

# NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

THURSDAY, APRIL 15 - 16, 2026

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## PM Modi To Inaugurate 594 Km Ganga Expressway From Prayagraj To Meerut On 29 April

Swarajya,  
April 16, 2026

Ganga Expressway, stretching 594 km between Prayagraj and Meerut, is set to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 29 April.

The foundation stone for the project was earlier laid in Shahjahanpur, while the inauguration ceremony is planned in Hardoi district.

Officials have identified Salempur village in Mallawan tehsil as the event site, with senior administrative teams already on the ground coordinating arrangements and sharing updates with the Prime Minister's Office.

Hardoi accounts for the longest stretch of the expressway, underlining its strategic importance within the project. Designed to significantly cut travel time between western and eastern Uttar Pradesh, the corridor is also being equipped with advanced safety systems.

One of the standout features is the installation of rumble strips at regular intervals. These raised markings create vibrations when vehicles pass over them, helping alert drivers who may be fatigued or drowsy.

The measure is aimed at reducing accidents caused by momentary lapses in attention during high-speed travel.

Authorities have emphasised that the expressway is not just about faster connectivity but also safer journeys.

Given the high speeds expected on the corridor, systems such as real-time speed monitoring will be deployed to curb overspeeding and enhance enforcement.

In addition, trauma centres are being set up along the route to ensure prompt medical assistance in case of emergencies.

The expressway is also designed for future expansion, with provisions to widen it up to eight lanes as traffic demand increases.

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## Delhi–Dehradun Expressway Set For Mussoorie Extension As Rs 1.3 Lakh Crore Road Push Accelerates Across Uttarakhand

Swarajya,  
April 15, 2026

Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on Tuesday (14 April) announced that the Delhi–Dehradun Expressway will be extended to Mussoorie following the inauguration of the corridor.

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The announcement comes alongside updates on a series of major road infrastructure projects underway across Uttarakhand.

Gadkari noted that a 51 km, six-lane stretch connecting the Saharanpur Bypass to Haridwar is expected to be inaugurated in June, signalling steady progress on key corridors.

Highlighting the scale of investment in the state, the minister said projects worth Rs 1.3 lakh crore have been undertaken since the NDA government assumed office.

Of these, works worth Rs 25,000 crore have already been completed, while projects valued at Rs 35,000 crore are currently under construction. Detailed project reports have also been prepared for additional projects worth Rs 80,000 crore.

Significant progress has also been reported on the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra route. A 370 km road linking Tanakpur with Pithoragarh and Lipulekh is being developed, with around 200 km already completed and the remaining stretch expected to be finished within a year.

To address recurring landslide issues in the hilly terrain, the government is working on a mitigation strategy in collaboration with a Switzerland-based institute and local experts.

Gadkari said Rs 4,300 crore has been sanctioned for 296 such projects, while black spot rectification works have been completed at Rs 907 crore.

The Paonta Sahib–Dehradun four-lane road, built for Rs 1,650 crore, will be operational by next month.

The four-lane greenfield bypass Phase 1 in Haridwar, being constructed at a cost of Rs 1,600 crore, is expected to be completed by October 2026, Gadkari said, adding that work on the Rs 1,100 crore Rishikesh bypass will begin by August.

Further projects, including bypasses in Rudrapur and Kashipur and elevated corridors in Dehradun, are progressing on schedule. The Char Dham road project has also seen substantial advancement, with 640 km of the 825 km network already completed.

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## CM Siddaramaiah Seeks Rs 6,000 Crore For Bengaluru, Pushes Rail, Highway And Pending Grant Demands In Memorandum To PM Modi

PTI,

April 16, 2026

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to approve a special financial package of Rs 6,000 crore for Bengaluru, positioning the request as essential to sustain the city's infrastructure growth and global competitiveness.

The appeal was made through a detailed memorandum submitted during the Prime Minister's visit to the state, outlining 17 key demands.

The Chief Minister underscored Bengaluru's role as a major contributor to India's economy, arguing that the city requires targeted support to maintain its momentum.

Among the prominent proposals was the inclusion of the Bengaluru–Mysuru route in the planned high-speed rail network. The state government believes this would improve connectivity while supporting more balanced regional development.

