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Note: Rs 1 lakh = Rs 0.1 million; Rs 1 crore = Rs 10 million; Rs 100 crore = Rs 1 billion
PROJECTS

PMO proposes bypasses for top 10 cities to reduce traffic clogging

The Prime Minister’s Office (PMO) has asked the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) and the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to prepare an action plan to construct bypasses for the 10 top cities to reduce traffic clogging. PMO has also asked the agencies to prepare an action plan to integrate systems on state highways and entry points for seamless payment of toll charges through RFID tags. Further, it has directed the authorities to identify methods of measuring and publishing congestion data relating to the Golden Quadrilateral and East-West Corridor road networks. While bypasses have already been constructed in Mumbai, Chennai and Hyderabad, a few others are currently under implementation around Delhi and Varanasi, and some are in the planning stage across Bengaluru, Amaravati, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Dhanbad, Ranchi and Allahabad.

Central government initiates road connectivity work for LWE-affected areas

The central government has initiated work on the road connectivity project in 44 Left Wing Extremism (LWE)-affected areas.

Estimated at Rs 117.25 billion, the project will be implemented under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and provide connectivity with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures in 44 worst affected LWE and adjoining districts. Overall, the project will involve construction/upgradation of 5,411.81 km of roads and 126 bridges/cross-drainage works.

The scheme will cover Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra.

Dindigul-Bangalore road project to be completed by November 2018

The project involving four-laning of the Dindigul-Bangalore section of NH-209 (Pollachi-Coimbatore section) is expected to be completed by November 2018.

The project involves the rehabilitation and upgradation of the Pollachi-Coimbatore section of the Dindigul-Bangalore road stretch to a four-lane road with paved shoulders on NH-209 from km 123.55 to km 150.4 in Tamil Nadu. The scope of work also includes the construction of a 2.32 km road overbridge (ROB) at Kinathukadavu, a 1.04 km ROB at Othakkalmandapam and a 1.32 km ROB at the Mullupadi railway gate. The project is being implemented on an EPC basis under Phase IV of the National Highways Development Programme (NHDP) at an estimated cost of Rs 5 billion.

Sinnar bypass opens under Nashik-Sinnar road project

The Sinnar bypass under the Nashik-Sinnar four-laning road project (NH-50) has been opened to the public.

The project involves the four-laning of the 25.31 km Nashik-Sinnar road stretch of NH-50 from km 177 to km 201.35, including the construction of the 9.51 km Sinnar bypass in Nashik, Maharashtra.

NHAI to acquire 4,010 hectares of land for Patradevi-Bambolim road project

The NHAI is expected to acquire 4,010 hectares of land for the Patradevi-Bambolim Road Widening Project on NH-17.

The project involves the four-laning of the 42.93 km road stretch on NH-17 at a cost of Rs 22.37 billion. It will be undertaken in 15 parts, of which four parts are in Goa and 11 are in Maharashtra.

Soil testing works begin for BKC-BWSL elevated corridor under Kalanagar Junction Project

The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has begun soil testing work for the elevated corridor to be constructed from Banda-Kurla Complex (BKC) to Bandra Worli Sea Link (BWSL) under the Kalanagar Junction Project.
The flyover will have two sections, which will allow traffic to move from the Sion-Dharavi Road and BKC towards BWSL, skipping the BKC and Kalanagar junction. The project involves the construction of a 1.9 km flyover from the BWSL end to BKC and Kalanagar with two lanes each. The MMRDA is the nodal agency for the project, which is estimated to cost Rs 1.63 billion.

**Tamil Nadu’s Highways Department plans more flyovers in Chennai**

Among a slew of announcements made by the Tamil Nadu government to boost Chennai’s infrastructure in the face of increasing vehicular population and traffic congestion, one included the construction of a flyover on Mount-Poonamallee High Road at an estimated cost of Rs 2.14 billion. The flyover is planned for construction over MIOT Hospitals, Ramapuram, L&T and DLF to Mugalivakkam.

Meanwhile, the state has allocated Rs 1 billion for the preparation of a detailed project report. Besides, the state highways department is also planning to construct flyovers at vital junctions like Kunrathur, Madipak Kam, Madambakkam and Korattur, along with a high-level bridge between Vadapalani and Ashok Pillar at an estimated cost Rs 3.8 billion. Further, a 2 km Tambaram Eastern Bypass is also planned for construction in the south to connect Maraimalai Adigal Bridge and Irumbuliyur Road in Rajakilpakkam and Perungalathur.

Currently, the Highways Department is building flyovers at Porur, Pallavaram, Velachery, Kalamman Koil Road off Jawaharlal Nehru Salai, Medavakkam, Kilkattalai and Kolathur Rettai Eri at an estimated cost of Rs 5.81 billion. Also, Phase II of the Outer Ring Road, a six-lane 30.5 km road from Nemilicheri to Minjur, will be completed at an estimated cost of Rs 10.75 billion by end-2017.

**AWARDS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CCEA approves widening of Chakeri-Allahabad section in Uttar Pradesh**

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the six-laning of the 145 km Chakeri-Allahabad section of NH-2 in Uttar Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs 36.91 billion as a part of the Golden Quadrilateral between Delhi and Kolkata.

The scope of work includes the construction of 11 truck lay-bys, 18 bus lay-bys, nine flyovers, 14 vehicular underpasses and 25 pedestrian underpasses.

The project will be implemented on a hybrid annuity basis under Phase V of the National Highways Development Programme.

**Valecha Engineering wins EPC contract for NH-65-Virur-Bhalki-Latur road project**

The MSRDC has awarded an EPC contract worth Rs 2.49 billion to Valecha Engineering Limited for the project entailing two-/four-laning of the NH-65-Virur (NH-50)-Bhalki (NH-52)-Latur section from km 0 to km 64.93 in Maharashtra. It is estimated to entail an investment of Rs 3.15 billion and is expected to be completed within two years upon the commencement of construction work. It has a maintenance period of four years.

