

NEWSLETTER

CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 - 25, 2025

^ TOP

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- [India's Mega Infrastructure Push: PM Modi PM Modi Reviews Critical Infrastructure Projects Worth Over Rs 65,000-Crore At PRAGATI Meeting](#)
- [Union Cabinet Approves Rs 2,192 Crore Doubling Of Bakhtiyarpur–Rajgir–Tilaiya Rail Line In Bihar](#)
- [Andhra Pradesh Needs Rs 1,430 Crore To Rebuild 352 Bridges, Says State Minister](#)
- [Coimbatore's Western Ring Road Phase 1 Faces Delays, Completion Expected By End Of Year: Report](#)
- [Bihar To Get New Four-Lane Greenfield Highway, To Link Patna And Bettiah, Covering Seven Districts](#)
- [Navi Mumbai International Airport Launch Faces Delay As Rains Batter Mumbai Region: Report](#)

- [PM Modi To Launch Multiple Energy Projects From Rajasthan, Including Rs 42,000 Crore Mahi Banswara Nuclear Power Project](#)
- [Greenfield Highway, Hyderabad RRR Among Projects Reviewed By Telangana CM Reddy](#)
- [Gujarat Approves SOP For Green Ring Road Scheme To Build Climate Resilient Urban Transport Network](#)

India's Mega Infrastructure Push: PM Modi PM Modi Reviews Critical Infrastructure Projects Worth Over Rs 65,000-Crore At PRAGATI Meeting

Swarajya,
September 25, 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday (24 September) chaired the 49th meeting of PRAGATI, the ICT-enabled multi-modal governance platform, during which he reviewed eight critical infrastructure projects with a combined investment of over Rs 65,000 crore.

The projects span 15 States and Union Territories, covering key sectors such as Mines, Railways, Water Resources, Industrial Corridors, and Power.

Recognised as vital drivers of economic growth and public welfare, the projects were examined with a strong emphasis on timely execution, inter-agency coordination, and the swift removal of bottlenecks.

PM Modi reiterated that delays in project implementation impose a “double cost”—leading not only to cost overruns but also depriving citizens of essential services and infrastructure.

He urged both Central and State officials to adopt a results-driven approach to ensure that opportunities translate into improved ease of living for citizens and ease of doing business for enterprises.

The Prime Minister also called upon States and Union Territories to institutionalise their own mechanisms for regular review and monitoring of flagship projects.

He urged all States/UTs to place strong emphasis on reforms aimed at improving competitiveness, strengthening efficiency, and fostering innovation across sectors, and stressed that better preparedness through these reforms would enable us to swiftly seize emerging opportunities.

Launched in 2015, PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation) brings together the Centre and States on one platform to fast-track approvals, resolve inter-departmental issues, and ensure time-bound delivery of large-scale projects.

“Joining the Hands that Believe in Building Sustainably # Platform for Sustainable Infra”

Since its inception, the platform has been instrumental in accelerating critical projects that are central to India's infrastructure and development roadmap.

[^ TOP](#)

Union Cabinet Approves Rs 2,192 Crore Doubling Of Bakhtiyarpur–Rajgir–Tilaiya Rail Line In Bihar

Swarajya,
September 24, 2025

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Wednesday (24 September) approved the doubling of the Bakhtiyarpur–Rajgir–Tilaiya single railway line in Bihar.

The 104-kilometre project will be executed at an estimated cost of Rs 2,192 crore.

The line passes through four Bihar districts and will expand the Indian Railways network by 104 kilometres.

It also connects important destinations such as Rajgir, Nalanda and Pawapuri, which draw large numbers of pilgrims and tourists.

According to the government, the project will enhance rail access to around 1,434 villages and benefit nearly 13.46 lakh people.

It will also improve connectivity for two Aspirational Districts—Gaya and Nawada.

The line is vital for the transportation of coal, cement, clinker and fly ash.

Once completed, it is expected to handle an additional freight load of 26 million tonnes per annum.

This capacity expansion will not only reduce congestion on the busy section but also lower logistics costs across the country.

The project is estimated to save 5 crore litres of oil annually and cut down 24 crore kilograms of carbon dioxide emissions, equivalent to planting one crore trees.

The government said the enhanced line capacity will improve mobility, efficiency and service reliability for Indian Railways.

The doubling proposal is in line with the PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan, aimed at enhancing multi-modal connectivity and logistic efficiency through integrated planning.

