

2nd longest tunnel in Maha to save 30 min journey time

An 8-km-long tunnel, touted to become the country's second longest one, is being proposed by the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) through the Western Ghats on the Mumbai-Pune Expressway, considered one of the best ... **page 3**

No takers for Kuttipuram-Edapally H'way

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₹613.96 cr spent on Trichy-Dindigul highway

Till March 2011, Rs 613.96 crore has been incurred on the National Highways Authority of India's (NHAI) Trichy-Dindigul (NH-45) Highway work. The project was announced in March 2005 under Phase-III-A of the National Highway Development Programme..... **page 4**

Nod to widening of Mullanpur-Siswan Rd

The upgradation and widening work on Mullanpur-Siswan road has received the Union Environment and Forest Ministry approval subject to a condition... **page 2**

Work in progress on Manpada flyover

Work is progressing at a slow pace on the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority's (MMRDA) Manpada Flyover Project. MMRDA **page 3**

KNR Const wins Rs 5.8 bn rd work

Infrastructure firm KNR Constructions has won Rs 580.17 crore project from Sadbhav Engineering for rehabilitation, upgradation and maintenance... **page 3**

Satwari-Kunjwani road to be ready by 2012

Six-laning work of Satwari-Kunjwani Road by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir is in progress and it is expected to be ready by April 2012..... **page 2**

Rajnigandha underpass to be ready soon

The Rajnigandha six-lane underpass project by New Okhla Industrial Development Authority (NOIDA) is under implementation and it is expected to be ready by **page 2**

All projects on track: NHAI tells Punjab & Haryana HC

The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has, in a submission, recently told the Punjab and Haryana High Court that the National Highway -22 bypassing Pinjore, Kalka and Parwanoo, is expected to be completed by December 2011. The NHAI contended that 80 per cent of its project stands completed.

NHAI's reply was filed during the resumed hearing of a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) demanding the speedy completion of various bypasses and national highways. Status reports of various stretches of National highways were filed by the NHAI. Highlighting the illegal accesses on the highway, the NHAI has submitted that, "70 accesses on right-hand side and about 49 accesses on the left-hand side of NH 22, between Ambala to Zirakpur, exists without any legal permission."

The NHAI has also expressed its helplessness in not being able to take appropriate action against the violators. "Number of drives was launched to cut illegal accesses of properties, but it has not turned out to be fruitful, trenches have again been refilled. NHAI has requested Punjab to cancel their licences, but till date no steps have been taken."

For the first time, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has selected 101 firms, including L&T Infrastructure Development Projects, IL&FS Transportation Networks, Reliance Infrastructure, Lanco Infratech and Punj Lloyd, to straightaway submit financial bids for projects put up for bidding till December 31, 2011.

The move is intended to enable NHAI award contracts expeditiously for construction of 7,300 km national highways during the current financial year by doing away with two-stage bidding process.

Senior NHAI officials told a business newspaper that the authority would award most of the projects for the current fiscal in the next six months to better its performance against last year.

Insight@firstinfocentre.org

J&K CM fast-tracks highway project

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah has asked the State Revenue Department to hasten the disbursement of compensation to the.... **page 2**

Plea to mend Bhalukpong-Tawang road

Due to lack of maintenance by the Border Roads Organization (BRO) the 285-kilometre Bhalukpong-Tawang road, the most important strategic **page 2**

Wazirabad bridge phase I by Dec

Phase I of the western approach road of Wazirabad Signature Bridge Project taken up by the Government of Delhi is expected to be ready by ... **page 2**

Chhapra-Hajipur highway in progress

The Gopalganj-Chhapra-Hajipur Highway Project of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is in progress. NHAI had announced the project.... **page 2**

10k km state roads to be upgraded into NHs

The Road Transport and Highways Ministry is finalising the process of identifying 10,000 km roads running through different states to be upgraded to NHs. This will mean a better.... **page 2**

Work on Ranchi-J'shedpur H'way is yet to start

Construction work is yet to start on the National Highways Authority of India's (NHAI) Ranchi-Rargaon-Jamshedpur (NH-33) Highway Project. The project was announced in December 2003 under Phase..... **page 3**

NH in East Godavari to be made six-lane soon

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has decided to upgrade 100 km stretch of the four-lane road between Rajahmundry and Tuni into six-lane to ease the **page 4**

V'cherry-Thrissur H'way to be ready by 2012

Work on six-lane Vadakkencherry-Thrissur (NH-47) Highway project of is on and it is expected to be ready by August 2012. The highway was announced in November 2008 under Phase-II of the National ... **page 4**

NATIONAL

10k km state roads to be upgraded into NHs



The Road Transport and Highways Ministry is finalising the process of identifying 10,000 km roads running through different states to be upgraded to NHs. This will mean a better maintenance and upgrade of the highways as once they are declared NH, the resources for its upkeep shifts to the Centre from the respective states.

