





11 – 12 March, 2021 Le Meridien, New Delhi

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Day 1, Thursday, 11 March 2021

08:30: Delegate Registration and Tea

Session I: Inaugural Session - Indian Railways: Key Trends and Outlook

The opening session will provide an overview about the key trends and developments in the Indian Railways; future outlook & vision 2030; international investments for upcoming projects and new opportunities existing in the industry. A group of subject experts from government and industry will provide unparalleled information, deep industry insights and analysis; followed by audience interaction.

Welcome Note and Lamp Lighting Ceremony

Keynote Address by Hon. Chief Guest
Key Trends and Developments
Focus on service orientation and competitive rail freight logistics: Initiatives undertaken by Indian Railways

Indian Railways: Future Outlook/Vision 2030 by Hon. Guest of Honor
Indian Railways: Contibution to the Growth of Indian Economy
Topic to be Announced
Mr. Akshay Purkayastha, Director – Transport & Logistics, CRISIL Infrastructure Advisory

Q & A

11:30 – 12:15 Tea/Coffee Break

Session II: Panel Discussion - Way forward for Railways post Covid-19

The raging Covid-19 pandemic, apart from immediately endangering the human health, is having far reaching impact on the economic activity and mobility across the world. Indian Railways has also not been spared from the impact of this disruption. In the wake of Covid-19 transmission threat, the Indian Railways stalled its passenger operations on 23rd March with freight operations supporting the supply of essential goods. Further, due to the lockdown and movement restrictions across countries and states in India, the slowdown in economic activity and disruptions in the supply chain are expected to impact freight segment of railways. *The panel discussion will have the industry experts who will share their views and outlook for the railways sector post Covid-19.*

Key Discussion Points:

12:15 - 13:15

- Impact of Covid-19 with respect to Indian Railways and rail equipment manufacturers
- Strategies and best practices adopted for tackling challenges posed by COVID-19
- Opportunities and challenges that may emerge in the industry post COVID-19

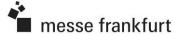
Q&A

13:15 – 14:45 Networking Lunch Break

Session III: Upgradation of Indian Railways Network: Ongoing Projects and Key Developments, Construction Opportunities

The Indian government is undertaking several initiatives to upgrade its railway infrastructure and enhance its quality of service. In order to obtain latest technical knowhow of the world Railways, Ministry of Railways have signed (MoUs) for technical cooperation with various foreign countries/railways. This session will provide a distinctive opportunity for the railway industry professionals to gain invaluable insights on new models or programmes of station development, latest updates on the dedicated freight corridor project, privatisation of trains and developments in indigenous manufacturing.

	Digital Transformation of Indian Railways								
	Station	Infrastructure	Development	(New	Models	of	Development/	Key	
	Schemes	/Programmes)							
	Rebuilding of Railway Infrastructure during this Crisis								
14:45 - 16:30	Dedicated Freight Corridor: Updates								
	Railway Infrastructure Materials:								
	Opportunities for Steel Companies; Usage of New Materials in Construction Projects								
	Recent Advancements and Design Innovations in Rolling Stock								
	Q & A								
Session IV: Innovative Funding Models & Need for Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)									



Currently various innovative financing models are being undertaken as extra budgetary resources like loan from the LIC, PPP models and joint ventures with state governments for rail development projects. PPPs in railways can bring opportunities for investment, operating efficiency and modern and clean technology. PPP railway projects providing for shared use of rail tracks may lead to efficiency gains and an increased revenue basis for states and private investors and make investment in PPP schemes more attractive. This session will highlight the sources of funding for railway projects, opportunities and scope of PPPs and tariff rationalization of passenger and freight.

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High Speed Rail Projects - Developments				
Track Electrication Program				
Land Bank Monetization				
Rolling Stock, Train Sets, Locomotives, etc.				
Q & A				
End of Conference Program (Day 1); High Tea Networking				

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Day 2, Friday, 12 March 2021

9:30 - Delegate Registration and Tea

Session V Mass Rapid Transit Systems: Developments

With rapid urbanization, the pressure is mounting on the public transport system from the people living in cities and towns across the country. Mass Rapid Transport System, MRTS has emerged as one of the most effective means of mobility for the citizens in tier-1 and tier-2 cities and Metro has been a major player. This session will focus on the operational urban rail transit systems in India and the ongoing developments in different cities of the country. It will also dwell upon the impact of Covid-19 on dynamics of MRTS projects.

10:00 - 11:30

- Impact of COVID 19 on the commuter behaviour towards mass public transport and resultant impact on MRTS projects
- Project Updates Metro Rail Projects (Kochi Metro Rail Corporation Limited, Lucknow Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.)

Q & A

11:30 – 12:15 Tea/Coffee Break

Session VI Focus on Safety and Security – Passenger and Operational

In the past few years, Indian Railways has focused on providing world-class facilities by offering improved basic amenities on trains and at platforms ensuring passenger and operational safety and security by innovative solutions to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic, introducing digital initiatives, new trains and railway lines. The session will cover discussions on innovative solutions to tackle the COVID -19 outbreak, advanced signaling system, network security management and CCTV Surveillance system.

12:15 – 13:15

14:45 - 15:45

Post Covid19 - Role of Modern Signalling in New Business Paradigm for Railways Integrated Control and Command Signalling, AI and Signalling towards a Smart Rail System Q & A

13:15 – 14:45 Networking Lunch Break

Session VII Panel Discussion - Transforming Indian Railways to Green Railways

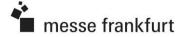
With a goal of transforming Indian Railways into 'Green Railways', the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved complete electrification of railway network which will reduce its carbon footprint and improve its finances through the reduction in fuel cost. Indian Railways is taking several initiatives in the field of green energy to achieve the same. The panel will have experts speaking on topics like electrification of railway network, green fuel technology, utilisation of solar energy etc.

Key Discussion Points:

- Developments under Indian Railways Mission Electrification
- Impact of Covid-19 on the Ongoing Projects
- Switching to Renewable Sources of Energy
- Progress in Zones wrt to Network Electrification

Speakers: TBA

Session VIII Digitalization & Automation: The Way Forward for Indian Railways



Digital Transformation is paramount in the development of rail transport in the New Economy. The adaptation to the new conditions of the digital economy is visibly marked by the emergence of the concept Industry 4.0 as well as, recently, Railway 4.0 and digital Railway. Mobile applications, e-ticketing, digital train control, signalling and traffic management, digital platforms for predictive maintenance are the key areas of digitalisation in the rail sector. *This session is going to cover topics like Role of IT and Automation in Railway Modernization etc.*

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15:45 – 16:45	Role of IT and Automation in Railway Modernization (Improving on-time performance)				
	Focus on Smart Payment and Ticketing Systems				
	Q & A				
16:45	End of Conference; High Tea Networking				