It is also expected to create new employment and self-employment opportunities in the region, furthering the goal of an Atmanirbhar Bharat through infrastructure-led growth.

[^ TOP](#)

Andhra Pradesh Needs Rs 1,430 Crore To Rebuild 352 Bridges, Says State Minister Swarajya, September 25, 2025

Andhra Pradesh Roads and Buildings Minister B C Janardhan Reddy on Tuesday (23 September) told the Assembly that the state requires an estimated Rs 1,430 crore to reconstruct 352 bridges, news agency PTI reported.

Responding to questions raised by several MLAs, the minister said the state is working to mobilise funds for the project under the 16th Finance Commission,

“Nearly 1,430 crore is needed to reconstruct 352 bridges across the state. We are working towards rebuilding those bridges with 16th Finance Commission funds,” Reddy was quoted as saying by PTI.

Reddy acknowledged that the concerns voiced by legislators regarding the poor condition of roads and bridges were valid, but he laid the blame on the previous YSR Congress Party government.

He alleged that the previous government led by Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy had failed to develop any new roads during its tenure between 2019 and 2024.

According to him, negligence in maintenance during that period caused severe inconvenience to the public.

Highlighting the steps taken by the current TDP-led NDA government, Reddy said that one of the first measures after coming to power was addressing the widespread issue of potholes.

The NDA government took up the task of fixing potholes at a cost of Rs 1,080 crore, the minister said.

The minister also pointed out that the YSRCP government left behind unpaid loans worth Rs 1,980 crore from the New Development Bank (NDB).

He said those funds, if utilised, could have supported the construction of nearly 2,500 km of roadways.

Alongside bridge reconstruction and pothole repairs, the state is now prioritising the development of single-layer roads under the directives of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu.

Reddy further revealed that a dedicated corporation will soon be established to speed up road development and ensure timely completion of projects.

[^ TOP](#)

Coimbatore's Western Ring Road Phase 1 Faces Delays, Completion Expected By
End Of Year: Report
PTI,
September 25, 2025

The Western Ring Road project in Coimbatore, conceived to ease traffic bottlenecks and divert heavy vehicles from the city's core, has been hit by multiple delays, pushing the deadline for its first phase from September to December this year, according to a New Indian Express report.

The report added that the main carriageway is expected to open by November.

The 32.43 km, four-lane corridor, also known as the Western Bypass will stretch from Mylkal on the Salem–Cochin Road (SHU 52) to Narasimhanaickenpalayam on the Nagapattinam–Gudalur–Mysore Road (NH 67).

Cutting across 15 revenue villages, the bypass is expected to ease pressure on Coimbatore's arterial routes.

Phase 1, covering 11.8 km from Madukkarai to Madampatti via Sundakkamuthur, Perur Chettipalayam and Theethipalayam, is over 90 per cent complete.

Launched in August 2023 at a cost of Rs 250 crore, it was meant to be ready by September 2025 but has been slowed by shortages of suitable soil, rising costs of construction materials, farmers' opposition to soil extraction from Chinnavedampatti lake, and a scarcity of civil workers.

"Delays in land acquisition, relocation of pipelines and EB cables, and the presence of a crematorium near Mylkal slowed the flyover work considerably. We also faced unexpected challenges in procuring soil for embankment construction. However, we are now moving at a faster pace and expect to finish soon," a senior official from the State Highways department was quoted as saying.

According to officials, the remaining 2 km of road will be completed by October, with the main carriageway likely open to the public by November, even as flyover work at Mylkal continues until December.

Service roads will initially be laid as mud tracks and upgraded to asphalt later, subject to funds.

Subsequent phases, covering 12.1 km to Somayampalayam and 8.09 km to Narasimhanaickenpalayam, are awaiting funds and land clearances, though land acquisition is largely complete.

For now, officials maintain there are no immediate plans for toll booths, with the decision left to the government.

[^TOP](#)

Bihar To Get New Four-Lane Greenfield Highway, To Link Patna And Bettiah, Covering Seven Districts

Swarajya,
September 25, 2025

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the construction of a new four-lane highway between Sahebganj, Areraj and Bettiah in Bihar under the Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM).

The 78.94 km greenfield project, with an estimated capital cost of Rs 3,822.31 crore, is set to transform connectivity across northern Bihar, the press release stated.

The highway will link Patna to Bettiah, covering the districts of Vaishali, Saran, Siwan, Gopalganj, Muzaffarpur, East Champaran and West Champaran, and extend up to areas adjoining the Indo-Nepal border.

