

High-speed rail corridors: Plan heads towards design

2 THROUGH MUMBAI NHSRCL to conduct aerial LiDAR survey on the six routes

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MUMBAI: The National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) recently invited bids for final alignment designs for six high-speed rail corridors in India. Two of these corridors will pass through Mumbai.

NHSRCL, which is responsible for construction of the bullet train corridor between Mumbai and Ahmedabad and other high-speed corridors, will conduct an aerial LiDAR survey on Mumbai-Pune-Hyderabad (711km), Mumbai-Nashik-Nagpur (753km), Delhi-Ahmedabad (866km), Delhi-Amritsar (459km), Delhi-Varanasi (865km) and Chennai-Bangalore-Mysore (435km).

The bullet train is the first of the high-speed corridors which will run from Mumbai to Ahmedabad.

Aerial LiDar or the Light Detection and Ranging survey is a laser survey method that measures reflected lights with sensors and provides 3-D representation of the topographic area

The survey will be conducted in two stages.

The first stage will involve study of satellite images, topographic maps, development and evaluation of horizontal and vertical alignments, along with inspection of station area and yards.

The second will include aerial



LIDAR survey and will also have preparation of final alignment designs, along with hydrological studies, demarcation of land and land acquisition plan, which will be required for construction of high-speed rail corridors.

"NHSRCL, through this tender, wants to appoint a contractor to undertake alignment survey and prepare a general alignment design for the six proposed high-speed rail corridors," mentions the bid.

The survey will not include geotechincal assessment, social impact assessment, environment impact assessment and detailed designs of railway stations, railway yards, bridges and other building structures.

Hindustan Times was the

first to report in February 2018 about the NHSRCL's plan to construct other high-speed corridors including Mumbai-Pune and Delhi-Amritsar.

NHSRCL had studied the operation of the high-speed rail in China that spans across nearly 27,000km, but opted for shorter length. Long high-speed corridors have failed to attract passengers in China.