

# NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 04, 05, 06, 2025

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**Rs 13.59 Lakh Crore Worth Infra Projects Evaluated Under PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan Since 2021: Govt Tells Lok Sabha PTI,**  
August 06, 2025



*Rail track work on Padma bridge project (CREC). (Representative image)*

The Centre on Tuesday (5 August) said that infrastructure projects worth over Rs 13.59 Lakh Crore have been evaluated through the Network Planning Group (NPG) mechanism under the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (NMP).

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada said, "PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (PMGS NMP) was launched in October 2021. Since the launch, substantial progress has been made, which includes development of the geospatial platform, integration of multiple georeferenced data, provision of planning tools/software for planning infrastructure projects (including socio-economic infrastructure), and capacity building".

"Mechanism of Network Planning Group(NPG) has been institutionalised, under which infrastructure projects are evaluated for integrated planning, multimodality, inter-modality, synchronization of efforts, whole of Government approach and Last-mile connectivity in and around the project catchment area. So far, 293 infrastructure projects amounting to Rs. 13.59 Lakh Crore have been evaluated through the NPG mechanism," the minister added.

Prasada stated that 57 Central Ministries and Departments—including eight infrastructure, 22 social, and 27 economic/other ministries—have been onboarded onto the PM Gati Shakti platform.

Additionally, all 36 States and Union Territories have joined the initiative, contributing to over 1,700 mapped data layers.

The platform integrates geospatial data, supports inter-ministerial coordination, and enables infrastructure planning with a "whole-of-government" approach.

It has institutionalised planning tools and a capacity-building programme for officers. Over 25,000 officers have been trained through 280+ workshops since 2021, according to the minister.

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## Rs 10,749 Crore National Highway Push In Karnataka: 23 Major Projects Targeted For Completion By FY26

Swarajya,  
August 06, 2025



*(Representative image) - Karnataka, already a key hub for NHAI, is expected to benefit significantly with this push.*

The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has said that 23 National Highway (NH) projects, spanning nearly 600 km and costing an estimated Rs 10,749 crore, are slated for completion in Karnataka by the end of the 2025–26 fiscal year.

In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said the projects include key stretches such as the TN/Karnataka border to Hoskote section of NH-648, multiple Tumkur–Shivamogga packages on NH-69 and NH-73, a new six-lane bridge across the Phalguni River on NH-766, and bypasses in Hassan, Maski, and Chintamani.

However, the projects are not without challenges.

The minister admitted that several works are facing delays due to persistent land acquisition hurdles.

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Problems range from pending compensation disbursements and delays in announcing land awards to difficulties in securing forest clearances.

While, the Tumkur–Shivamogga corridor (NH-69 & 73) has stalled because of disputes in Bendekere village due to villagers' demand of "enhance compnesation", while farmers objecting to "possession of land in Court deposit survey numbers" and other factors have hampered progress along the Belgaum–Hungund–Raichur stretch of NH-748A.

"Regular review meetings are held at various levels with the State Government to ensure effective coordination for timely implementation," Gadkari stated, underlining the central and state government's efforts to resolve bottlenecks quickly.

Karnataka, already a key hub for the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), is expected to benefit significantly from these upgrades.

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## 35,335 Km Of Highways Built Since 2022; Over 2,700 Km Of Expressways Operationalised: Government

Swarajya,  
August 06, 2025



National Highways (Representative Image)

The Government has constructed a total of 35,335 km of National Highways across India during the last three years and the current year, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, informed the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday (6 August).

The large-scale construction activity has also contributed significantly to employment. The projects generated an estimated 48.87 crore man-days of direct employment and 57.81 crore man-days of indirect employment.

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As part of its strategy under the Viksit Bharat@2047 vision, the government has also accelerated the development of Access Controlled National High-Speed Corridors (HSCs) and Expressways.

Out of the planned 8,391 km of such access-controlled corridors, 5,110 km have already been constructed, with 2,730 km fully operationalised and open to traffic.

These projects aim to improve national logistics efficiency, decongest urban traffic choke points, and boost connectivity to ports and economic hubs.

The Centre is also "taking up development of ring roads, bypasses and elevated corridors in major cities/urban centres and state capitals, in consultation with State Governments, to decongest traffic and alleviate choke/congestion points on National Highways (NHs) and improving the port connectivity," Gadkari said.

To further enhance efficiency on the roads, the ministry is deploying digital infrastructure like FASTag-based tolling, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) based traffic management, etc.

The safety measures being deployed on the roads include installation of Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) in Four lane and above NHs.

"ATMS has provisions for various electronic enforcement devices which help in speedy identification of incidents (including traffic violations) on the highway stretches and effectively monitor the highways, thereby improving incident response time and road safety," Gadkari said.

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## **Rs 22,864 Crore Greenfield Shillong-Silchar Highway Advances: Meghalaya Begins Land Acquisition For The Northeast Connectivity Project**

The Economic Times,  
August 06, 2025





*Representative Image*

The Meghalaya government has started the land acquisition process for the proposed Rs 22,864 crore Shillong–Silchar high-speed corridor, a greenfield four-lane highway aimed at transforming connectivity in the Northeast, The Hindu reported.

