

Metro 3 work is sustainable devpt, global forum informed

ManthanK.Mehta
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: The Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (MMRCL), which is executing the Metro 3 underground corridor, was given the opportunity to present papers on the project at the World Tunnel Congress (WTC) where it was explained the corridor is being constructed in a sustainable way in the congested city conditions of Mumbai through minimal displacement of people, damage to green cover and with little impact on vehicular traffic since work began.

WTC's this year's theme was "Underground solutions for a world in change". A total

of 365 papers were published, of which two were on Metro 3 corridor. Of these, 156 were allowed to make a presentation at WTC 2022 held in Copenhagen, Denmark, recently.

MMRC's director (projects) SK Gupta who made a presentation said that his paper explained that the execution strategy for the Acqua line has been a sustainable solution for the city even though the corridor is passing under Mumbai's city's historic building landscape, existing utilities, temples, railway tracks, flyovers, existing Metro viaducts bridges, building foundations from station to station at an average depth of 20 to 25 metres.

He said, "Mumbai has a

lesser road area per million population and a higher population density per square kilometre. We came up with extensive provisioning of decking along the station lengths that were built to handle vehicular traffic, below which the underground work of station construction was undertaken."

On the issue of tree felling, which has drawn the ire of environmentalists, MMRC paper said that it planted over 20,000 trees in addition to the compensatory plantation mandated by law. The tree plantation initiatives alone are expected to help sequestration of approximately 5,500 tonnes of CO₂ and produce 12,400 tonnes of O₂ per year.