

NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23 - 24, 2026

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Uttar Pradesh: PM Modi to Inaugurate Jewar Airport Next Month, Says CM Yogi Adityanath

Swarajya,
February 23, 2026

UP CM Yogi Adityanath

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Noida International Airport at Jewar next month, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced during an interaction with the Indian diaspora in Singapore.

Highlighting the state's growing aviation infrastructure, Yogi said Uttar Pradesh currently has the highest number of airports in the country. "This is about to be the biggest airport in India," he said.

The Jewar airport is expected to serve as a major hub for both passengers and cargo. Yogi added that the facility would emerge as a significant centre for trade and connectivity in the region.

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Centre Launches Rs 16.72 Lakh Crore Asset Monetization Plan for 2025-30

Swarajya,
February 24, 2026

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday, 23 February, unveiled the blueprint for the second phase of India's public asset monetization programme, targeting Rs 10.82 lakh crore in mobilisation by fiscal year 2030 and an additional Rs 5.9 lakh crore over the full concession period of assets placed under private sector management.

The plan, prepared by Niti Aayog, marks a sharp scale-up from the first phase covering FY22-25, which had a target of Rs 6 lakh crore.

Niti Aayog chief executive B.V.R. Subrahmanyam said 89 per cent of that earlier target has been achieved, mobilising Rs 5.3 lakh crore primarily from highways, coal, mines, and petroleum and natural gas sectors.

The overall monetisation target of Rs 16.72 lakh crore also factors in Rs 5.8 lakh crore in private sector investments for construction and maintenance of the handed-over assets. The central government expects to receive Rs 80,000–90,000 crore annually from the programme. For FY26 alone, the target is to mobilise Rs 2.49 lakh crore.

Crucially, the programme does not involve the sale of legal title. Assets will be transferred to the private sector for a defined concession period — typically 15 to 35 years — after which they revert to government ownership. "The asset remains yours. This is the biggest advantage," Subrahmanyam said, distinguishing asset monetisation from disinvestment.

The plan spans 12 sectors including highways, railways, power, ports, civil aviation, telecom, coal, mines, warehousing and urban infrastructure. Highways, multimodal logistics parks and ropeways account for over a quarter of the total target, while railways, power and ports each contribute 16–17 per cent.

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Maharashtra Orders Rs 5.16 Crore Toll Refund For 1.2 Lakh Motorists Stranded In 32-hour Traffic Jam

PTI,
February 24, 2026

More than 120,000 motorists caught in a massive 32-hour traffic jam on the Mumbai-Pune Expressway will receive toll refunds totalling Rs 5.16 crore, the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) has confirmed. The disruption occurred after a propylene gas tanker overturned near Khopoli on 3rd February, leaving thousands of vehicles stranded without access to food, water or basic facilities.

The refunds will cover toll charges collected on both the Mumbai-Pune Expressway and the Pune-Bengaluru Highway during the crisis. Authorities had ordered an immediate suspension of toll collection following the accident, but automated FASTag deductions continued at some

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plazas until barriers were physically opened. The delayed response sparked public outrage and criticism from opposition politicians, including MNS chief Raj Thackeray, who demanded accountability.

MSRDC officials confirmed that detailed transaction data has been gathered from IRB Infrastructure, which operates the toll concession on the stretch. All affected motorists will receive automatic credits to their FASTag accounts within the coming week, with SMS notifications sent once reimbursements are processed. No manual applications are required from commuters.

The incident has prompted Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis to order a formal inquiry into the emergency response protocols. A seven-member committee has been formed to investigate operational failures and draft a permanent emergency traffic management plan. The state is also accelerating the completion of the 13.3-kilometre 'Missing Link' bypass project, which includes two tunnels and Asia's tallest cable-stayed bridge, now targeted for a 1st May opening to prevent future gridlocks on the accident-prone Lonavala ghat section.

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