

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

172, Lenin Sarani

Calcutta-700013

September 19, 1975

President :
B. T. RANADIVEGeneral Secretary :
P. RAMAMURTIPRESS RELEASE

The following letter was written to Shri Niren Ghosh by Shri Kamalapati Tripathi, Minister for Railway in answer to his queries about Calcutta Metropolitan Tube Project.

No. 75/MTP/CNL/C/12

MINISTER FOR RAILWAY
INDIA
New Delhi

June 19, 1975

My dear Shri Niren Ghosh,

Your letter of May 19, 1975 has raised a number of points. These are dealt with in the following paragraphs.

Against the enhanced valued of foreign imports for the Project, the scope of Russian assistance is not expected at the moment to be more than about 38%. We have, however, not given up the expectation of a greater contribution from Russian sources and we are pursuing this line further. Meanwhile, we are also exploring supplementary sources for obtaining balance requirements. In this context, an expert delegation from France had come for an exploratory discussion. It is too early to foresee what would be the ultimate outcome of negotiations with the French experts; but once the alternate assistance has been defined in scope and found suitable otherwise by the Government, necessary steps would be taken to avail of the assistance to expedite the Tube Railway Project.

Though we had earlier expected that the work would be completed by 1982, escalation in costs as also the present resources constraint has necessitated a review of this target. Only Rs.8.4 crores could be allotted to this Project in 1975-76. Our Project Organisation has been ready with a flexible construction programme to suit this outlay and also the likely outlays in the future. The programme has been drawn up on consideration of the better construction facilities of the Maidan area as mentioned by you.

The work already awarded in one of the Maidan sections can be taken up now as the contracting firm concerned has got the Government approval to its proposed foreign collaboration. Our General Manager for the Project is making all efforts to expedite the progress of the other two contract sections mentioned in your letter.

Only when the resources for the Project-both internal and foreign-are reasonably assured and firm programme of construction is drawn up, it would be possible to give a firm picture to the public. In the meanwhile, whenever important developments in this regard are taking place, we are taking the public into confidence through the Press. The Members of Parliament are also being furnished with the required information directly or during interpellations in the House.

With kind regards,

Shri Niren Ghosh
4, Ashoka Road
New Delhi

Yours sincerely,
(Sd/- Kamalapati Tripathi)

for Secretary

The News Editor

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for favour of publication/circulation.