



BCC&I Infrastructure E -Conclave

4th January 2021

MEDIA DOSSIER:

Print Media: The Telegraph, Anandabazar Patrika

Online Media: The Times of India, The Economic Time, Business Today, Outlook, Devdiscourse.com,
DT Next.in, PTI

Publication: The Telegraph

Date: 09.01.2021

Edition: Kolkata

Page: 12

The Telegraph

BUSINESS

CALCUTTA SATURDAY 9 JANUARY 2021

World Bank sees city as logistics hub

OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Calcutta: The World Bank feels Calcutta has potential to become a major transport and logistic hub linked to the north eastern region and neighbouring countries if it can develop an integrated system with corporations running the show.

The Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC), the exclusive rail network to move freight, will end in Dankuni near Calcutta and an intermodal system that connects the corridor with rail, road and waterways can transform the city, it added.

Earlier this week, the bank signed a tripartite agreement to extend \$105 million of soft loan to develop inland waterways in and around greater Calcutta on the river Hooghly.

However, this is just a beginning, says Junaid Ahmed, country-director of the World Bank in India.

Speaking at an e-seminar organised by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Ahmed said: "We are beginning a programme and hopefully there will be several stages to it in the future. We will partner with the state government to convert Calcutta into a transport and logistic hub of the sub-region linking the Northeast."

The city's potential has so far remained on paper because of a lack of co-ordinated effort with services delivered efficiently in a financially viable manner.

"We need to have an intermodal system where bus, rail and water interface in a very agile way — that requires a



A view of the Hooghly river

fundamentally different spatial perspective on the management of transport and logistic in greater Calcutta and Bengal — you need corporations to run the waterways and railways in order to connect the EDFC in a way that you don't create congestion in Calcutta but it becomes a vi-

brant city," Ahmed said.

The latest World Bank project will enhance the capacity and safety of the inland water transport system by rehabilitating jetties, buying new ferries with enhanced design; and installing electronic gates in 40 locations.

In the second phase, it will support long-term investments for passenger movement, including in terminals and jetties; improve the design of the inland water transport vessels and encourage the private sector to invest in Ro-Ro vessels that will allow easier movement of trucks across the Hooghly river.

New paradigm

Ahmed batted for a new approach to build infrastructure and deliver services in India. Giving examples of EDFC and

Shimla Water Company, he argued that companies — which are well governed and accountable — should deliver the services and they need not be in the private sector.

Instead of running as a municipal department, a corporation has been created in Shimla to manage all water delivery infrastructure and render services to the citizens.

A city, which had often faced scarcity of water, is now contemplating 24x7 water delivery.

He also argued that public finance, which comes from taxpayers' money, cannot alone meet the nation's requirement. To spend 7 per cent of the gross domestic product to build infrastructure, India needs to leverage the public finance to bring more institutional finance.

Publication: Anandabazar Patrika	Date: 09. 01. 2021
Edition: Kolkata	Page: 9

আনন্দবাজার পত্রিকা

কর্পোরেট খাঁচে চালাতে হবে গণপরিষেবাকে

নিজস্ব সংবাদদাতা

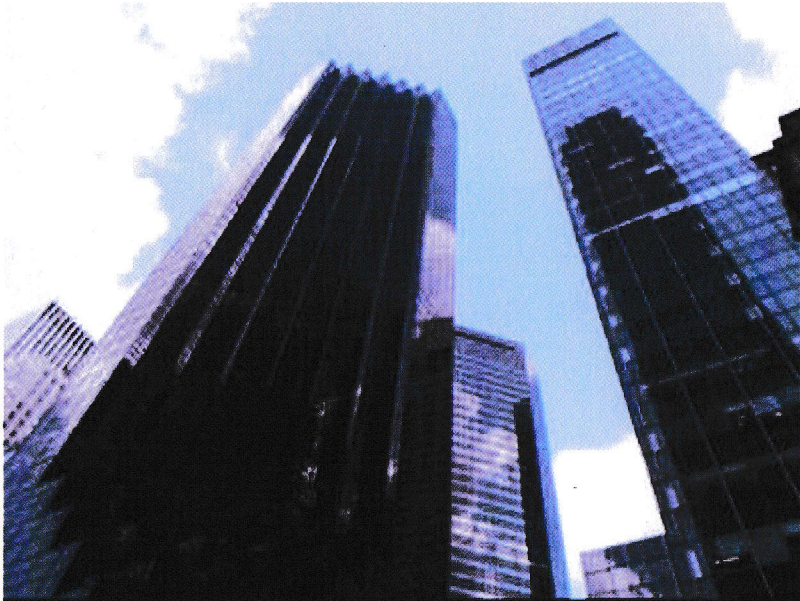
ভারতে বিভিন্ন গণপরিষেবা প্রকল্পকে কর্পোরেটের মতো পেশাদার দৃষ্টিভঙ্গিতে চালানোর পরামর্শ দিলেন ভারতে বিশ্ব ব্যাঙ্কের ডিরেক্টর জুনেইদ আহমেদ। পাশাপাশি পরিষেবাগুলি (যেমন জল সরবরাহ) যাতে ঠিকমতো চালানো যায়, সে জন্য সেগুলির গ্রাহকদের কাছ থেকে উপযুক্ত মাসুল নেওয়াও প্রয়োজন বলে তাঁর মত।

