

Afcons first to wrap up overall work on Samruddhi Mahamarg in Wardha distt

■ Among 16 packages, Infrastructure giant completes its work ahead of schedule

■ Staff Reporter

FIRST stretch of Samruddhi Mahamarg is ready from Nagpur-Selu Bazar (Washim). Of the 210 kms that is to be opened for people, about 58 kms stretch, part of Package-2 was delivered by M/s Afcons way ahead of the schedule.

In fact, Maharashtra's Urban Development Minister Eknath Shinde took a ride on the Mahamarg named after Hindu Hrudaysamrat Balasaheb Thackeray, he drove at speed of 120 km/hr and expressed satisfaction at the world class construction. The Minister praised the company's work rate that enabled Afcons to



A view of the wildlife pass constructed on Samruddhi Mahamarg in Wardha district.

become the first agency among 16 packages to achieved the target in the mega expressway project. The Package 2 covers distance from village Khadki Amgaon to village Pimpalgaon in the Wardha district, about 58.4 Km in length.

For the entire Afcons team, it's been a relentless project and a challenging one, said

Krishnamurthy, Project Controller, Package-2. Package-2 was highly structure intensive and involved construction of 53 box culverts, 25 minor bridges, 19 vehicular underpasses, 12 pedestrian underpasses, 11 fly-overs, five major bridges, two rail over bridges, two wild life overpasses and two wild life underpasses.

The amount of structures in this package provides insight into the quantum and complexity of work. From engineering perspective, there were several achievements as Afcons completed 99 lakh cubic meter of hill cutting (equivalent to 11.78 Km of open tunnel of height between 12-30m) in 29 months. An 80m span steel structure was erected over a Bow String Bridge in both carriageways. Team completed a major bridge of 315m length over Wardha River in just 14 months. A 330m long six-lane fly-over was also completed in 16 months," Krishnamurthy said.

Some of the major highlights and a unique feature of Package-2 is the construction of the country's first wildlife overpasses. In all, there are two wildlife overpasses in stretch with a pier height of 27m each.