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## INFRAINSIGHTS

Insights Igniting Curiosity



## InfraShorts

- AVP Infracon gets Rs 33 crore road project in Tamil Nadu.
- Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inaugurates, lays foundation stones of rural road projects worth Rs 8837.77 crore.
- Maharashtra Deputy CM Fadnavis announces Coastal Road extension from Nariman Point to Virar, cutting travel time to 40 minutes.
- Government considers Rs 6,000 crore tunnel to link Leh with Pangong.

## Mumbai Railway Network to get major boost with Rs 16,240 Crore investment

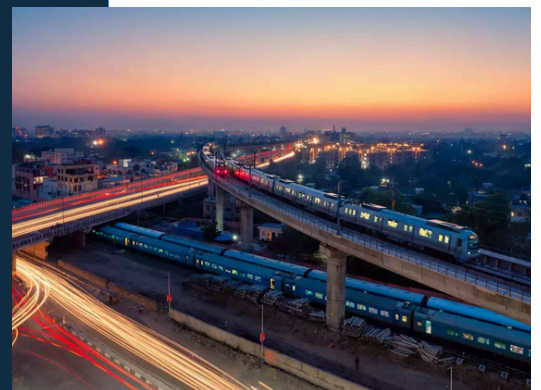
The central government has allocated Rs 16,240 crore to revamp Mumbai's railway infrastructure, as announced by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. The funds will be used for station upgrades, land acquisition, additional lines, elevated corridors, interchange links, and the construction of 301 new tracks across the city. Notable improvements include expanded terminals at Parel, Jogeshwari, Bandra, Vasai Road, and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT).

The capacity of Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (LTT) will be enhanced to separate local and long-distance trains, while Parel, Panvel, and Kalyan will become key junctions. Significant projects include the construction of fifth and sixth lines between CSMT and Kurla (Rs 821 crore), Borivali to Vihar lines (Rs 2,184 crore), and the Airoli-Kalwa Elevated Corridor (Rs 476 crore).

By 2027, over 300 km of projects will be completed, increasing local trains by 300. The introduction of Kavach 5.0 technology will improve network efficiency by 15%, enhancing Mumbai's transit experience. New trains with enhanced ventilation and passenger features will be introduced once the projects are finished.

## New Multi-Modal Transit Hubs to connect NCR's Rapid Rail Network

Five key spots in the city—Cyber City, Rajiv Chowk, Hero Honda Chowk, Kherki Daula, and Pachgaon—will become major transit hubs connecting the Delhi-Alwar rapid rail corridor with other transport networks. The multi-modal integration plan includes linking RapidX stations with the Rapid Metro, Gurgaon Metro, ISBT, Dwarka Expressway, HORC, and KMP Expressway. These hubs provide local commuters with more options. The first hub, located in Cyber City, will be an underground station integrated with the proposed Gurgaon Metro and existing Rapid Metro, benefiting office-goers and offering indirect access to Delhi via Sikanderpur station.



## China's cut to coal power share is a rare but key climate win

China is set to reduce coal's share in electricity generation below 60% in 2024 for the first time, marking a milestone in its energy transition despite record-high coal output. This shift is fueled by rising wind power generation, which reached 11.1% of October's electricity production, and subdued industrial activity, especially in energy-intensive sectors like construction. While winter heating may boost coal-fired output, wind generation is expected to offset its share. Industrial growth focused on exports, including EVs and electronics, may increase power demand, but steady coal use and wind power expansion could solidify China's progress in diversifying its energy mix.



## Jurong Port unveils \$200M concrete hub

Jurong Port (JP) opened a \$200 million shared-services hub for ready-mixed concrete (RMC) on November 27, aimed at helping construction companies streamline logistics and reduce costs. The RMC Ecosystem facility, part of an Integrated Construction Park, offers services like centralized recycling, truck washing, and logistics planning, improving storage capacity by 75% and cutting over a million truck trips. With 11.9 hectares of space, the facility supports nine local companies, boosting concrete production by 50%. The hub will meet growing demand in Singapore's western region while optimizing land usage for RMC production.



## BP, Partners Commit \$7 Billion to Groundbreaking Carbon Capture Project in Indonesia

BP and partners have committed \$7 billion to Indonesia's Tangguh UCC project, unlocking 3 trillion cubic feet of gas and marking the nation's first large-scale carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) initiative. Set to begin in 2028, the project will sequester 15 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> in its initial phase while enhancing Tangguh LNG's 11.4 million tonnes annual capacity. Recognized as a national strategic project, it strengthens Indonesia's energy supply and advances regional energy transition goals.



