

NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025

^ TOP

CFI is now on social media! We'd love your support in increasing our visibility. Please take a moment to like and share our posts. Your engagement will certainly help us reach more people! Check us out here: [CFI LinkedIn](#).

Thank you for your support!

- [PM Modi Flags Off Four New Amrit Bharat 2.0 Trains In Bihar—Here's What Makes Them Special](#)
- [Vijayawada–Hyderabad NH-65 To Be Six-Laned Over 226 Km Stretch, DPR Likely By August End](#)
- [Lucknow Old City's Link Road To Green Corridor Set For Widening By End Of October: Report](#)
- [India's Third Longest Rail Tunnel To Connect Vizhinjam Port To National Railway Network; Tender Expected In August: Report](#)
- [PMRDA To Overhaul Pune Roads Affected By Metro Construction With Rs 628 Crore Redevelopment Plan](#)
- [NABARD sanctions Rs 4,613 cr for rural projects in Arunachal: GM Mishra](#)

PM Modi Flags Off Four New Amrit Bharat 2.0 Trains In Bihar— Here's What Makes Them Special

Swarajya,
July 21, 2025



In a significant push to strengthen rail infrastructure and regional connectivity, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday flagged off four new Amrit Bharat Express trains in Bihar, the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement.

After the inauguration, the new Amrit Bharat Express trains will offer low-cost, non-AC travel with improved facilities, mainly serving passengers in Bihar and eastern India.

The new routes include Rajendra Nagar Terminal (Patna) to New Delhi, Bapudham Motihari to Anand Vihar Terminal (Delhi), Darbhanga to Lucknow (Gomti Nagar), and Malda Town to Lucknow (Gomti Nagar) via Bhagalpur.

Indian Railways said that these non-AC Amrit Bharat Express trains offer upgraded facilities at low fares, specifically tailored for middle-class and economically weaker passengers.

With the addition of these routes, Bihar now has six operational Amrit Bharat services, further integrating the state with key cities across northern India.

Amrit Bharat 2.0 comes equipped with several modern features such as foldable snack tables, mobile holders, foldable bottle holders, and high-speed mobile charging ports.

The coaches are fitted with better-cushioned, ergonomic seats and airline-style illuminated floor strips, which help passengers navigate in low-light conditions.

For a smooth and shock-free ride, the coaches are built with air spring suspension. Toilets are modern and disabled-friendly, with amenities like electro-pneumatic flushing systems and automatic soap dispensers.

Safety has been a major focus. The trains are fitted with semi-automatic couplers featuring crash tubes, an ECP-assisted braking system, and vacuum evacuation systems.

Coaches include sealed gangways for safer movement and talk-back units for communication in emergencies.

For the first time, non-AC coaches are equipped with a fire detection system, further enhancing onboard safety.

Amrit Bharat 2.0 marks a paradigm shift in affordable rail travel, combining indigenous innovation with modern engineering to uplift the travel experience for millions of Indians.

The launch also marks continued progress in Indian Railways' push for self-reliance. According to Indian Railways, all Amrit Bharat 2.0 coaches are indigenously manufactured.

With plans to roll out 100 new Amrit Bharat rakes across the country, the initiative is set to reshape affordable long-distance travel with a focus on safety, comfort, and regional connectivity.

[^ TOP](#)

Vijayawada–Hyderabad NH-65 To Be Six-Laned Over 226 Km Stretch, DPR Likely By August End
Swarajya,
July 21, 2025

Along the Vijayawada–Hyderabad corridor, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has revised its earlier stance and agreed to take up the extension of the six-laning project on NH-65 up to the Vijayawada West Bypass near Gollapudi, Times of India reported.

The stretch was previously planned to end at the Amaravati Outer Ring Road (ORR) alignment.

The revised plan was confirmed in a letter from Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, to Vijayawada MP Kesineni Sivanath (Chinni).

The minister noted that the six-laning will now span from KM 40 near the Hyderabad Regional Ring Road to KM 266 at the Vijayawada West Bypass, a total of 226 km, as opposed to the previously proposed 198 km.

