



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 04, 2024

[^ TOP](#)

- [After Japanese And Korean Cities, Yamuna Expressway Authority Receives \\$4 Billion 'American City' Project Near Noida Airport](#)
- [Delhi-Dehradun Expressway: Final Trial Runs Underway For 210-km Project, To Cut Travel Time By Half From January 2025](#)
- [Jammu and Kashmir's infrastructure boom! THESE tunnels, highway projects are set to transform connectivity in border regions](#)
- [Santacruz-Chembur Link Road nears completion, to open for public use in January 2025](#)
- [Bengaluru Metro Completes Tunneling For City's Longest Underground Line](#)
- [Pehowa-Yamunanagar Road to be Expanded](#)

After Japanese And Korean Cities, Yamuna Expressway Authority Receives \$4 Billion 'American City' Project Near Noida Airport

Swarajya,  
November 04, 2024

As the Noida airport nears completion and development in the surrounding areas marks progress, there is an increase in global interest and investment in the region.



## News

Following proposals for Japanese and Korean cities, a consultancy firm from the United States (US) has shown interest in establishing an "American City" — with campuses of American educational institutions, along with business, commercial, and institutional facilities such as hospitals and schools.

The Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) has received a proposal from Blue Sky Vantage — a US-based consultancy firm that helps American companies expand into new markets — to develop this hub over 1,200 acres across four sectors (22D, 22E, 5, and 5A).

This area is situated near the Noida greenfield international airport in Jewar, along the 165-kilometre (km) Yamuna Expressway that connects Greater Noida with Agra.

YEIDA CEO Arun Vir Singh stated that the proposal has received in-principle approval, and officials have been instructed to allocate 1,200 acres of land for the project.

“The U.S.-based company requested 1,200 acres to establish an international-standard educational institute with facilities for performing arts and cultural programs. Several top U.S. universities will partner in this venture,” Singh said.

The American firm plans to invest \$4 billion in this extensive educational project over the next six years.

After exploring multiple cities, the company selected the YEIDA region for its development plans, aiming to acquire at least 1,000 acres with mixed land use for a multi-purpose complex.

The complex will include commercial towers, globally recognised institutions, and various economic activity hubs.

YEIDA has also previously announced plans for a Korean City in Sector 4A and a Japanese City in Sector 5A.

The Japanese City is slated to occupy 395 hectares, while the Korean City will cover 365 hectares.

Both projects are located close to the Noida airport in Jewar and are expected to benefit from this proximity.

Additionally, each city will offer residential units for staff from their respective countries.

[^ TOP](#)

## Delhi-Dehradun Expressway: Final Trial Runs Underway For 210-km Project, To Cut Travel Time By Half From January 2025

Swarajya,  
November 04, 2024

The travel time from Delhi to Dehradun is set to decrease from six hours to just 2.5 hours with the much-anticipated completion of the Delhi-Dehradun expressway.

Trial runs are currently taking place on the new elevated road, which is projected to be fully operational by January 2025.

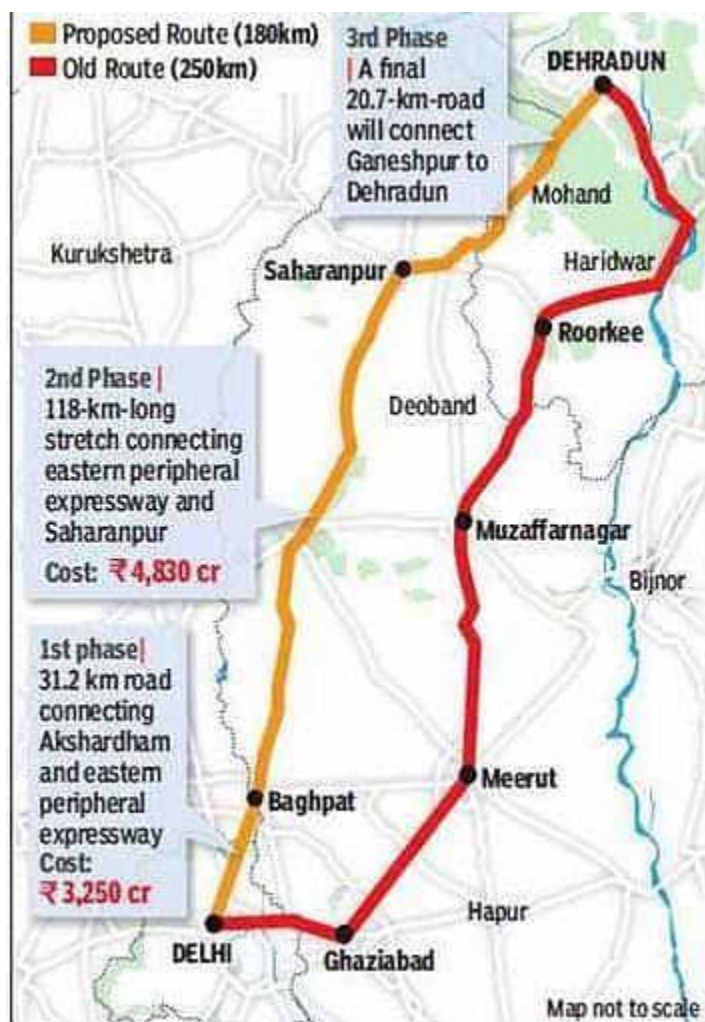
Approved by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), this expressway will link three states – Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand – connecting Delhi to Dehradun via Saharanpur.