The corridor is expected to ease freight movement, connect agricultural and industrial hubs, and improve access to cross-border trade routes, fuelling regional economic growth.

The project is also significant from a cultural and tourism perspective. It will improve access to nine major religious and heritage centres, including Kesariya Buddha Stupa, Someshwarnath Mandir, Jain Mandir, Vishwa Shanti Stupa and Patna's Mahavir Temple.

Strengthening the Buddhist tourism circuit is expected to enhance Bihar's international tourism potential.

As part of the PM Gati Shakti framework, NH-139W will connect seven economic nodes, six social nodes and eight logistics nodes, creating seamless links with national highways NH-31, NH-722, NH-727, NH-27 and NH-227A.

The high-speed greenfield alignment has been designed to allow average vehicular speeds of 80 km/h, cutting travel time between Sahebganj and Bettiah from 2.5 hours to just one hour.

Beyond improved travel, the project is expected to generate 14.22 lakh man-days of direct employment and 17.69 lakh man-days of indirect employment, while spurring additional opportunities through new economic activity along the corridor.

[^ TOP](#)

Navi Mumbai International Airport Launch Faces Delay As Rains Batter Mumbai Region: Report

The Hindu Business Line,
September 24, 2025

The much awaited launch of the Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA) has been postponed by at least a fortnight due to heavy rains across the Mumbai Metropolitan Region and the Konkan belt, Hindustan Times reported, citing officials familiar with the matter.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was to inaugurate the project on 30 September, has reportedly deferred his visit after the Prime Minister's Office alerted the Maharashtra government of difficulties in reaching the Ulwe site owing to "loose soil and muck on the roads."

The launch is now expected sometime in October.

PM Modi's planned inauguration of the final stretch of Mumbai Metro Line 3 has also been pushed back.

Despite the delay, preparations for NMIA's commercial rollout are gathering pace.

Air India has joined IndiGo and Akasa Air in announcing operations from the new airport.

Its low-cost arm, Air India Express, will begin with 20 daily flights to 15 Indian cities, scaling up to 55 departures by mid-2026, including international routes.

IndiGo has promised 18 daily flights at launch, expanding to 140 within 18 months, while Akasa plans 15 daily services initially.

Connectivity projects are also advancing.

The City and Industrial Development Corporation has invited bids to review the Detailed Project Report for Metro Line 8, a Rs 20,000 crore PPP venture linking Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) to NMIA.

Meanwhile, Central Railway is enhancing the Nerul/Belapur–Uran corridor with 20 additional daily services from October, and two new stations—Targhar and Gavhan nearing completion. Targhar will serve as a crucial gateway to the airport.

When fully built in five phases, NMIA is projected to handle 90 million passengers and 3.2 million metric tonnes of cargo annually.

[^ TOP](#)

PM Modi To Launch Multiple Energy Projects From Rajasthan, Including Rs 42,000 Crore Mahi Banswara Nuclear Power Project

Swarajya,
September 25, 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone and inaugurate energy projects worth more than Rs 90,000 crore during his visit to Rajasthan on Wednesday (25 September).

The initiatives include a large nuclear power facility, multiple solar parks, transmission networks, and solarisation schemes for farmers.

Rs 42,000 Crore Nuclear Power Plant at Mahi Banswara

At the centre of the initiatives is the foundation laying of Mahi Banswara Rajasthan Atomic Power Project, valued at about Rs 42,000 crore.

The facility, being developed by Anushakti Vidhyut Nigam Ltd (ASHVINI), will consist of four indigenous 700 MW Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors designed by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL).

Once operational, the plant will be among the largest nuclear projects in India, adding reliable base load capacity to the national grid.

It forms part of the country's "fleet mode" programme, under which ten reactors of identical design are being constructed at different sites to reduce costs, accelerate construction, and standardise operations.

Solar Projects Across Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh

The Prime Minister will also inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of solar projects worth about Rs 19,210 crore.

These include projects in Phalodi, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Sikar and Bikaner in Rajasthan.

The projects will significantly expand India's renewable energy capacity and help cut millions of tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions annually.

Transmission Network Under REZ Initiative

To support renewable energy evacuation, three transmission projects with a combined value of over Rs 13,180 crore will be launched under the Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) initiative.

The government aims to develop 181.5 GW of renewable power capacity across eight states by 2030.

