

INFRAINSIGHTS

BRICKS, BYTES AND BUSINESS

Google Headquarters at California, USA.

INFRABytes

Zaha Hadid Architects unveils Alta Tower mixed-use project in Serbia

Zaha Hadid Architects and Bureau Cube Partners will design the 35-storey Alta Tower in New Belgrade, Serbia. The mixed-use building includes Alta Bank headquarters, offices, residences, retail, and a public plaza, emphasizing sustainability, views, and civic engagement.

Vascon Engineers bags ₹161 Cr redevelopment project in Mahalaxmi

Vascon Engineers Ltd has secured a ₹161 crore redevelopment project for the Saudamini Building in Mumbai's Mahalaxmi area, awarded by MSEB Holding Company Ltd. The project will be completed within 36 months and is part of Vascon's strategic Mumbai redevelopment focus.

Punjab Government launches ₹5.83 Cr Lehragaga road projects

The Punjab government has launched ₹5.83 crore road development projects in Lehragaga, laying foundations for eleven key roads. The projects aim to enhance rural infrastructure, will be completed quickly, and include a five-year maintenance warranty.

Did you know ?

The Burj Khalifa in Dubai, the world's tallest building at 828 meters, required over 330,000 cubic meters of concrete and 39,000 tonnes of steel reinforcement, showcasing the extreme scale of modern infrastructure engineering.

Google commits \$10B to Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh government, under the leadership of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has secured a \$10 billion investment from Google to develop data centers and AI projects in Visakhapatnam. The initiative includes three campuses and is expected to boost digital infrastructure, create jobs, and strengthen the state's position as a technology hub, aligning with broader infrastructure and connectivity development plans.



Indian government approves ₹31,380 Cr Sawalkot project

The Indian government has approved the 1,856 MW Sawalkot Hydroelectric Project on the Chenab River in Jammu and Kashmir, with an estimated cost of ₹31,380 crore. Developed by NHPC, the project aims to enhance India's utilization of western river waters following the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty. Set across Ramban, Reasi, and Udhampur districts, it will be constructed in two phases, incorporating significant environmental safeguards.

Turkey secures funds for southern highway project

Turkey's Limak Holding has secured €1.7 billion (\$2 billion) from 14 financial institutions to fund a public-private partnership highway project connecting Antalya and Alanya. The 122 km highway, comprising 84 km of main road and 38 km of connecting routes, will pass through the Taurus Mountains. The project is designed to reduce travel time between the two key tourism hubs from 2.5 hours to just 36 minutes, significantly boosting regional connectivity and tourism potential. Completion is expected within three years. Financing demand was 2.1 times higher than required, reflecting strong investor confidence. Major contributors include the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, Silk Road Fund, and prominent banks. This will enhance Turkey's transportation network and support economic growth in its southern tourism region.



Chinese firm plans to invest £1.5B turbine plant

Chinese wind turbine manufacturer Ming Yang Smart Energy has announced plans to invest up to £1.5 billion in constructing the UK's largest wind turbine manufacturing facility in Scotland, potentially creating up to 1,500 jobs. The proposed site is Ardersier Port near Inverness, a location offering tax and customs incentives under Scotland's "green freeport" initiative. The project will unfold in three phases: the first involves a £750 million investment to produce turbine blades and nacelles, with operations commencing by late 2028. Ming Yang has also partnered with Octopus Energy to explore integrating its technology into UK wind projects. While the UK government has yet to approve the investment, it has acknowledged the project's potential to bolster the country's clean energy ambitions.

Anglo American relaunches coal sale

Anglo American plans to relaunch the sale of its Australian coking coal assets after Peabody Energy withdrew from the \$3.8bn deal due to the Moranbah North mine closure. CEO Duncan Wanblad confirmed the sale will restart once production resumes. The coal and De Beers diamond sales are part of Anglo's restructuring ahead of a \$50bn merger with Teck Resources. The De Beers process will consider not only the potential buyer's interest but also the Botswana's government interests.

