



MD's Corner

Dear Colleagues,

It gives me immense pleasure to see the unveiling of September 2020 edition of the Maha-Metro CONNECT. At the outset my hearty congratulations to all in Maha-Metro family for keeping the Maha-Metro flag flying high the Maha-Metro way despite the extremely difficult "new normal" situation prevailing due to COVID-19 which has adversely impacted routine life of people at both Nagpur and Pune.

Full credit goes to all at Maha-Metro and its partner contracting companies for having undertaken extraordinary innovative measures to bring back, the most critical project resource - "the labour". These efforts have ensured that the labour strength now available both at Nagpur (4500) and Pune (5000) exceeds that of pre-COVID-19 period.

This month has been significant for both the projects. Despite the adverse pandemic circumstances, the Nagpur team during September completed construction of four more stations (Two each at Orange and Aqua Lines). I am also happy to note that CMRS inspection of these stations have been completed satisfactorily and on receipt of safety certificates shortly, the total operational stations at Nagpur will increase from 12 to 16, giving further impetus to enhancement of ridership.

Pune project has gained momentum as well. During the month, Pune project achieved two key milestones: first was the breakthrough of 1.6 km tunnel in the underground section and the second being finalization of design of "new generation aluminium bodied Metro Coaches", which heralds an epoch-making moment for metro coach production in the country. Another happy moment for the Pune team was hosting Hon'ble Dy CM Maharashtra Shri Ajit Pawar who inspected the almost entire stretch of Metro including metro coach maintenance depots and underground work. He expressed his happiness at the pace of construction and encouraged us to further expedite the project to complete within the stipulated timeframe.

Lastly, I take the opportunity to reiterate that we are working under continued extremely trying circumstances brought in by COVID-19 Pandemic. Despite extreme caution, few from the Maha-Metro team did get affected by the virus but with god's grace all have recovered valiantly. I request all these Maha-Metro COVID-19 warrior heroes to share their inspirational stories in coming editions of Maha-Metro CONNECT. I also request every one to take all possible precautions including but not limited to wearing the mask, social distancing and maintaining hygiene. I extend my best wishes for continued COVID-19 free healthy and happy life to all.



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Editorial Board :

Akhilshwar Sahay, Strategic Advisor
Anil Kokate, Executive Director, Nagpur
Hemant Sonawane, GM-PR, Pune

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Excel Studio, Nagpur

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SPECIAL FEATURE - 1



Overcoming Manpower Challenges, Maha Metro Way

How Maha-Metro & Contractors Overturned the imposing mountain of Manpower Crisis

While the lockdown period for most people and organizations across the country was to fight the new-normal by staying home, for team Maha-Metro, management of its contractors, consultants and sub-contractors it was one of "Never say No" attitude and one of making superhuman effort to ensure resumption and faster execution of work. The key challenge faced in this regard was multi-fold including but not limited to providing safe and secured sphere for Maha-Metro team and contractors officials, staff, and labour. The most critical issue faced for the resumption and expediting the work was the flight of labour to their native place duly facilitated by central and state governments.

Before the COVID-19 Pandemic struck, available labour strength was more than 3000 at Nagpur and more than 5000 at Pune across different labour camps in the two cities. After the outbreak of COVID-19, the grit challenge was to ensure safe, secured and healthy labour camps, following all the COVID-19 protection protocol thereby ensuring safety to labour so that they do not contact the disease, while also simultaneously ensuring any possible emotional breakdown

Despite all efforts, precaution and counselling, once the governments allowed the labour to return to their native place, there was a flight of labour from both Nagpur and Pune and at one time despite having permission to resume work the labour strength both at Nagpur and Pune dwindled below 1000 each in May leaving a huge vacuum of manpower key construction resource

behind them. It was here that Maha-Metro and its contractors took special innovative measures to bring the labour back from their native places. Realising the gravity of the situation, the company officials started regular interaction with the workers. Those labour who had stayed behind were provided with meals and all other facilities. They were regularly checked for Corona-related symptoms. They were also paid their dues regularly.

