

NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025

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DPIIT secy reviews infra projects of five states

ET Infra,

June 27, 2025

Synopsis

The government is actively addressing hurdles in major infrastructure projects across Jharkhand, Sikkim, Nagaland, Assam, and Arunachal Pradesh. A recent review, led by DPIIT Secretary Amardeep Singh Bhatia, tackled 18 issues in Jharkhand projects worth ₹34,213 crores and other projects in northeastern states.

The government has reviewed key issues affecting mega infrastructure projects in Jharkhand, Sikkim, Nagaland, Assam, and Arunachal Pradesh, the commerce and industry ministry said Wednesday.

18 issues across 11 significant projects in Jharkhand with a total cost above Rs 34,213 crores and two issues across two projects costing Rs 943.04 crore in Sikkim were reviewed during the meeting chaired by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) secretary Amardeep Singh Bhatia on June 24.

“The meeting, attended by senior officials from central ministries, state governments, and project proponents, focused on expediting issue resolution through enhanced inter-ministerial and state coordination facilitated by the Project Monitoring Group (PMG),” the ministry said.

Three issues across two projects in Nagaland, one issue and one project in Assam and seven issues across three projects including a private project in Arunachal Pradesh were reviewed during the meeting.

The Patratu Thermal Power Station Expansion Project Phase-I in Jharkhand was reviewed in detail.

“The 2,880 MW Dibang Hydropower Project in Arunachal Pradesh...will feature India’s tallest dam and generate 11,223 million units of clean energy annually. Scheduled for commissioning by February 2032, it will aid flood control, provide 13% free power to the state, and support Net Zero goals,” the ministry said.

Similarly, the Kohima Bypass Road in Nagaland will decongest Kohima city, improve intra- and inter-state connectivity, and promote trade, tourism, and regional integration.

“Issue pertaining to a private sector project of GeoEnpro Petroleum Limited in the State of Arunachal Pradesh, worth Rs 1,000 crore, was also reviewed during the meeting,” the ministry said, adding that Bhatia advised the state government to accord high priority to the matter and extend all necessary support to GeoEnpro Petroleum Limited to ensure timely resolution of the project-related issues.

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Centre Reviews Issues Affecting 11 Major Infrastructure Projects Across Five States

Business Standard,

June 27, 2025

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has reviewed 18 issues affecting 11 major infrastructure projects located across Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam, and Nagaland, according to an official statement released on Thursday (25 June), Business Standard reported.

The review meeting, chaired by DPIIT Secretary Amardeep Bhatia, was attended by senior officials from central ministries, respective state governments, and project proponents.

Among the key projects discussed was the Patratu Thermal Power Station Expansion Project Phase-I in Jharkhand.

The total value of all 11 projects under review exceeds Rs 34,213 crore, emphasising their strategic importance in the region's infrastructure development.

The meeting also addressed challenges related to a private sector project by GeoEnpro Petroleum Ltd in Arunachal Pradesh, worth Rs 1,000 crore.

The DPIIT Secretary urged the government to treat the matter with high priority and provide all necessary support to facilitate a timely resolution.

The session was part of DPIIT's ongoing efforts to expedite infrastructure development by identifying and resolving project-specific hurdles in coordination with stakeholders at both the central and state levels.

Earlier, a total of 19 issues across 17 critical infrastructure projects, with a combined value of over Rs 14,096 crore, were reviewed to address bottlenecks and improve implementation through better coordination between ministries and states.

Among the key projects discussed was the Rs 3,164.72 crore four-laning of the Jaunpur-Akbarpur road, divided into two work packages.

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Prime Minister Modi Pushes For Time-Bound Execution Of Key Infra Projects At PRAGATI Meeting

Swarajya,
June 27, 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called for time-bound execution of key infrastructure projects in the country.

Chairing the 48th PRAGATI meeting on Wednesday (25 June), PM Modi reviewed certain critical infrastructure projects across the Mines, Railways, and Water Resources sectors.

These projects, pivotal to economic growth and public welfare, were reviewed with a focus on timelines, inter-agency coordination, and issue resolution, according to a PMO statement.

PRAGATI is the ICT-enabled, multi-modal platform aimed at fostering Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, by seamlessly integrating efforts of the Central and State governments.

During the meeting, PM Modi emphasised the urgency of sticking to timelines and resolving inter-agency issues, warning that delays not only inflate project costs but also deprive citizens of vital services.

"Prime Minister underscored that delays in project execution come at the dual cost of escalating financial outlays and denying citizens timely access to essential services and infrastructure. He urged officials, both at the Central and State levels, to adopt a results-driven approach to translate opportunity into improving lives," the PMO said.

