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THE TIMES OF INDIA

Afcons may win Metro contract

TNN | Mar 24, 2024, 05.28 AM IST



Kochi: Afcons Infrastructure Ltd has emerged as the lowest bidder for the civil construction works of the proposed Phase II line of Kochi Metro from JLN Stadium to Kakkanad.

It is learned that Afcon's bid was the only one deemed technically qualified while bids from the other three major firms were disqualified due to technical non-compliance with the tender conditions. Hence, Afcons is likely to win the contract.

Sources said Kochi Metro Rail Limited (KMRL) will award the contract only after approval from its funding agency, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

Mumbai-based Afcons has carried out many major infrastructure development projects across the country, including, Delhi Meerut RRTS project, the Atal Tunnel project, the Chenab Railway Bridge project, the Chennai Metro Blue Line project, etc. It was the Afcons that built the rail line to the ICTT Vallarpadam, Kochi. The civil works of the Phase II Metro line include the construction of an 11km viaduct and 11 stations.

The stations are Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Palarivattom Junction, Palarivattom Bypass, Chembumukku, Vazhakkala, Padamughal, Kakkanad Junction, Cochin SEZ , Chittethukara, KINFRA, InfoPark-1, and InfoPark-2.

The KMRL is aiming to complete the civil construction work of the new line in 20 months and the system and signaling work within another four months.

Aiming to speed up the construction works, unlike Phase-1, the Metro authorities are planning to adopt the pre-

cast method in the construction of the stations.

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