

**Press Release****PM Narendra Modi inaugurates Bogibeel bridge**

*Strategic 4.9 km rail-cum-road bridge, built by HCC, will provide connectivity to nearly five million people residing in Upper Assam and Arunachal Pradesh*

**Mumbai: December 25, 2018:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today dedicated the Bogibeel bridge to the nation. Built on the Brahmaputra river in Dibrugarh district of Assam, it is the first fully welded steel bridge and the longest rail-cum-road bridge in India. HCC constructed the entire 4.9 km-long superstructure.

Bogibeel bridge will provide connectivity to nearly five million people residing in Upper Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. The project boasts of multiple benefits such as strategic and speedier access for defence forces to the Indo-China border, seamless access for medical facilities to remote north-eastern states, and most importantly reducing by nearly 10 hours the transportation distance between NH-37 and NH-52, saving transportation cost, time and fuel.

**Mr. Arjun Dhawan, Director & Group Chief Executive Officer**, said, "HCC has time and again undertaken complex infrastructure projects that are benchmarks in India's infrastructure journey. Bogibeel Bridge is an engineering masterpiece which has many technical firsts to its name. It is India's first fully welded Warren truss girder type steel bridge. Not only has an incremental launching technique for superstructure erection been used for the first time in India, it is also the world's longest incrementally launched steel bridge. HCC is proud to create such marvels for the nation."

The HCC team through its sheer determination and grit completed this project, as bridging the mighty Brahmaputra has always been a daunting task. The river is extremely difficult to bridge due to various reasons including its ferocious and unpredictable behaviour, high currents and turbulent waters, widespread erosion of the banks, short working period, high seismicity and the sheer remoteness of the area. With the width ranging from 1.2 km to 18 km, the Brahmaputra has been bridged only four times in the past; HCC holds the distinction of building two of these bridges and has now constructed the fifth.

The superstructure of the Bogibeel bridge has been constructed using special copper-bearing steel plates in order to reduce corrosion. Furthermore, due to excessive humidity in the area, a complex Corrosion Protection System specific to different components of the bridge has been implemented. To offer good stability to the heavy spans (1700 MT), seismic restrainers are provided. The bridge is designed to withstand earthquakes with magnitudes in excess of 7.0.

**About HCC:**

HCC is a business group of global scale developing and building responsible infrastructure through next practices. With an engineering heritage of nearly 100 years, HCC has executed a majority of India's landmark infrastructure projects, having constructed 25% of India's Hydro Power generation and over 65% of India's Nuclear Power generation capacities, over 3,800 lane km of Expressways and Highways, more than 335 km of complex Tunnelling and over 365 Bridges. Today, HCC Ltd. serves the infrastructure sectors of Transportation,

Power and Water. The HCC Group, with a group turnover of Rs.10,132 crore, comprises of HCC Ltd., HCC Infrastructure Co. Ltd. and Steiner AG in Switzerland.

**For further information:**

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