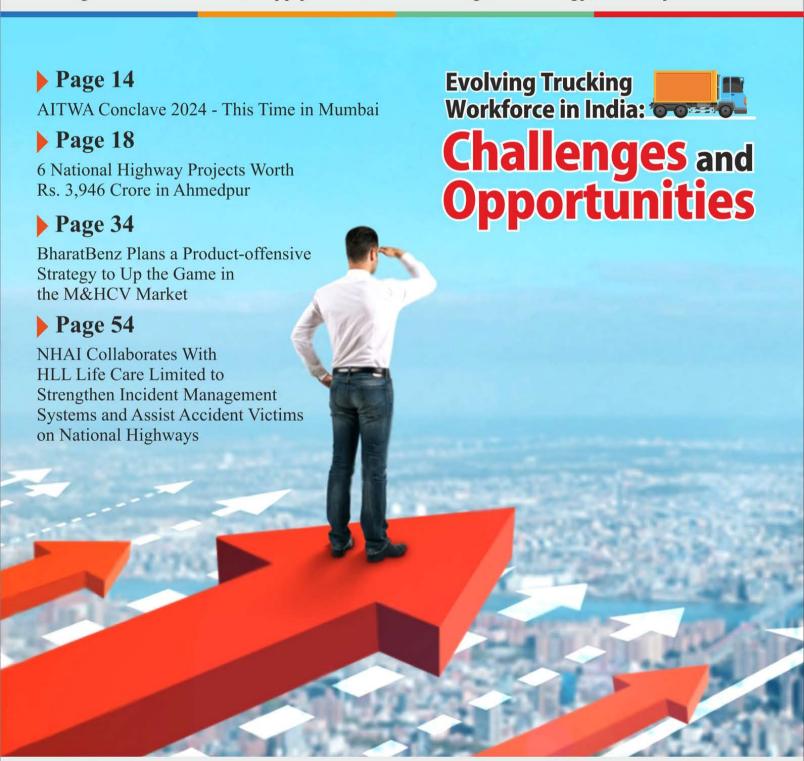
Monthly Magazine of All India Transporters Welfare Association Parivahan Pragati

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Opportunities are Created by Defining Challenges

ith a GDP close to US\$3 trillion, India boasts as the sixth-largest economy of the globe. However, with this tag, a lot of challenges have also emerged. For instance, the freight transportation sector is under tremendous pressure to ensure the delivery of more goods and products to the rising number of end consumers encompasses expedience, economy, and environmental priorities.

Currently, India transports around 4.6 billion tonnes of freight annually at the cost of ₹9.5 lakh crore but the demand for goods is rising with urbanisation, population increase, the rise of e-commerce, and rising income levels. Interestingly, if this demand continues to grow, associated road freight movement is expected to increase to 9.6 trillion tonne kilometres (tonne-km) by 2050.

Road transport (i.e., trucks) carries the bulk of India's goods, meeting 70% of today's domestic freight demand and carrying nearly 2.2 trillion tonne-km of freight today. Heavy-duty and medium-duty trucks (HDTs and MDTs, respectively) are responsible for most of the road transportation, accounting for 76% and 21% of the road freight demand. By 2050, Heavy Duty Trucks (HDTs) demand share of road freight travel is expected to increase to 83%, carrying nearly 8.4 trillion tonne-km of long-haul freight. Medium Duty Trucks (MDTs) will continue to play an important role in short intrastate movement and regional movement, accounting for 1.2 trillion tonne km by 2050. As road

freight travel continues to grow, the number of trucks plying on Indian roads and highways is expected to more than quadruple, from 4 million in 2022 to roughly 17 million trucks by 2050.

In this positive business scenario, if there is one negative aspect, it is the shortage of truck drivers. All of us know that the life of a long-distance trucker in India is a daring adventure in more ways than one, however, there is hardly one who is willing to become a driver these days. The situation has become worse. While there were 75 drivers for every 100 trucks a few years back, it has come down to 65 drivers for the same no of trucks today. Moreover, the unwilling attitude of the younger generation to not take up commercial driving is indeed a thought of concern.

