

# INFRA INSIGHTS

EDGE OF COGNIZANCE

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## TABLE OF CONTENT



### • Minerals

Why Is Everyone Excited About The Lithium Deposits Discovered In Jammu?

### • Highways

Delhi-Mumbai Expressway: This 'architectural marvel' is full of useful amenities!

### • Aerospace

State keen to build infrastructure eco-system to help production of commercial or passenger aircrafts

### • Logistics

Pristine Logistics & Infraprojects set to buy Distribution Logistics Infrastructure from Infrastructure India Plc

### • Technology

Uber selects Oracle Cloud Infrastructure to accelerate innovation

## News Bytes

- European Investment Bank to invest up to 3 billion Euros in Uttar Pradesh & its upcoming metro projects; services to expand in 6 more cities
- BEST Rolls Out India's First AC Double Decker Electric Bus, Commercial Services To Begin Soon
- Welspun One Logistics Parks to invest ₹2,000 cr in Uttar Pradesh warehousing facilities
- Chennai Airport Expansion: 193 Acres Land Proposed By AAI To Meet Annual Demand Of 55 Million Passengers



### Why Is Everyone Excited About The Lithium Deposits Discovered In Jammu?

With 5.9 million tonnes worth of lithium deposits discovered in Jammu, India has now joined a special league of nations that can boast of having the rare metal reserves. Lithium is essential to the pursuit of lithium-ion batteries that are critical for the development of the electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing industry. With 5.9 million tonnes worth of lithium reserves, India is in the same league as Chile, Australia, Argentina and China. Some of the smaller reserves have also been discovered in the United States of America, Mexico, Canada, Zimbabwe, Mali, and Democratic Republic of Congo. Going forward, one of the opportunities that open up for India is to play a critical role in the global supply chain. From 2020, lithium prices have increased more than ten-fold, hovering around \$75,000-\$80,000 per tonne for the most part of 2022.



As things move in India, another priority of the government should be to ensure that any mining project in the region does not go through the same loops as many infrastructure projects in India do. Simultaneous efforts, public and private, must be initiated and backed. All the right reasons to be excited about the discovery, but only if complemented with the right pursuits across industries, from lithium mining to EV manufacturing.

## HIGHWAYS

### Delhi-Mumbai Expressway: This 'architectural marvel' is full of useful amenities!

The Delhi-Mumbai Expressway is a planned greenfield expressway connecting the cities of Delhi and Mumbai. PM Narendra Modi on Sunday, February 12, inaugurated the first phase of the expressway which will cover a total distance of 1,386 km. The Delhi-Mumbai expressway, the longest expressway in India, will pass through six states.



According to the Transport Ministry, the Expressway will have 94 wayside amenities. These will include resorts, restaurants, food courts, dormitories, fuel stations, facilities for truckers and logistics parks, among other things. The Expressway will also offer medical assistance as trauma centers have been constructed on both sides of the road. According to reports, immediate medical help will be provided in case of accidents. Among the many facilities, the Expressway will be entirely EV-friendly. Charging stations for electric vehicles will be present across the highway. According to reports, a few lanes of the Expressway will be completely dedicated to electric vehicles. Also, this expressway will come with automated traffic management systems among other features. The Expressway will have a catalytic impact on the developmental trajectory of all adjoining regions, thus contributing in a significant way to the economic transformation of the country.

## What's Trending

Lithium deposits alone are no guarantee of India dominating the EV manufacturing game, but they do increase the country's leverage.

The uphill battle going forward requires heavy investments in research, development, and application, on both mining and refining part.

## What's Trending

The Delhi-Mumbai expressway is the world's fastest-developed of its kind. The highway connects 93 National Master Plan(NMP) nodes, 8 Multi-Modal Logistics Parks (MMLPs), Greenfield Airports (Jewar and Navi Mumbai) and Ports (JNPT).

## AEROSPACE

State keen to build infrastructure eco-system to help production of commercial or passenger aircrafts

Karnataka government is keen to provide infrastructure to develop ecosystem that will help the production of commercial or passenger aircrafts as part of 'Make in India'. Karnataka has already been a hub for the aerospace and defense industry with about 25% of the country's aerospace industry located here.

While the aerospace park near Devanahalli is helping the industry grow, a second phase is being developed. The aerospace SEZ at Belagavi is ready for allotment. Karnataka government is also promoting other cities such as Tumakuru, Mysuru, and Chamarajanagar for industrial development. The large defense PSUs such as HAL, BEML, and BHEL helped the State to become a pioneer in aerospace development.



## LOGISTICS

Pristine Logistics & Infraprojects set to buy Distribution Logistics Infrastructure from Infrastructure India Plc

Pristine Logistics & Infraprojects Ltd is close to buying Distribution Logistics Infrastructure Pvt Ltd (DLI) from Infrastructure India Plc as the rail-focussed logistics firm looks to expand further into the hinterland riding on the Indian Railways plan to raise a modal share in freight from 27 percent to 45 percent by 2030 to cut carbon emissions. Infrastructure India Plc (IIP), is a close-ended infrastructure fund, registered in the Isle of Man in the United Kingdom and listed on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM), London.



Private equity firm Global Infrastructure Partners India Pvt Ltd-backed Pristine Logistics & Infraprojects is said to have signed agreements with Infrastructure India Plc to lease the rakes owned by DLI, gain exclusivity to run the terminals and trains of DLI for three years along with an exclusivity clause to undertake due diligence and complete the deal by 31 March. A potential takeover of DLI will help Pristine Logistics expand further into key hinterland locations.

## TECHNOLOGY

Uber selects Oracle Cloud Infrastructure to accelerate innovation

As Uber continues to grow and enter new markets, it is increasingly important for the business to focus resources on its core strengths and strategic initiatives. By migrating some of the company's most critical workloads to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI), Uber will be in a position to modernize its infrastructure while also accelerating its path to profitability. Uber is revolutionizing the way people, products, and services move across continents and through cities.

This new strategic partnership with Uber along with recent analyst reports serves as powerful validation of OCI's strategy and product vision. Customers want flexibility and best price-performance infrastructure across a global footprint. Uber can take advantage of these capabilities that only OCI provides.



## What's Trending

The Aerospace and Defence (A&D) market in India is estimated to reach around \$70 billion by 2030 as the momentum is expected to further pick up with improving infrastructure and government thrust.

## What's Trending

The Alternative Investment Market (AIM) is a sub-market of the London Stock Exchange (LSE) that is designed to help smaller companies access capital from the public.

## What's Trending

Oracle recently invested \$1.5 billion in Saudi Arabia to fulfil their cloud computing demand. With this expansion, Oracle would operate in six cloud regions in the Middle East.