শুক্রবার বেঙ্গল চেম্বারে ভারতে প্রকাশিত কলকাতা ফোর সংক্রান্ত সভায় বিশ্ব ব্যাঙ্ক কর্তার দাবি, এ দেশে সরকারি দক্ষতার ও সংস্থাগুলিকে কর্পোরেটের খাঁচে পরিচালনা করা চ্যালেঞ্জ। যদিও গণপরিষেবার জন্য সে ধরনের ব্যবস্থা চালু হয়েছে। তবে সেই সব পরিষেবার বেসরকারিকরণ চান না তিনি।

কর্পোরেটের খাঁচে প্রকল্প পরিচালনার উদাহরণ হিসেবে ইস্টার্ন ডেভেলপমেন্ট ফ্রন্ট করিডর বা সিমলা জল সরবরাহ প্রকল্পের কথা বলেন জুনেইদ। তাঁর বক্তব্য, ভূটানের জল সরবরাহ ব্যবস্থার সুফল পান মধ্যবিত্ত বা উচ্চবিত্তেরা, গরিবেরা নন। কারণ গরিব মানুষ সাধারণত পাইপে জল জোগানের ব্যবস্থার সঙ্গে যুক্ত নন। তাই এ ধরনের পরিষেবার মাসুল বাড়ানোর সুযোগ করে তাঁর মত, এর বদলে পিছিয়ে পড়া শ্রেণির মানুষকে সরাসরি আর্থিক সুবিধা দেওয়া হোক।

India needs corporate structure for sustainable infra services delivery: World Bank official

PTI | Jan 8, 2021, 10:13 PM IST



KOLKATA: Projects related to public services should be developed through a corporate-like structure with adequate user charge base so that the entities can sustainably deliver such services, World Bank India director Junaid Ahmad said on Friday.

Citing examples of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor and Shimla water supply projects being developed through a corporate structure, he emphasised on creating entities that follow "company systems in order to deliver the infrastructure services".

Ahmad said corporatisation of government departments or agencies is a challenge for India, though such a mechanism has been introduced in the country to deliver public services in a sustainable manner.

Congratulations!

You have successfully cast your vote

Login to view result

The World Bank official, however, clarified that he was not proposing for privatising public service providers but to transform them through a corporatised structure.

Mentioning that poor people pay more than middle-class households for water, he advocated increasing of charges for delivery of public services.

"Traditionally, you cannot increase user charges because the poor will suffer. Today, who benefits from subsidised water charges? It is the middle class and above. Poor people are not connected to piped water," Ahmad said addressing an event organised by Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

He also said no corporate body can sustain creditworthiness without its user charge base.

"In India, user charge accounts for about 20 per cent of operation and maintenance cost on an average," he added.

News Flash: [Jet Airways to restart operations in Q1 of 2022](#)

Infra sector firms want renegotiation of EPC contracts amid rise in input cost; lenders oppose

By Atmadip Ray, ET Bureau Last Updated: Jan 08, 2021, 02:44 PM IST

SHARE FONT SIZE SAVE

Synopsis

"The contract is sacrosanct. It's the contract against which we provide finance," State Bank of India general manager for project finance Sanjay Kumar Singh said Friday. He said that banks have been taking this up with the government at different platforms saying that re-negotiation may become a challenge for them.



Kolkata: While several private companies in the infrastructure space are raising demand for renegotiation of EPC [NSE 5.00 %](#) contracts amid rise in input costs, the World Bank as well as the country's largest commercial lender State Bank of India have voiced their opposition.

Concerns have also been raised at different fora by other **lenders** about the likely impact on the already stressed asset quality and the appetite for lending to core projects if existing contracts are not honoured.

