

# NEWSLETTER

## CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

Tuesday, April 01, 2025

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## PM Modi Launches Development Projects Worth Over Rs 33,000 Crore In Chhattisgarh Including Power, Rail, Road And Gas Initiatives

Swarajya,  
April 01, 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday (29 March) launched multiple infrastructure and development projects worth over Rs 33,000 crore in Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur.

He laid the foundation stone of NTPC's Sipat Super Thermal Power Project Stage-III (1x800MW), located in Bilaspur district, worth over Rs 9,790 crore.

This pit head project is based on the latest state of the art Ultra-Supercritical Technology with high power generation efficiency.

He also initiated the commencement of work of First Super Critical Thermal Power Project (2X660MW) of Chhattisgarh State Power Generation Company Limited (CSPGCL) worth over Rs 15,800 crore.

PM Modi also dedicated to the nation three Power Transmission projects of POWERGRID under Western Region Expansion Scheme (WRES) worth over Rs 560 crore.

The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone of City Gas Distribution (CGD) project of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) in Korea, Surajpur, Balrampur and Surguja districts.

It includes over 200 km high pressure pipeline and over 800 km MDPE (Medium Density Polyethylene) pipeline and multiple CNG dispensing outlets worth over Rs 1,285 crore.

He also laid the foundation stone of Visakh-Raipur Pipeline (VRPL) Project of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) spanning 540 km worth over Rs 2,210 crore. This multiproduct (petrol, diesel, kerosene) pipeline will have a capacity of over 3 Million Metric Tonne Per Annum.

The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of seven railway projects with a total length of 108 km and dedicate to the nation three railway projects with a total length of 111 km, worth over Rs 2,690 crore.

He also flagged off the MEMU train service in the Abhanpur-Raipur section via Mandir Hasaud. He will also dedicate 100 per cent electrification of the rail network of Indian Railways in Chhattisgarh.

These projects will reduce congestion, improve connectivity, and enhance social and economic growth across the region.

The Prime Minister dedicated to the nation the upgraded Jhalmala to Sherpar section of NH-930 (37 Km) and Ambikapur-Pathalgaon section of NH-43 (75 Km) to two-laning with paved shoulder.

He also dedicated the foundation stone for the upgradation of Kondagaon-Narayanpur section of NH-130D (47.5Km) to two-lane with paved shoulder.

These projects worth over Rs 1,270 crore will significantly improve accessibility to tribal and industrial regions leading to holistic development of the region, according to a PMO release.

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In education, PM Modi will dedicate two flagship educational initiatives, 130 PM SHRI Schools across 29 districts in Chhattisgarh and Vidya Samiksha Kendra (VSK) at Raipur.

Further, Griha Pravesh of 3 lakh beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G) will be held and the Prime Minister will hand over the keys to some beneficiaries under the scheme.

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## Govt Approves Rs 45 Billion Greenfield Expressway in Maharashtra

PTI,

April 01, 2025

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved a six-lane Greenfield National Highway project in Maharashtra, aimed at improving connectivity between JNPA Port (Pagote) and Chowk.

With a total investment of Rs 45 billion, the 29.219 km expressway will be developed under the Build, Operate, and Transfer (BOT) model and aligns with the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, which focuses on integrated infrastructure development.

The project was proposed due to rising container traffic at JNPA Port and anticipated growth in travel demand following the opening of Navi Mumbai International Airport. Currently, the two- to three-hour travel time between JNPA Port, NH-48, and the Mumbai-Pune Expressway is hindered by congestion at key points like Palaspe Phata, D-Point, Kalamboli Junction, and Panvel, where 180,000 passenger car units (PCU) transit daily.

The new highway will connect NH-48 (Mumbai-Pune Highway) with NH-348 (JNPA Port, Pagote village) and provide links to NH-66 (Mumbai-Goa Highway) and the Mumbai-Pune Expressway. To facilitate smoother transit for heavy commercial vehicles, two tunnels will bypass steep ghat sections in the Sahyadri hills.