As the mass exodus had severely impacted the pace of work progress, the work was re-started with limited labour available in-situ and in labour camps. But the major challenge remained to ensure the return of migrant labour from their native places. To make this impossible possible Maha-Metro wrote letters to various district magistrates to facilitate the labour travel while company officials travelled to the states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bengal and Orissa to meet workers, convince, encourage and motivate them to return duly providing return ticket and financial incentive. Contractor companies ensured the return of labour back to Nagpur and Pune in batches. An extremely challenging task has been accomplished to precision, this included training the new entrants to labour force and today for both Nagpur and Pune projects the labour strength at 4500 and 5000 is more than that of pre-COVID-19 days. The perseverance of all has helped Maha Metro to overcome the critical manpower crisis.



SPECIAL FEATURE - 2

Four New Stations at Nagpur

Two Each on Aqua and Orange Line; CMRS Inspection over

Construction of Infrastructure Projects across the country has suffered immensely during the COVID-19 period. But the pandemic has failed to dampen the spirit of Maha-Metro team. At its Nagpur project, duly taking abundant precaution to ensure full safety to team of contractors, consultants and Maha-Metro duly following all the norms of construction during pandemic COVID 19 period, Maha Metro relentlessly continued with its work at all the major and minor work sites of Nagpur. The work related to pier, via-duct and various stations was executed with minute planning.

During this difficult period, Nagpur Metro team has been able to complete the construction of four more stations - Ajni Square (area of 4,815 sq. m), Rahate Colony (area of 5,798 sq. m) and Bansi Nagar (area of 5,800 sq. m) and LAD Square metro station (area of 4466.33 sq. m). Of the four, Ajni Square and Rahate Colony are located on Orange Line. These stations are part of Reach-I which stretches from Khapri Metro Station to Sitabuldi Interchange.

The other two stations - Bansi Nagar and LAD Square are located on Reach-III of Aqua Line, this connects Lokmanya Nagar Metro Station to Sitabuldi Interchange. With this, the number of operational stations will increase to sixteen and it will give a leg up to enhancement of ridership.

Like other metro stations, these stations have concourse levels with ticketing counters, shops, childcare room, toilets, drinking water facility, utility services etc. The platforms are on the second floor and one can reach there using lifts and escalators. Special arrangements have been made for making the stations friendly for senior citizens and specially-abled. Special green features of the station are 100% rainwater harvesting and biodigesters.

The inspection by Commissioner Metro Rail Safety (CMRS) has since been already completed and his certification is awaited. Thereafter, the stations will be thrown open for passenger services, once the operations of the Metro rail are resumed post invocation of suspension by the government.





VISIT OF THE MONTH

On 18th and 25th September, Shri Ajit Pawar Hon'ble Dy. C M Maharashtra and Pune Guardian Minister inspected progress of Pune Metro project and held review meeting with Maha-Metro Managing Director Dr. Brijesh Dixit and other officials. During 18th September visit he inspected priority section of Reach 1 and Reach 2 including stations. He was also the first recipient of passenger ticket issued at Sant Tukaram Station by Pune Metro.

On 25th September, he inspected the progress of Reach 3, two metro coach depots, underground work and expressed satisfaction on the manner Maha-Metro has re-booted the project progress post lockdown and asked to further expedite the work for completing the project on time.