Unlike the existing route that passes through Meerut, Muzaffarnagar, and Roorkee, the new expressway will take a path through Baghpat and Saharanpur.

Initiated in January 2021, the project is expected to be completed by December 2024, with only minor work left to finish.

The construction was divided into four phases –

- Phase 1 connects Akshardham Temple (Delhi) to Baghpat (UP)
- Phase 2 links Baghpat (UP) to Saharanpur (UP)
- Phase 3 goes from Saharanpur (UP) to Ganeshpur (Uttarakhand)
- Phase 4 extends from Ganeshpur (Uttarakhand) to Dehradun (Uttarakhand)





*The expressway alignment and the existing route (Source: Indiatimes)*

A key feature of this 210-kilometre (km)-long expressway is Asia's longest elevated wildlife corridor, which stretches 12 km between Asharodi and Ganeshpur.

Designed to minimise disruption to wildlife in Rajaji National Park and the Shivalik Reserve, this elevated section will reduce travel time on the last 20 km of the expressway to just 15-20 minutes.

Currently, heavy vehicle traffic can take up to an hour to navigate this stretch, but the new corridor will ease congestion, allowing for smoother travel through this ecologically sensitive area.

The total cost of constructing this high-speed corridor, which includes both ground-level and elevated segments, is estimated at Rs 12,000 crore.

[^ TOP](#)

## Jammu and Kashmir's infrastructure boom! THESE tunnels, highway projects are set to transform connectivity in border regions

FE Online,

November 4, 2024

Infrastructure projects such as the four-laning of the Jammu-Srinagar highway aim to establish all-weather routes, dramatically reducing travel time between the Jammu and Srinagar regions.

Development and infrastructure projects are key to enhancing the socio-economic landscape of Jammu and Kashmir, a region that has long struggled with political turbulence and economic challenges. The need for rapid development was underscored recently when Jammu and Kashmir Lt.

Governor Manoj Sinha directed security forces to “secure vital infrastructure projects” across the Union Territory. This directive came in the wake of a militant attack on the employees of APCO Infratech, responsible for constructing the strategic Z-Morh tunnel on the Srinagar-Ladakh national highway, an incident that claimed seven lives. This tragic event, which marks the first militant attack on a significant infrastructure project in Jammu and Kashmir, highlights the pressing importance of bolstering these projects for the region's stability, security, and prosperity.

Several critical infrastructure projects are underway in Jammu and Kashmir, many of which hold strategic value.

### **Zojilla tunnel and Z-Morh tunnel**

Two major tunnels—Zojila and Z-Morh—will connect vital regions of Kashmir with the rest of India. These tunnels provide year-round connectivity, which is essential since harsh winters can otherwise isolate areas like Ladakh for several months every year.

The Zojila tunnel, for instance, will connect Sonamarg in Kashmir with Drass in Kargil, providing Ladakh with all-weather connectivity and reducing travel time from hours to just 15 minutes. Such connectivity is not only beneficial for the local population but is also critical from a security and logistical standpoint.



## News

The **Z-Morh tunnel**, which bypasses the avalanche-prone Gagangir area, connects Kangan town to the popular tourist destination of Sonamarg and ensures year-round access to Ladakh. Together, these tunnels will improve movement for civilians and security personnel alike, enhancing the state's defence capabilities in areas close to the Line of Control (LoC). These projects thus play a dual role: they are instrumental in ensuring territorial integration and supporting national security efforts by making remote areas more accessible.

