandigarh-Ludhiana NH project**

The work on the Ludhiana-Chandigarh national highway, which stopped when curfew was announced, is all set to start shortly with proper social distancing norms. In this connection, NHAI has taken up the matter with the Central and state governments. The major portion of the work in Ludhiana has already been completed and the work was stopped not only in the Chandigarh-Ludhiana project but on all such projects across India. The sources said adding that last week NHAI authorities had requested the Punjab government to allow them to complete the remaining work. The request has been considered by the government and hopefully it will be able to start work in the next few days. NHAI will take final decision after other under construction projects as the agency will comply with each and every parameter in view of the present circumstances, including ensuring social distancing of work force. As of now, of out of 76-km planned in the project, it has completed 71-km. In Ludhiana, work is pending at Batho Sahib (where land is being acquired for flyover) and Samrara bypass. Once it gets permission it will complete the work in Ludhiana very soon, said Project director of NHAI, K L Sachdeva, adding that of the five km pending, the stretches where the work is to be completed include Khannpur, Dadlu Majra (both in Mohali district), Khand Mandir in Fatehgarh Sahib (where they have challenged the land acquisition rates), and Samrara Byepass and Batho Sahib.
AIA launches work on the Chennai airport project

The Airports Authority of India (AIA) is all set to start the construction of a terminal building at the Chennai airport, said a senior AIA official, adding that the agency is resuming construction of integrated terminal, which was stalled after clamping of the national lockdown. The official guidelines say that work can be carried out if laborers are available in and around the work site and the workers are all in its labor camp opposite to the airport and sitting idle. He also said that social distancing norms will have to be followed while bringing workers into the work site and also during construction. In addition, the most of the materials like cement and steel is lying in its stockyard and equipment and allied vehicles are also at the work site. In fact, the shutdown is also an advantage for the work because the airport is not functioning as it was a challenge to carry out the work with a functioning domestic and international terminal on either side of the worksite. Now, the city side and the air side is free as there are no passengers and no flights.

Karnataka offers 12,000 prime plots for realty builders

With the coronavirus pandemic triggering a financial crisis, cash-starved Karnataka has decided to auction 12,000 housing sites to generate funds, state government said in a statement, elaborating that the government will auction corner sites, lying idle in Bengaluru. In this connection, state government explored ways and means to mobilize resources for funding various schemes, announced in the budget for 2020-21. Apart from this, the state will also be able to mobilize funds from stamp duty and penalty by regularizing unauthorized houses and buildings after a speedy disposal of cases pending in the high court and the Supreme Court. Corner and vacant sites in towns across the state under the State Urban Development Authority will also be auctioned to raise funds for matching post-Covid expenses to restore normalcy.

DMRC finalizes designs for the Phase-IV metro lines

With all the services of public transport in the capital stay stopped, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation’s (DMRC’s) team of architects & designers have held online-meetings with locally personnel, design experts and contractors and finalized the designs for the development of the Phase-IV part of the project. The senior officials of Delhi Metro including MD Mangu Singh continuing work with his officers during the lockdown period, meetings are being directed through video conference to review a range of major issues and online courses are being available to the employees for their knowledge and awareness enhancement, an official spokesperson, said, elaborating that Building Information Modeling (BIM) is an online mechanism has been devised by which designs, drawings and 3D models can be used to be uploaded online. Officers can leave their comments and observations by the same software and no hard copy or print out is required. Engineers deputed at the sites are also regularly conducting meetings through video conference to deliberate on a range of issues, which would be encountered once the commencement of developmental work. Issues like design submission & finalization, procurement orders through contractors, manpower deployment at sites and others are being dealt with. Daily Project Reports are being made to keep a tab on the overall progress made. An official also stated that the safety department is organizing frequent web-sessions for project engineers on many aspects of development site safety and more than four hundred engineers across the DMRC hierarchy are attending the webinars.

