



TUESDAY, AUGUST 06, 2024

[^ TOP](#)

- [Bengaluru's Peripheral Ring Road: BDA Proposes New Compensation Model To Attract Bidders For Rs 27,000-Crore Project](#)
- [Vande Metro Takes Off: Indian Railways Conducts First-Ever Trial Run From Chennai To Katpadi Junction](#)
- [Kolkata Metro's new Dalian rake: Wider doors, better AC, and more comfort- Details inside](#)

Bengaluru's Peripheral Ring Road: BDA Proposes New Compensation Model To Attract Bidders For Rs 27,000-Crore Project

Swarajya,
August 06, 2024

The PRR project has faced numerous obstacles including land acquisition and cost issues.

In a bid to revive the long-delayed Rs 27,000-crore Peripheral Ring Road (PRR) project, the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) has proposed a new approach to incentivise land-losing farmers by sharing a substantial portion of the development area with them.

This innovative strategy aims to overcome the hurdles that have stalled the project since its proposal in 2007. Despite three rounds of tendering, the BDA has been unable to attract a successful bidder for the 73km circular road project.

A senior official revealed, "The new proposal was discussed and approved during the BDA Board meeting on 31 July. We will soon forward it to the government for consideration."

"The primary challenge lies in the acquisition cost of 2,560 acres of land, amounting to Rs 21,000 crore out of the total project budget of Rs 27,000 crore. This substantial cost has deterred potential bidders. If we can manage this component through alternative means, the construction cost would be reduced to Rs 6,000 crore, likely attracting more interest," the official explained, reports The New Indian Express.



Innovative Land Compensation Strategy

The new plan involves constructing the road on only 50 metres of the proposed 100-metre width, with the remaining 50 metres developed and handed over to the land-losers.

This arrangement will exclude areas near toll plazas and buffer zones of seven lakes. Developed land includes essential infrastructure such as drainage, water supply, lighting, and signage, and the recipients are free to use it for commercial purposes.

Currently, BDA compensates landowners with 40 per cent of developed land (9,583 sq ft) for every acre acquired. This 60:40 model will be retained under the new proposal.

Alternative Financing Options

BDA had previously suggested three other options to the government: taking a loan from REC or Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO), with the state government covering the interest.

BDA would build the road and collect tolls to repay the loan; handing over 30 per cent of the acquired land to the concessionaire for commercial use; and a public-private partnership model, which has not been successful, where the bidder bears the entire project cost and leases it for 50 years, collecting all toll revenue.

In all these options, BDA is prepared to offer Transfer of Development Right (TDR) certificates as compensation for landowners who prefer land elsewhere, along with a cash option for small plots (less than 20 guntas).

Bengaluru Peripheral Ring Road

The project covers a length of 65.95 km between Hosur Road and Tumakuru Road, with an additional 3.4 km near Madanayakanahalli and 4.08 km near Hebbagodi to link existing roads seamlessly into the PRR network.

This ambitious project is set to feature 16 flyovers, 10 overpasses, and 12 underpasses, enhancing the city's transportation network. Additionally, the plan includes bridges over seven water bodies, including prominent ones like Chikkatogur Lake, Gunjur Lake, and Jarakabande Lake, further facilitating seamless connectivity.

To tackle traffic intricacies, the project incorporates six cloverleaf-type over bridges, providing a solution for efficient crisscrossing without congestion.

The main carriageway, boasting eight lanes, will be flanked by service roads on both sides, with a broad median reserved for potential future integration with the metro project.

[^ TOP](#)

Vande Metro Takes Off: Indian Railways Conducts First-Ever Trial Run From Chennai To Katpadi Junction

The Hindu,



August 06, 2024

The Indian Railways conducted the first-ever trial run of the Vande Metro train set. This new initiative aims to revolutionise intra-city transportation.

On 3 August, the Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety (CCRS) conducted a speed trial of the Vande Metro. Senior officers from the Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO), and Southern Railway were present during the trial.

Janak Kumar Garg, the CCRS, visited the Integral Coach Factory on 2 August to inspect the first rake of the Vande Metro train. The train variant, manufactured at ICF, consists of 12 fully air-conditioned coaches capable of running up to 110 kmph. Designed for inter-city travel between 150-200 km, the Vande Metro promises to enhance passenger comfort and safety.

As per The Hindu report, Vande Metro, which was brought from the Villivakkam yard, departed from the Chennai Beach railway station at 9 a.m. and reached the Katpadi Junction railway station at 11.55 a.m. After a small interval, the train left Katpadi at 12.05 p.m. and arrived back at the Chennai Beach railway station at 2 p.m.

Based on the latest technology, the Vande Metro train set boasts high acceleration and deceleration capabilities, enabling it to cover more stoppages in less time. The train is designed with city dwellers' travel needs in mind, offering several new features for a better travel experience.

The seating arrangement is designed as a 3X3 bench system to maximise passenger capacity and offer optimum comfort for medium-distance travel. Coaches will have a wheelchair-accessible lavatory.

For the safety of passengers, there is a talkback system so that the driver can communicate in case of an emergency. To prevent collisions, the train will also be equipped with the Kavach system.

For the comfort of passengers, the gangway, which connects two coaches will be wide-like corridors for easy movement within the train. The entry doors are also spacious and wide with openable windows for an emergency.

As of now, 102 Vande Bharat train services are operational across the Indian Railways network, providing semi-high-speed travel options to passengers.

[^ TOP](#)

Kolkata Metro's new Dalian rake: Wider doors, better AC, and more comfort- Details inside

The Financial Express,
August 06, 2024

The Dalian rake introduces several improvements over existing AC rakes, including 100 mm wider doors for easier access, increased seating capacity, and enhanced air conditioning.

The new rake, identified as MR-513, commenced its service on August 5, with its first journey departing from Dum Dum station at 12:06 PM and returning from Kavi Subhash at 1:00 PM, according to a spokesperson.



News

The Metro Railway, Kolkata, has launched a new Dalian rake with advanced features on the north-south corridor, enhancing the travel experience for commuters. The new rake, identified as MR-513, commenced its service on August 5, with its first journey departing from Dum Dum station at 12:06 PM and returning from Kavi Subhash at 1:00 PM, according to a spokesperson.

Enhanced Features for Improved Comfort

The Dalian rake introduces several improvements over existing AC rakes, including 100 mm wider doors for easier access, increased seating capacity, and enhanced air conditioning. The rake also features a range of comfort-oriented upgrades:

Improved Air Conditioning: An advanced air diffuser ensures a more consistent and comfortable climate inside the rake.

Enhanced Safety and Convenience: A sleek alarm device with an outside indication lamp, brighter multi-colour multi-lingual display boards, and uniform illumination enhance passenger safety and information accessibility.

Accessibility Features: Wheelchair parking facilities and door-side handrails make the rake more accessible for differently-abled passengers.

Noise Reduction: Advanced noise reduction features contribute to a quieter and more pleasant journey.

Expansion of Fleet and Increased Passenger Count

This new rake is part of a broader upgrade plan, with one Dalian rake having been in service since last year and two more arriving at the Noapara shed on May 26. One of these new rakes was incorporated into the fleet on August 5, with eleven additional rakes expected to join the service over the next year.

The introduction of the Dalian rake has already had a noticeable impact, with metro authorities reporting a 50% increase in passenger count on the New Garia (Kavi Subhash)-Ruby Crossing (Hemanta Mukhopadhyay) route on August 5. This surge in passengers is attributed to the enhanced services and features of the new rake.

[^ TOP](#)