### **Four-lane Jammu-Srinagar Highway & Srinagar Semi Ring Road**

Infrastructure projects such as the four-laning of the **Jammu-Srinagar highway** aim to establish all-weather routes, dramatically reducing travel time between the Jammu and Srinagar regions. This Rs 16,000-crore project cuts through the mountainous terrain of Ramban and Banihal and incorporates 10 tunnels (equalling 21.5 kilometres), viaducts, and bridges to ensure uninterrupted access. Improved roadways will not only stimulate the economy by facilitating trade and tourism but also improve accessibility to healthcare and educational institutions.

The **Srinagar Semi Ring Road**, approved in 2021, is a Rs 2,919-crore project to address traffic congestion in five districts across the Kashmir Valley: Pulwama, Srinagar, Budgam, Baramulla, and Ganderbal. Designed to improve travel efficiency and reduce congestion in these densely populated areas, the project includes a 60-kilometre road stretch with extensive infrastructure enhancements.

Key components of this initiative feature around 300 culverts to support water flow and minimise flood risks, as well as two flyovers and two over-road bridges to streamline traffic. Additionally, a toll plaza will be constructed to facilitate ongoing maintenance and operational costs. Although initially set for completion by February 2024, and later extended to August 2024, the project has faced delays due to various logistical and environmental challenges, with a new targeted completion date set for June 2025. Once completed, this project is expected to greatly enhance local mobility and regional connectivity.

This 60-kilometre road network, complete with culverts, flyovers, and over-road bridges, will connect urban centres and rural areas, facilitating better mobility for thousands of residents. An improved transportation network means reduced travel time, greater efficiency for businesses, and an enhanced quality of life for citizens across the valley.

The four-laning of a 100-km **Srinagar-Baramulla-Uri highway**, approved in 2022, is currently underway to enhance connectivity. This project covers two main phases: the Narbal-Baramulla stretch and the Baramulla-Uri stretch, addressing critical traffic flow and safety concerns. Additionally, it includes bypass roads at Pattan and Baramulla and flyovers at Sangrama and Delina, which aim to streamline travel and reduce congestion in densely populated areas. The entire project, budgeted at Rs 823.45 crore, will significantly improve transport efficiency and boost local economic activity by easing travel between important destinations.

### **AIIMS Hospital, Awantipora**

Another significant infrastructure project is the construction of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Awantipora in South Kashmir. This hospital and research facility will bridge the healthcare gap in the region, providing access to advanced medical care and reducing the need for residents to travel to other states for specialised treatment. Moreover, it will create numerous job opportunities in healthcare and allied sectors, contributing to the local economy and providing a source of stable employment in the region.



## Power projects in Kishtwar district of Chenab Valley

In addition to transportation and healthcare, power generation is another sector that requires urgent development in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Union Territory is home to four major hydroelectric projects in the Chenab Valley's Kishtwar district. These projects—**Ratle, Kwar, Pakal Dul, and Kiru**—are harnessing the hydropower potential of the Chenab River to supply clean, renewable energy.

For instance, the **Ratle Hydroelectric Power Project**, generating 850 MW, is under construction on the Chenab River. Initially awarded to GVK Ltd in 2010, the project saw its foundation stone laid by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in 2013. GVK exited the project later, and in 2019, a MoU between NHPC and JKSPDC was established under a joint venture, with Megha Engineering Limited taking on the Rs 5,282-crore project, which includes two power stations and a 133-meter gravity dam.

The **Kwar HE Power Project** at Padyarna village will produce 540 MW. Costing Rs 4,526 crore, it will feature a 109-meter dam and four units of 135 MW each, targeting completion by November 2026.

The **Pakal Dul Power Project**, on the Marusudar River, aims for 1,000 MW via a 167-meter dam and four 250 MW units. This Rs 8,112-crore project should be finished by September 2025.

Lastly, the **Kiru HE Power Project** will provide 624 MW through a 135-meter dam and four 156 MW units, at a cost of Rs 4,287 crore, executed by Chenab Valley Power Projects.

These power projects not only help meet the energy needs of Jammu and Kashmir but also generate substantial employment during the construction and operation phases. By investing in hydropower, the region is tapping into its natural resources to achieve energy self-sufficiency, which will support industries, reduce energy costs, and provide stable electricity to homes across the region.

## Enhancing National Security and Regional Stability

Improved infrastructure provides security forces with faster and safer access to remote areas, which is critical in a region where insurgency has long posed challenges. Development and infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir are indispensable for multiple reasons. Improved connectivity boosts local commerce, tourism, and logistics, while healthcare and power projects address the essential needs of residents. Security projects strengthen regional stability and national defence capabilities, ensuring the Union Territory remains integrated with the rest of India. Infrastructure projects thus form the backbone of a transformed Jammu and Kashmir, creating a resilient economy, enhancing quality of life, and solidifying peace and security across the region.