The 166.80 km corridor will begin at Mawlyngkhung near Shillong and end at Panchgram in Assam's Barak Valley, officials said on Tuesday (5 August).

The project, to be executed by the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), will pass through Meghalaya's Ri-Bhoi district.

Of the total length, 144.80 km lies in Meghalaya and the remaining 22 km in Assam.

Seventeen villages in Ri-Bhoi have been identified for land acquisition, including Pyllun, Umeit, Umroi Labansaro, Nongrah, Nonglakhia, Wahmyntait, and Lumsophoh.

In a notification, Ri-Bhoi Deputy Commissioner Abhilash Baranwal urged residents not to undertake any new construction or development activity within the alignment area without prior permission from his office.

"It is hereby clearly stated that any unauthorised structures, whether temporary or permanent, erected within the proposed alignment after the issuance of this notice will not be considered eligible for any compensation at the time of land acquisition or project implementation," the notification stated.

As per an official statement issued on 30 April, the new corridor aims to ease traffic between Guwahati and Silchar, thereby strengthening connectivity to Tripura, Mizoram, Manipur, and the Barak Valley region.

The project is expected to cut down both travel time and distance, improving nationwide logistics efficiency.

It is also set to spur economic development in Meghalaya, particularly in cement and coal-producing areas, while boosting tourism by linking several scenic destinations across the northeast.

The corridor will connect the airports at Guwahati, Shillong, and Silchar via the existing NH-06, improving access for domestic and international travellers.

Traversing through Meghalaya's Ri-Bhoi, East Khasi Hills, West Jaintia Hills, East Jaintia Hills, and Assam's Cachar district, the corridor is expected to decongest NH-06 and strengthen regional transport infrastructure in line with the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan.

The alignment will integrate with key national highways including NH-27, NH-106, NH-206, and NH-37, ensuring smooth connectivity to important locations such as Diengpasoh, Ummulong, Phramer, Khlieriat, Ratachera, Umkiang, Kalain, and others.

The move marks a key step forward for the ambitious infrastructure project, which is expected to significantly enhance trade, mobility, and regional development in Northeastern states.

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## Char Dham Rail Project In Uttarakhand: Final Location Survey Over, Next Steps Await DPR Finalisation

Swarajya,  
August 06, 2025



(Clockwise from top-left): Kedarnath, Badrinath, Gangotri and Yamunotri.

The Indian Railways is making headway on its ambitious Char Dham rail connectivity project aimed at linking the sacred shrines of Gangotri, Yamunotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath in Uttarakhand to the national railway grid.

The project has two alignments — (i) Doiwala-Uttarkashi-Barkot which will serve Yamnotari and Gangotri shrines (ii) Karnaprayag-Saikot-Soneprayag- Joshimath will serve Kedarnath and Badrinath shrines.

According to the Rail Ministry, the Final Location Survey (FLS) for the Char Dham rail project has been completed.

"The Final Location Survey of Chardham Project- connectivity link to Gangotri, Yamunotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath with Indian Railways has been completed," Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday (6 August).

The project, once approved, is expected to significantly enhance religious tourism and improve strategic connectivity in the fragile Himalayan region.

The government has once the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the project is firmed up, it will require a multi-stage clearance process involving stakeholder consultation, NITI Aayog appraisal, and sanction from the Ministry of Finance, among others.

It added that project sanctioning is a “continuous and dynamic process” and exact timelines cannot be fixed.

As a precursor to this project, the Rishikesh–Karnaprayag new rail line—which overlaps with the proposed Badrinath–Kedarnath corridor—is already under construction.

Spanning 125 km, the project has progressed through extremely difficult terrain across five Uttarakhand districts and involves over 210 km of tunneling.

So far, 199 km of tunneling has been completed, including the breakthrough of the 14.8 km Tunnel T-8, a first in Himalayan geology using Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs).

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**PM Modi Inaugurates Kartavya Bhavan-3, Smart Eco-Friendly Complex To House Home, External Affairs, Oil And Other Ministries—All About It**  
Business Standard,  
August 05, 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kartavya Bhavan at Kartavya Path in New Delhi on Wednesday (6 August).

Kartavya Bhavan-3, which is being inaugurated, is part of the broader transformation of the Central Vista.

It is the first among several upcoming Common Central Secretariat buildings that aim to streamline administrative processes and enable agile governance.

By co-locating Ministries and adopting cutting-edge infrastructure, the Common Central Secretariat project, part of the government’s broader administrative reform agenda, will improve inter-



ministerial coordination, accelerate policy execution, and foster a responsive administrative ecosystem.

At present, many key Ministries function from aging buildings like Shastri Bhawan, Krishi Bhawan, Udyog Bhawan, and Nirman Bhawan, constructed between the 1950s and 1970s, which are now structurally outdated and inefficient.

The new facilities will reduce repair and maintenance costs, boost productivity, improve employee well-being, and enhance overall service delivery.

Kartavya Bhavan-3 has been designed to foster efficiency, innovation, and collaboration by bringing together various ministries and departments currently scattered across Delhi.

