

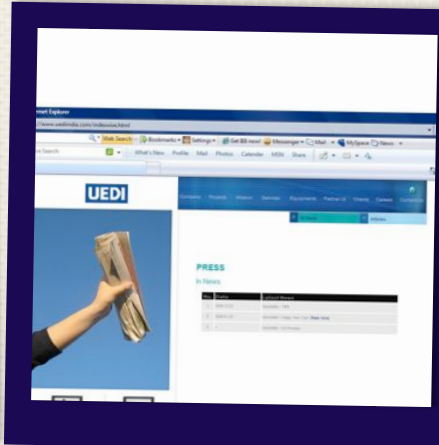


UEDI TIMES



ZAINAL FITRI (PIC LEFT)
INTRODUCING
WWW.UEDIINDIA.COM WITH
ASSISTANCE FROM GAN CS

WWW.UEDIINDIA.COM LAUNCHED



Launch of UEDI Website on 8th March 2009 during SFA meeting in Coorg

The UEDI website was launched by the UEM Builders' Managing Director, Dato' Ridza Abdoh Hj Salleh in Coorg, Karnataka during the Saturday For All (SFA) get together on the 8th of March. It was indeed a joyous occasion and an

honour for the Management of UEDI to have the MD launch the website.

Country Manager, Mr Zainal Fitri had given a short speech prior to Dato's launching of the website, explaining that having the website was one of UEDI's strategy to better position itself in the ever challenging Indian construction market. Upon

Dato's official launching of the website, Mr Gan then ran through and explained the prepared slides showing the pages of the website.

Following the official launch, the staff of UEDI then participated in the Bollywood theme night and had entertained Dato' and Datin with a series of cultural shows, both local and Malaysian.

STAFF TEAMBUILDING PROGRAM AT UEDI By Lilis

Zatira Rapih

7-9 March 2009:

As part of the efforts to improve staff bonding and communication, UED Development India, a subsidiary of UEM Builders Berhad held their Staff Teambuilding Program for 37 employees at Coorg Hill, Bangalore. The 3 day event saw an array of activities, games and challenges to garner high team spirit and leadership skills amongst participants. It was also an avenue for staff to show off their talents in singing and dancing.

The Telematch Contest took off with a blast. The hot Indian sun was not a hindrance for the teams to compete against each other. Other activities included modules on appreciating friends and colleagues and a leadership

Their group performances showed high creativity and teamwork, not to mention great fun.

The Managing Director of UEM Builders, YBhg. Dato' Ridza Abdoh Hj. Salleh was impressed with the level of teamwork amongst staff. In his speech to brief on the current outlook and future directions of the Company, he emphasized the importance to work as a team and to institute a mindset of "think of Company" in our day-to-day work. YBhg. Dato' was also given the honor to launch the brand new UEDI website www.uediindia.com. The website will become a gateway of communication and information dissemination for staff and its business partners.

UEDI appreciates its staff contributions to the company, and through annual teambuilding programs like these, we aim to inspire staff to be more productive, creative and have a passion for success.

(for more photos, see pages 10 and 11)

STAFF TEAM BUILDING RETREAT 2009

and teamwork game called "Stevie in Blindfold". With a grand dinner themed "Bollywood Night", the UEDIans were in their best costumes and accessories.

TEAM BUILDING



HATO, NADIA & JAMALIAH



ZAINAL IN THE LEAD



JAGDISH



4 BEAUTIES



Message from Dato' Ridza Abdoh Hj Salleh

Dato' Ridza Abdoh Hj Salleh, MD of UEM Builders Berhad, during his recent visit to India addressed UEDI HQ staff on 03 February 2009.

The Highlights of his valuable message are as below: -

Global Financial Uncertainties: In order to overcome the global economic recession all UEDI staff shall develop cost effectiveness. UEDI can be successful only if they will be cost effective.

Goal:

Employee Driven: The management targets UEDI to be an employee driven company and all the employees shall act as owners of the works they are carrying out.

Fast: In order to remain competitive and to develop a brand image, UEDI shall complete the works before schedule. All the employees should perform their tasks fast.