This expressway is expected to enhance freight efficiency, improve port connectivity, and drive economic growth in the Mumbai-Pune region.

Meanwhile, the Rs 500 billion Pune-Bengaluru Expressway is set to cut travel time from 15 hours to just 7 hours. Spanning 700 km, this high-speed corridor will offer a faster and more efficient alternative to NH-48, significantly boosting connectivity for commuters and businesses alike.

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## Uttar Pradesh Approves YEIDA Phase II Under Master Plan 2031

Invest UP,

April 01, 2025

The Uttar Pradesh government has approved Phase II of the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) Master Plan 2031, focusing on urban development in Mathura, Agra, Aligarh, and Hathras. The initiative aims to boost infrastructure and economic growth across these regions.

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## **YEIDA Phase II expansion**

Under the Master Plan 2031, development along the Yamuna Expressway is progressing in phases. The entire project covers approximately 3,352 sq km, spanning 1,149 villages across six districts; Gautam Buddha Nagar, Bulandshahr, Agra, Aligarh, Mathura, and Hathras.

- YEIDA Phase I spans 759 sq km, covering Gautam Buddha Nagar and Bulandshahr.
- YEIDA Phase II will extend over 2,593 sq km, bringing major urban transformations to Mathura, Agra, Aligarh, and Hathras.

## **Four Key Urban Centers in Phase II..**

YEIDA Phase II will establish four major urban centres:

- Raya Urban Center (Mathura)
- Tappal-Bajna Urban Center (Aligarh)
- Agra Urban Center
- Hathras Urban Center

Detailed project reports (DPRs) have been prepared for Raya and Tappal-Bajna Urban Centers, with developers being finalised. A consultant has been appointed for the Agra Urban Center, while hiring is in progress for Hathras Urban Center. The project will be fast-tracked, aligning with the upcoming Noida International Airport launch.

## **Key highlights**

A major highlight of YEIDA Phase II is the Heritage City in Mathura's Raya Urban Center, spanning 753 hectares and valued at ₹7,200 crore. This project aims to promote cultural tourism, attracting domestic and global visitors. Consultants have been appointed to prepare bid documents for a global tender to develop this landmark project.

The Tappal-Bajna Urban Center in Aligarh will feature a logistics park, designed to enhance cargo handling and boost industrial growth along the Yamuna Expressway corridor.

YEIDA also plans to develop a Heritage City in Agra, located along both sides of the Yamuna Expressway. A private consultant has been assigned to prepare the detailed master plan, with completion expected within nine months. This initiative will further strengthen Agra's cultural and economic landscape.

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## **25,000 km to Get Four Lanes for Rs 10 Trillion**

CW Team,

April 01, 2025

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, announced on Thursday that 25,000 km of two-lane highways across India will be upgraded to four lanes at an estimated cost of Rs 10 trillion. "We are planning to convert 25,000 km of two-lane highways into four-lane highways

at a cost of Rs 10 trillion. The detailed project reports (DPRs) are being prepared, and we aim to complete the work within two years," he stated during the Question Hour in Lok Sabha.

Additionally, the government will upgrade 16,000 km of national highways to six lanes, requiring an investment of Rs 6 trillion.

Gadkari emphasised the government's commitment to reducing road accidents and enhancing road infrastructure, noting that India loses 3% of its GDP annually due to road accidents.

The Centre is prioritising highway development in Jammu & Kashmir, the Northeast, and hilly regions such as Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. In J&K alone, road projects worth ₹2 lakh crore are in progress, including 105 tunnels aimed at improving connectivity.

Among these, the Zojila tunnel—set to be the longest in Asia—will be completed for around ₹5,500 crore, significantly lower than the initial Rs 120 billion estimate. Work is also progressing on the Jammu-Srinagar highway, where 36 tunnels are planned, 22 of which have been completed. Once finished, the travel time between Jammu and Srinagar will be cut from seven hours to just three to three and a half hours.

