

NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025

[^ TOP](#)

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- ✚ [Smart Cities Mission: 7,741 Of 8,064 Projects Worth Over Rs 1.55 Lakh Crore Completed](#)
- ✚ [Rs 1.5 Lakh Crore Road Projects Approved For Maharashtra; New Pune–Sambhajinagar, Mumbai–Pune Expressways In Pipeline](#)
- ✚ [Maharashtra Charts Big Infrastructure Push With Mumbai–Hyderabad Expressway, Metro Network Expansion And New 'Navin Nagpur' Business District](#)
- ✚ [Navi Mumbai Airport Plans Third Runway, CIDCO Seeks Consultant For Long-Term Feasibility Study](#)
- ✚ [Fadnavis, Gadkari Review Long-Term Road And Metro Connectivity Plan For New Nagpur Airport](#)
- ✚ [247 Km Of Metro Rail Operational In Southern India, 251 Km Under Construction: Centre](#)

Smart Cities Mission: 7,741 Of 8,064 Projects Worth Over Rs 1.55 Lakh Crore Completed

Swarajya,
December 15, 2025

Out of a total 8,064 projects sanctioned under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), 7,741 projects have been completed across India, leaving 323 projects still ongoing, the government has informed the Rajya Sabha.

The completed projects account for works worth Rs 1,55,386 crore out of the total Rs 1,64,811 crore taken up under the mission.

The remaining projects, valued at Rs 9,425 crore, are currently under execution.

In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs stated that the Smart Cities Mission was aimed at developing 100 cities through an area-based approach—retrofitting, redevelopment, greenfield projects, pan-city smart solutions and covered sectors like mobility, WASH, governance, energy, and environment with each project having defined timelines.

"Under SCM, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Internet of Things (IoT) and data-driven systems like ICCCs, smart mobility, e-governance, smart water and waste management systems are being used to improve service delivery which promotes urban renewal through better roads, housing, public spaces, sustainability initiatives and citizen-centric infrastructure, resulting in safer, efficient and more liveable cities," the ministry said.

The government data shows that States and Union Territories have been able to claim central financial assistance of Rs 47,458 crore, which is about ninety-nine per cent of the total central share allocated for cities.

Out of this, utilisation stands at Rs 46,093 crore, translating to nearly ninety-seven per cent utilisation of the central funds released under the mission.

According to the ministry, the Smart Cities Mission has focused on improving liveability, sustainability, and citizen-centric service delivery by integrating transport systems, strengthening urban infrastructure, expanding green and public spaces, and digitising civic services.

[^ TOP](#)

Rs 1.5 Lakh Crore Road Projects Approved For Maharashtra; New Pune–Sambhajinagar, Mumbai–Pune Expressways In Pipeline

Swarajya,
December 15, 2025

Maharashtra is poised for a massive expansion of its road infrastructure after the Centre approved projects worth Rs 1.50 lakh crore, with execution scheduled to begin in 2026.

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari announced the approvals on Saturday (13 December) while speaking to reporters at the Vidhan Bhavan in Mumbai, where the state legislature's session is currently underway.

Gadkari said preparatory work for several of the sanctioned projects would commence within the next three months. He was present at the legislature complex to attend an event commemorating the centenary celebrations of the Vidhan Parishad.

Among the key projects cleared is a new Pune–Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar expressway to be developed by the Maharashtra State Infrastructure Development Corporation (MSIDC) at an estimated cost of Rs 16,318 crore. An MoU for the project has already been processed.

Once completed, the expressway is expected to cut travel time between Pune and Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar to around two hours, while the onward journey to Nagpur will take about two-and-a-half hours.

The minister also said the 'bhoomipujan' for the Talegaon–Chakan–Shikrapur Elevated Road, a Rs 4,207 crore project, would be held after local body elections conclude.

In addition, the detailed project report for the Hadapsar–Yavat Elevated Road is currently being prepared, with construction slated to begin post-elections.