The Power Grid Corporation of India will construct high-capacity corridors, including:

- A 765 KV line from Beawar (Rajasthan) to Mandsaur (Madhya Pradesh), with expansion of related substations.
- A 765 KV line from Sirohi (Rajasthan) to Mandsaur and Khandwa (Madhya Pradesh), with augmentation at all three substations.
- 765 KV and 400 KV lines from Bikaner (Rajasthan) to Siwani and Fatehabad (Haryana), extending to Patran (Punjab), along with new substations at Bikaner and Siwani.

Together, these projects are expected to enable the transfer of 15.5 GW of renewable power from Rajasthan to demand centres in other states.

Regional Grid Strengthening

PM Modi will also lay the foundation stone for three grid substations (220 KV) at Jaisalmer and Bikaner, and inaugurate another substation at Shiv in Barmer district. These projects, worth around Rs 490 crore, aim to improve grid reliability and energy security in western Rajasthan.

PM-KUSUM: Solarisation for Farmers

Another major component of the day's programme will be the launch of feeder-level solarisation projects of 3,517 MW capacity, costing over ₹16,050 crore, under the PM-KUSUM scheme (Component C).

The projects, spread across Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka, will solarise agricultural electricity feeders to provide cheaper and more reliable irrigation power.

The scheme is expected to reduce electricity costs for farmers, cut irrigation expenses, and increase rural energy independence.

[^TOP](#)

Greenfield Highway, Hyderabad RRR Among Projects Reviewed By Telangana CM Reddy

The Hindu,
September 24, 2025

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has directed officials to accelerate land acquisition and compensation payments for National Highway projects across the state, urging district collectors to adopt a humanitarian approach and explain the benefits of road expansion to farmers to ensure smooth progress.

Chairing a high-level review at State Secretariat with officials from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), Roads and Buildings Department and Forest Department, the Chief Minister scrutinised delays in granting approvals and permissions.

He cautioned that small reasons should not lead to delays in several highway works and instructed collectors to finalise land acquisition and compensation by October.

On the Hyderabad Regional Ring Road (RRR), he questioned NHAI over fresh objections to the northern section despite earlier clarifications.

Emphasising the need for uniformity, he instructed officials not to treat the RRR's northern and southern stretches as separate projects.

He said the same number allotted to the northern section should be applied to the south as well, with NHAI granting approvals quickly so that work on both could begin at the same time.

He also pressed for immediate clearance of the Bharat Future City–Amaravati–Machilipatnam 12 lane greenfield highway, announcing plans for a dry port, logistics hub and industrial park.

He highlighted that the project would reduce the Hyderabad–Vijayawada distance by 70 km, enhance passenger convenience and freight movement, and deliver record traffic and revenue.

Parallely, he sought a Bengaluru–Shamshabad–Amaravati rail link to support Vande Bharat and other trains.

The Chief Minister demanded prompt approvals for an elevated corridor on the Hyderabad–Srisailem route and urged resolution of a pending NGT case on tree removal along the Hyderabad–Manneguda road.

[^TOP](#)

Gujarat Approves SOP For Green Ring Road Scheme To Build Climate Resilient Urban Transport Network

Swarajya,
September 24, 2025

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has cleared the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Mukhyamantri Green Ring Road Vikas Yojana, a flagship initiative designed to create climate-resilient and sustainable road infrastructure across the state's municipal corporations.

The state has earmarked Rs 200 crore for the development of green ring roads by urban local bodies, a government release stated.

By diverting vehicles away from city cores, the scheme seeks to tackle rising traffic while enhancing urban mobility.

The SOP was drafted following recommendations from an expert advisory committee chaired by the Principal Secretary.

It places strong emphasis on deploying advanced green-clean construction technologies and materials, ensuring that infrastructure is robust, low-maintenance, and aesthetically aligned with modern cityscapes.

Key design provisions include carriageways, medians, drainage and rainwater systems, utilities, tree plantation, traffic management, and road safety.

To promote a circular economy, the SOP mandates that 25 per cent of road construction materials must come from recycled sources, significantly reducing the reliance on fresh resources.

Municipal corporations have also been advised to prioritise the use of renewable energy in these projects, minimising carbon footprints while aligning with broader environmental goals.

Given the scale and technical complexity of the project, implementation will be guided strictly by government protocols, with technical and environmental reviews of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) conducted at each stage.

As part of Urban Development Year 2025, Chief Minister Patel has framed the initiative as a step towards climate-resilient road infrastructure.

[^ TOP](#)