“One reason for the poor maintenance of many of the state highways is the fact that many states do not have adequate funds to spend on the highway’s upkeep. With Centre spending the resource, the NH would be better maintained,” said a senior Ministry official. On June 15, Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Planning Commission Deputy Chairman had also written to CP Joshi, Road Transport Minister to finalise the list of 10,000 km of state highways to be upgraded to NH by the end of August.

At present, while India has the second largest road network of 3.3 million km, the National Highways constitute just 70,548 km, but it carries about 40 per cent of the total road traffic.

Joshi said that while the states have requested the Centre to upgrade 60,000 km of state highways to NH, the government has as of now decided to convert only 10,000 km. “We will look into whether other state highways meet the criteria to be converted to NH. It has financial implication so we need to look at it carefully,” said Joshi.

JAMMU, KASHMIR

J&K CM fast-tracks highway project

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah has asked the State Revenue Department to hasten the disbursement of compensation to the affected people to fast track the land acquisition for construction of a 4-lane highway project from Lakhnampur to Srinagar. The Chief Minister directed the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir to monitor the clearance of payment to the concerned wherever it is yet to be made so that the land is handed over to the National Highway Authority for construction work.

Omar highlighted the importance of this project for the overall socio-economic development and progress of the state and emphasised the need for joint efforts for its timely completion.



Satwari-Kunjwani 6-lane road to be ready by 2012

Six-laning work of Satwari-Kunjwani Road by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir is in progress and it is expected to be ready by April 2012. The project was announced in October 2010. It entails an investment of Rs.50 crore. The stretch located in the state will cover a distance of 3.6 km. The project includes construction of 6-lane road and two bridges, deep drains on either side besides, Water Bound Macadam and river bed.

PUNJAB

Nod to widening of Mullanpur-Siswan Road

The upgradation and widening work on Mullanpur-Siswan road has received the Union Environment and Forest Ministry approval subject to a condition that the Punjab Government will give 51.51 acres of land to the State Forest Department for forestry purpose.

The Government Of Punjab had announced the project in August 2010. It entails an investment of Rs.290 crore. The Greater Mohali Area Development Authority (GMADA), the nodal agency, has been asked to bear the cost of the forestation on the land.

DELHI

Wazirabad bridge phase I to be ready by Dec



Phase I of the western approach road of Wazirabad Signature Bridge Project taken up by the Government of Delhi is expected to be ready by December 2011. The project was announced in May 2006. The whole project is expected to be ready by December 2013 and entails an investment of Rs.1,131 crore.

The proposed cable-stayed bridge will link NH-1 near existing T-point at Wazirabad on Western bank and Marginal Bund Road at Khajuri Khas on eastern bank of the river Yamuna, thus connecting North Delhi with East Delhi. With a total length of about 675 meters the proposed bridge project will have a bow-shaped pylon in the middle. It will be developed by Delhi Tourism and Transport Development Corporation. The project will have two subways, footpaths and cycle tracks, besides the bridge.

The project has been divided into two parts, one is the approach roads leading to the bridge, and the bridge itself. Gammon India Ltd. bagged the contract worth Rs 631.81 crore for construction of Wazirabad Signature Bridge project and its approaches over river Yamuna in Delhi.

Once operational, the Signature Bridge will improve access between North and West Delhi for the commuters, who have to pass through the narrow lane on the present bridge in Wazirabad, leading to heavy traffic jam in the peak hours.

UTTAR PRADESH

Six-lane Rajnigandha underpass to be ready soon

The Rajnigandha six-lane underpass project by New Okhla Industrial Development Authority (NOIDA) is under implementation and it is expected to be ready by the end of this July. The project was announced in December 2006 with an investment of Rs 38 crore. The underpass will cover a distance of 660 meters in Uttar Pradesh.

The two way underpass, having six lanes, will ease traffic coming from the DND Flyover and will ensure free flow of traffic between sectors 15, 16, Film City and Atta Chowk.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Plea to mend Bhalukpong-Tawang road

Due to lack of maintenance by the Border Roads Organization (BRO) the 285-kilometre Bhalukpong-Tawang road, the most important strategic road that leads to the India-China border in Arunachal Pradesh’s Tawang district, is in shambles. The people of the district had recently held a meeting under the chairmanship of Arunachal Pradesh Tourism and Water Resources Minister Pema Khandu to explain their ordeal. They urged the Minister to take up the matter with the authority concerned and repair the road.