It also called for faster execution of the Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project and sought the initiation of a Bengaluru–Mumbai high-speed corridor to better link northern Karnataka regions.

The memorandum also raised concerns over delays in the proposed railway coach factory, despite the state having already allocated over 1,100 acres of land. Reviving the project, the state said, could generate employment and boost industrial activity, particularly in the Kolar region.

Financial issues featured prominently in the submission. The Chief Minister pointed out that Karnataka is yet to receive Rs 2,860 crore in grants for the current financial year, despite meeting required conditions. He stressed that timely fund release is vital for rural infrastructure and essential public services.

In addition, the state sought expedited approval of pending national highway projects, noting the absence of significant new allocations over the past decade.

It also requested the release of Finance Commission-recommended funds and dues for centrally sponsored schemes, including those linked to drinking water access.

"Karnataka remains a leading contributor to the national exchequer, yet several long-pending issues require urgent attention. Addressing these will accelerate the state's growth and reinforce cooperative federalism," Siddaramaiah said in the memorandum.

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## Weak grid infrastructure, land access, financial barriers for developers slowed PM-KUSUM's progress: Study

The Economic Times,  
April 16, 2026

### **Synopsis**

*India's flagship PM-KUSUM solar program for farmers faces significant challenges. Weak grid infrastructure, funding issues for small developers, land acquisition problems, and low electricity prices hinder its progress. While the scheme aims to boost farmer income and reduce diesel use, only a fraction of its solar capacity target has been achieved.*

Weak grid infrastructure, financial barriers for small developers, land access and low tariff rates are among the key hurdles that have slowed the progress of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM), India's flagship programme to promote solar energy in agriculture, according to a new analysis.

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While the scheme aimed to install 34.8 GW of solar capacity by March 2026 -- the end of its first phase -- only 14 GW has so far come online.

PM-KUSUM is a significant initiative as it aims to provide energy and water security to farmers, enhance their income, de-dieselise the farm sector and reduce environmental pollution.

The gaps were raised in "Scaling Solar Power for Irrigation in India: Lessons from PM-KUSUM", an analysis published on April 8.

It was carried out by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP) and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD).

Talking to PTI, Anas Rahman, senior policy advisor at the IISD, said, "While most states were able to tackle the issue of low tariff rates in recent years, grid infrastructure and land availability still remain a challenge. These need to be tackled as the scheme's second phase is rolled out."

Rahman noted that the target solar capacity should be met in the following months, as many projects are in the pipeline.

In an office memorandum issued on March 28, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy said, "For the completion of the PM KUSUM projects where PPAs (Power Purchase Agreements)/NTPs (Notices to Proceed) are signed/issued on or before 31.12.2025 only, it is decided to provide the extension of timelines till 31.03.2027."

The ministry also requested the states "to coordinate with banks to facilitate loans and financial closure of the projects, beyond 31.03.2026, as the current scheme is proposed to be subsumed under PM KUSUM 2.0".

### **Components of PM-KUSUM**

The scheme was launched in 2019 and had three components. Under Component A, farmers can install solar power plants (between 0.5 MW and 2 MW capacity) on their land, connect them to the grid and sell the power for additional income. There is no government subsidy in this component -- farmers bear the entire investment.

Component B involves installing off-grid solar irrigation pumps, meaning a small solar panel at a field powers an irrigation pump that is not connected to the grid. The component aims to replace costly diesel pumps, which also pollute the environment. The off-grid solar irrigation pumps are provided at subsidised costs, shared between the Centre and the respective state governments.

Component C has two parts. The C-IPS (Individual Pump Solarisation), where a small solar plant is set up in each field, similar to rooftop solar, and allows farmers to use the power and sell the excess to the DISCOMs (electricity distribution companies).

The C-FLS (Feeder-Level Solarisation) involves installing a larger solar plant near an electric substation from where power is supplied to all the farmers connected to it through a feeder line.

"The C-FLS was added later in the scheme. That is because the C-IPS did not get much traction as under it, farmers are required to contribute at least 10 per cent of the plant's cost, which many were unwilling to do. The C-FLS allowed DISCOMs to invest in the solar plant. While this means that farmers cannot sell power back for income, they receive daytime power without having to invest," said Rahman.

