

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (Research Unit) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Government of India



#### Holistic Infrastructure Development giving a New Direction to Gujarat (State Series)

Slew of measures taken in the past to strengthen rail & road network

(Ministry of Road Transport and Highways & Ministry of Railways)

September 21, 2022

"The pride of Gujarat is the rapid and inclusive development in the last two decades and a new aspiration born out of this development.".

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Infrastructure development plays an important role in paving the way for the fulfilment of India's aspirations as a key global power. As of the year 2022-23, the direct capital expenditure of the Government of India is expected to reach Rs. 7.50 lakh crores, up from Rs. 1.75 lakh crores in the year 2013-14. The government plans to invest Rs. 1,00,000 crores in infrastructure projects

by FY 24–25. The <u>PM Gati Shakti's</u> digital platform seeks to bring together 16 ministries of the Government of India for integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects. <sup>1</sup>

#### **Strengthening Roadways**

Road infrastructure is directly linked to the prosperity of any region. Road infrastructure connects people, cultures and society and brings prosperity through socio-economic development.<sup>2</sup> The Central government is dedicatedly working towards expanding the National Highway (NH) network to Two lakh kilometres by the year 2025.



<sup>1</sup> <u>https://newsonair.com/2022/05/31/a-snapshot-of-8-years-of-infrastructural-development/</u>

<sup>2</sup> <u>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1834748</u>

India has the second largest road network in the world with a length of over 6.2 million kilometres

Ambitious target set in Budget 2022-23 of expanding the National Highway network by 25,000 kms over the fiscal year

India ranked first by Asian Development Bank in Public-Private-Partnership operational maturity

Length of National Highways has gone up by more than 50% from over 91,000 kms in 2014 to about 1,47,000 kms, in last 8 years (as on June 17, 2022)

The pace of construction of NHs has improved across the country from **12 kms per day** in 2014-15 to 37 kms per day in 2020-21

Major projects have been completed under Bharatmala Pariyojana-including Eastern Peripheral Expressway, Delhi-Meerut Expressway, Narmada Bridge, Chenani – Nashri Tunnel and the Dhaula-Sadia Bridge

100% FDI in roads and highways is allowed under automatic route

## Total 22 Greenfield Highways

have been envisaged for development

5 Expressways Comprising 2,485 kms length at a cost of Rs. 1,63,350 crores **17 Access Controlled Highways** Comprising 5,816 kms length at a cost of Rs. 1,92,876 crores

### 5 Expressways under BHARATMALA PHASE - 1



# DEVELOPMENT WITH AN EYE ON THE ENVIRON

- Fuel Saving-FASTag and expansion of National Highways have resulted in fuel savings of Rs 20,000 crore. Fastag facility has been started at 728 toll plazas on National Highways and 201 on State Highways.
- Distance and time reduced Digital tol system has reduced the waiting time at toll plazas, while the construction of new bridges and tunnels has reduced the distances.
- Projects like the 9.2 km Atal Tunnel, Golden Quadrilateral Corridor between Delhi-Mumbai, and Dhola Sadiya Bridge have reduced travel time. The distance from Delhi to Meerut can be covered in 50 minutes instead of two and a half hours after the construction of the expressway. The work of the country's longest Delhi-Mumbai Expressway of 1380 km is in progress.

1. Delhi - Mumbai 1,400 km ₹ 1 lakh crore

3. Delhi - Amritsar - Katra 670 km

₹ 4.200 crore

40,000 crore

- 4. Bengaluru Chennai 262 km ₹17.000 crore 2. Ahmedabad - Dholera 110 km
  - 5. Kanpur Lucknow 63 km ₹4,100 crore

ways ~ The arteries through w the Indian economy pulses

Infrastructure ~ the 'Atma' of Atmanirbl

### **Strengthening Railways**

Indian Railway is adopting indigenous new technology such as <u>KAVACH</u>, <u>Vande Bharat</u> <u>trains</u> and redevelopment of stations to have safe and better journey experience.<sup>3</sup> As a part of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, 2000 kms of network will be brought under KAVACH for safety and capacity augmentation in 2022-23.<sup>4</sup>



kms of new tracks added per year through new lines and multi-track projects in Railways during the period 2014-2021.