## Alcoa joins World Economic Forum promoting low-carbon aluminum

Alcoa Corporation, a global leader in the aluminum industry, has joined the World Economic Forum's First Suppliers Hub, a platform supporting industrial decarbonization by 2050. The initiative, part of the First Movers Coalition (FMC) with the U.S. government, requires members to procure at least 10% of their aluminum from low-carbon sources emitting under 3 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per tonne of primary aluminum. Alcoa's groundbreaking ELYSIS<sup>®</sup> technology enables carbon-free aluminum smelting, helping customers meet FMC standards. Renato Bacchi, Alcoa's Executive Vice President, emphasized the company's commitment to advancing decarbonization and simplifying low-carbon supply chain solutions for industries worldwide.

## Enshu Forest Energy starts Biomass Plant early in Shizuoka

Japan's Enshu Forest Energy has officially commenced operations at its 7.1MW biomass-fired power plant in Fukuroi city, Shizuoka prefecture, on November 16, two weeks ahead of schedule. Initially set for a December start, the early launch followed the completion of safety checks and test runs. The plant will use 90,000 tons of wood chips annually, derived from unused forest materials mainly sourced from Shizuoka, generating approximately 53GWh of electricity each year. The energy will be sold under Japan's 20-year feed-in tariff (FiT) program, promoting renewable energy development. The facility is a joint venture involving Forest Energy (70% ownership), Shizuoka Gas and Power (25%), and Chubu Electric Power (5%). Shizuoka Gas and Power, a subsidiary of Shizuoka Gas, collaborates with Forest Energy, which also operates other biomass projects, including plants in Shimane and Wakayama, focusing on sustainable energy solutions.



## Kalpataru bags ₹2,273 crore orders

Kalpataru Projects International Ltd (KPIIL) has bagged orders worth ₹2,273 crore across its Transmission & Distribution (T&D) business and residential building projects, both in India and overseas. The company, along with its joint ventures and subsidiaries, announced these new wins, boosting its year-to-date (YTD) order inflow to approximately ₹14,100 crore. Nearly 56% of this inflow comes from the T&D segment. KPIIL MD & CEO Manish Mohnot expressed satisfaction with the strong growth in India's T&D sector and other key areas.

## Adani Infra to acquire 30% stake in PSP Projects for ₹685 crore

Adani Infra, a subsidiary of Gautam Adani's Adani Enterprises, will acquire a 30.07% stake in PSP Projects for ₹685 crore, the construction firm announced on Tuesday. The shares will be purchased from Pahladbhai S Patel, PSP Projects' top shareholder and managing director, at ₹575 per share, a 15% discount to Tuesday's closing price. Following this acquisition, Adani Infra is set to launch an open offer to buy additional shares as mandated under Indian regulations for purchases exceeding a 25% stake.

PSP Projects, known for industrial, institutional, residential, and luxury projects like the Surat Diamond Bourse, reported an order book of ₹6,546 crore as of September 30. The Adani Group, with diversified interests across ports, power, and infrastructure, has been expanding aggressively, including a recent \$10 billion investment in U.S. energy security and infrastructure. PSP Projects' shares rose 4.4% on Tuesday, peaking at a 14% gain earlier in the session following news of the deal report.

## InfraIndia



## India to launch ₹30,000 crore Maritime Development Fund

The Indian government will establish a ₹30,000 crore Maritime Development Fund to boost the shipbuilding and repair industry, announced Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal. This complements a ₹1.5 lakh crore investment plan for ports, including six deep-draft ports, transshipment hubs, and green technologies. The initiative aims to make India a global maritime hub, create jobs, and drive GDP growth, while exploring hydrogen hub ports and multi-fuel bunkering for sustainable maritime operations.

## If India can make Rocket Sensors, it can make Car Sensors too: ISRO Chief

Speaking at the Bengaluru Tech Summit, ISRO Chairman S. Somanath highlighted the need to manufacture car sensors domestically to reduce imports. While rocket sensor production thrives in India, he noted that high costs make local car sensor production unviable without scaled manufacturing. Somanath urged industry collaboration and praised space sector reforms and the 2023 Space Policy for encouraging private sector growth. He pointed to progress with five companies building satellites and many enhancing subsystem capabilities but identified a lack of major players and upstream investments as challenges. ISRO is focusing on downstream capabilities to generate demand and attract investments. Somanath also emphasized technology transfers to enable private sector participation. Karnataka aims to capture 50% of India's space market said IT Minister Priyank Kharge.