### **The challenges**

The report focussed on two components of the scheme, Component A and C-FLS, which could only meet just 8.4 per cent and 38.2 per cent of their targets respectively. Compared to these two components, Component B fared much better and added 7.54 GW of solar power.

According to a release issued by the Press Information Bureau in December last year, as of October 2025, more than nine lakh standalone pumps were installed under Component B.

"Under Component C, a total of 10,535 grid-connected solar pumps have been solarised, and 9,74,458 Feeder-Level Solarisation (FLS) pumps have been completed," the release said.

In the initial years, PM-KUSUM's progress was largely slowed by the fact that developers did not bid for tenders for installing solar power plants under Component A and C-FLS.

"It happened because state governments set maximum tariffs (price paid for solar electricity) based on large solar parks (around Rs 3), which was not feasible for smaller, distributed plants with higher logistical costs. Tenders saw no takers for years until states allowed competitive bidding without fixed caps," Rahman said.

Another issue has been finding suitable land for installing solar plants, especially under the C-FLS component.

For instance, developers could not find affordable land near substations, which are typically in agriculturally-intensive areas where land is expensive.

For a solar power plant to be profitable, it needs to be within a five-kilometre range of a substation, making the cost of setting up the electric lines low and ensuring less transmission losses.

Also, it was difficult for developers to find farmers who were willing to lease their land for the installation of solar plants.

Under the scheme, many were new entrants and small developers, and could not finance the solar power plants.

"As DISCOMs are financially weak, banks were hesitant to lend to developers for fear that they would not be paid," Rahman said.

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Weak rural distribution grids also posed an issue, as they suffered from chronic undervoltage during the irrigation season and overvoltage with reverse power flow during off-season.

This led to frequent solar-plant shutdowns and power-generation loss for developers.

Rahman noted that with PM-KUSUM entering the next phase, there is a need to resolve these issues to make solar irrigation financially sustainable for both utilities and farmers.

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## 5 MW Turbine Prototype With 26,600 Square Metre Swept Area Commissioned By Adani Wind At Mundra Facility

Business Standard,  
April 16, 2026

Adani Wind commissioned a five-megawatt wind turbine prototype at its Mundra facility in Gujarat, featuring a 185-metre rotor diameter and 91.2-metre blades amongst the largest currently operating in India.

The installation marks a significant step in the country's transition to higher-capacity turbines as developers seek to extract greater output from increasingly constrained land resources.

The new platform was developed through collaboration between Adani Wind's engineering teams in India and WindtoEnergy, Germany, incorporating features tailored to local operating conditions.

With a swept area of 26,600 square metres, the machine is designed for low to medium wind regimes, enabling higher energy capture and improved efficiency across diverse sites nationwide.

The move comes as India emerged as the largest wind market outside China in 2025, with global installations reaching a record 169 gigawatts.

Adani Wind featured as India's only wind turbine maker in BloombergNEF's global Top 15 rankings, signalling the country's growing role in the clean-energy supply chain.

India currently ranks fourth globally in cumulative installed wind capacity at approximately 55 gigawatts, with technical potential exceeding 1,100 gigawatts.

Adani Wind plans to expand its manufacturing capacity from 2.25 gigawatts to five gigawatts annually, with a longer-term target of 10 gigawatts.

The company has initiated global engagement, including exports of blade sets to Europe with anti-icing technology, while ongoing discussions continue in markets such as the United States, Australia, Brazil and Southeast Asia.

Four of Adani Wind's existing variants are already listed under the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy's Approved List of Models and Manufacturers, the government's mandatory empanelment framework for wind turbine deployment.

Certification and inclusion of the new five-megawatt model are expected in the coming months, positioning it to cater to wider low and medium-wind sites across the country.

India's wind manufacturing ecosystem has expanded rapidly, with domestic capacity increasing from around 12 gigawatts in 2022 to nearly 20 gigawatts.