US expands natural gas pipeline investments

US energy companies plan nearly \$50bn in new and expanded pipelines over five years to meet rising natural gas demand from LNG exports and data centers. Midstream firms are building 8,800 miles of pipelines, mainly in Texas and the Gulf Coast, in order to address the supply bottlenecks from the Permian Basin. Backlogs at major operator centres like Kinder Morgan and Enbridge are at record highs, while gas production depends on sustained oil prices above \$60 per barrel.



Philippines pushes forward renewable energy reforms

At the 2nd Philippines Future Energy and Grid Summit held on October 9, 2025, the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) emphasized its commitment to a just and inclusive energy transition. Executive Director Atty. Nancy Aurora Q. Fajardo highlighted key regulatory initiatives aimed at strengthening the nation's renewable energy sector. These include enforcing Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS), promoting the Retail Aggregation Program (RAP), and enhancing the Green Energy Option Program (GEOP) and Green Energy Auction Program (GEAP). Fajardo also discussed efforts to modernize grid infrastructure and empower consumers through streamlined net metering and increased integration of Distributed Energy Resources (DERs).



Jindal Power acquires Jhajjar thermal plant

Jindal Power Ltd (JPL), led by Naveen Jindal, is set to acquire the 1,350 MW Jhajjar Power Project in Haryana from Apraava Energy for approximately ₹4,000 crore. This represents one of the largest thermal power deals in recent years and is expected to close within a month. The acquisition includes the entire paid-up share capital of Jhajjar Power Limited, transferring it to Jindal Jhajjar Power Limited, a JPL subsidiary. The deal also encompasses two Apraava subsidiaries: Apraava Renewable Energy Private Limited and Kohima-Mariani Transmission Limited. Axis Capital and HSBC served as advisors to Apraava during the sale process. The acquisition strengthens Jindal Power's thermal capacity and positions the company for enhanced operational scale in India's energy sector. It also reflects continued consolidation in the country's power generation industry, aiming for efficiency gains and strategic growth.

Navi Mumbai Airport commences operations

The Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA) is a major greenfield project being developed to ease air traffic congestion at Mumbai's existing Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport. Spread across 1,160 hectares in its initial phase, it will ultimately cover over 2,000 hectares, integrating passenger terminals, cargo facilities, and green zones, including a mangrove park. Phase 1 will feature one runway and one terminal with the capacity to handle 20 million passengers annually. Upon completion, the airport will have two parallel Code-F runways and four terminals, accommodating up to 90 million passengers per year. Designed in the shape of a lotus, the airport emphasizes sustainability through solar energy generation, rainwater harvesting, wastewater recycling, and the use of electric vehicles. It will also feature advanced digital infrastructure and multimodal connectivity via expressways, suburban rail, metro links, and water transport, positioning it as a futuristic, eco-conscious aviation hub for western India.



Tata's plans 1GW AI data centre in India

Tata Group plans to build 1 gigawatt (GW) of AI-focused data center capacity across India to meet rising demand for sovereign cloud infrastructure, especially from large hyperscalers. The initiative will be launched as a separate business entity, with an estimated investment of \$6-\$7 billion over five to seven years, financed through a mix of equity and debt. TCS CEO K Krithivasan highlighted that the project aligns with the company's goal to become the world's largest AI-led technology services provider. It aims to transform talent, infrastructure, partnerships, and customer value while strengthening India's digital ecosystem. The plan reflects the company's strategy to address the growing domestic and global demand for AI and cloud services.

CCEA approves four major rail projects to boost connectivity nationwide

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved four major railway multi-tracking projects under the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan, with a total investment of ₹24,634 crore. These projects will expand the Indian Railways network by 894 kilometers across Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Chhattisgarh, and are expected to be completed by 2030-31.