## InfraHub



## India to develop 23 Dedicated Container Rail Terminals

India plans to establish 23 dedicated container rail terminals to boost export-import (exim) cargo movement via railways. Proposed sites include five in Maharashtra, four in Tamil Nadu, three in Rajasthan, and others across states like Delhi, Haryana, West Bengal, and Odisha. The initiative excludes bulk cargo such as coal and iron ore. Indian Railways aims to attract private investment with revised guidelines offering favourable financial terms and concessional loading charges. Operators can benefit from a hub-and-spoke model to consolidate containers for long-distance transport, enhancing efficiency and cost-effectiveness. In 2023-24, container loading reached 85.58 million tonnes (mt), up from 79.22 mt the previous year. Projections for 2025 estimate 91 mt of container loading, generating ₹9,164.47 crore in revenue. The changes also include flat terminal access fees to encourage greater containerisation.



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## Chennai-Vladivostok Maritime Corridor: Pioneering India's Global Connectivity

The Chennai-Vladivostok Eastern Maritime Corridor (EMC) is a visionary project designed to strengthen maritime connections between India and Russia, offering a transformative boost to global trade routes. Announced at the 2019 Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok, this 10,300 km direct sea route through Northeast Asia aims to reduce trade distances and times significantly. Traversing crucial maritime zones like the Sea of Japan and the Malacca Strait, the corridor positions India as a vital hub in Asia-Pacific trade.

Logistically, the EMC offers remarkable efficiency compared to the existing Mumbai-St. Petersburg route via the Suez Canal, which spans 16,066 km and takes approximately 40 days. By cutting the travel distance by 40%, the EMC reduces transit time by 16 days and lowers logistics costs, aligning perfectly with India's Maritime Vision 2030. This vision emphasizes enhancing the maritime sector, which manages 95% of India's trade by volume, underscoring the corridor's strategic relevance.

Strategically, the EMC strengthens India's Act Far East Policy by linking Chennai to Russia's Pacific coast, offering access to Russian resources and expanded Pacific trade networks. It also counters regional dominance by capitalizing on Vladivostok's proximity to the Russia-China border. Complementing other initiatives like the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC) and the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC), this project demonstrates India's commitment to diversifying trade routes and asserting its maritime influence, marking a pivotal step in reshaping global connectivity.

## Adani's Colombo Port Project under scrutiny amid Sri Lanka's shift

Despite recent legal challenges against the Adani Group, the Sri Lankan government is considering moving forward with a deepwater container terminal project at the Port of Colombo. The project, a joint venture between the Adani Group and Sri Lanka, has come under scrutiny following an indictment against the conglomerate. Initially, leaders of Sri Lanka's ruling party had discussed the possibility of canceling the project ahead of the elections. However, following the polls, the government has stated it requires additional time to assess the project's potential. Despite the scrutiny, the terminal is seen as a key investment opportunity that could boost investor confidence and contribute to Sri Lanka's economic growth.

## Industry calls for Infra Push and reforms in Union Budget

As the government prepares to present the Union Budget 2024-25 on July 23, industry leaders and experts emphasize the need for structural reforms to foster sustainable and inclusive growth. They highlight the pivotal role of infrastructure development in propelling India toward becoming the world's third-largest economy. The call for increased focus on infrastructure reflects its potential to boost economic activity, enhance productivity, and attract investment, driving long-term growth and strengthening the nation's global competitiveness.

## PNC Infra gets NHA approval to transfer 100% stake in 3 subsidiaries to Highways Infra Trust

PNC Infratech announced on Friday that it has received approval from the National Highways Authority of India (NHA) to transfer a 100% stake in its three subsidiaries (SPVs) for Uttar Pradesh road projects to Highways Infrastructure Trust (HIT). The transfer is part of the statutory process following the Rs 9,005 crore deal between PNC Infratech, PNC Infra Holdings (its subsidiary), and HIT, an Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) controlled by KKR & Co. The deal involves 12 road assets, reinforcing PNC Infratech's strategic shift towards infrastructure asset monetization through the InvIT model.



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