TRACK LAYING ON FAST TRACK

Half of Tracklaying over in Reach-II & Reach-IV at Nagpur

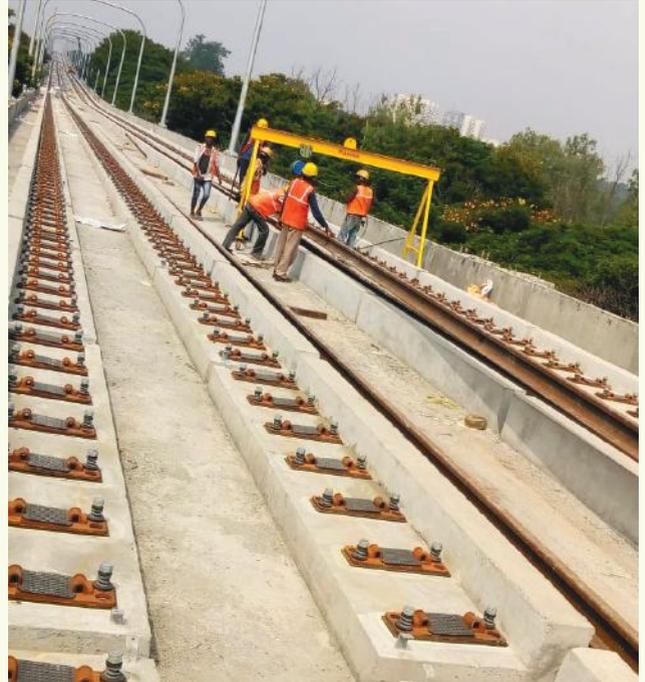
Pune Project Priority Section Track work in full swing

Despite the difficulties faced by the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic track-laying work has gathered momentum both in balance portion of Nagpur Project and along the priority section stretch of Pune Metro Project

At Nagpur, the track laying is in full swing in Reach-II stretching from Sitabuldi Interchange to Automotive Square Metro Station part of Orange Line and in Reach-IV which joins the two stations of Sitabuldi Interchange and Prajapati Nagar Metro Station on the Aqua Line. In Reach-II, track laying work has been completed between Sitabuldi Interchange and Kasturchand Park Metro Station. The length of the entire route connecting the two extreme points in the Reach-II is 7.30 km and the tracklaying is likely to finish soon.

Simultaneously, tracklaying work is progressing well in Reach-IV where the total length of track work proposed between the two stations of Sitabuldi Interchange and Prajapati Nagar is 8.30 km. Out of this 5 km of track laying work has already been completed and the balance is set to be completed sooner.

Also, in the Pune project, the track laying work is progressing at a rapid pace along the priority corridors of both the lines viz. PCMC to Swargate and Vanaz to Ramwadi. A total of 6.25 km of track laying has been completed in the priority section of Reach-1 and 1.7 km of track laying has been completed in Reach-2. Priority section is set to open for passenger operations later this year.



**TRACK LAYING
AT PUNE**



**TRACK
LAYING
AT
NAGPUR**

PUNE METRO COACHES A LEAP FOR MAKE IN INDIA & ATMA-NIRBHAR BHARAT



In a leap for make in India policy and a major push to Atma-Nirbhar Bharat Maha-Metro, through international competitive bidding awarded the contract for the supply of 102 modern aluminium-bodied metro coaches for Pune Metro project to Titagarh Firema, an Italian subsidiary of, Titagarh, a Kolkata based Indian company in the field of railway coaches and wagons. The bulk of these coaches shall be manufactured in India in the Maha-metro Nagpur factory. This is the first time that new generation "aluminium body coaches", (that are lighter, more energy-efficient and have better aesthetic than steel coaches) shall be manufactured in the country. It is an epoch-making game-changer in the field of metro rail in the country. During the month, a key milestone of finalizing the design of these coaches was accomplished

Social Media Engagement

Citizens Love Maha Metro!

Social media engagement of Pune & Nagpur Metro far exceeds its other counterparts in the country. Pure testimony of 'Maazi Metro'



NAGPUR METRO

Average acquisition of FB followers per month **11,945**

5,74,300 11,470

4,45,900 12,974

Average Reach 12,530



PUNE METRO

Average acquisition of FB followers per month **8,900**

5,69,793 11,800

1,147,146 21,069