To Read the Full Story, Subscribe to ET Prime

Access the exclusive Economic Times stories, Editorial and Expert opinion

Start Free Trial

Already subscribed? [Restore Purchase](#)

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL OFFER

Get Flat 20% Off

ON ET PRIME MEMBERSHIP

India needs corporate structure for sustainable infra services delivery: World Bank Official



Kolkata, Jan 8 (PTI) Projects related to public

services should be developed through a corporate-like structure with adequate user charge base so that the entities can sustainably deliver such services, World Bank India director Junaid Ahmad said on Friday.

Citing examples of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor and Shimla water supply projects being developed through a corporate structure, he emphasised on creating entities that follow "company systems in order to deliver the infrastructure services".

Ahmad said corporatisation of government departments or agencies is a challenge for India, though such a mechanism has been introduced in the country to deliver public services in a sustainable manner.

The World Bank official, however, clarified that he was not proposing for privatising public service providers but to transform them through a corporatised structure.

Mentioning that poor people pay more than middle-class households for water, he advocated increasing of charges for delivery of public services.

"Traditionally, you cannot increase user charges because the poor will suffer. Today, who benefits from subsidised water charges? It is the middle class and above. Poor people are not connected to piped water," Ahmad said addressing an event organised by Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

He also said no corporate body can sustain creditworthiness without its user charge base.

"In India, user charge accounts for about 20 per cent of operation and maintenance cost on an average," he added.

PTI BSM




BDC BDC

Disclaimer :- This story has not been edited by Outlook staff and is auto-generated from news agency feeds. Source: PTI

More from Website

	Delhi Environment Minister To Hold Meeting On Air Pollution, Stubble Burning Tomorrow
	BTS' 'Butter' Stays At Number One Spot For 10 Weeks In The US
	UP: 55 Suspected Dengue Patients Died In Firozabad Since Its Outbreak

More from Outlook Magazine

	Diary: Jangal Santhal And Kanu Sanyal Don't Live Here Anymore.... This Is Not That Naxalbari
	Author Paul Pickering's Elephant: Felt With A Trunk
	Create Your Brand Using Your Own Aesthetics, Says Actor Annu Kapoor

NEXT STORY :

Download the Outlook Magazines App. Six magazines, wherever you go! [Play Store](#) and [App Store](#)

News / LATEST / Economy Politics / India needs corporate structure for sustainable infrastructure services delivery, says World Bank Official

Feedback

India needs corporate structure for sustainable infrastructure services delivery, says World Bank Official

Ahmad said corporatisation of government departments or agencies is a challenge for India, though such a mechanism has been introduced in the country to deliver public services in a sustainable manner



Listen to this article now

-01:52 x1



PTI

Jan 09, 2021, Updated Jan 09, 2021, 4:35 PM IST



Projects related to public services should be developed through a corporate-like structure with adequate user charge base so that the entities can sustainably deliver such services, World Bank India director Junaid Ahmad said on Friday.

Citing examples of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor and Shimla water supply projects being developed through a corporate structure, he emphasised on creating entities that follow "company systems in order to deliver the infrastructure services".

Ahmad said corporatisation of government departments or agencies is a challenge for India, though such a mechanism has been introduced in the country to deliver public services in a sustainable manner



BusinessToday.In

Monday, September 13, 2021 | Updated 11:57 IST



to transform them through a corporatised structure.

Mentioning that poor people pay more than middle-class households for water, he advocated increasing of charges for delivery of public services.

"Traditionally, you cannot increase user charges because the poor will suffer. Today, who benefits from subsidised water charges? It is the middle class and above.

Poor people are not connected to piped water," Ahmad said addressing an event organised by Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

He also said no corporate body can sustain creditworthiness without its user charge base.

"In India, user charge accounts for about 20 per cent of operation and maintenance cost on an average," he added.

[Reserve Bank of India to restore normal liquidity management operations](#)

[TCS confident of getting back to double-digit growth in FY22](#)

POST A COMMENT

--be the first to Comment--

<https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/1aw-order/1399112-india-needs-corporate-structure-for-sustainable-infra-services-delivery-world-bank-official> India needs corporate structure for sustainable infra services delivery: World Bank Official

It is the middle class and above. Poor people are not connected to piped water, Ahmad said addressing an event organised by Bengal Chamber of Commerce Industry. He also said no corporate body can sustain creditworthiness without its user charge base. In India, user charge accounts for about 20 percent of operation and maintenance cost on an average, he added. PTI BSMBDC BDC

PTI | Kolkata | Updated: 08-01-2021 22:05 IST | Created: 08-01-2021 22:02 IST

Projects related to public services should be developed through a corporate-like structure with adequate user charge base so that the entities can sustainably deliver such services, [World Bank](#) India director Junaid [Ahmad](#) said on Friday.

