

NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

TUESDAY, JULY 01 - 02, 2025

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Construction Federation of India (CFI) Hosts Flagship Conference 2025: "Redefining India's Infrastructure Growth: Next-Gen Solutions for a Viksit Bharat"

The Tribune,
July 02, 2025



The Construction Federation of India (CFI), a premier industry body representing India's leading infrastructure and civil construction firms, successfully hosted its Flagship Conference 2025 on June 20 at Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi. Themed "Redefining India's Infrastructure Growth: Next-Gen Solutions for a Viksit Bharat," the conference served as a high-impact platform for strategic dialogue, bringing together policymakers, industry leaders, experts from global institutions, academia, and thought leaders to shape the future of India's infrastructure landscape.

Founded in 2000, CFI continues to play a pivotal role in enabling India's infrastructure transformation through sustainable development, policy advocacy, and collaborative innovation.

Inaugural Address: Vision for a Future-Ready India

In his welcome address, **Mr. Vinayak Pai, President of CFI**, emphasized the significance of the sector in nation-building and urged for greater collaboration to address ongoing industry challenges such as project delivery predictability, financing hurdles, safety, and technology adoption and help in driving transformational changes in the sector. He emphasized that every stakeholder has a crucial role in bringing the industry up to speed with other sectors and making it more technologically advanced and sustainable, ultimately contributing to the vision of Viksit Bharat.

"India stands at the cusp of unprecedented infrastructure transformation. Our deliberations today will lay the groundwork for a resilient and future-ready infrastructure landscape -- one that drives job creation, economic growth, and a better quality of life, in line with our national aspiration of Viksit Bharat by 2047," Mr. Pai remarked.

"Joining the Hands that Believe in Building Sustainably # Platform for Sustainable Infra"

Special Address by Dr. Surendra Kr Ahirwar

Dr. Surendra Kr Ahirwar, Executive Director (Traffic Commercial - Rates), Ministry of Railways, Government of India, commended CFI for curating a theme aligned with national priorities. He underscored the transformative role of the PM Gati Shakti Master Plan, especially its geospatial platform for integrated infrastructure planning. Dr. Ahirwar advocated for infrastructure with a longer lifecycle and enhanced planning frameworks for sustainability and longevity. He emphasized on the critical role CFI has to play in the infrastructure development of the country.

Conference Highlights: Thought-Provoking Panel Sessions

Panel Session I - Emerging Trends in Infrastructure: The 4S Framework - Scale, Safety, Sustainability, Speed included deliberations from panelists - Mr. Rajiv Dhankher - Director (Project & Planning), DMRC, Mr. Rajan Sharma - Sr. Vice President, J Kumar Infraprojects, Mr. Vivek Agarwal - Partner & Public Infra Head, KPMG India, Mr. Saurabh Sood - Senior Transport Specialist, The World Bank and Moderated by Dr. Anil Kashyap, Director General, NICMAR

Key Insights: Mega-projects demand robust capacity building and integration of such challenges into academic curricula; Adoption of pre-cast technologies and sustainable materials will accelerate project execution and meet climate goals; Safety education must be institutionalized in construction training; Coordination and supply chain resilience are critical to effective delivery.

Panel Session II - Powering India's Energy Transition: Towards Cleaner, Self-Reliant Energy included deliberations from panelists - Mr. Raj Kumar Chaudhary - CMD, NHPC Ltd., Mr. Venkat Muvvala - President & CBO, Jakson Infra, Mr. Ravichandra Reddy G - JGM & Head Operations East, L&T Renewable IC, Mr. Anindya Chowdhury - Former Country Head, Energy Transition, Shell India, Mr. Rohit Kumar - Partner, Deloitte and Moderated by Dr. Rajat Kathuria, Economist and former Director, ICRIER

Key Insights: India's energy transition is central to achieving Paris Agreement goals and a Viksit Bharat; Urgent investment needed in storage solutions (battery & pumped hydro) to enable renewables; Transmission and distribution (T&D) infrastructure remains a critical bottleneck; Financial de-risking through blended finance and policy clarity essential for investor confidence; A self-reliant, indigenous approach to energy transition was emphasized involving upskilling of people, leveraging technology while raising awareness across the value chain.

Panel Session III - Industry 4.0: Digital Infrastructure, Semiconductors & Battery Manufacturing included deliberations from panelists - Mr. Makrand Dixit - Head Projects (Fab), Tata Electronics, Mr. John Sandeep - Sr. Chief Engineering Manager, L&T Construction, Mr. Anil Relan - Sr. VP, Jacobs Engineering India, Mr. Annurudha Kshatriya - GM, Invest UP, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Ms. Sanna Arora - Vice President, Labotek Technologies and Moderated by Mr. PVG Menon, Former CEO, Electronics Sector Skills Council

Key Insights: India is witnessing a rapid rise in semiconductor demand, driven by AI, ML, and data sovereignty; States are offering customized incentives to complement central government's semiconductor mission; The industry is embracing green energy and resource-efficient technologies to support sustainable operations; Skill development and global benchmarking are critical as plants being developed match international standards. Panel stressed on developing

more prominent ecosystem of speciality chemicals and equipment in the country to enable quality and faster development of such mega facilities.

