



NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 01, 2026

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Govt commits another Rs 30,000 crore capital infusion in NIIF
The Financial Express,
July 01, 2026

The Cabinet has approved an additional Rs 30,000 crore for NIIF, doubling the government's commitment to Rs 60,000 crore to support infrastructure, energy, digital, and urban development projects.

NIIF has raised capital from marquee institutional investors, including Sovereign Wealth Funds, Pension Funds, Multilateral Development, and leading Domestic Financial Institutions.

The Cabinet has approved an additional investment commitment of Rs 30,000 crore towards new and upcoming funds of the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF), taking the total government commitment to NIIF to Rs 60,000 crore.

The Cabinet nod last week for the additional investment commitment in NIIF will be used for setting up NIIF's second infrastructure-focused fund, which shall be the successor to its first flagship fund with this mandate, the government said in a statement.

NIIF Infrastructure Fund II is proposed to have a target corpus of close to Rs 30,000 crore and is expected to undertake investments across transportation, energy, digital infrastructure, and emerging areas such as urban infrastructure and e-mobility. The allocation shall also support NIIF's new fund strategies and successor bilateral and other strategic funds.

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NIIF is India's Sovereign Anchored Fund, professionally run and managed with Centre's 49% shareholding. It currently manages capital commitments of approximately Rs 40,000 crore across its funds and investment strategies. NIIF has demonstrated a strong track record of capital deployment and realisations, having returned close to Rs 12,000 crore to investors through large portfolio exits.

NIIF has raised capital from marquee institutional investors, including Sovereign Wealth Funds, Pension Funds, Multilateral Development, and leading Domestic Financial Institutions.

These include Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, AustralianSuper, CPP Investments, Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, PSP Investments, Temasek, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, New Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, Japan Bank for International Cooperation, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, Axis Bank, HDFC Group, ICICI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance and State Bank of India.

These investors span diverse geographies, including Australia, Canada, Japan, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States, reflecting strong international confidence in India's growth trajectory and NIIF's governance and commercial track record

NIIF's four operational investment strategies — infrastructure, private markets, growth equity, and climate investments in the India-Japan business corridor — have achieved notable investment momentum.

Sanjiv Aggarwal, Managing Director & CEO of NIIF, said: "We are grateful for this allocation of `30,000 crore, which is a strong reaffirmation of government support to NIIF and reinforces the catalytic capital model that has defined NIIF since inception. Over the past decade, Gol's anchor commitment has enabled us to build a very strong institutional investor base, spanning leading sovereign wealth funds, pension funds, multilateral and bilateral institutions, and domestic financial institutions. We have deployed capital across sectors of national importance and achieved significant exits across our strategies, delivering superior commercial returns. We look forward to raising our next vintage of funds and scaling our investment activity to support India's growth story."

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NHAI Partners With IITs To Independently Vet Designs Of Major Highway Bridges, Introduces Nationwide Quality Review Framework Business Standard,

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July 01, 2026

Nearly a dozen IITs, including IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay, IIT Roorkee and IIT Kharagpur, have expressed willingness to participate in the programme.

The National Highways Authority of India (NHA) has unveiled a new quality assurance framework that will require India's premier Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) to independently review the designs of major bridges planned on national highways before construction begins.

The initiative will apply to large bridges designed for an operational lifespan of at least 100 years.

Under the proposed system, empanelled IITs will carry out detailed technical assessments of bridge designs, ensuring they meet the highest engineering and safety standards before work is taken up on site.

Nearly a dozen IITs, including IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay, IIT Roorkee and IIT Kharagpur, have expressed willingness to participate in the programme.

The institutions will examine structural calculations, engineering drawings, construction methodologies, geotechnical investigations and hydraulic studies as part of an independent verification process.

According to NHA, the mechanism will introduce a uniform quality control system for all major bridge projects, irrespective of the execution model.

The framework will therefore cover projects undertaken through the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC), Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) and Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) routes, ensuring a consistent level of technical scrutiny across the national highway network.

The initiative also complements the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways' broader efforts to modernise bridge management nationwide.

Earlier, the ministry directed all road-owning agencies, including state public works departments, to complete a comprehensive digital inventory of bridges under the Indian Bridge Management System (IBMS) by 30 September.

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The nationwide survey is expected to create a centralised database containing detailed information on bridge assets, enabling authorities to monitor structural health more effectively, prioritise maintenance and undertake timely repairs wherever required.

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Bihar CM Seeks Centre's Approval For Road Projects During Meeting With Nitin Gadkari In New Delhi

Swarajya,
July 01, 2026

Bihar has sought the Centre's approval for road infrastructure projects worth more than Rs 15,000 crore, with Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary pressing Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari to expedite clearances and funding during a meeting in New Delhi on Monday (29 June).

Senior officials from both the Central and state governments reviewed the progress of ongoing national highway and expressway projects, while also examining detailed project reports (DPRs) prepared for several new roads and bridges.

According to a Times of India report, among the key proposals awaiting approval is the widening of the 89 km Arwal–Biharsharif National Highway at an estimated cost of Rs 3,844 crore.

Another major proposal before the Centre is the Rs 8,672 crore Ram Janaki Path project. Stretching 146 km, the proposed highway will connect Mashrakh, Chakia and Bhitthamod.

The state has also submitted a DPR valued at Rs 974 crore for the Satighat bridge and associated road packages along the NH-333A corridor between Barbigha and Panjwara.

According to a road construction department official, work on the project will begin immediately after the required approvals are received from the Centre.