Internationalization: As UEM Group is developing the business in various countries; all the employees shall be ready to relocate to any country as per job requirements.

No Sentiments:

Religion: Any debate, arguments, criticism and discrimination based on the religion will not be entertained at any of UEM's office. The management is highly concerned about the same and any employee initiating these will be expelled from the organization.

Racial: No employee is allowed to be biased for any particular race. Any kind of racial discrimination (e.g. Indian, Malaysian, Chinese etc.) will not be tolerated in any of UEM's office. The company wants to treat all the religions and races equally.

Message from Dato' Ridza Abdoh Hj Salleh

Political: No employee is allowed to bring any political or regional differences inside the office. The MD advised all the employees to develop the habit of not getting personal with anybody. Despite having differences with any particular person one shall not act with a sense of revenge while dealing with the same person. All the staff appreciated this advice, as it will help everybody even in personal life.

Reduce Cost: To be most competitive in the market in order to grab new business opportunities, we shall keep our cost minimum.

Values: All the staff shall maintain the following values during the work

Think of Company: While taking any normal or complicated decision one shall always think about only the benefit to the company and does not allow any other factor to influence the decision.

Competitive: All the employees shall keep on updating their knowledge and work techniques as per the need of the time. Our methodologies or techniques shall be the best adopted in the market.

Hands on: All the employees shall be always ready with all kind of backups required for executing their jobs. The updated database shall be available at any point of time.

Teamwork: No goal can be achieved without teamwork. All the employees shall act as a team and complement each other while performing their task. Individual alone performances will not yield the required results.

HOLI, A FESTIVAL OF COLOURS



Holi is one of the major festivals of India and is the most vibrant of all. The joys of Holi know no bound. The festival is celebrated across the four corners of India or rather across the globe. The festival is filled with so much fun and frolic that the very mention of the word 'Holi' draws smile and enthusiasm amongst the people. Holi also celebrates the arrival of spring, a season of joy and hope.

Different names... Holi or Phagwah (Bhojpuri) is a popular, Hindu spring festival, observed in North India and Nepal, also called the Festival of Colours. In West Bengal, it is known as Dolyatra (Doljatra) or Boshonto Utsav ("spring festival").

On the first day, bonfires are lit at night to signify burning the demoness Holika, Hiranyakashipu's sister. On the second day, known as Dhuleti, people spend the day throwing coloured powder and water at each other. The spring season, during which the weather changes, is believed to cause viral fever and cold.

Thus, the playful throwing of the coloured powders has a medicinal significance: the colours are traditionally made of Neem, Kumkum, Haldi, Bilva, and other medicinal herbs prescribed by Āyurvedic doctors. A special drink called thandai is prepared, sometimes containing bhang (*Cannabis sativa*). People invite each other to their houses for feasts and celebrations later in the evening.

Rangapanchami occurs a few days later on a Panchami (fifth day of the full moon), marking the end of festivities involving colours.

HOLIA Festival of Colours



NHAI steps in to ease cash crunch

Project Monitor,
Vol 8, Issue 46, March 16-22.

Nodal agency NHAI has reportedly decided to lend working capital to developers at competitive rates. This move seeks to alleviate difficulties faced by developers in raising working capital requirements, which often lead to delays in project completion. NHAI is considering a proposal where working capital loans would be offered at 100 basis points (1% point) above the prime lending rate (PLR) of the State Bank of India. Going by the current rates, NHAI's cost of borrowing would work out to between 13.25 and 15.25 percent, it is learnt.

The new scheme will be applicable when the new government takes charge sometime in June. Currently, NHAI gives discretionary advances to road developers that are later adjusted in the bills. However, the current lending rates are much higher than now proposed.

NHAI's proposal comes in at a time when developers are indeed facing difficulties in raising funds due to the liquidity constraints. There have been reports where banks and other financial institutions have advised developers to increase their equity exposure to the project. Debt-equity ratios have moved from 80:20 to 70:30, in many cases.