Key initiatives include Wardha-Bhusawal, Gondia-Dongargarh, Vadodara-Ratlam, and Itarsi-Bhopal-Bina lines. The projects will improve connectivity to 3,633 villages, benefit 85.84 lakh people, enhance freight capacity by 78 million tonnes annually, and support the efficient transport of essential freights.

Bengaluru authority launches water resilience project

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, is implementing the ₹3,500 crore Bengaluru Water Resilience Project with World Bank support. The project aims to strengthen water infrastructure, address urban flooding, and combat groundwater depletion. IISc will update water models using advanced data tools, while IIT Madras provides staff training for effective execution. The Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre offers scientific guidance. Key initiatives include upgrading stormwater drains, preventing drain and lake concretization to aid groundwater recharge, applying nature-based flood solutions, and ensuring drain maintenance, promoting sustainable water management.





ABHISHEK JOSHI
MBA-IDM
SCMHRD'27

India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) & UK-India Infrastructure Financing Bridge (UKIIFB)

The current geopolitical scenario is shifting nations toward strategic partnerships over traditional alliances. The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) exemplifies this. Post-Brexit, Britain sought a reliable trade partner and found India—one of the fastest-growing developing economies with a large, vibrant market. For India, CETA is a key step to expand trade with Europe and offset American tariffs. Based on the India-UK Vision 2035, the agreement aims to double bilateral trade from \$56 billion by 2030.

CETA eliminates 99% of tariffs on Indian exports, granting duty-free access in high-growth, labor-intensive sectors like textiles, engineering goods, and chemicals. It also provides comprehensive access to 137 services sub-sectors, including IT, financial, and healthcare services, while simplifying professional mobility. A Double Contribution Convention (DCC) exempts Indian firms and workers from dual social security payments for up to three years, saving ₹4,000 crore. India liberalized 89.5% of tariff lines while safeguarding sensitive sectors like dairy, cereals, smartphones, and gold.

Parallely, the UK-India Infrastructure Financing Bridge (UKIIFB), led by NITI Aayog and the City of London, will mobilize private capital for India's sustainable infrastructure, align procurement with global ESG standards, and address investment barriers. Together, CETA and UKIIFB strengthen strategic partnerships, foster trade, and support sustainable growth for both nations.

DR. NIRANJAN HIRANANDANI MD, HIRANANDANI GROUP

Dr. Niranjan Hiranandani, born on March 8, 1950, in Mumbai, is a pioneering Indian real estate developer and co-founder of the Hiranandani Group, known for transforming urban landscapes with integrated townships. Educated at Champion School and Sydenham College, he became a Chartered



Accountant and earned a PhD in Housing from Mumbai University. In 1985, with his brother Surendra, he acquired 250 acres in Powai, Mumbai, developing it into the iconic Hiranandani Gardens township. Under his leadership, the group expanded into residential, commercial, healthcare, education, and hospitality sectors. He also founded Yotta Infrastructure, launching NM1, the world's second-largest data center. Recognized among India's wealthiest, he has held influential positions in NAREDCO, ASSOCHAM, and FICCI and serves as a trustee for educational and religious institutions, blending innovation with social responsibility. His visionary approach continues to influence India's urban development landscape.

INFRA Shorts

- The Maharashtra government has sanctioned ₹100 crore to upgrade Nagpur's Divisional Sports Complex into a state-level hub with international-standard amenities for hosting major sporting events.
- JSW Cement commissions a 1 MTPA cement grinding unit in Sambalpur, Odisha, increasing capacity to 21.6 MTPA.
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurates India's first battery swapping station for heavy-duty electric trucks in Sonapat, Haryana.
- Telangana allocates ₹25,631 crore for Hyderabad's infrastructure, focusing on water supply, sewage systems, and road development projects.
- Indian states are signing more coal power deals to address rising electricity demand and grid instability.
- NATRAX signed an MoU with CSIR-SERC to develop eco-friendly materials and designs for automotive test tracks and crash barriers.

