

# MMRC puts up safety apparatus for labourers

Provides safety provisions including smoke detection, first aid, fire safety and a chiller plant to maintain underground temperatures

STAFF REPORTER

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The Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC) has put in place safety measures for labourers in order to avoid risks involved while working in Tunnel Boring Machines (TBM) launched at least 20 to 30 metres underground. The MMRC, which is heading the Metro III corridor Colaba-Bandra-Seepz project has provided safety provisions including smoke detection, close circuit breathing apparatus, first aid, fire safety apparatus and a chiller plant to maintain the temperatures underground.

On Monday, S K Gupta, the Director of Projects, MMRC revealed that specific safety provisions for fire safety have been provided underground for the workers. "We have provided smoke and fire detectors, water sprinklers and fire extinguisher in case of possible fire incidents. At least five Close Circuit Breathing Appa-

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— S K GUPTA, Director (Projects), MMRC

ratus (CCBA's) has also been provided for emergency response team which can be used to supply oxygen to labourers during fire emergencies," added Gupta.

While speaking to media, Gupta also said that a proper communication system

which includes walkie talkies and telephones have also been installed at every 100 metres underground.

There are at least 27 self rescuers for 25 labourers and at least five self rescuers for visitors in every TBM placed underground for visitors to tack-

le emergency situations.

The MMRC has also provided first aid rooms available at the surface and underground for labourers. "A team of dedicated doctor, male nurses, ambulance, stretcher and resting beds have also been made available round the clock for the labourers," added Gupta.

There are a total number of more than 7600 manpower including both skilled and unskilled working on the project work. At least a 96-hour safety training are being provided to every worker before they enter a tunnel.

"The workers are provided with a confined space safety training and fire-fighting training before entering a tunnel in order to train them to use the safety apparatus available underground," added a senior MMRC official. Apart from the safety apparatus, at least 100 safety signs are placed at each site in three languages including Hindi, Marathi and English.