Centre sanctions Rs. 300-crore for flyover in Kerala

A long-pending demand to construct a flyover at the busy Kittur Chennamma Circle has been fulfilled with the Union government sanctioning Rs 300 crore for the project, Parliamentary affairs, coal and mines minister Prahallad Joshi has said, adding that the transport ministry has responded positively to the proposal as it first approved the project and tender will be floated very shortly. The elevated corridor flyover would reduce the traffic congestion in the heart of the city. According to the national highways minister, the flyover will have four lanes for the movement of the vehicles and one more arm would be built from Hosur to Mysuru depot of the NWMRTC on Gokul Road, he said.

AAI launches work on the Chennai airport project

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) said that Building Information Modeling (BIM) is an online mechanism has been devised by which designs, drawings and 3D models can by providing them food and accommodation. NHAI is also worried over the delay as the lockdown has affected its two most productive months like March and April as the maximum amount of works is happening in these two months. By mid-May, the southern states will start experiencing rains that will continue lash south-western and north-eastern regions of the country till the end of the calendar year.

NHAI asks for lax norms to start road projects

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has approached district administrations of various states for relaxation in lockdown norms so that they could start pending works on the on-going road and highway projects across the country. As a matter of fact, the agency has to carry out periodic construction and maintenance works for projects including the Kazhakoottam–Kanode national highway stretch and Kazhakoottam flyover in Kerala. Sources said that NHAI has to complete some works, which could otherwise pose a road safety risks across the country. Some portions of various road stretches in the country were dug up for piling works including the Kazhakoottam flyover in Kerala, which have to be covered properly to ensure safety of road users. Though several migrant laborers have left states before lockdown, NHAI in various cases has been keeping their laborers in cites for the continuity of works. The contractors are taking care of the needs.

States extend real estate projects completion period

The state governments in Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka have provided relief to real estate developers to help them mitigate the impact of the current lockdown to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. The state regulatory authorities have allowed realtors to apply for a one-time extension in the project completion deadline (end date). The extension will be provided to all registered projects having their project end date on and between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021. The Real Estate Regulatory Authority-Karnataka (RERA-K), has given a three month extension for projects that were to be completed by March 15 but have been held up due to the lockdown. In this connection, builders had met with RERA officials requesting an extension of the deadline as the construction industry has come to grinding halt due to the lockdown, member of RERA-K, Vishnuvarthan Reddy, said, explaining that the decision was taken after assessing problems on the ground. When the lockdown is lifted, builders might face problems in mobilizing resources and immediately starting, so the authority has extended the deadline only for projects which were to be completed by March 15. No extension will be given to projects that were recently launched and the completion date for which is about four-five years from now. Welcoming the decision, Kishore Jain, president, CREDAI Bengaluru said that supply chain disruption, migration of workers and other related issues have completely stalled construction in the state and have had an adverse impact on projects which were to be completed before March 15, 2020.

NHAI asks for lax norms to start road projects

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By all the services of public transport in the capital stay stopped, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation’s (DMRC’s) team of architects & designers have held online-meetings with locally personnel, design experts and contractors and finalized the designs for the development of the Phase-IV part of the project. The senior officials of Delhi Metro including MD Mangu Singh continuing work with his officers during the lockdown period, meetings are being directed through video conference to review a range of major issues and online courses are being available to the employees for their knowledge and awareness enhancement, an official spokesperson, said, elaborating that Building Information Modeling (BIM) is an online mechanism has been devised by which designs, drawings and 3D models can be used to be uploaded online. Officers can leave their comments and observations by the same software and no hard copy or print out is required. Engineers deputed at the sites are also regularly conducting meetings through video conference to deliberate on a range of issues, which would be encountered once the commencement of developmental work. Issues like design submission & finalization, procurement orders through contractors, manpower deployment at sites and others are being dealt with. Daily Project Reports are being made to keep a tab on the overall progress made. An official also stated that the safety department is organizing frequent web-sessions for project engineers on many aspects of development site safety and more than four hundred engineers across the DMRC hierarchy are attending the webinars.

States extend real estate projects completion period

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