Citing examples of [Eastern](#) Dedicated Freight Corridor and Shimla water supply projects being developed through a corporate structure, he emphasised on creating entities that follow "company systems in order to deliver the infrastructure services".

Ahmad said corporatisation of government departments or agencies is a challenge for [India](#), though such a mechanism has been introduced in the country to deliver public services in a sustainable manner.

The [World Bank](#) official, however, clarified that he was not proposing for privatising public service providers but to transform them through a corporatised structure.

Mentioning that poor people pay more than middle-class households for water, he advocated increasing of charges for delivery of public services.

"Traditionally, you cannot increase user charges because the poor will suffer. Today, who benefits from subsidised water charges? It is the middle class and above.

Poor people are not connected to piped water," [Ahmad](#) said addressing an event organised by Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

He also said no corporate body can sustain creditworthiness without its user charge base.

"In [India](#), user charge accounts for about 20 per cent of operation and maintenance cost on an average," he added.

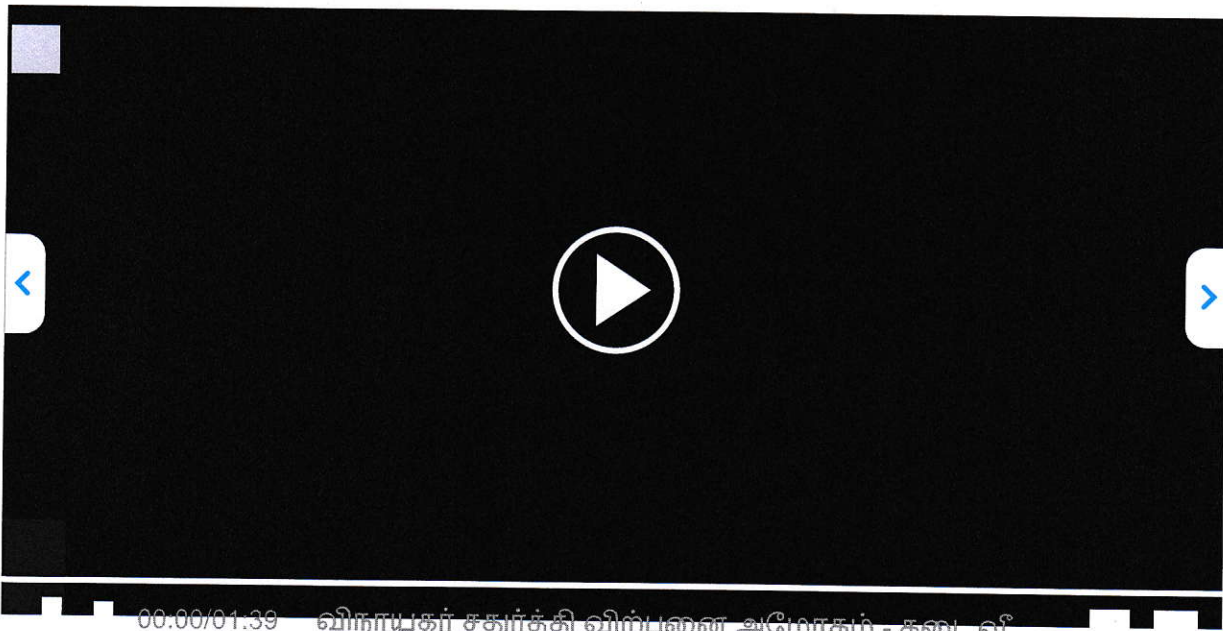
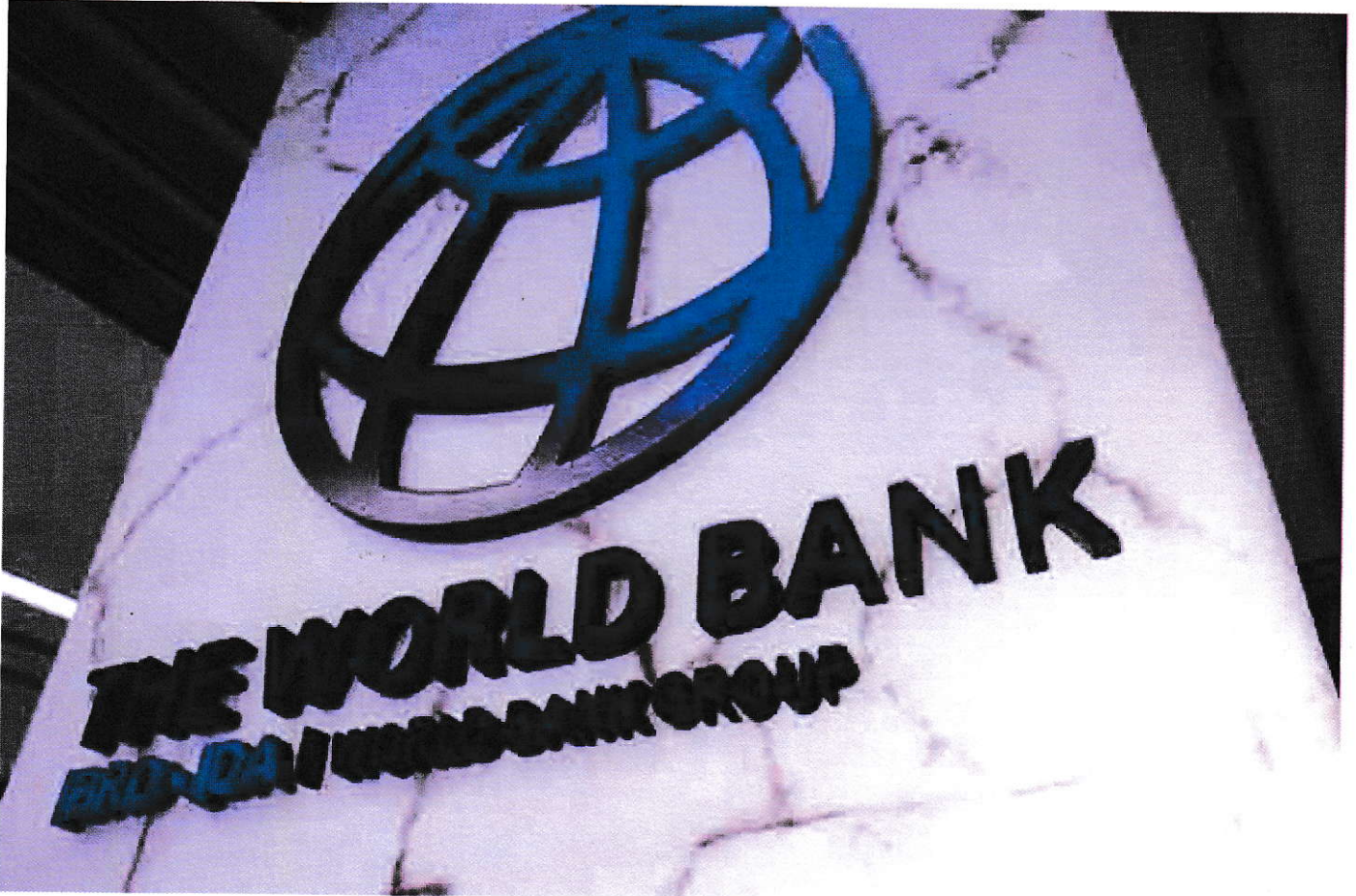
PTI BSMBDC BDC