During a review of Prime Minister-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM), PM Modi urged all states to accelerate the development of health infrastructure, with a special focus on aspirational districts, as well as remote, tribal, and border areas.

He emphasised that equitable access to quality healthcare must be ensured for the poor, marginalized, and under-served populations, and called for urgent and sustained efforts to bridge existing gaps in critical health services across these regions.

Prime Minister emphasised that PM-ABHIM provides a golden opportunity to States to strengthen their primary, tertiary and specialised health infrastructure at block, district and state level to provide quality health care and services.

The Prime Minister also reviewed initiatives promoting self-reliance in defence, commending various Ministries and States for their strategic efforts. He cited Operation Sindoor as a symbol of India's growing indigenous defence capabilities and urged States to tap into this momentum to contribute towards national Aatmanirbharta goals.

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Andhra Pradesh Cabinet Eases Building Norms To Promote Small-Scale Construction

Swarajya,

June 27, 2025

To encourage small-scale construction and easing the approval process for builders, the Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has approved a series of relaxations to the existing building regulations, PTI reported.

Municipal Administration Minister P Narayana announced the changes during a press conference, outlining a range of measures designed to make the process more accessible for smaller projects.

"Builders can mortgage 10 per cent of the plot area and construct as per the rules. For government lands, submitting an affidavit will be sufficient," Narayana stated, adding that the simplification now applies to buildings under five floors as well.

Among the notable changes is the allowing of balconies up to 1.5 metres on buildings raised at least 3 metres above the ground.

The installation of CCTV cameras has also been made mandatory for all residential and commercial buildings.

Industrial construction norms were also revised.

For non-red category industries, the road width must be at least 9 metres, while for red category industrial constructions, it should be 12 metres, the minister clarified.

He also added that Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) are now required to be built at the rear of all new constructions.

In a move aimed at compensating those affected by road widening projects, Narayana said that those who lose land due to road widening will be issued Transferable Development Rights (TDR) bonds, which allow the construction of an additional floor on the same building without needing further approval.

Licenses for builders and developers will now be valid for three years.

Additionally, a nominal fee of Rs 1 will apply for approval of small houses with a ground or ground-plus-one floor constructed within 50 square metres.

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NHAI bets big on monetisation, seeks consultants

Reuters,
June 27, 2025

NHAI seeks consultants to support its asset monetisation cell as part of the second National Monetisation Pipeline, targeting Rs 3.5 lakh crore from highways out of Rs 10 lakh crore overall.

Plans include a new InvIT and more frequent ToT bundles to boost monetisation over five years.

The outside consultant will assist NHAI in creating and updating its register of assets for five-year asset monetization pipeline.

To support its asset monetisation cell the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has started looking for outside consultants for a three-year period and has invited bids to shortlisting them.

The cell that is being set up under Member (Finance) of the NHAI, will utilise services of the consultants to deliver on the ambitious asset monetisation targets for the highways sector that will be set under the second National Monetisation Pipeline.

The pipeline will have a list of assets that will be monetised over the five-year period starting 2025. The potential receipts from the second pipeline has been pegged at Rs 10 lakh crore. Of the total the highway sector is expected to contribute Rs 3.5 lakh crore.

To meet this target the NHAI has come out with an Asset Monetisation Strategy Document.

The outside consultant will assist NHAI in creating and updating its register of assets for five-year asset monetization pipeline.

It will also assist in operationalizing an Asset Monetization (AM) Cell for updating and maintaining an asset monetization strategy document and conduct assessment and review of asset monetisation activities to ensure that objectives and targets are met.

The consultant will also provide assistance to NHAI in shortlisting assets for monetization and preparing an annual asset monetization pipeline and in undertaking any other analytical exercise pertaining to the asset monetization transactions.

The team that the consultant will deploy to assist the asset monetisation will have to place a team of asset monetisation expert, capital market specialist, asset monetisation strategy associate, financial and valuation analyst and other associate to assist the asset monetisation cell. The last date for submitting bids for the assignment is August 7.

To meet the monetisation target, the NHAI has plans to launch another Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) and increase the frequency of offering road assets to investors through Toll Operate Transfer (ToT) mode.

By changes in ToT mode of monetisation NHAI aims to offer three ToT bundles every quarter instead of two. Under the new strategy one bundle will be smaller with the potential to raise Rs. 2,000 crore, one medium that can bring in Rs. 5,000 crore and one large through which it can raise around Rs. 9,000 crore.