With a view to encouraging private sector involvement, NHAI is also carrying out risk mitigation exercises, by converting some projects from BOT-Toll to BOT-Annuity and even to EPC mode. Owing to higher risks involved in BOT-Toll projects, particularly in the wake of the ongoing slowdown, many projects have not found takers. In the BOT-Annuity model, NHAI pays the developer a revenue stream during the concession period, insulating him from the vagaries of toll based revenue. In the EPC model, the developer is "safest" as the entire risk of the project is borne by NHAI.

In a related development, NHAI is seeking approval from the Election Commission to continue the tendering process of over 50 projects. Tendering for new national highway projects has come to a halt after the model election code of conduct came into force from March 2. As per the code, government authorities cannot announce "new schemes" or "financial grants".

In the coming years, NHAI focus will be on Phase III and Phase V of NHDP. The former aims at four-laning 12,109 km of busy national corridors, which are not part of the earlier two phases (Golden Quadrilateral and North South East West Corridor projects). Phase V involves the six laning of 65,000 km of highways, many of which have already been four-laned under GQ. As of January 31, around 83% of the total length of Phase III and Phase V was pending award. The GQ is now virtually complete while Phase II, which is almost entirely awarded, is nearing the halfway mark in terms of physical completion.

NEWSFLASH

LEVERAGED, BUT SAFE BET

Priyakan Sara Pandya,

February 23, 2009

The Economic Times

There are a few construction and infrastructure companies, which have been able to generate positive cash flows from operations. This is because of heavily leveraged balance sheets, higher working capital requirements or developmental stage of their projects. This has exposed them to greater risk in the current economic downturn. However, if the company has a clutch of mature and operational projects, resultant steady cash flows is a comfort factor for future funding requirements. GMR Infrastructure, at present, is placed in such a comfortable zone.

Business: GMR Infrastructure is engaged in the business of power, airports and highways, which contributed 49.11%, 41.91% and 3.49% in the nine months ended December 2008. The company is also into commercial real estate development and special economic zone close to 4050 acres. However, the progress is slow due to downturn in the market.

Growth drivers: In the power business, growth is expected to come from FY12 and beyond due to an additional 5,000 MW capacity at eight different locations in India. Further, its existing business is likely to benefit from lower naphtha prices and higher gas availability from the KG basin. The biggest growth driver is going to be its airport business. Hyderabad airport is already operational. The company's efforts to add new airlines, increase the user development fee and other aero charges will increase revenue. Full development of the Delhi airport will give a boost to the airports business in the long term. The company is targeting

to complete all its remaining road projects by March 2009.

GOVT CLEARS INFRA PROJECTS

Business India (Edition: February 22, 2009)

In a major push to the infrastructure sector, the Cabinet cleared projects worth around Rs 34,000 crore, including the Chennai Metro project. Apart from that, foreign direct investment (FDI) worth Rs 957 crore in Krishnapatnam Port Company Ltd was also approved. In addition, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved highway projects worth around Rs 19,000 crore, including the six-laning of nine stretches under Phase V of the National Highways Development Project.

INDIAN DREAMS OF FAST EXPRESSWAYS SET TO BECOME A REALITY

Lisa Mary Thomson, New Delhi, February 22, 2009

The dreams of many Indians to go on long drives down state-of-the-art expressways, could become a reality soon. The much-hyped plans to create expressways connecting the cities in neighbouring states finally seem to be inching their way towards becoming ground realities.

A senior official of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) stated that the alignment has been frozen for the 66 km long expressway connecting Delhi and Meerut and the 400 km expressway between Vadodara and Mumbai. The NHAI has now shifted to conducting feasibility studies on these stretches.

Similarly, alignment studies are also

being undertaken for the 334 km expressway expected to connect Bangalore to Chennai and the 277 km stretch linking Kolkata with Dhanbad.

While the feasibility study for the Delhi-Meerut expressway is set to be completed in four months it will take another eight to nine months before the same study is completed for the Vadodara-Mumbai expressway. However, officials state that since the general elections are expected in 2009, there will be a gap till construction begins.

ZOOM TO DELHI ON ROAD

Rajshri Mehta, Mumbai

Travelling to Delhi will become smoother and faster. On Friday, work began on the six-laning project on National Highway-8 connecting Dahisar to Surat in Gujarat. The Rs2,835-crore project is scheduled to be completed by April 2011.