Closing Remarks by Ms. Preiti Patel, Treasurer, CFI

In her concluding address, **Ms. Preiti Patel, Treasurer, CFI** extended heartfelt thanks to all panellists, delegates, government officials, and partners for their contributions. She announced the upcoming launch of the CFI White Paper on "Policy Advocacy Issues Impacting the Infrastructure Construction Sector", scheduled for September-October 2025.

"Our discussions today reflect the strength, unity, and vision of the infrastructure sector. With innovation, shared purpose, and continued policy support, we are poised to redefine India's development trajectory," Ms. Patel said.

Established in 2000, the Construction Federation of India (CFI) is the apex industry association representing the country's leading civil engineering and construction companies, along with key ancillary players across the infrastructure construction ecosystem. CFI members are at the forefront of delivering transformative projects across vital sectors—including highways, bridges, tunnels, power plants, ports, airports, metro systems, and other nationally significant assets.

Recognized as a trusted voice of the industry, CFI collaborates closely with government ministries, regulatory bodies, policy think tanks, and international partners to advance a sustainable, future-ready infrastructure agenda. The Federation leads proactive efforts in policy advocacy, regulatory reform, and the integration of advanced technologies to improve project execution and sectoral efficiency.

With a strong focus on innovation, knowledge-sharing, and skill development, CFI plays a pivotal role in building India's infrastructure capabilities—aligning with the national vision of a resilient, inclusive, and globally competitive India on the road to Viksit Bharat by 2047.

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Cabinet nod to 4-Lane Paramakudi-Ramanathapuram road project in Tamil Nadu
The Economic Times,
July 01, 2025

Synopsis

The Union Cabinet has approved a Rs 1,853 crore project to construct a four-lane Paramakudi-Ramanathapuram section of NH-87 in Tamil Nadu. This upgrade addresses congestion on the existing two-lane highway, improving connectivity between key religious and economic centers like Madurai and Rameshwaram. The project is expected to boost tourism, trade, and generate significant employment opportunities in the region.

The Union Cabinet on Tuesday approved the construction of four-lane Paramakudi-Ramanathapuram Section of NH-87 in Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs 1,853 crore.

The project will be developed on Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM) at a capital cost of Rs 1,853 crore, I&B Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said while briefing on the decisions taken at the Cabinet meeting.

Currently, connectivity between Madurai, Paramakudi, Ramanathapuram, Mandapam, Rameshwaram, and Dhanushkodi is dependent on the existing 2-lane National Highway 87 (NH-87) and associated State Highways, which experience significant congestion due to high traffic volumes, especially in densely populated stretches and key towns along the corridor.

To address these challenges, the project will upgrade approximately 46.7 km of NH-87 from Paramakudi to Ramanathapuram to a 4-lane configuration, an official release said.

This will decongest the existing corridor, improve safety, and cater to the mobility needs of rapidly growing towns such as Paramakudi, Sathirakudi, Achundanvayal and Ramanathapuram.

Upon completion, the Paramakudi-Ramanathapuram section will play a pivotal role in regional economic growth, strengthening connectivity between major religious and economic centres, boosting tourism to Rameshwaram and Dhanushkodi, and opening new avenues for trade and industrial development.

The project will also generate approximately 8.4 lakh person-days of direct and 10.45 lakh person-days of indirect employment, and will open new avenues of growth, development and prosperity in surrounding regions, the release said.

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Centre Clears Rs 3,667 Crore Plan To Upgrade Himachal's Road Connectivity, Tunnel To Come Up Beneath Kullu's Jalori Jot Pass

Swarajya,

July 02, 2025

The Union government has approved an annual plan worth Rs 3,667 crore for the construction and upgradation of roads, bridges, and related works across the state for the financial year 2024-25, Public Works Minister Vikramaditya Singh announced on Monday (30 June).

The plan includes construction of bridges, road widening, installation of crash barriers and other works on national highways across various districts of the state, PTI reported.

Highlighting previous challenges, Singh said that while the state had submitted an annual plan of Rs 2,600 crore for the financial year 2023-24, it had received only Rs 269 crore, which was insufficient.

However, he confirmed that the fresh proposal of Rs 3,667 crore for 2024-25 has been approved by the Centre in June.

