



# NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2026

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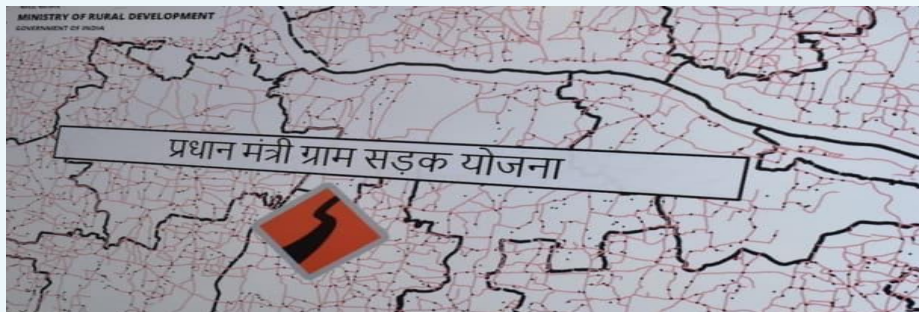
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Centre Targets 26,474 Km Rural Roads In FY27 Under Rs 18,907 Crore  
PMGSY Push  
Swarajya,  
June 19, 2026



PMGSY

The Centre has set a target to complete over 26,000 kilometres of rural roads during the financial year 2026-27 under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana programme.

The Ministry of Rural Development held review meetings with state governments to assess progress and identify challenges in achieving this ambitious connectivity goal.

Since its inception in 2000, the PMGSY has sanctioned over 8.46 lakh kilometres of rural road length, of which approximately 7.88 lakh kilometres have been completed as of December 2025.

The programme aims to provide all-weather road connectivity to rural habitations, with Phase IV focusing on connecting 25,000 previously unconnected habitations through 62,500 kilometres of new roads by 2029.

For the financial year 2026-27, the government announced an indicative allocation of Rs 18,907 crore for PMGSY.

States have been directed to accelerate work on pending projects, particularly in North-Eastern and Himalayan regions where geographical challenges have slowed progress.

The review emphasised the need for improved coordination between state rural development agencies and implementing contractors.

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Under PMGSY-III, which focuses on consolidating through routes and major rural links, approximately 20,000 kilometres of balance work remains from the original 1.25 lakh kilometre target.

The programme follows a Centre-state funding pattern of 60:40 for plain areas and 90:10 for North-Eastern and Himalayan states.

Officials stressed the importance of maintaining quality standards while expediting construction to meet the FY 2026-27 completion deadline for the targeted road length.

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## Ashwini Vaishnaw Announces DPR Completion For Revised Pune–Nashik Rail Corridor Via Ahilyanagar And Shirdi

Swarajya,  
June 19, 2026

Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw confirmed that the detailed project report (DPR) for the revised alignment of the Pune–Nashik railway project has been completed and work will now proceed on the updated corridor connecting Pune, Ahilyanagar, Sainagar Shirdi and Nashik.

The minister made this announcement while inaugurating a new Pune–Shirdi train service in Pune. He argued that technical evaluations ruled out the feasibility of a direct rail link between Pune and Nashik.

Instead, the Railways has opted for an alternative alignment that is expected to deliver similar travel efficiency while significantly reducing project costs.

Under the revised plan, the railway line will connect Nashik to Pune through Sainagar Shirdi, Puntamba, Nimblak and Ahilyanagar before reaching the Chakan industrial region and Pune.

The route revision follows concerns raised over the original alignment near Khodad, where the globally recognised Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) is located.

Scientific agencies had objected to the earlier proposal, warning that rail operations could interfere with sensitive astronomical observations.

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Vaishnav said the revised alignment was finalised after extensive consultations with stakeholders, ensuring the protection of the GMRT observatory while addressing the region's connectivity requirements.

Vaishnav also highlighted the scale of railway investment currently underway in the state, stating that projects worth nearly Rs 2 lakh crore are being implemented.

These include freight infrastructure, station redevelopment, network expansion and improved port connectivity.

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## Indian Railways Plans Dedicated Logistics Network To Transport Fly Ash From Power Plants For Construction Use

PIB,  
June 19, 2026

Indian Railways has unveiled plans to enable large-scale transportation of fly ash through a dedicated railway network, following a review meeting chaired by Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav yesterday (18 June).

The initiative targets nearly 340 million tonnes of fly ash generated annually by thermal power plants, aiming to transform what has long been an environmental burden into valuable construction material.

Railways is creating a dedicated logistics network of specialised containers and rail corridors to transport the material from power stations to factories where it can be used to build roads, manufacture bricks, produce cement and support infrastructure development.

The initiative is cheaper and more environmentally friendly than road transport and will help reduce prices of cement, blocks and bricks for the housing sector.

The move comes on the heels of spectacular success in cement freight, where Railways recorded a 170 per cent rise in cement movement in the last four months after introducing container reforms last November.

Earlier in May, Minister Vaishnav had highlighted that only about 13 million tonnes is currently transported by Railways despite the massive annual generation, urging officials to significantly expand the railway's share in this market.

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The minister described the initiative as a major 'waste to wealth' opportunity, emphasizing that fly ash is a raw material for cement, concrete, blocks and boards.

More affordable fly ash means cheaper bricks, lower cement prices and ultimately more accessible housing across urban and rural India.

Railways already offers a 40 per cent discount in freight for fly ash traffic to encourage movement.

Contained within rail wagons and purpose-built logistics systems, fly ash travels cleanly, arriving not as a pollutant but as a productive participant in India's infrastructure story.

The initiative aligns with the country's broader push towards circular economy practices, where industrial waste is converted into essential building materials for the nation's expanding infrastructure needs.

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**Odisha Government Approves Rs 76,612 Crore Investment Pipeline Across Green Energy, Steel, Aerospace And Advanced Manufacturing Business Standard, June 19, 2026**

Odisha has approved a fresh wave of industrial investments worth Rs 76,612 crore, with 20 large-scale projects receiving clearance from the state's High-Level Clearance Authority (HLCA).

The proposals, spanning sectors from renewable energy and advanced manufacturing to steel, pharmaceuticals and defence, are expected to generate more than five lakh employment opportunities.

The approvals were granted at a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi. Among the biggest beneficiaries are green energy and clean technology industries.

Tata Power Renewable Energy will invest Rs 10,000 crore in Ganjam district to establish solar wafer and photovoltaic cell manufacturing facilities, while Saatvik Solar Industries plans another major solar manufacturing unit in the same region.

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The state also secured significant investments in rare-earth and advanced materials manufacturing.

N.A.N. Magnetech and Larsen & Toubro will set up facilities producing high-performance permanent magnets used in electric vehicles and strategic industries. World Titanium Industry will establish a titanium dioxide manufacturing complex in Ganjam.

Lab-grown diamond manufacturing emerged as another high-growth segment, with three companies collectively committing nearly Rs 9,818 crore for projects in Khordha district.

The steel sector accounted for some of the largest investments. Rashmi Metallurgical Industry, Shyam Metals and Energy, SMC Power Generation and BR Steel & Power are among companies expanding integrated steel production capacities across Jajpur, Sambalpur and Jharsuguda.

Additional proposals include railway coach manufacturing, pharmaceutical production, pumped-storage hydropower, thermal power generation and aluminium downstream industries.

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