

KOCHI METRO RAIL LIMITED

A 50-50 Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Kerala



Message

As a result of rapid urbanization world over, mobility has become one of the key drivers of economies. Mobility increases the efficiency, helps support a stronger economy of a country and a higher standard of living for its citizens. The need for sustainable urban mobility is increasing day by day to facilitate and improve human life. Innovations in transportation, constantly growing population with a need to have quick and clean transport system and the Government's ability to keep up with limited resources are the challenges faced in the modern urban world. Thus the need of the hour is to have a city developed with emphasis on healthy living, improving public space for the needs of the citizens, prioritising non-motorised transport systems, encouraging residents to use public transport instead of private transport etc.

In this context it is greatly satisfying to note the efforts made by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India in organising Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference every year. I am happy that the 15th UMI Conference is held in Kochi from 4th to 6th November 2022 at Kochi, the Business centre of Kerala which is the most rapidly growing urban area in the state of Kerala. The city has a unique natural beauty comprising of sea, backwaters, lakes, rivers and mountains. After the operationalisation of Kochi Metro Rail in 2017, the city is going to witness the launch of the world's largest fleet of battery operated passenger boat under single command – Kochi Water Metro. Now the effort is to have an intermodal integrated transportation system in the city of Kochi – “one card for all public transport”.

I am grateful to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for providing us an opportunity to co-host the 15th UMI Conference and Exhibition 2022 organised by Institute of Urban Transport (India). I am confident that the conference would undertake extensive deliberations as to how a sustainable urban mobility will help in building an Aatma Nirbhar India.

I extend my best wishes for the conference.

Loknath Behera
Managing Director

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