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**Rs 3,712 Crore Four-Lane Access Controlled Patna-Arrah-Sasaram Corridor In Bihar Gets Union Cabinet Nod—All About It**  
Swarajya,  
April 01, 2025



Map of Patna-Arrah-Sasaram corridor (Pic Via PIB)

In a big connectivity boost for Bihar, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the construction of four-lane access controlled greenfield

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and brownfield Patna–Arrah–Sasaram corridor starting from Patna to Sasaram (120.10 km) in Bihar.

The 120-km long project will be developed on Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM) at a total capital cost of Rs 3,712.40 crore, according to a government statement.

At present, travel between these cities via existing state highways takes between 3 to 4 hours due to heavy traffic.

The newly approved corridor, which includes both greenfield development and the upgradation of 10.6 km of existing brownfield highway, is expected to significantly reduce travel time while addressing congestion in key areas like Arrah, Grahini, Piro, Bikramganj, Mokar, and Sasaram.

The project alignment integrates with major transport corridors, including NH-19, NH-319, NH-922, NH-131G, and NH-120, providing seamless connectivity to Aurangabad, Kaimur, and Patna.

Additionally, the project will also provide connectivity to two airports, Patna’s Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport and upcoming Bihita airport, four major railway stations (Sasaram, Arrah, Danapur, Patna), and one Inland Water Terminal (Patna), and enhance direct access to Patna Ring Road, facilitating faster movement of goods and passengers.

Upon completion, the Patna-Arrah-Sasaram Corridor will play a key role in regional economic growth, improving connectivity between Lucknow, Patna, Ranchi, and Varanasi, the statement said.

According to the statement, the project will also generate 48 lakh man days employment, and will open new avenues of growth, development and prosperity in developing regions in and around Patna.

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## Rishikesh-Karnaprayag Rail Line Project: Nine Out Of 16 Mainline Tunnels, Eight Major Bridges Completed

Swarajya,  
April 01, 2025

Once fully operational, the Rishikesh-Karnaprayag rail line will transform travel to the Char Dham

Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has stated that nine out of the 16 mainline tunnels have been completed on the Rishikesh-Karnaprayag railway project in Uttarakhand.

The 125-kilometre rail line, which passes through challenging Himalayan terrain, passes through Dehradun, Tehri Garhwal, Pauri Garhwal, Rudrapryag and Chamoli districts of Uttarakhand and will provide rail connectivity to the hilly regions of the state.

It will connect religious and tourist spots in Uttarakhand with Rishikesh and Delhi.

With 84 per cent of its total length, the alignment of the project predominantly passes through tunnels.

The project involves the construction of 16 mainline tunnels, totaling 105 kilometers, and 12 escape tunnels, covering 98 kilometers.

"So far, 9 main line tunnels of 94 Km length and 8 escape tunnels of over 88 km length have been completed," Vainshaw said in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha.

To expedite progress, 8 adits, additional tunnel excavation openings, were also identified, and work on all of them, covering 4.822 kilometers, has been finished.

The longest tunnel of the project, Tunnel T8, will span 14.59 kilometers, making it the longest railway tunnel in India once completed.

"Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) has been deployed for construction of this tunnel," the minister said, adding that the tunneling is being carried out with all precautions and latest technology to ensure minimum damage to ecology and surroundings.

In addition to the tunnels, 8 out of the 19 major bridges have also been completed.

"The project also involves construction of 19 Important./Major Bridges. 8 out of 19 Important/major bridges have also been completed. Works in balance bridges have also been taken up," the minister said.

As part of the project, 12 new railway stations are also being constructed. These are Yognagari Rishikesh , Shivpuri, Byasi, Devprayag, Janasu, Maletha, Ranihat Naithan (Srinagar), Dhari Devi, Tilani, Gholtir, Gauchar and Karnprayag.

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