Last year, the National Highways Authority of India awarded this project to the IRB-Deutsche Bank consortium under their plan to convert most of the existing four-lane highways on the Golden Quadrilateral into six lanes to accommodate the high volume of freight traffic. The agreement was signed with the concessionaire IRB Surat-Dahisar Tollways Pvt. Ltd.

The completion of financial closure for the project gives the company a continuous stretch of 415 km of highways from Pune to Bharuch via Mumbai, Vapi and Surat, through its projects: Mumbai-Pune Build Operate Transfer (BOT) (NH-4 of 111 km), Dahisar-Surat BOT (NH-8 of 239 km) and Surat-Baruch BOT (NH-8 of 65 km).

NEWSFLASH

CITY GETS RS 3,300 CRORE Chennai/Bangalore, February 23, 2009

Karnataka chief minister B S Yeddyurappa has allocated Rs 3,300 crore for the infrastructure development of Bangalore city in the state budget for fiscal 2009-10. Of this amount, Rs 2,000 crore will be spent on upgrading arterial roads in greater Bangalore under the public private partnership for their maintenance.

The Bangalore Bruhat Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) will invest Rs 800 crore on infrastructure development in the city, while the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) will spend Rs 500 crore on other development works, including construction of 10-lane signal free road, connecting inner and outer ring roads, with private participation, he said.

The state government has spent Rs 1,000 crore for improving the basic infrastructure and Rs 500 crore worth of developmental works by BBMP in the next fiscal.

SIX-LANING OF NH-8 KICKS OFF Jaipur, February 22, 2009

Chief minister Ashok Gehlot and Union minister of state for road transport K H Muniyappa on Saturday laid the foundation stone for the six-laning of the 225-km stretch between Jaipur and Gurgaon. This very busy stretch of NH8, which passes through Kotputli, has only four lanes at present. A major stretch of this road -- 161 km -- is in Rajasthan, while 64 km is in Haryana.

The project is being taken up on a build, operate and transfer (BOT) basis. The Rs 1,896-crore project is to be

completed within 30 months. An elevated stretch at Kotputli has been proposed for the smooth flow of traffic at this busy junction. The contract for the Rajasthan part of the road has been bagged by Pink City Expressway Pvt Ltd.

Muniyappa said in a bid to improve the road network, the Union transport department has drawn up an ambitious plan of developing 50,000 km state highways by 2015 at an investment of Rs 2.05 lakh crore.

GMR HOLDINGS UPS STAKE IN GMR INFRA Bangalore Business Standard

GMR Infrastructure has informed BSE that GMR Holdings (GHPL), promoter and holding company of GMR Infrastructure, has purchased 1,25,000 equity shares of Rs 2 each on February 10, 405,000 on February 11 and 100,000 on February 12 through open market purchase in normal segment on the stock exchanges. Consequent to the acquisition of 630,000 equity shares, GHPL now holds 1.35 billion equity shares, to the equivalent of 74.19 percent in the company.

MORE REALTY FIRMS ENTER AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN UP Siddharth Kalhans, New Delhi/ Lucknow

Despite the ongoing recession, real estate firms in Uttar Pradesh are venturing in construction of affordable houses. After the Lucknow Development Authority (LDA) which recently announced construction of economy apartments, realty major Ansal Properties and Infrastructure too

have jumped in the fray.

The rates fixed by Ansal Properties for the economy apartments are so far lowest in Lucknow. Ansal has decided to offer one bedroom apartments at Rs 7 lakh and two bedrooms for Rs 10 lakh. The company has decided to give a tough fight to the state-owned housing agencies in the 'economy' housing segment.

Earlier, LDA had announced an ambitious housing scheme named 'Aishbagh Towers' offering one bedroom apartment at Rs 10 lakh and two bedrooms for Rs 19 lakh. LDA is constructing 500 units in each segment and has started registration in the scheme last week.

Ansal Properties expects good response for these affordable apartments. Ansal, which is making a hi-tech city in the name of Sushant Golf city in Lucknow on more than 2,000 acres, had got a good response for the row houses it is constructing for the economically weaker section.