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## Cementing trust and value in infrastructure market

Construction Week Online,  
April 15, 2026

### *Construction quality and timely delivery drive asset value and investor trust*

While superior exteriors and modern facilities are important, construction quality and timely project delivery are major determinants of returns in the industry.

Developers, builders, and investors who want to build India's cities need a dialogue that extends beyond basic building measurements and exterior design elements. The essential components that drive continuous business success and create a lasting corporate image are superior building workmanship and strict adherence to scheduled project delivery dates. The company uses these metrics to market its products, which serve as essential evaluation criteria that determine asset worth, investor trust, and brand value over time. The ability to control these factors enables businesses to attain leadership positions in an industry that faces both intense competition and constant evaluation.

### **Build integrity and asset valuation**

To view construction quality as a cost centre is a profound strategic error. In reality, it is the most powerful driver of premium valuation. A commercial or residential asset renowned for structural soundness, superior material specifications, and flawless finishing does not merely sell. Rather, it commands a premium and appreciates predictably. This is because quality directly dictates the total cost of ownership for the end-buyer or occupier, a calculation increasingly made by savvy investors and corporate tenants.

The financial burden of buildings that undergo repairs and experience water leaks and system breakdowns begins when their market value drops because their list of defects increases. Projects that reach exceptional delivery standards become blue-chip assets that draw institutional investors while maintaining strong market performance during times of economic downturn. The message is clear: the initial capital allocated to quality is not an expense but a strategic investment in the asset's future revenue-generating potential.

### **Financial viability**

Project finance and stakeholder management consider timely delivery as their primary measure of credibility. The exact schedule for project execution shows complete operational efficiency together with strong financial management and trustworthy leadership. Thus, the

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completion of projects according to their scheduled dates enables developers to maintain their financial margins because it helps them manage their financing expenses and avoid penalty fees while they rapidly reinvest their capital into upcoming projects.

The complete consequences of persistent delays create multiple serious impacts that extend beyond the initial assessment of the issue. Project management deficiencies, together with liquidity problems and weak supply chain management, create warning signals that decrease trust from banks, private equity partners, and pre-sale buyers. Project costs face escalation because of two factors: firstly, extended construction financing and secondly, potential legal charges from delayed property possession. In a sector where reputation precedes the next deal, a history of delayed deliveries closes more doors than any economic downturn.

### **B2B engagements**

In the interconnected ecosystem of real estate development, trust is the indispensable lubricant for all transactions. The establishment of trust requires actual delivery of results instead of making promises that remain unfulfilled. When a developer consistently delivers projects that meet the highest quality standards within the agreed time frame, they create an asset that develops into a trustworthy brand. The business gains a competitive advantage through its established reputation, which enables it to negotiate better joint venture contracts, attract investors during future funding rounds, and maintain customer loyalty from B2B clients, including NRIs and institutional funds, who prefer predictable outcomes.

### **Cost of compromise**

The consequences that result from compromising the fundamental principles discussed above create permanent and disastrous effects. The organisation fails because it builds substandard construction work, which serves as its most obvious failing. The process results in numerous warranty claims, together with lawsuits and public relations issues, which damage all ongoing projects. The organisation faces branding challenges because it displays operational carelessness, which results in lost trust from top architects, engineering firms, and tier-1 contractors who build their reputations through business partnerships. The pattern of failing to meet deadlines creates an image of operational disarray, which makes it extremely challenging to bring in pre-sales, establish commercial space anchor tenants, and complete future development stages. The expenses required to restore a damaged brand exceed all costs associated with executing strict quality assurance and project management procedures from the beginning.

### **Operational discipline**

Any organisation achieves successful delivery of services because of its operational discipline. The organisation needs to establish strong operational procedures, which include specific material procurement guidelines, ongoing training for skilled workers, and project monitoring through technological solutions, and all employees, from site supervisors to executives, must practise accountability. The organisation needs to establish open communication channels with all business-to-business partners while delivering actual progress updates instead of using non-specific future estimates to manage partner expectations.

An industry leader who wants to succeed in future markets must achieve excellence through these specific competencies. The organisation needs this strategy because it helps them command high product prices, obtain repeat customers, and build an enduring business model that maintains its competitive edge through all future projects.

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