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# Indian Infrastructure

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# On the Path to Sustainable Growth

Interview with **Harendra Singh** (Chairman & Managing Director) **H.G. Infra Engineering Ltd**



**What is the current project portfolio of the company?**

At present, the company is engaged in 17 active projects across India, spanning 11 states including Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh. Notably, out of these 17 projects, 2 belong to the railway sector, and 1 is a metro project.

**What are the issues and challenges being faced?**

In the realm of road and highway construction, challenges include commodity price fluctuations, particularly in materials like steel and asphalt, pose budgetary uncertainties. Prolonged monsoons disrupt project timelines resulting in inflating costs and jeopardizing deadlines. The shortage of skilled labor compounds these issues, necessitating dedicated recruitment and training efforts. Complex financial riders, regulatory approvals in some cases, and the alignment of human capital with management vision add further complexity. However, we adopt a multifaceted approach, leveraging technology for resource optimization, investing in talent development, and upholding ethical practices. This strategy equips us to navigate these challenges effectively and maintain our commitment to excellence in construction.

**What are the emerging construction techniques?**

We have undertaken several new technological initiatives during the year and implemented various solutions to enhance our operational efficiency and cost reduction measures. Some of the initiatives we have taken include sensor-based technology for fuel dispensing and a fuel level management system. These technologies provide us with real-time information on fuel consumption and help us control fuel costs more effectively. Additionally, we have actively pursued initiatives to enhance equipment management, vehicle supervision, and the automation of manual processes.

**What are the company's efforts towards sustainable construction?**

In alignment with the government's ambitious goal of reducing carbon emissions by 1 billion tonnes by 2030, HG Infra is committed to embracing sustainable and eco-friendly practices, including the utilization of renewable energy sources and the implementation of robust waste management strategies. These initiatives involve innovative approaches such as substituting conventional soil with inert materials in embankments to promote ecological sustainability. We have also introduced Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and well-



designed drainage systems at construction sites to address wastewater concerns effectively.

Additionally, we have adopted a green procurement strategy by incorporating recycled materials like fly ash, pond ash, and plastic in road construction, contributing to resource conservation. To mitigate emissions from vehicles and promote environmentally friendly highways, we have partnered with stakeholders and NGOs to organize tree planting campaigns, resulting in the planting of numerous saplings during the fiscal year 2022-23.

Furthermore, to reduce our reliance on diesel generators, we have transitioned to grid electricity and converted 17 diesel trippers to operate on Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), thereby reducing our carbon footprint. In response to dust generated during construction, we employ water sprays and anti-smoke guns for effective dust suppression. Strategically scheduling bituminous tasks during night time hours not only aids pollution control but also improves traffic management.

**What are the new sectors being looked at? What are the future plans?**

In line with our commitment to growth and innovation, we are actively diversifying into new sectors while continuing to strengthen our core expertise in road projects. Our future plans include venturing into several exciting sectors, such as metro and railway segments, tunnel construction, ropeways, and participation in the Jal Jeevan Mission projects.

However, it's important to note that roads remain our main fortified segment. We take immense pride in the track record we've established in this domain. Our proven expertise, state-of-the-art technology, and commitment to quality have allowed us to make a significant mark in road projects, consistently delivering results that exceed expectations.

## H.G. Infra Engineering Ltd.

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