Almost all the houses under this category have been sold now as the prices were kept as low as Rs 6.5 lakh

GMR INFRA TO HIVE OFF CONSTRUCTION BIZ Business Standard

GMR Infrastructure Ltd said its board had approved separating the construction business into another unit, to increase cost efficiencies. GMR said the division would handle infrastructure projects being implemented by its subsidiaries. So far, construction of these projects had been outsourced, it said.

SURESH'S MARRIAGE TO MANU

“Beginning of happy married life”

On 1st March, 2009 SURESH, an employee of UEDI who is well known by everyone in UEDI for his dedicated work and mind blowing dance entered into the bond of Marriage with his better half Manu amidst the blessing of holy Gods at Tirupati Temple, Bangalore.



Business Standard, New Delhi 6 April 2009:

UEDI plans to bid for Chennai Metro. Infrastructure firm UEDI is planning to bid for the Rs14,000 crore Chennai metro rail project and is also holding talks with various realty developers to expand its construction business. UEDI which is a part of Malaysia based UEM group, has already participated in the pre-bidding stage. “We participated in the first meeting organised by the Chennai authorities for all potential bidders. We are currently studying the pre-qualification documents. We are also looking at the possibility of forming a joint venture for the project” UEDI Country Manager Zainal Fitri Bapoo said. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the Chennai Metro Rail Project has been prepared by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. The DPR envisages building two corridors totaling 45 kms. The estimated cost of the project is Rs 14,600 crore.

Deccan Herald, 23 April 2009:

Malaysian firm bets big on India operations for fuelling its growth
Chethan Kumar, Bangalore, DH News Service:

With Rs 114 crore paid up capital in its 100 per cent owned subsidiary United Engineering Development India (UEDI), UEM has emphasised its commitment in construction industry in India. Malaysia-based large scale infrastructure company UEM Group is betting big on its India operations. With Rs 114 crore paid up capital in its 100 per cent owned subsidiary – United Engineering Development India (UEDI), UEM has emphasised its commitment in construction industry in India. With over 700-kms of roads and highways across 10 States completed in India, including the Tumkur highway, the UEM Group – which deals in large scale infrastructure projects has been in India since 1996-97. It is looking to diversify to remain competitive in the market. In an interview with Deccan Herald, UEDI CEO & Country Manager Zainal Fitri Bapoo said: “Though, most of our major projects have been construction of roads, we are focusing on other projects like townships and rail.

Chennai metro project

The company, he said, has attended the first meeting of Chennai Metro Rail project worth approximately Rs 11,124 crore and is keen on bidding for it. “We are keen on working with the metro project in Chennai. In fact, we wanted to work for the Metro in Delhi as well, but pulled out due to our engagements with other projects,” he said. UEDI has also formed a 60:40 share holding agreement with Ansal ASI on April 18, 2008 to form a joint venture to handle Ansal's ‘Sushant Golf City Project’ in Lucknow. The property is around 2,000 acres and will be completed by 2012-13 and is its first venture into property construction in India. With the intention of further diversification, the firm has invested in a quarry at Madhuranthakam, about 85 km off Chennai. The quarry is set up with the view to remain self-sustained – thereby remain competitive and also to cater to the market need by supplying materials. He also said that the company is tendering for four more of the infrastructure projects in the country. However, he declined to give details on the projects.

COOKS IMPORTED DIRECTLY FROM UEM BUILDERS HR DEPT, DR. JAMALIAH WAN CHIK AND MD'S OFFICE, PUAN NADIA WHIPPING UP NASI LEMAK FOR THE HUNGRY MALAYSIAN STAFF IN INDIA. YEAH, WE FELT LOVED.



MORE PHOTOS FROM COORG HILL



MORE PHOTOS FROM COORG HILL



March 2009: UEDI BIDS FAREWELL TO COLLEAGUES



Above: Farewell to Mr. KARABA He was the Finance Manager of UEDI. He had served our office for nearly 7 years with full dedication and had been a sincere employee of UEDI. We bid him farewell on 13th March 2009.

Below: Farewell to Asha Pujar, Legal Assistant after having served one year in UEDI



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