- Rail electrification has increased by 10 times since 2014. Biotoilets installed in 68,800 coaches with 100% coverage.
- The focus is on new indigenous technology like Kavach, Vande Bharat trains, and the redevelopment of stations.
- In the Union Budget 2022-23, 400 Vande Bharat trains have been announced in the country in the next three years.
- The Bullet train project between Ahmedabad and Mumbai is in progress. Pillar work completed in Bharuch. The first trial will take place between Bilimora and Surat in Gujarat in 2026.
- Construction of 2 dedicated freight corridors for goods trains started. The Dadri to Mumbai Western Corridor of 1504 km may be completed soon. The work on the 1856 km Eastern Corridor from Dankuni to Ludhiana is going on.

With continuing focus on safety of passengers consequential train accidents have come down from 59 in 2018-19 to 55 in 2019-20 (pre covid) and further to **22 in 2020-21** 

As on December 05, 2021, 6087 railway stations have been equipped with Wi-Fi facility

Under the 'Make in India' scheme, the **Vande Bharat semi high-speed trains** have been introduced. India will manufacture 400 new Vande Bharat trains by 2025

More than five times electrification was achieved during the last seven years (2014-21) as compared to the period 2007-14. At this rate, **Indian railways will run completely on electricity by 2024** 

### Pragati ke Path Par Agrasar Gujarat

Gujarat has always given focus on infrastructure as a driver of growth in various sectors of the economy as well as for social well-being. The state today is one of the front runners in development and privatization of infrastructure. A number of ports, roads, railways, and hydroelectric projects have been developed with private participation.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>economic\_survey\_2021-2022 (indiabudget.gov.in)</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1802968</u>

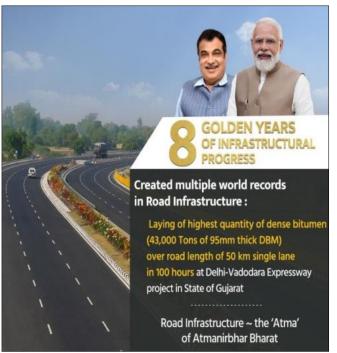
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>https://gujaratindia.gov.in/initiatives/initiatives.htm?InitiativeId=PpNOyXgHrLF4oSQDRXiXMg</u>==

### **Glimpses of Development in Road Infrastructure in Gujarat**

Gujarat is the first state in the country to enact a legal framework for Public-Private Partnership

(PPP) in infrastructure sector – the <u>Gujarat</u> <u>Infrastructure Development Board (GIDB)</u>. The construction of new National Highway infrastructure such as the <u>Bharuch Bridge</u> has strengthened socio-economic ties with neighbouring States. The NH network of Gujarat has benefited from the Golden Quadrilateral and North South East West axis of the <u>National Highway Development</u> <u>Programme</u> (NHDP) passing through the State.

Further, the pioneering PPP Roads, expressways, 6-lane projects (under advanced phases of NHDP), prudent use of external funding and a relatively better maintenance regime has led to an improved quality national highway network in the state



as compared to that in many other parts of the country.<sup>6</sup>

**World Record:** Construction of 2.5 km-long four-lane Concrete pavement at **Delhi-Vadodara expressway** section has been completed within 24 hours

Construction work of 8-Lane access-controlled Expressway of Vadodara – Mumbai Expressway (Jujuwa to Gandeva section – Phase-I, Pkg-VIII) has been sanctioned in the state of Gujarat with a budget of Rs. 3208.58 crores

**Amritsar-Jamnagar Greenfield corridor:** One of the most important Greenfield corridors being developed by NHAI at a total capital cost of Rs 26,000 crores

Out of 24 industrial nodes identified on **Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor**, 6 nodes are located in the State of Gujarat

Total 43 National Highways with length of 7,885 Kms in Gujarat

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>https://www.gidb.org/road-overview</u>

