

Mumbai Metro Rail awards civil contracts worth ₹18,115 crore in seven packages

OUR BUREAU

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With the Maharashtra Government and the Centre finally giving their go-ahead to the Colaba-Bandra SEEPZ Metro-3 project, the board of Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (MMRCL) on Tuesday awarded civil contracts for the entire section of 33.5 km for implementation in seven packages with a total cost of construction at ₹18,114.9 crore.

MMRCL is a joint venture of State and Union Government.

Major Indian construction companies in joint venture with international companies had participated in the bidding and five consortiums have been awarded seven contract packages.

The 33.5-km long underground corridor with 27 stations will be implemented by MMRCL by raising a loan from the Japan International Cooperation Agency, a press statement issued by MMRCL said.

In a mammoth project such as construction of a metro line, the civil and electrical work is subdivided into smaller packages and then the bids are called for the packages.

Engineering major L&T in a consortium with STEC of China has won two packages.

A statement by L&T said that the packages with a project value of ₹5,273 crore would be executed by the Heavy Civil Infrastructure Business of L&T Construction. The scope of the work includes design and con-

struction of underground stations and associated tunnels for package 1 and package 7 of the metro project.

"This is a significant win in the heavy civil infrastructure space and we hope that this is a sign for many such projects involving vital infrastructure that are in the offing," said SN Subrahmanyam, Deputy Managing Director, and President, L&T.

Infrastructure major Hindustan Construction Company Ltd (HCC) along with MMS company of Russia, has been awarded package 2, which has a value of ₹2,523 crore. The scope of work is for the construction of 4,072-metre corridor of the underground metro line including four underground stations at Chhatrapati Shivaji Termi-

nus, Kalbadevi, Girgaon and Grant Road and twin bored tunnels of total length of 3,115 m. The project is to be completed in 55 months, according to a statement issued by HCC.

Metro Line-3 would be a crucial North-South corridor connecting major central business districts of Nariman Point and Bandra-Kurla Complex with domestic and international airports and industrial areas of MIDC and SEEPZ. It will also connect various areas in island-city and suburbs that are not served by existing suburban railways.

The daily ridership on the corridor is estimated at 14 lakh in 2021 and is expected to rise to 17 lakh in 2031. It is planned to start the commercial operations by 2020-21.