Seeing the gravity of the situation, the trucking industry decided to find the root cause of it. So, a team started to research it, and what they revealed looked valid from all angles. The remunerations were counted as very poor, as the take-home salary of a truck driver is anywhere between Rs. 15, 000 to Rs. 25, 000 a month. Besides, unlimited working hours; unsafe environment; no job security; no PF, ESI, leave structure, gratuity, pension and risk cover; unavailable healthcare facilities and the missing respect in society are qualified reasons why drivers are hunting for better job options and new generations are not willing to join the profession.

Of late, the All India Transporters Welfare Association (AITWA) has initiated various steps to uplift the



Ashok Gupta

lifestyle of drivers and families. And, the industry is hopeful that such welfare steps will attract drivers to continue with their current profession and new generations to pick the driving profession.

The AITWA offered benefits for drivers are:

- Personal accident coverage of up to Rs 5 lacs
- Accidental hospitalization coverage of up to Rs 1.5 lacs
- 1 per cent of the sum insured weekly for 100 weeks max in case of temporary/total disability
- 24x7 highway support helpline: for legal aid, harassment issues, and emergency connections
- Financial assistance: can access a zero per cent interest credit limit up to Rs 25,000 (eligibility-based)
- Nationwide access to driversspecific camps, promotions, and events

We believe these benefits will bring smiles to the faces of truck drivers and they will be ready to race with their global competitors. We trust that, at an even operating platform, our drivers will unlock incredible value. Jai Hind!



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Overcoming the Logistics Challenges to Grow



eing organized, technology-driven, and economical empowers a logistics company with lots of advantages. And, that's how a company eventually becomes a global powerhouse. Of late, due to international disturbances (the Russia-Ukraine war), the international logistics market is facing strong headwinds as well. The soaring fuel costs in the wake of the Russia-Ukraine crisis and longer delivery timelines or supply chain disruptions have added to the existing challenges. As a result, the current challenges are threatening to undo their competitive advantage.

Where does India stand in global logistics?

In comparison to its counterparts in the

Western world, the Indian logistics sector has often been criticized for its small-scale and unorganized operational model. The operational costs are anywhere between 50 to 100 per cent higher than the leading global markets. There is very low technology penetration in the operational processes which leads to several other efficiency challenges. However, things have been changing rapidly in recent years.

For India, there was always a massive market size to cater to. Currently standing at \$250 billion, the logistics sector is expected to grow to \$380 billion at a CAGR of 10-12 per cent by FY25, further cementing India's competitive advantage in comparison to the global scenario. The Indian logistics sector is further boosted by



Ramesh Agarwal
National President, AITWA

India's emergence as a global IT power. No doubt, a positive impact is being created on the trucking business too.

Driven by top-notch talent, several trucking marketplaces, 3P logistics companies, and logistics SaaS solution providers have emerged. Alongside rapid infrastructure development and digital connectivity, this new wave of Indian trucking platforms and services is swiftly closing the gap. Using the most advanced AI, machine learning algorithms, data analytics, GPS IoT etc., the trucking marketplaces are undergoing a sea change and defining a new way how trucking business should be done in India.

How Technology is speeding up operations in India

Traditionally, a truck delivers loads of goods at one destination and waits until it finds another consignment through its network. This wait could be anywhere from a few hours to a few days, Depending on the route, season, vehicle type and various other factors. But with the introduction of 24x7 smartphone-app platforms, and online trucking facilities for practising business smoothly, a new market has been created and lakhs of transporters, shippers and truckers are brought under a single platform. The platform enables direct business engagement



On our fiftieth birthday, our timeline is filled with: the relationships we've formed, the trust we've honoured, the fairness we've played by, the lives we've touched, the lessons we've learned and the values we've passed on. Today, we pause and yet we keep moving on. At each step, we continue to be guided by the hands of yesterday.

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with verified users and it has made it possible to book, and pre-book a load from a destination towards which the vehicle is heading.

Just to calculate, truckers using such platforms have increased their monthly operational days to as high as 25-26.

Identifying precise vehicles for carrying loads

Often, the Indian trucking community struggles to find an ideal vehicle load matching. When the goods

carrying capacity of a vehicle is 12 tonnes, carrying a load of only 9 tonnes or less is a waste of using the optimum carrying capacity of a truck. Additionally, it will get paid only for what it carries. However, the situation gets reversed when a consignor has to dispatch 12 tonnes and finds a 9-tonne truck. In this position, the consignor either will have to find another vehicle or hire a smaller truck for two trips, which surely would lead to additional expenditure for him.