In addition to highway expansion, Bihar has proposed the construction of new railway overbridges at Dumraon, Bikramganj, Safiasarai and Jehanabad.

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Lucknow And Five Nearby Districts In UP Set For Major Infrastructure Push Under State Capital Region Plan

Swarajya,
July 01, 2026

The Lucknow Development Authority is preparing a comprehensive long-term infrastructure development plan for the State Capital Region, following consultations with representatives of Defence Minister and Lucknow MP Rajnath Singh.

The initiative aims to transform the region spanning Lucknow and five adjoining districts into a nationally significant economic and urban hub.

The State Capital Region framework encompasses six districts—Lucknow, Sitapur, Hardoi, Unnao, Rae Bareli and Barabanki—covering approximately 26,000 square kilometres with a combined population exceeding three crore.

A high-level review meeting chaired by Chief Secretary S P Goyal discussed 29 major infrastructure and development projects under the initiative, focusing on transportation, mobility, infrastructure, economy and tourism.

The infrastructure plan includes significant transport upgrades, with the government approving preparation of detailed project reports for 10 new metro corridors covering nearly 150 kilometres.

The proposed State Capital Ring Road will improve connectivity between all six districts, whilst industrial parks and logistics hubs are planned to attract large-scale investment and generate employment opportunities across the region.

The initiative responds to stark developmental disparities between Lucknow and neighbouring districts.

Data reveals Lucknow has 700 small-scale industries per lakh population compared to just 130 in Sitapur, while banking infrastructure shows Lucknow offers 17 banks per lakh population against three in Sitapur.

The State Capital Region development plan seeks to create a well-developed land bank around Lucknow, making business operations and industrial expansion more accessible whilst promoting balanced regional growth and reducing migration to larger cities.

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Indian Railways Sanctions Rs 1,131 Crore For Bihar Rail Doubling, Optical Fibre Expansion And Electronic Signalling Upgrade

Swarajya,
July 01, 2026

Indian Railways has cleared three major infrastructure projects worth a combined Rs 1,131 crore. The approved projects span Bihar, West Bengal and the South Eastern Railway zone.

A major share of the investment has been allocated to Bihar, where the 44.4 km Mansi–Saharsa section under East Central Railway will be doubled at an estimated cost of Rs 499 crore.

The route currently operates as a single-line corridor despite handling heavy passenger traffic alongside the movement of essential commodities such as foodgrains, cement, fertilisers, sugar, salt and construction materials.

In another significant decision, Indian Railways has sanctioned Rs 432 crore to replace ageing relay-based signalling with modern Electronic Interlocking systems at 27 stations and cabins, including one Intermediate Block Signalling (IBS) location, in the Asansol Division of Eastern Railway.

The upgrade will introduce computer-based signalling technology capable of delivering greater reliability, quicker fault detection and improved operational flexibility.

The project also complements the ongoing rollout of advanced systems such as Kavach, Automatic Block Signalling and Centralised Traffic Control on some of the country's busiest rail corridors.

The third project focuses on strengthening the Railways' communication backbone. South Eastern Railway will receive Rs 200 crore to lay the balance 48-fibre Optical Fibre Cable network across nearly 1,700 route km.

Covering four divisions, the high-capacity fibre network will improve communication between stations, control offices and field units, enabling faster transmission of operational data and supporting safer, technology-driven railway operations.

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Anand Vihar to get major Skywalk linking Delhi Metro, Rail, Bus and Namoo Bharat: NCRTC plans seamless interchange hub
 The Financial Express,
 July 01, 2026

National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) plans to build a skywalk with travelators at the Anand Vihar multimodal hub in Delhi.



NCRTC Plans to build skywalk at Anand Vihar (Image Source: Gemini)

A major connectivity boost is set to change the way people travel in Delhi-NCR. Imagine getting down at the Anand Vihar Railway Station and simply walking through a covered skywalk to catch a bus at ISBT Kaushambi, or directly reaching the Delhi Metro, or even the Namoo Bharat Corridor, all without dealing with road traffic or long walking routes.

This could soon become reality as the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) plans to build a skywalk with travelators at the Anand Vihar multimodal hub in Delhi.

The aim is to connect all major transport systems in one easy walking network.

Through the new skywalk, commuters will be able to switch between train, bus, metro, and Namoo Bharat in one smooth movement, which will make their daily travel less tiring.

NCRTC floats tender to speed up construction work

To move the project forward, NCRTC has floated a tender for the construction of the skywalk.

The selected contractor will be responsible for completing the work within 15 months.

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The project includes building a fully connected skywalk with travelators linking Anand Vihar Railway Station, ISBT Kaushambi, Delhi Metro stations (Line 3 and Line 4 connectivity at Anand Vihar), and Namoo Bharat station and corridor (Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut route).

It will also include a foot-over-bridge system for smooth movement between the Namoo Bharat station and the Delhi Metro station at Anand Vihar.

Better Interchange and First–Last Mile Connectivity

The main aim of this project is to make daily travel and interchange easier for commuters. Right now, people often struggle with long walking distances, heavy crowding, and road traffic while switching between different transport modes at Anand Vihar.

The upcoming skywalk is expected to provide a direct, covered walking route between all major transport points. With travelators also planned, the effort of walking will be reduced, especially for elderly passengers and those carrying luggage.

Overall, this will improve both interchange and first- and last-mile connectivity, helping commuters complete their journeys in a smoother and more comfortable way from start to finish.

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