Focusing on Pune, Gadkari noted that road works worth Rs 50,000 crore have been approved for the region alone, with on-ground activity expected to start within the next three months.

Another major proposal includes a parallel expressway to the existing Pune–Mumbai route, estimated to cost Rs 15,000 crore.

This new corridor is projected to reduce travel time between Mumbai and Pune to about 90 minutes and enable Mumbai–Pune–Bengaluru travel in roughly five-and-a-half hours.

Overall, Gadkari reiterated that projects valued at Rs 1.50 lakh crore have been sanctioned for Maharashtra, with Rs 50,000 crore worth of works entrusted to the Public Works Department.

[^ TOP](#)

Maharashtra Charts Big Infrastructure Push With Mumbai–Hyderabad Expressway, Metro Network Expansion And New 'Navin Nagpur' Business District

Swarajya,
December 15, 2025

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Sunday (14 December) laid out an ambitious slate of infrastructure, transport and governance initiatives.

Replying to the concluding debate on the final day of the winter session of the state legislature, Fadnavis said the government was focused on accelerating development while strengthening law enforcement and improving quality of life.

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Jankalyan Expressway to Link Mumbai and Hyderabad

Among the headline announcements was the Jankalyan Expressway, a new 450 km access-controlled corridor linking Mumbai and Hyderabad via Kalyan and Latur.

Estimated to cost Rs 36,000 crore, the project is expected to shorten the current Mumbai–Hyderabad distance by nearly 180 km and cut travel time between Mumbai and Latur to around four-and-a-half hours.

Passing through Thane, Pune, Ahilyanagar, Beed and Latur districts, the corridor is also expected to improve regional connectivity.

Metro Network Set for Rapid Expansion

Urban transport featured prominently in the government's roadmap. Fadnavis said Mumbai's Metro network, which currently spans 91 km and carries around 9.5 lakh passengers daily, will be expanded to 132 km within the next two years.

He added that at least 50 km of new Metro lines are planned to be made operational every year. Pune and Nagpur, he noted, already have 33 km and 40 km of operational Metro corridors respectively.

Major Road, Tunnel and Coastal Projects Across MMR

These include a parallel expressway to the existing Mumbai–Pune corridor, the Orange Gate–Marine Drive tunnel, coastal road extensions from Versova to Uttan and Virar, the Thane–Borivli and Goregaon–Mulund tunnels, the Panvel coastal road near the upcoming Navi Mumbai airport, an Atal Setu interchange, the Pune ring road and several long-pending 'missing link' projects.

Navin Nagpur and Aviation Training Hub Announced

Beyond transport, the Chief Minister announced the development of 'Navin Nagpur', a new central business district spread across 1,710 hectares. Modelled on Mumbai's Bandra-Kurla Complex and Pune's Hinjewadi, the project is expected to generate over 500,000 jobs.

He also revealed plans for a modern air training centre in Amravati, to be developed with Air India's support, housing 34 trainer aircraft and 14 Piper aircraft.

[^ TOP](#)

Navi Mumbai Airport Plans Third Runway, CIDCO Seeks Consultant For Long-Term Feasibility Study

Swarajya,
December 15, 2025

With an eye on long-term aviation demand and rising air traffic across the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, the City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) has moved

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to explore the feasibility of adding a third parallel runway at the upcoming Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA).

CIDCO has invited bids to appoint a consultancy firm to carry out a detailed technical and commercial feasibility study for the proposed runway. The assignment will run for six months, with the e-tendering process now underway.

Online requests for proposals have been opened to eligible single entities as well as joint ventures or consortia, while detailed tender documents and timelines will be available on the CIDCO e-tendering portal from Tuesday (16 December).

Explaining the rationale behind the move, CIDCO Vice-Chairman and Managing Director Vijay Singhal was quoted as saying in a TOI report that:

“At present, Mumbai and the Mumbai Metropolitan Region are primarily served by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA), which has a limited passenger handling capacity of about 50-55 million passengers per annum (MPPA). With NMIA becoming operational on Dec 25, a planned multi-airport system will serve the region with a combined capacity of about 150 MPPA.”