[^ TOP](#)

Santacruz-Chembur Link Road nears completion, to open for public use in January 2025

FE Online,  
November 4, 2024





## News

The extension passes through the major junctions such as Kapadia Nagar Junction, near LBS Road and Vakola Junction on the Western Express Highway.

The SCLR 4.2-km extension was to be ready by 2019.

The Santacruz Chembur Link Road, or SCLR Extension, has almost reached its final stage as it awaits only the installation of the remaining 100 meters of suspension span. The section is part of a cable-stayed bridge and completion of the structure will be done if the traffic police gives nod for two proposed traffic blocks, an official of Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) said.

The final installation will be undertaken in stages, with respect to the curvature of the road, and it would include suspension cables and surfacing of the road. If all the required approvals are received well in time, the rest of the SCLR would be opened to the public on January 1, 2025.

In a connected development, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) paid Rs 16 crore recently to defense authorities for acquiring important land required for the project.

The SCLR 4.2-km extension was to be ready by 2019. The project got delayed due to various issues including the necessity to acquire defense land. The project was started in 2016 and seeks to greatly enhance connectivity of key areas in Mumbai.

The extension is from Kapadia Nagar to Panbai International School. It passes through the major junctions such as Kapadia Nagar Junction, near LBS Road and Vakola Junction on the Western Express Highway. Major points on the stretch are Vakola Junction, Ambedkar Chowk, University Junction, and BKC Junction. This would reduce traffic congestion and improve the efficiency of travel between Kurla and the elevated road at Vakola.

With the project near completion, it has a good chance of filling an important gap in the transportation system of Mumbai while ensuring a smooth and less hectic traffic flow within a crowded urban environment for its commuters.

[^ TOP](#)

## Bengaluru Metro Completes Tunneling For City's Longest Underground Line

Swarajya,  
November 04, 2024

The Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) recently marked the completion of tunneling for the city's longest underground Metro line. This milestone is part of the Pink Line (Reach-6) under Phase-2, which spans 13.76 km from Kalena Agrahara in the south to Nagawara in the north.

The Pink Line will feature a total of 12 underground stations, with construction of the stations now approximately 90 per cent complete.

The completion of the 20.99-km twin tunnels along the North-South corridor is expected to greatly alleviate Bengaluru's notorious traffic congestion, offering residents a quicker and more efficient travel option through the city centre, reports The Hindu.



## News

The final breakthrough was accomplished by Bhadra, the last Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) deployed for this section, which successfully completed a 937-meter stretch from K G Halli to Nagawara. This achievement signifies the total completion of tunneling work for Reach-6.

The tunneling operations, which extended from south of Tannery Road to the north ramp, included the construction of four underground Metro stations: Tannery Road, Venkateshpura, Arabic College, and Nagawara. The project was managed by M/s ITD Cementation India Limited, a prominent engineering firm in India.

Initiated in August 2020, the project saw the launch of Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) Urja between Cantonment and Shivajinagar. In total, nine TBMs were deployed, each successfully completing their respective sections.

Notable milestones during the tunneling phase included TBM Urja achieving a record of 27 meters in a single day on 25 April 2022, and TBM Tunga recording a monthly total of 308 meters between K G Halli and Nagawara in July 2024.

Once operational, scheduled for December 2025, this line is anticipated to significantly enhance traffic flow along the North-South corridor, providing commuters with an effective alternative to Bengaluru's heavily congested roadways.

[^ TOP](#)

## Pehowa-Yamunanagar Road to be Expanded

CW Team,

November 04, 2024

The Pehowa-Yamunanagar road in Haryana is set to be upgraded to a four-lane highway, as announced by Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar. This infrastructure project aims to improve regional connectivity and ease traffic on this key route, providing safer and more efficient travel options for commuters and enhancing transport links within the state. The decision follows the increasing traffic density in the area, which has led to frequent congestion and longer travel times for residents and travelers alike.

Expanding the road from two lanes to four will significantly increase vehicular capacity and reduce bottlenecks, supporting smoother traffic flow and improving the overall efficiency of transportation networks in the state. The project aligns with Haryana's broader strategy to modernize road infrastructure and provide greater connectivity across urban and rural regions, promoting economic development and public convenience.

Key stakeholders, including the state government and transport authorities, are coordinating efforts to expedite the planning and project timeline. With safety as a priority, the upgraded four-lane road will incorporate enhanced safety measures for pedestrians and drivers, including widened lanes, better signage, and possibly additional traffic management systems. The project is anticipated to stimulate the local economy by facilitating easier movement of goods and services between Pehowa and Yamunanagar and promoting growth in surrounding areas.

[^ TOP](#)