It will be a state-of-the-art office complex spanning an area of around 1.5 lakh square meters across two basements and seven levels (Ground + six floors).

It will house offices of the ministries/departments of Home Affairs, External Affairs, Rural Development, MSME, DoPT, Petroleum and Natural Gas, and the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA).

The new building will exemplify modern governance infrastructure featuring IT-ready and secure workspaces, ID card-based access controls, integrated electronic surveillance, and a centralised command system.

It will also lead in sustainability, targeting a GRIHA-4 rating with double-glazed façades, rooftop solar, solar water heating, advanced HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) systems, and rainwater harvesting.

The facility will promote eco-consciousness through zero-discharge waste management, in-house solid waste processing, e-vehicle charging stations, and extensive use of recycled construction material.

As a zero-discharge campus, Kartavya Bhavan treats and reuses wastewater to meet a major chunk of water needs.

The building uses recycled construction and demolition waste in masonry and paving blocks, lightweight dry partitions to reduce topsoil use and structural load, and features an in-house solid waste management system.

The building is designed to use 30 per cent less energy and has special glass windows to keep the building cool and reduce outside noise.

Energy-saving LED lights, sensors that switch off lights when not needed, smart lifts that save power, and an advanced system to manage electricity use will all help save energy.

Solar panels on the roof of Kartavya Bhavan-3 will generate over 5.34 lakh units of electricity every year and the solar water heaters will meet more than a quarter of the daily hot water need.

Further, keeping in view the rising use of EVs, charging stations for electric vehicles are also provided in the building.

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## **Rs 4,028 Crore High-Speed Road Corridor To Link Vadhavan Port With Samruddhi Mahamarg**

The Hindu,  
August 06, 2025

The Maharashtra cabinet has approved a 104.9 km expressway to directly link the upcoming Vadhavan Transshipment Port in Palghar district with the Hindu Hruday Samrat Balasaheb Thackeray Maharashtra Samruddhi Mahamarg, an official statement said.

The decision was taken at a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday (5 August).

The project, to be executed by the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC), carries a total investment of Rs 4,028 crore.

This includes a loan of Rs 1,500 crore from HUDCO alongside a state provision of Rs 2,528.9 crore. The work is expected to be completed within three years.

Vadhavan Port, being developed under Vadhavan Port Project Limited, is envisaged as one of India's major transshipment hubs.

The new expressway is expected to enable faster and more affordable movement of international cargo from the port to markets across the country.

At present, goods have to travel an additional 82 km via the Bharvir-Amne link to the Vadodara–Mumbai Expressway, significantly increasing both costs and travel time.

By creating a direct corridor, the new route will reduce the distance between Tawa Bharvir and the Vadodara–Mumbai Expressway from 183.5 km to 104.9 km.

Travel time from Vadhavan Port to Bharvir will fall dramatically, from the current 4–5 hours to just 1–1.5 hours.

The corridor will run through Dahanu, Vikramgad, Jawhar and Mokhada in Palghar, and Trimbakeshwar and Igatpuri in Nashik, expanding connectivity for local industries.

Faster freight movement is expected to attract small, medium and heavy industries, IT firms, and agro-industrial centres while offering better markets and employment opportunities for local communities.

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**BMC To Deploy 200 Extra Engineers For Versova-Dahisar Link Road, Fast-Tracks Coastal Road Phase II**  
Swarajya,

August 04, 2025

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has proposed deploying nearly 200 additional engineers to oversee the 20-km Versova-Dahisar Link Road (VDLR), pegged at Rs 16,621 crore, The Free Press Journal reported.

The proposal awaits clearance from Municipal Commissioner Bhushan Gagrani.

With major infrastructure projects like the Goregaon-Mulund Link Road (GMLR), Madh-Versova bridge, and several bridge reconstructions underway, the civic body is grappling with a manpower crunch in its Bridges Department which prompted this decision.

Simultaneously, the BMC has fast-tracked Phase II of the Mumbai Coastal Road Project (MCRP), following a state directive.

Like Phase I, which stretches 10.58 km from Marine Drive to Bandra-Worli Sea Link, Phase II will have a dedicated team and feature tunnels, a cable-stayed bridge, and key interchanges for improved north-south traffic flow.

Construction of a 5.6 km elevated road from Dahisar to Bhayandar, approved at Rs 3,304 crore, will also begin this August.

With completion expected by December 2028, officials say the project will slash commute time from 90–120 minutes to just 15–20 minutes, cutting emissions by 55 per cent through reduced fuel usage.

Civil work for VDLR will commence in September, with machinery mobilisation and casting yard setup.

A tunnel boring machine is expected to start work on the Mindspace (Malad), Charkop tunnel, which will eventually connect to the GMLR for better east-west connectivity.

“To ensure smooth execution, engineers from roads, sewerage, and water supply departments will be involved in contractor oversight, technical support, and progress tracking,” a senior civic official was quoted as saying by The Free Press Journal, adding that this team will also assist with other ongoing infrastructure efforts.

Meanwhile, the team managing Phase I will continue its role, as the department also handles its maintenance and unfinished works, like developing walkways and open spaces.

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