Singhal added that while NMIA's phased expansion and capacity upgrades at CSMIA would meet medium-term growth, additional infrastructure would be required beyond 2037.

“While NMIA's upcoming expansion phases and capacity augmentation at CSMIA will address medium-term growth, additional infrastructure such as a third runway at NMIA is being examined to cater to long-term aviation demand beyond 2037.”

Spread over around 1,160 hectares, NMIA is planned as a major aviation hub with the capacity to handle 90 million passengers and 3.2 million tonnes of cargo annually.

The airport will feature two independent parallel runways and four interconnected terminals, with phased expansion scheduled through 2037.

[^ TOP](#)

Fadnavis, Gadkari Review Long-Term Road And Metro Connectivity Plan For New Nagpur Airport

Business Standard,
December 15, 2025

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari on Saturday (13 December) reviewed a comprehensive long-term access and exit strategy for the upcoming new Nagpur airport.

The high-level meeting, held at the Vidhan Bhavan, focused on shaping a future-ready egress plan that factors in rising passenger numbers, long-haul aircraft operations and the integration of road and urban transport infrastructure.

Officials said the final blueprint would be aligned with Nagpur's projected aviation growth and broader urban development needs.

Discussions centred on strengthening approach and exit roads connecting the airport to the city and national highways, alongside measures aimed at avoiding traffic bottlenecks as air traffic expands.

Guardian Minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule, MLC Parinay Fuke, district collector Vipin Itankar and senior officials from multiple departments were also present.

According to a Times of India report, a detailed presentation outlined proposed layouts for entry and exit points of the airport in the meeting.

"The new airport will be ahead of Khapri and the entry will also be from that side only. So in the presentation, some plans were shown on how the approach roads would be laid out, and the best options to allow easy entry and exit from all directions," the report stated.

Among the concepts discussed was an elevated access road feeding directly into the airport complex, enabling uninterrupted movement for through traffic.

"Another option was what they called a trumpet road design. This will help traffic exit smoothly towards the Chinchbhuwan or Khapri side. These are all ideas being discussed, and the final decisions will follow later, with specific teams from the state and the Centre coordinating on the project," the report added.

The meeting also touched upon Centre–state funding mechanisms and the integration of the Nagpur Metro with the airport.

"Most likely, it will be similar to the system on Wardha Road, where the metro track runs at the top, a flyover is one level below, and the ground-level road is at the bottom."

[^ TOP](#)

247 Km Of Metro Rail Operational In Southern India, 251 Km Under Construction: Centre

PTI,

December 15, 2025

India's metro rail network continues to expand steadily, reflecting sustained investment in urban mass transit.

At present, around 1,083 kilometres of metro rail network, including RRTS corridors, is operational across 25 cities nationwide, according to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, the ministry said, "About 1083 Kms of Metro Rail lines (including 55 Kms of Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat Regional Rapid Transit System) are operational in 25 different cities".

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In response to another question in the Lok Sabha, the ministry stated that metro rail projects are capital-intensive and require extensive appraisal under the Metro Rail Policy, 2017.

According to the ministry, project approvals are based on feasibility and resource availability, making it difficult to set fixed timelines for sanctions.

The ministry also detailed the progress of metro rail projects in South India.

According to the ministry, a total of 251.36 kilometres of new metro rail lines are currently under construction across Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala.

The ministry stated that 247.68 kilometres of metro rail network is already operational in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana and Kerala.

Karnataka leads southern India in under-construction metro projects with 121.16 kilometres, followed by Tamil Nadu with 119 kilometres and Kerala with 11.2 kilometres.

In terms of operational networks, Karnataka remains ahead with 96.1 kilometres, followed by Telangana at 69 kilometres, Tamil Nadu at 54.10 kilometres and Kerala at 28.48 kilometres.

[^ TOP](#)