Gadkari acknowledged that the initial decision aimed to limit land acquisition.

However, a stakeholder meeting chaired by Chinni on 13 June had stressed on the need for extending the six-laning of highway.

"Accordingly, the DPR consultant has been directed to prepare the alignment and DPR for the entire stretch," Gadkari stated, quoting Chinni's letter to him on 19 June.

According to NHAI Andhra Pradesh regional manager RK Singh, the Detailed Project Report (DPR) is expected to be ready by the end of August.

“Once the DPR is received, it would be sent to the NHAI Delhi office following which tenders will be floated and widening works will commence,” he was quoted as saying by Tol.

The extended six-lane upgrade is expected to significantly cut down travel time between the twin capitals of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

[^ TOP](#)

Lucknow Old City's Link Road To Green Corridor Set For Widening By End Of October: Report

Swarajya,
July 21, 2025

The Lucknow Development Authority (LDA) is set to widen the narrow 1.5 km stretch between Harinagar Cattle Colony in Balaganj and Gaughat into a two-lane road by the end of October, reported Times of India.

This upgrade is expected to ease traffic flow and enhance access to Phase I of the Green Corridor, which currently runs from IIM Road to Pakka Pul.

According to LDA official AK Senger, who is in charge of Project Implementation Unit (PIU) of the Green Corridor, the stretch plays a vital role in the corridor's larger connectivity blueprint.

“Earth-levelling is underway, and land within the proposed embankment alignment is being identified. Some delay is expected due to the monsoon season, which makes the work difficult and dangerous,” he was quoted as saying.

Currently, over 5,000 vehicles use this road daily to connect with the Green Corridor, but its single-lane configuration causes severe bottlenecks, often taking 20 minutes or more to traverse the short distance.

Meanwhile, work on the second phase of the Green Corridor, from IIM Road to Samata Mulak crossing is advancing rapidly and is scheduled for completion by December.

Once ready, it will slash commute times from nearly an hour to just 20–25 minutes.

The road, being developed along the right bank of the Gomti River, is part of a broader urban mobility and decongestion strategy.

“Our focus is on timely delivery and integrated planning. The Green Corridor is not just about infrastructure — it's about building sustainable urban growth. Every department must work in unison to ensure quality and speed,” Senger was quoted as saying by Tol.

[^ TOP](#)

India's Third Longest Rail Tunnel To Connect Vizhinjam Port To National Railway Network; Tender Expected In August: Report

Swarajya,

July 21, 2025

The railway link connecting the Vizhinjam port to the national rail network is reportedly poised to move into the tendering phase within the next ten days.

The project is expected to gather pace with the tender likely to be floated in August, The New Indian Express reported.

According to the report, Vizhinjam International Seaport Ltd (VISL) has formed a committee to review the draft tender proposal submitted by Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd (KRCL).

If all goes to plan, the contract will be awarded by November, kicking off work on a 10.7 km railway corridor that includes a 9.43 km tunnel which is set to become the third-longest of its kind in India.

“Road and rail connectivity are critical for a port’s evolution from a transshipment hub to a gateway for cargo. Traffic from south Indian states will boost shipping activity and expand market opportunities. It’s a major win for Kerala’s economy,” a source close to the development was quoted as saying by TNIE.

The Rs 1,482.92 crore project, to be executed under the EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) model, is scheduled for completion by December 2028.

With most of the rail tunnel planned beneath the Vizhinjam–Balaramapuram road and a portion under private land, the design is intended to minimise displacement and environmental impact.

Authorities are planning a video walkthrough to allay local fears about tunnelling under residential zones.

“The concerns of residents are valid. But Indian companies have already built over 450 km of underground railway tunnels,” an official said, drawing parallels with Delhi’s metro lines.

Land acquisition is under way in four villages, while parallel work on development of road infrastructure to the port is at various stages.