Honouring the demands of the people, Pema Khandu has asked the Tawang administration to take up the matter with the BRO authorities, for prompt action. He has also assured that he would take up the matter with Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jarbom Gamlin and urge him to apprise the BRO Director General of the anguish of the masses. Tawang, particularly the 400-year-old Tawang Monastery, has been drawing tourists from all over the world in an increasing number, who have been complaining of the very tedious journey from Bhalukpong because of pathetic road condition.

BIHAR

Work on Chhapra-Hajipur highway in progress

The Gopalganj-Chhapra-Hajipur Highway Project of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is in progress. NHAI had announced the project in November 2008 under the Phase III-A of the National Highways Development Programme (NHDP). It entail an investment of Rs.2,061 crore. It involves two sections: The first section Gopalganj-Chhapra highway project is in progress. The stretch will cover a distance of 94.7 km on NH-85. The contract for this stretch was awarded to Abhijeet Infrastructure Ltd.

The second section Chhapra-Hajipur highway is in progress. The stretch will cover a distance of 65 km. The contract for this section was awarded to Madhucon Projects Ltd.

JHARKHAND

Work on Ranchi-J'shedpur H'way is yet to start



Construction work is yet to start on the National Highways Authority of India's (NHAI) Ranchi-Rargaon-Jamshedpur (NH-33) Highway Project. The project was announced in December 2003 under Phase-III of the National Highways Development Programme (NHDP). It entails an investment of Rs.1,500 crore.

Contract for the project was awarded to Madhucon Projects Ltd. The stretch located in Jharkhand will cover a distance of 163.77 km (114 - 277.50 km) on NH-33. The project is being implemented by Ranchi Expressway Ltd. (REL), a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for this project.

The project will be executed under the Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) on annuity basis. It received the Central Government's approval in August 2010. The project will have annuity component of Rs.133.20 crore, with a concession period of 15 years, including construction phase of 912 days.

Earlier, NHAI has stalled its four-laning highway project as it caught in a legal roadblock in January 2011 with an unsuccessful bidder for the project challenging the work allotment process in the court.

The bids for the project were invited in July 2010 and Nagarjuna Construction Company Limited (NCC) emerged as a lowest bidder for this project in December 2010. The Hyderabad-based NCC had moved the Supreme Court seeking to restrain NHAI from processing Madhucon Projects' price bid in a tender related to the four-laning road project. The Supreme Court in

a response had directed NHAI not to open the bids of Madhucon Project for the project. The Supreme Court's directive came on a petition filed by NCC Infrastructure Holdings, challenging the High Court order.

MP/MAHA

KNR Constructions wins ₹5.8 bn road work

Infrastructure firm KNR Constructions has won Rs 580.17 crore project from Sadbhav Engineering for rehabilitation, upgradation and maintenance of roads in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. The scope of the work includes rehabilitation and upgradation to two-lane with paved shoulders and maintenance of roads of Chhindwara-Linga-Umarnala-Saoner section of NH-26B, including part of Chhindwara by-pass and Multai near Imlikhera, the company said in a regulatory filing. The order is to be completed in 36 months from the appointed date.



MAHARASHTRA

2nd longest tunnel in Maha to save 30 min journey time



An 8-km-long tunnel, touted to become the country's second longest one, is being proposed by the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) through the Western Ghats on the Mumbai-Pune Expressway, considered one of the best highways in the country. The tunnel will not only shorten the journey by at least 30 minutes, but also, importantly, help in avoiding accidents and traffic snarls on the Ghat section. The under-construction 11-km

Rohtang tunnel is slated to be the longest in the country.

Consultants will be appointed by MSRDC to study the terrain along the Expressway and decide the length of two the tunnel. The proposed tunnel, the longest in India, through the rock on the ghat section near Lonavala, is part of the Expressway expansion project. The project, which will cost Rs 3,500 to 4,000 crore, will be carried out on build-operate-transfer (BOT) method. It has also been said that the tunnel, or even one more tunnel, will be constructed from Khopoli to Lonavla cutting through the dangerous hilly section. This is a crucial segment of the route as the six-lane expressway and the old four-lane Pune highway converge at this point where congestion is common and authorities have been unable to widen the narrow road as the Union Environment Ministry has not given permission.

While the plan to construct a tunnel is being hailed by expressway users, the major challenge before MSRDC is to obtain various clearances before embarking on the project. Permission from the National Highways Authority of India and Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is also yet to be obtained. All this expected to take a year. The project may then take four years or so to be completed.