### Glimpses of Development in Railways in Gujarat

The state has been focusing on the Railway sector in view of its multiplier effect in stimulating ease in transportation. For uninterrupted rail connectivity, Gujarat had been awarded a project worth Rs 16000 crores in June 2022. More than 350-km new Palanpur- New Madaar section Western dedicated freight Corridor project has been inaugurated. Projects like these and those listed below will give a fresh impetus to industrialization and business of the Indian Railways.<sup>7</sup>

- Union Cabinet approved setting up of Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya in Vadodara, Gujarat. It is envisioned to be a key enabler for expanding the transportation sector It will ensure stable supply of highly trained personnel and state-of-the-art technology.<sup>8</sup>
- <u>Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail</u> is the only sanctioned High-Speed Rail project in the country being executed with technical & financial assistance of Government of Japan.<sup>9</sup>



- The Union Cabinet approved the Taranga Hill-Ambaji-Abu Road new rail line to provide connectivity and improve mobility. The estimated cost of this project is Rs. 2798.16 crores and will be completed by 2026-27.<sup>10</sup>
- The Minister of State for Railways also inaugurated and dedicated various passenger amenities at Udhna Railway Station. <sup>11</sup> The Railway Station in South Gujarat will undergo upgradation at a cost of ₹ 199.02 crores and is scheduled to be ready by June 2024. Being a smart and a green station, it has special features of being *Divyangjan*-friendly and is having ample passenger and commercial area. <sup>12</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> <u>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1835151</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> https://twitter.com/PBNS India/status/1547175333639901184

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> <u>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1797576</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> <u>https://twitter.com/DG\_PIB/status/1547159826144194560</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> <u>https://wr.indianrailways.gov.in/view\_detail.jsp?lang=0&dcd=6359&id=0,4,268</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> https://twitter.com/darshanajardosh/status/1549266784456306689

• In April 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi also laid the foundation stone of manufacturing project of 9000 HP Electric Locomotives at the Railway Production Unit in Dahod. The project will be completed at the cost of around Rs. 20,000 crores. Dahod workshop, established in 1926 for periodic overhaul of steam locomotives, will be upgraded to electric locomotive manufacturing unit with infrastructural improvements. It will provide direct and indirect employment to over 10,000 people.<sup>13</sup>



- The Mehsana Veretha meter gauge line has been converted into electrified broad-gauge line at a total project cost of Rs. 367 crores (Rs. 293 crores gauge conversion and Rs. 74 crores electrification).<sup>14</sup>
- Gandhinagar Capital Railway Station had been refurbished, and now sports the look of a modern airport. Special care has been taken to make it *Divyangjan*-friendly by providing it with special ticket counters, ramps, lifts and dedicated parking spaces.
- The station also features a 40-seater centralized AC waiting lounge and an art gallery with LED wall display lounge. The earlier lack of proper connectivity and accommodation, has also been addressed with the railway station having been redeveloped to incorporate a 318-room swanky hotel within. <sup>15</sup>



Gandhinagar Capital Railway Station

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> <u>https://newsonair.com/2022/04/20/pm-modi-lays-foundation-stone-inaugurates-various-development-projects-at-special-function-in-dahod-gujarat/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> <u>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1736240</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> <u>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1736240</u>

- The Vadnagar Railway Station which is part of the Vadnagar Modhera Patan heritage circuit has been redesigned by Indian Tourism giving it a heritage look with aesthetic stone carvings.<sup>16</sup>
- In July 2021, the Prime Minister inaugurated and dedicated to the nation several key projects of the Railways in Gujarat through video conference. He also flagged off two new trains i.e Gandhinagar Capital – Varanasi Superfast Express and MEMU service trains between Gandhi Nagar Capital and Varetha.<sup>17</sup>



Vadnagar Railway Station

The relentless efforts in reinforcing connectivity in Gujarat by boosting roads and rail groundwork and delivering effortless transportation facilities testify to the commitment of the Government towards building strong infrastructure in the state and across the country.

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