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PPP gets a leg up, Rs 86,000-crore projects approved since January
Swarajya,
June 27, 2025

PPP projects get boost with Rs 86,000 crore approvals in 2025 across roads, railways, tourism, and education sectors. With budgetary capex slowing, Centre turns to private investment to sustain growth momentum and ease fiscal burden across infrastructure and social sectors.

Highway projects were fully funded through the Budget in the last five years through FY26, and railways projects over the four years through the current fiscal.

Public private partnership (PPP) projects are making a strong comeback as the government looks to rope in private investors to sustain the investment momentum in the economy.

So far in 2025, the Centre has approved PPP projects worth Rs 86,000 crore across a wide spectrum of sectors, including highways, ports, railway station redevelopment, tourism infra, logistics infrastructure, solid waste projects and educational infrastructure, according to official sources.

This is already the highest since 2022. With many more projects in the pipeline, the PPP investment commitments will increase substantially in 2025.

The PPP projects approved by the government had an investment commitment of Rs 1.28 lakh crore in 2021, but such projects plunged to Rs 10,709 crore in 2022 and Rs 11,256 crore in 2023. PPP project clearances improved to Rs 66,919 crore in 2024.

The roads sector, which was one of the major beneficiaries of the Centre's budgetary capex boom, accounts for a lion's share in PPP projects so far in 2025 with total investment commitment of Rs 58,816 crore. The PPP road projects are being offered on built operate transfer (BOT) toll mode or hybrid annuity mode.

The renewed thrust to PPP projects followed the Centre's capex hitting 3% of GDP and finding no room for further rise, given the fiscal constraints. Private investment-led growth is seen as an imperative.

Highway projects were fully funded through the Budget in the last five years through FY26, and railways projects over the four years through the current fiscal. These sectors together accounted for about 50% of the Centre's capex. PPPs will reduce the pressure on the Centre's budget going forward.

The Centre's capex grew by a robust 28% in four years through FY24 before moderating to nearly 11% in FY25 and likely 6.6% in FY26.

Railways, which has made several attempts to promote station redevelopment via PPP, has recently decided to redevelop Vijaywada railway station via this mode. The project was approved last month. A private party will design, build, finance, operate and transfer (DBFOT) it back after the lease period of 60 years. The concessionaire will generate revenues through commercial exploitation of space like AC Lounges, food court, parking, commercials, retail outlets, etc.

"Vijaywada template could be replicated in dozens of other railway stations across the country," an official said

Besides these core infrastructure projects, the Centre is for the first time promoting PPP in a big way in social infrastructure like hospitals and hostels.

In May, the Centre approved the development of a medical college and hospital at Namsai in Arunachal Pradesh under the Aspirational District Programme through PPP mode on DBFOT. The project will get some viability gap funding given the nature of the projects.

Similarly, for the first time, the Centre rolled out the PPP model to transform the country's student hostel infrastructure by pooling private investment and management skills to improve campus living experiences.

In 2024, the PPP model was approved for building and running multiple hostels in three top educational institutions—IIT Madras, IIM Udaipur and IIIT Nagpur—which would set a template for more such projects in the country.

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Remaining Portion Of Barapullah Elevated Road Project Phase III Likely To Be Completed By December

Swarajya,
June 27, 2025

The Barapullah Phase III elevated corridor aimed at significantly cutting travel time between east and south Delhi may finally be completed by the end of this year, Times of India reported.

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On Wednesday (25 June), Public Works Department (PWD) Minister Parvesh Verma said the remaining civil work is likely to commence soon.

Verma's statement came after a recent inspection by the Supreme Court-appointed Central Empowered Committee (CEC).

“Once we get the permission, the remaining portion of the elevated road will be built within five months or so. We hope to complete it and open for traffic by December this year,” Verma stated.

The final clearance hinges on permission to fell and translocate 274 trees that lie in the path of the remaining 690 metres of the 3.5 km long stretch between Sarai Kale Khan and Mayur Vihar.

The permission to fell the trees has been pending with the forest department for over two years now.

However, the CEC's inspection on 21 June and a scheduled hearing on 27 June may break the deadlock.

The project has been marred by persistent setbacks since construction began in 2015.

Originally set for completion in 30 months, the corridor was obstructed by the delayed acquisition of two small parcels of land on the Yamuna floodplain.

Even after the revenue department announced a land acquisition award to take over 1,169 square metres of land in Nangli Razapur in July last year, tree clearance emerged as a fresh hurdle.

Initially estimated at Rs 964 crore, the project's cost has now escalated to Rs 1,330 crore.

“Delhi paid the price—in both time and taxpayers' money,” said Verma, blaming the previous AAP government for the protracted delays and budget overruns.

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