**Maharashtra government approves Pune Ring Road Project**

The Maharashtra government has approved the implementation of the 129 km Pune Ring Road Project. Meanwhile, the project will be implemented by the Pune Metropolitan Regional Development Authority on an EPC basis at an estimated cost of Rs 174.12 billion. It will require 1,430 hectares of land.

The project will be implemented in two phases. Phase I involves the four-laning of the road including two lanes for ingress and egress traffic, construction of a 3.75 km tunnel, six bridges, roads in the townships, and street lights. Phase II involves eight-laning of the road including four lanes each for egress and ingress traffic along with cycle tracks on both sides, footpaths, eight flyovers, three railway flyovers and internal roads of townships. The project is expected to be completed by 2024.
**Elevated road in Noida inaugurated**

The Uttar Pradesh government has inaugurated the Rs 4.35 billion, 4.8 km six-lane elevated road from Vishwa Bharti School in Sector 28 to Sector 61 in Noida. The elevated road implemented by the Noida Authority has been constructed four months before the scheduled time. The road has exit and entry ramps at Nithari, Sector 30 and NTPC Chowk Sector 24 to allow traffic from internal roads to access it.

**MPRDC signs agreements for four packages of MPMDRUP**

The Madhya Pradesh Road Development Corporation (MPRDC) has signed agreements with IL&FS Transportation Networks Limited, Gannon Dunkerly & Company Limited, Madhav Infra Projects Private Limited, and GHV Private Limited for the implementation of Package II, Package IX, Package XVI and Package XXIV respectively under the Madhya Pradesh Major District Roads Upgradation Project (MPMDRUP).

An agreement worth Rs 1.75 billion was signed with ITNL for the following stretches of Package II – Ganj-Rajnagar Road (MP-MDR-35-02), Lauendi-Mahoba Road (MP-MDR-35-11), Nawgong-Shrinagar Road (MP-MDR-35-04) and Baxwaha-Dalpatpur Road (MP-MDR-35-18). The work is expected to be completed in 20 months. Also, L.N. Malviya Infra Project Private Limited has been appointed as the construction supervision consultant for the work.

Another agreement worth Rs 972.04 million was signed with GDCL for the following stretches of Package IX – Dhoomaa Gotegaon Road (MP-MDR-37-04), Ganeshgani SUNWARA Kewlari Pindra Road (MP-MDR-37-13) and Kewlari Bheemgarh Chhapaara Road (MP-MDR-37-14). The work is expected to be completed in 12 months. Also, Aarvee Associates Architects Engineers & Consultants Private Limited has been appointed as the construction supervision consultant for the work.

An agreement worth Rs 1,084.84 million was signed with Madhav Infra Projects Private Limited for the following stretches of Package XVI – Berasia Narsingagar Road (MP-MDR-23-07), Narsingarh Berasia Road (MP-MDR-25-04), Bhojapura Ahmedpura Road (Part 1)(MP-MDR-23-09), Bhojapura Ahmedpura Road (Part 2) (MP-MDR-26-06) and Doraha-Ahmadpur Road (MP-MDR-26-05). The work is expected to be completed in 12 months. Also, Highway Engineering Consultant has been appointed as the construction supervision consultant for the work.

Another agreement worth Rs 1.98 billion was signed with GHV for the following stretches of Package XXIV – Goi Kavri Dhulko Road (MP-MDR-22-06) and Rajpur Vipri Khajuri Badalsay Road (MP-MDR-22-10). The work is expected to be completed in 20 months. Also, Bloom Companies, LLC has been the construction supervision consultant for the work. The project involves the widening and reconstruction of major district roads in Madhya Pradesh. MPRDC is implementing the project on an EPC basis.

**RFQs invited for preparation of supplementary short listing for Mumbai-Nagpur expressway project**

The Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Limited (MSRDC) has invited requests for qualification (RFQs) for pre-qualification of bidders for construction of the access-controlled Nagpur-Mumbai Super Communication Expressway (“Maharashtra Samruddhi Mahamarg”) in Maharashtra on an EPC basis for 16 packages. The last date for the submission of bids is July 26, 2017.

The 16 packages for which the bids have been issued are – Package I (28.4 km, Rs 10 billion), Package II (60.95 km, Rs 21.5 billion), Package III (73.36 km, Rs 26 billion), Package IV (54.35 km, Rs 19 billion), Package V (42.87 km, Rs 15 billion), Package VI (36.1 km, Rs 13 billion), Package VII (51.18 km, Rs 18 billion), Package VIII (42.72 km, Rs 15 billion), Package IX (54.4 km, Rs 18.5 billion), Package X (57.9 km, Rs 20 billion), Package XI (29.39 km, Rs 10.5 billion), Package XII (45.65 km, Rs 15 billion), Package XIII (45.65 km, Rs 15 billion), Package XIV (13.1 km, Rs 20 billion), Package XV (28 km, Rs 15 billion) and Package XVI (37 km, Rs 25 billion).
FINANCE

Tamil Nadu allots Rs 5 billion for upgrading highways

The Tamil Nadu government has earmarked close to Rs 5 billion for upgrading and constructing new highway projects during 2017-18.

Meanwhile, during 2016-17, the MoRTH incurred an expenditure of Rs 7.98 billion for widening and construction of bridges in the state. Also, an expenditure of Rs 0.51 billion was incurred for the development of state roads under the interstate connectivity scheme. Further, the state government incurred an expenditure of Rs 1.68 billion under the revamped central road and Bharat Nirman maintenance fund schemes.