



NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

THURSDAY, JULY 09, 2026

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Nitin Gadkari Sets Two-Year Deadline For Delhi–Mumbai Expressway Completion, Unveils Rs 16,500 Crore Highway Push For Kota Region

Swsrajya,
July 09, 2026

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has announced that the Delhi–Mumbai Expressway will be fully operational within the next two years, while unveiling a series of major highway projects in Rajasthan's Kota region.

Speaking at a public event in Mandana after reviewing progress on the Delhi–Mumbai Expressway and the Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve Tunnel, Gadkari said nearly 75–80 per cent of the Rs 1.10 lakh crore expressway has already been completed.

"The expressway still needs improvement. I give you my word that within two years the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway will be fully completed, enabling people to travel by car from Delhi to Nariman Point and the Jawaharlal Nehru Port within about 12 hours," he was quoted as saying by PTI.

The minister also announced a Rs 551 crore project to build a 10 km four-lane Mukundara Bypass along National Highway-52 between Kota and Jhalawar, with construction expected to begin within three months.

In addition, the Centre has approved a Rs 1,000 crore, 21 km greenfield spur road linking Kota to the Delhi–Mumbai Expressway through Alantpura, with work also scheduled to commence in the coming months.

Looking further ahead, Gadkari revealed plans for the proposed Rs 15,000 crore Atal Express Highway, connecting Kota and Etawah along the Chambal River corridor.

The project, formerly known as the Chambal Express Highway, is currently in the detailed planning stage. Authorities have also initiated preparation of a Detailed Project Report for a new road connecting Bhawani Mandi to the Delhi–Mumbai Expressway.

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Tamil Nadu's Construction Industry Says Excavation Curbs Stalled Projects

NDTV,
July 09, 2026

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According to CREDAI, the disruption has delayed project execution and completion timelines, exposing developers to possible violations of commitments.

Tamil Nadu's Construction Industry Says Excavation Curbs Stalled Projects CREDAI has requested the government to establish "an efficient mechanism". Chennai:

Hundreds of construction projects across Tamil Nadu have come to a near standstill over the last eight weeks as authorities have allegedly stopped granting permissions to transport excavated earth from approved construction sites, triggering a major crisis in the real estate and infrastructure sector.

NDTV has accessed a representation sent by CREDAI Chennai President Mehul H Doshi to Chief Secretary M Sai Kumar, urging the government to immediately restore a transparent and time-bound approval mechanism for transporting excavated earth.

Thanking the Tamil Nadu government for its efforts to eliminate corruption and improve transparency, the letter says the "suspension and non-grant of permissions for transportation of excavated earth generated from approved construction project sites" has created serious operational difficulties, particularly in and around Chennai.

"As part of the construction process... timely permission for transportation and disposal of such excavated earth becomes essential for the uninterrupted continuation of construction activities," the letter states.

According to CREDAI, the disruption has delayed project execution and completion timelines, exposing developers to possible violations of commitments made to the Tamil Nadu Real Estate Regulatory Authority (TNRERA). It also warns of potential litigation from homebuyers over delayed possession, escalating project costs due to rising input prices, mounting financial stress on developers, and a cascading impact on employment and allied industries.

Calling for urgent intervention, CREDAI has requested the government to establish "an efficient mechanism for the expeditious processing and grant of permissions" and a "streamlined, transparent and time-bound approval mechanism" that would allow legitimate projects to proceed while maintaining regulatory oversight.

A leading builder, who did not wish to be identified, told NDTV, "No new excavation has begun at approved sites as collectors don't give permission."

"We used to pay Rs 5 lakh as a bribe earlier for this permit. Now that the government has made approvals hassle-free, the Chief Minister has to ensure this is sorted immediately.

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There should be a transparent, time-bound system in place for permission to transport excavated earth," he added.

The builder claimed the uncertainty has left heavy machinery idle, increased financing costs and delayed several residential and commercial projects.

Despite several attempts, NDTV could not reach the concerned minister and the secretary for comment.

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Karnataka Confirms South Bengaluru For Second International Airport, Focuses On Low-Cost Land And Zero Village Displacement
Business Standard,
July 09, 2026

The Karnataka government has reaffirmed plans to establish Bengaluru's second international airport in the southern part of the city, with Chief Minister D K Shivakumar directing officials to identify a technically suitable location that minimises land acquisition costs and avoids the displacement of villages.

The decision emerged from a high-level review meeting chaired by the Chief Minister, attended by Infrastructure Development Minister M B Patil and senior government officials, as the state pushes ahead with plans to ease mounting pressure on Kempegowda International Airport.

Following the meeting, Shivakumar said the government had instructed officials to prepare a proposal for submission to the Centre after evaluating sites based on affordability, terrain and technical viability.

While no final location has been selected, he confirmed that the proposed airport would be situated in South Bengaluru, consistent with earlier planning exercises.

"Regarding the airport, we discussed what happened in the past. We asked to ensure that no villages are disturbed and villagers should not be displaced."

He further explained that officials had been asked to identify land where acquisition costs would remain manageable without creating an excessive financial burden on the state.

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Emphasising the government's rehabilitation policy, Shivakumar added, "We asked them to look for a location where land prices are low, so it doesn't burden the state government, and where no villages need to be displaced. A few scattered houses are not an issue, as they can be compensated, but villages should not be shifted for the project."

The proposal follows the state government's budget announcement earlier this year, which identified the need for a second airport to accommodate Bengaluru's rapidly expanding passenger traffic.

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has already conducted preliminary inspections of shortlisted locations, including two sites near Harohalli on Kanakapura Road and another along Kunigal Road near Nelamangala.

Once the preferred site is finalised, the state government will forward its proposal to the Central government for further technical evaluation and statutory approvals before the project advances to the next stage.

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NALCO, NLC India Form 50:50 Joint Venture To Develop 1,080 MW Captive Thermal Power Plant In Odisha

Swarajya,
July 09, 2026

State-owned National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has entered into a strategic partnership with NLC India Limited (NLCIL) to establish a 1,080 MW captive thermal power plant in Odisha.

The two public sector companies have signed a Joint Venture-cum-Shareholders' Agreement (JVA) to create a 50:50 joint venture company, which will develop the 4x270 MW thermal power project at Anugola.

The proposed facility is primarily intended to meet the power requirements of NALCO's upcoming 0.5 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) aluminium smelter expansion.

Besides ensuring a reliable supply of captive power, the partnership also aims to diversify its energy portfolio by exploring long-term procurement of 200–250 MW of Round-the-Clock Renewable Energy (RE-RTC).

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The companies will additionally work towards securing stable coal supplies through long-term fuel arrangements to support uninterrupted operations.

The project is expected to play a crucial role in supporting NALCO's long-term production growth while improving energy security for one of India's leading aluminium producers.

A Navratna public sector enterprise under the Ministry of Mines, NALCO operates an integrated aluminium business encompassing bauxite mining, alumina refining, aluminium smelting and captive power generation. The Government of India currently holds a 51.28 per cent stake in the company.

NALCO's operations include the Panchpatmali bauxite mines, which feed its alumina refinery at Damanjodi in Odisha's Koraput district, as well as its aluminium smelter, captive power station and captive coal mines at Anugola.

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