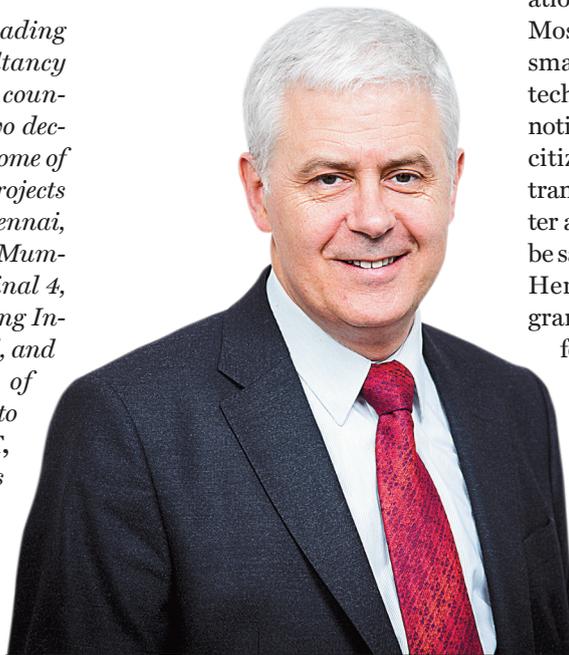


INTERVIEW

‘India is very important market for us’

Egis Infrastructure is a leading French Engineering Consultancy with presence in over a 100 countries. Present In India for two decades, Egis is associated with some of the leading infrastructure projects like Metro Rail project in Chennai, Kochi, Kolkata, Nagpur and Mumbai Metroline 3, JNPT Terminal 4, Trilateral Highway connecting India-Myanmar and Thailand, and Shivaji Statue and Statue of Unity During his recent visit to India, NICOLAS JACHIE, Chairman and CEO of Egis talks to Anuradha Shukla about the recent involvement of the company in Indian Smart Cities Mission.



Egis is present in India for over two decades. Currently where does India market stand for the company?

India is very important market for us. The country is the second largest in term of head count. Also we have expanded our portfolio. We are involve with over a dozen projects covering various aspect, including planning, engineering, metro, highways and ports to waste management and water recycling. Also we have bid for six airports. Now our order books are 2.25 times larger. We are happy with our growth in India.

In last twenty years what shift you have seen in India so far ease of doing business is concerned?

One positive thing is the fresh focus of the government in large infra-

Mumbai metroline 3 was exciting as well as challenging project for us

structure projects, which I feel is very essential for India. There is greater thrust on urbanization which will go a long way. Lately the Smart Cities Mission is a very good step. It will further strengthen our involvement with the India. For Egis which has expertise in creating large structures and mega projects, it is a great opportunity to participate in these projects.

What are the opportunities you see for the company with the announcement of Smart Cities Mission in India?

Smart Cities Mission reaffirms our trust in India. Egis has strong expertise in the sectors of urban planning, industrial corridors and townships. We are involve with creation of many global smart cities. Most of the time people feel that smart city is just about the smart technology which is a very wrong notion. Cities must be smart for the citizens. There should be decent transport, continous supply of water and electricity and the city must be safer and livable with green space. Here in India, we are the programme management consultant for Area Based Development for Bhubaneswar Smart City, which is progressing very well. We are also Project Development and Management Consultant for AMRUT project in Madhya Pradesh and Dholera Project.

Tell us something about the Dholera project?

Egis along with its JV partners is working on the preliminary design of Dholera TP2E. Egis’s special focus is on Traffic, Power, Gas and Information & Communication Technology (ICT). We are designing the ICT Infrastructure which is the driver of the project and is at par with the global standard.

What is the progress on the Mumbai Metro project?

Mumbai was exciting as well as challenging project for us. We are one of four consultants for this line. This will be the first fully underground, driver-less system. The challenge was the soil condition. The good part is that the construction work has started and the project is back on track. ■