[^ TOP](#)

PMRDA To Overhaul Pune Roads Affected By Metro Construction With Rs 628 Crore Redevelopment Plan

PTI,

July 21, 2025

The Pune Metropolitan Region Development Authority (PMRDA) will undertake a major redevelopment project to repair roads damaged during the construction of the 25-km elevated Pune metro line from Maan village to Shivajinagar, Indian Express reported.

The project, estimated at Rs 628 crore, comes amid mounting public criticism over deteriorated road conditions.

“The roads on which the metro rail work is going on from Maan to Shivajinagar have been damaged. The citizens have been complaining about it. This was discussed at the joint meeting of PMRDA and Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC). Thereafter, repair work was planned,” said a PMRDA official, as quoted by the Indian Express.

The plan includes redevelopment of four-lane roads on either side of the metro corridor, construction of parking lanes, bus bays, footpaths, cycle tracks, traffic rotaries, and traffic islands.

The project is expected to take five years to complete.

Annirudha Pawaskar, Chief Engineer at PMC, said discussions were held on redeveloping roads along the Maan-Hinjewadi to Shivajinagar metro route due to damage caused by construction.

He said the plan was to rebuild them as "ideal roads with standard norms."

Since the route crosses multiple jurisdictions, he added, PMRDA was selected to handle the entire project to ensure uniformity.

A consultant will be appointed to conduct a detailed survey, including pavement design, road structure, utility planning, and drawings.

“A consultant is being appointed for the purpose and is supposed to come up with a detailed survey, providing for design of pavement, structures, and various components of road, preparation of detailed estimates, detailed drawings, and planning for utility shifting...” a PMRDA official was quoted as saying by IE.

The survey will also involve a route alignment and utility mapping using ground-penetrating radar, with traffic forecasts for the next decade.

[^ TOP](#)

NABARD sanctions Rs 4,613 cr for rural projects in Arunachal: GM Mishra
The Economic Times,
July 21, 2025

Synopsis

NABARD has sanctioned Rs 4,613 crore for 485 infrastructure projects in Arunachal Pradesh, boosting rural connectivity and livelihoods. The institution is committed to inclusive growth, driving rural credit planning, digitisation, and climate-resilient farming. Commemorating its 44th foundation day and the International Year of Cooperatives, NABARD reaffirmed its dedication to building self-reliant rural economies in Arunachal Pradesh.

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned Rs 4,613 crore for 485 infrastructure projects across Arunachal Pradesh.

These projects, supported under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), have significantly contributed to enhancing rural connectivity, irrigation systems, and livelihood generation, NABARD General Manager Damodar Mishra said in Itanagar on Friday.

Addressing the 44th foundation day of the bank here, Mishra said the institution remains deeply committed to inclusive growth and sustainable rural development in the state.

"NABARD has not only financed critical infrastructure but has also been driving rural credit planning, the digitisation of primary agricultural credit societies (PACS), promotion of micro-enterprises, and climate-resilient farming practices," Mishra said.

He added that NABARD's vision for Arunachal Pradesh is aligned with national priorities and focuses on building self-reliant, cooperative-led rural economies.

The event also served to mark the global observance of the International Year of Cooperatives, declared by the United Nations.

NABARD's Arunachal Pradesh regional office organised a sensitisation programme on the theme 'Cooperatives Build a Better World', underscoring the importance of cooperative institutions in achieving equitable development.

The programme was attended by Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) Vice Chancellor Prof S K Nayak, along with senior officials from the Department of Cooperation, RBI, SIDBI, NCDC, Arunachal Pradesh Rural Bank, cooperative unions and other partner organisations.

Marking the occasion, Chief Minister Pema Khandu commended NABARD's role in driving rural progress.

"NABARD has been instrumental in supporting Arunachal's rural aspirations, from infrastructure to innovation. We value this long-standing partnership," Khandu said in a post on X.

On the occasion, a booklet titled "NABARD in Arunachal Pradesh" was released, chronicling the institution's contributions to the state.

[^ TOP](#)