



NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026

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MoRTH Strengthens Landslide Mitigation for Hill Highways
Construction Week Online,
June 22, 2026

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has deployed Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR) based landslide monitoring and early warning systems along a 100 kilometre (km) stretch of the Char Dham route in Uttarakhand. It has planned an advanced

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alert system on the Parwanoo-Solan section of National Highway five to monitor landslides, land sinking, groundwater movement and rockfall-prone zones in real time. The initiatives aim to detect subtle ground movements and identify vulnerable slopes before disasters occur.

The Ministry has strengthened collaboration with scientific agencies and signed a memorandum of understanding with the Geological Survey of India for geological investigations, data sharing and integration of National Landslide Susceptibility Mapping into planning and alignment surveys. With nearly 16,788 km of national highways in hill states out of a total network exceeding 146,570 km, resilient design reflects the Himalayan region's particular vulnerability to landslides, rockfalls, flash floods and cloudbursts.

Policy reforms include a phased construction approach in which an initial period of about one year is devoted to cutting hill slopes and completing protection works, with road construction starting only after slopes show stability through at least one monsoon season. The Ministry is piloting satellite based monitoring and has signed agreements with firms using InSAR and other geospatial intelligence to provide early warning indicators, support targeted mitigation and improve maintenance planning. Mountain highways typically cost between Rs150 million (mn) and Rs300 mn per km to construct; a single moderate landslide can incur repair costs of Rs100 mn to Rs250 mn and disrupt traffic for two to five days.

A site specific scientific approach guides selection of mitigation measures, with engineers assessing rainfall, groundwater and geological characteristics before choosing techniques such as soil nailing, high tensile wire mesh and prestressed cable anchors. Nature based solutions including bamboo benching and vetiver plantations are being trialled alongside engineering works, while capacity building and safety audits with partners aim to embed global best practices and protect vital lifelines for hill communities.

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Centre Offers Rs 7,600 Crore Urban Development Package For Jharkhand, Seeks City Revamp Proposals Under Urban Challenge Fund

Swarajya,
June 22, 2026

Jharkhand could receive investments worth Rs 7,600 crore for urban infrastructure upgrades over the next four years after the Centre invited the state government to submit project proposals under the Urban Challenge Fund (UCF).

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The announcement came during Union Power and Housing & Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal's visit to Ranchi, where he reviewed the progress of various urban development programmes.

The minister said the Centre would contribute Rs 1,900 crore towards the proposed funding package, with the state expected to provide an equal share.

After the meeting, Lal said the fund would be utilised to improve urban infrastructure and civic amenities, adding that the scheme covers nearly 80 categories of projects, allowing the state government to select those best suited to its development priorities.

Under the UCF model, both the Centre and the state will contribute 25 per cent each, while the remaining half of the funding will be secured through market-based financing. This would create a total investment pool of Rs 7,600 crore for urban projects across Jharkhand.

Lal said proposals submitted by the state would be assessed by a dedicated committee before financial assistance is released. The evaluation will focus on projects that improve civic infrastructure, enhance urban living standards and strengthen the economic potential of cities.

The Urban Challenge Fund has been allocated a national corpus of Rs 4 lakh crore, including contributions from the Centre, state governments and external financing sources.

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Adani Group Eyes Major Infrastructure Expansion In West Bengal, Shows Interest In Hooghly River Tunnel And Power Projects

Business Standard,
June 22, 2026

The Adani Group is exploring a broader investment footprint in West Bengal, with a particular focus on large-scale infrastructure projects, including a proposed tunnel beneath the Hooghly River, as it looks to capitalise on emerging opportunities in the state.

As per news agency PTI, the conglomerate is keen to participate in projects that strengthen connectivity and support economic growth, while also advocating a transparent and consultative policy environment to encourage private investment.

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"Kolkata has a traffic problem, and an under-river tunnel can connect the city with a highway and support smooth cargo movement. We are very keen on such a project," a Adani Group official told PTI.

The proposed tunnel is seen as a potential solution to chronic traffic in and around Kolkata while improving freight movement. The city already hosts India's first underwater metro corridor connecting Kolkata and Howrah.

According to the official, the group is evaluating a wide range of infrastructure opportunities across the state, viewing improved transport links as a catalyst for industrial expansion and economic development.

"Stakeholder meetings can be called so that the process remains above board, everyone's views can be considered, suggestions can be taken and then converted into policies," the official said.

Beyond transport infrastructure, the Adani Group is assessing prospects in the power sector, including generation and distribution. The official noted that increased private participation could improve efficiency and service quality, provided fair competition is ensured.

The group is also studying the viability of a deep-sea port project in the state, while acknowledging the regulatory and environmental complexities involved.

"A deep-sea port is an opportunity, but such mega projects come with their own set of challenges, including environmental clearances and jurisdictional issues involving both the Centre and the state," the official explained.

The conglomerate already has business interests in West Bengal through port operations, cement manufacturing and a planned hyperscale data centre in Kolkata.

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