Work in progress on Manpada flyover

Work is progressing at a slow pace on the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority's (MMRDA) Manpada Flyover Project. MMRDA had announced the project in January 2009 for which construction was commenced in September 2009. The project was on hold from September 2010 to February 2011, as the State Forest Department stalled the project in September 2010, after it ruled that the land on which the flyover is being constructed is a private forest and will need the approval of the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF).

PMC's nod to Sinhagad ROB Project

Sinhagad Road Overbridge Project (ROB) near Santosh Hall, Pune has been approved by the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC). PMC had announced the project in June 2011 with an investment of Rs.3.4 crore.

New Road & Bridge Projects announced this Week

Company Name	Project Name	Cost (Rs. crore)	Location
Govt Of Goa	Assolna-Cavelossim Bridge	53.30	GOA
Govt Of Haryana	Kaithal-Jind State Highway Two lane ROB	24.00	HAR
Jharkhand Accelerated Road Devp. Co.	Ranchi Ring Road Improvement	477.00	JHA
Govt Of Jammu & Kashmir	Shadipora bridge	14.84	JK
Govt Of Jammu & Kashmir	Muqam-Hangoo Road	3.13	JK
Pune Municipal Corpn.	Vishrantwadi ROB	6.30	MAH
Pune Municipal Corpn.	Sinhagad ROB	3.40	MAH
Govt Of Orissa	Bhwanipatna-Rayagada Road Improvement	21.18	ORI

ANDHRA PRADESH**NH in East Godavari to be made six-lane soon**

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has decided to upgrade 100 km stretch of the four-lane road between Rajahmundry and Tuni into six-lane to ease the increasing vehicular traffic on the national highway in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh.

NHAI has sanctioned Rs 640 crore for the works and initiated measures to acquire 100 acres for the project.

With the rapid urbanisation and industrial growth, vehicular traffic is increasing day-by-day on the 140 km stretch of national highway in the district, on which about 45,000 vehicles are plying daily. The national highway passes through the Ravulapalem, Kadiyam, Rajahmundry, Rajanagaram, Gandepalli, Prattipadu, Jaggampeta and Tuni mandals in the district.

Proposals were under consideration to develop 250 km stretch between Kakinada and Suryapeta into a four-lane road. The proposed four-lane track would pass through Samalkot, Anaparathi, Dwarapudi, Vemagiri, Rajahmundry, Kovvur, Pangidi, Koyyalagudem, Aswaraopeta, Surrapet

TAMIL NADU**₹613.96 cr spent on Trichy-Dindigul highway**

Till March 2011, Rs 613.96 crore has been incurred on the National Highways Authority of India's (NHAI) Trichy-Dindigul (NH-45)



Highway work. The project was announced in March 2005 under Phase-III-A of the National Highway Development Programme (NHDP). The project at the time of announcement had an investment of Rs 576 crore, which is being funded by NHAI.

The contract has been awarded to Reliance Energy Ltd on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. The stretch in Tamil Nadu will cover a distance of 88.27 km on NH-28. A joint venture formed by Zaidung-leeng SDN. BND (Malaysia) and Artefact projects Ltd. (India) is serving as supervision consultant for this project.

KERALA**No takers for Kuttipuram-Edapally H'way**

Four-laning work of Kuttipuram-Edapally (NH-17) Highway has no takers, according to the National Highways Authority of India. NHAI had announced the project in August 2008 under Phase-III of the National Highway Development Programme (NHDP).

The project entails an investment of Rs.890 crore.

The stretch is located in Kerala and will cover a distance of 159.7 km. The project will be implemented through Public Private Partnership (PPP) on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) basis. This highway project received the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in December 2008.

The scope of work will broadly include rehabilitation, up-gradation and widening of the existing carriageway to four-lane standards with construction of new pavement, rehabilitation of existing pavement, construction or rehabilitation of major and minor bridges and the operation and maintenance thereof.

V'cherry-Thrissur H'way to be ready by 2012

Work on six-lane Vadakkencherry-Thrissur (NH-47) Highway project is on and it is expected to be ready by August 2012. The highway was announced in November 2008 under Phase-II of the National Highway Development Programme (NHDP). The project entails an investment of Rs.643.52 crore.

The contract for the project was awarded to KMC Constructions Limited and CR18G (China) Consortium on Build, Operate, Transfer (BOT) basis. The stretch is located in Kerala and will cover 30 km (240 - 270 km) on NH-47. ICT Pvt. Ltd. is serving as a supervision consultant for this project. The concession period for the project is 20 years including 30 months of construction period.