Among the key projects is a proposed 4.2 km tunnel beneath the Jalori Jot (Pass) in Kullu district, for which in-principle approval has been granted and funds to the tune of Rs 1,452 crore have been sanctioned.

The tunnel would provide all-year connectivity to Banjat and Anni areas. He said that the construction of this tunnel would not only boost tourism in the area but also benefit lakhs of residents in the region.

Addressing the issue of recurring landslides near Brauni Nala on National Highway-5, Singh shared that the Centre has approved Rs 135 crore for the construction of a bridge at this location.

Further allocations include Rs 1,385 crore for the four-laning of the Kala Amb to Paonta Sahib section along the Dehradun road, covering land acquisition and preparatory works.

Singh expressed gratitude to Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, saying, he was hoping that strong coordination between the Centre and the State would continue in the future.

Singh also met Defence Minister Rajnath Singh regarding the proposed Bhubu Jot tunnel and road linking Mandi and Kullu.

He emphasised its strategic significance, stating it could reduce travel between Pathankot and Kullu by 40-50 km, benefiting tourism, locals, and the Indian Army.

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Rs 1,853 Crore Four-Lane Highway Project Linking Paramakudi And Ramanathapuram Section Of NH-87 In Tamil Nadu Gets Union Cabinet Nod

ET Infra,
July 02, 2025

The Union Cabinet has cleared the construction of a four-lane stretch between Paramakudi and Ramanathapuram, spanning 46.7 km along National Highway 87 (NH-87).

The project, to be developed under the Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM), will be constructed at a total capital cost of Rs 1,853 crore.

At present, connectivity between key southern towns including Madurai, Paramakudi, Ramanathapuram, Mandapam, Rameshwaram, and Dhanushkodi is heavily reliant on the existing two-lane NH-87 and associated state highways, which frequently witness severe congestion.

The proposed upgrade aims to alleviate bottlenecks, enhance road safety, and address the growing mobility demands of expanding urban centres such as Paramakudi, Sathirakudi, Achundanvayal, and Ramanathapuram.

The new alignment is set to integrate seamlessly with five major National Highways (NH-38, NH-85, NH-36, NH-536, and NH-32) and three State Highways (SH-47, SH-29, SH-34), promising improved access to crucial economic, social, and logistical hubs across southern Tamil Nadu.

In addition, the enhanced corridor will facilitate multi-modal transport by linking two significant railway stations (Madurai and Rameshwaram), one airport (Madurai), and two minor ports (Pamban and Rameshwaram), enabling swifter movement of goods and passengers.

Upon completion, the Paramakudi-Ramanathapuram section is poised to “play a pivotal role in regional economic growth, strengthening connectivity between major religious and economic centres, boosting tourism to Rameshwaram and Dhanushkodi, and opening new avenues for trade and industrial development,” a government statement read.

The project is expected to generate approximately 8.4 lakh person-days of direct employment and 10.45 lakh person-days of indirect jobs, fostering growth and prosperity in the surrounding regions.

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GMRL Seeks 10-Hectare Land Transfer For Gurgaon Metro's Temporary Casting Yard

Swarajya,
July 02, 2025

Gurgaon Metro Rail Limited (GMRL) has requested the transfer of a 10 hectare land parcel in Sector 10 from the Haryana Shahari Vikas Pradhikaran (HSVP) for establishing a temporary casting yard vital for the city's new metro project, according to a Times of India report.

However, the land, originally earmarked for an auto market, is currently encumbered by nearly 1 lakh tonnes of construction and demolition (C&D) waste and encroachments.

"The site is essential for phase 2 of the project, and we need to begin preparatory work by October. There is a huge amount of C&D waste on the site which needs to be cleared quickly," a senior GMRL official was quoted as saying by ToI.

The matter was raised during a recent high-level review meeting chaired by Haryana Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi.

In that meeting, authorities from GMDA, HSVP, MCG, HSIIDC, and the police were instructed to coordinate swiftly to resolve land-related hurdles and keep the metro project on schedule.

Previously, HSVP had allotted 5.23 hectares in Sector 33 for a casting yard for the first phase of the metro, supplemented by additional land from the Municipal Corporation of Gurgaon (MCG).

Meanwhile, GMRL has shortlisted the joint venture of Deutsche Bahn Engineering & Consulting (DBEC) and Hill International as the general consultant (GC) for the metro project.

Originally approved in June 2023 at an estimated cost of Rs 5,452 crore, the metro's 28.5 km corridor from Millennium City Centre to Cyber City, with a 1.85 km spur to Dwarka Expressway, was scheduled for completion within four years.

However, with a newly added 1.4 km spur connecting Sector 5 station to Gurgaon railway station, the project's cost has now escalated to Rs 10,266 crore, and the deadline has shifted to 2029.

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