(This story has not been edited by Devdiscourse staff and is auto-generated from a syndicated feed.)

DT NEXT. *Invest. in*

India needs corporate structure for sustainable infra services delivery: World Bank Official

Projects related to public services should be developed through a corporate-like structure with adequate user charge base so that the entities can sustainably deliver such services, World Bank India director Junaid Ahmad said on Friday.



Kolkata:

Citing examples of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor and Shimla water supply projects being developed through a corporate structure, he emphasised on creating entities that follow "company systems in order to deliver the

infrastructure services".

Ahmad said corporatisation of government departments or agencies is a challenge for India, though such a mechanism has been introduced in the country to deliver public services in a sustainable manner.

The World Bank official, however, clarified that he was not proposing for privatising public service providers but to transform them through a corporatised structure.

Mentioning that poor people pay more than middle-class households for water, he advocated increasing of charges for delivery of public services.

"Traditionally, you cannot increase user charges because the poor will suffer. Today, who benefits from subsidised water charges? It is the middle class and above. Poor people are not connected to piped water," Ahmad said addressing an event organised by Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

He also said no corporate body can sustain creditworthiness without its user charge base.

"In India, user charge accounts for about 20 per cent of operation and maintenance cost on an average," he added.

Related Tags :

[Corporate Structure](#) | [Sustainable Infrastructure](#) | [World Bank](#)