But with the help of the AI technology, used by trucking platforms, consignors are capable of finding precise matches which leads to faster and automated vehicle-load matching without even making a phone call. The benefit is unparalleled, time is reduced and wastage is eliminated.

GPS helps to find a hassle-free route

GPS-based real-time navigational aid enables truckers to find optimum routes for the journeys scaled by truckers and avoid traffic jams/blockades etc. These tools enable incremental savings that can help save billions of rupees and millions of metric tonnes of emissions as well.



GPS-based real-time
navigational aid
enables truckers to
find optimum routes
for the journeys
scaled by truckers and
avoid traffic jams/
blockades etc.
These tools enable
incremental savings
that can help save
billions of rupees and
millions of metric
tonnes of emissions
as well

Truckers benefit from technologydriven logistics marketplaces

Of course, the most encouraging aspect of technology-driven logistics marketplaces has been how they help truckers. These platforms not only

have made operations highly streamlined and efficient but also helped to bring about a change in the lives of truckers. Online medical consultations and various other benefits such as GPS, spare parts purchase and insurance are also being offered by leading trucking platforms for truckers' benefit.

What the future has to unfold

We have just witnessed the beginning of a digitallydriven trucking system in India. With the

introduction of the National Logistics Policy (NLP), the Indian logistics industry will observe much more as NLP is going to be a game-changer. Expected to bring down logistics costs to single digits very soon, the policy aims to synchronize seven different ministries to make logistics development seamless and faster. Not only NLP but the government is set to work delicately to assist the logistics sector. In this regard, several digitallydriven initiatives are envisaged. While the Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) will bring all stakeholders on a single platform, Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) etc will streamline cargo movement and make it hassle-free for the truckers.

The future looks very bright for the Indian logistics sector, as the Indian trucking community is all set to rub shoulders with its global competitors. We are sure many incredible results will be unlocked to be rewritten. Now, it is the time to start a break-free journey, to stop only at the end when the destination is reached. And, the destination is No 1!!



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Technology has brought relief to the trucking industry!

t is a delight to see the growth graph of the Indian road freight travel industry. It is moving towards the upward direction which offers immense satisfaction. Interestingly, if this trend continues, the number of trucks plying on Indian roads and highways is expected to rise from 4 million in 2022 to roughly 17 million trucks by 2050. However, while the industry is growing, the men steering the wheels of trucks are not.

Trucking, which is part of the logistics industry, has always been a tough job. It counts nothing less than hard work, determination, patience and perseverance to make it possible for drivers. Otherwise, who can keep driving for hours after hours and at times day after day?

Today, there are hardly a few who would like to be a truck driver but most would opt out of this profession. The reason is very simple, the profession is about a highly unorganized sector.

The hard-hitting fact is, that the drivers are not paid a substantial amount and due to multiple vendors, they shift companies for better salaries and comfortable working hours. So, fleet managers and trucking company owners must resolve the issues of remunerations, working hours, unsafe environment, job security, PF, ESI, leave structure, gratuity, pension and risk cover, and healthcare facilities to get them attracted to the industry again.

In addition, the risk of betting on one's dignity and societal status, and facing harassment from those in authority also needed to be resolved as this could inspire the younger generation to join the driving profession.

According to a report published by SmartHop, 45% of drivers quit the profession due to high pressure and demand, 39% due to difficult work-life balance, 31% due to irregular work hours, and 42% due to spot market instability.

Needless to say, this has led to a shortage of truck drivers in the

Needless to say, this has led to a shortage of truck drivers in the industry. Two years back, there were 75 drivers for every 100 trucks but it has dropped down to 65 drivers today for the same number of trucks

industry. Two years back, there were 75 drivers for every 100 trucks but it has dropped down to 65 drivers today for the same number of trucks.

Also, due to the stigma attached to the industry, there are hardly a few women who like to work in the industry. In addition, no qualified or best brains are willing to join the industry. The people available in the industry are the ones who could not manage a job in other fields. With training, these people are made to learn the tricks of the industry but in real terms, it is nothing short of compromise.

The retention and recruitment policies of drivers and employees in the trucking industry are the same for small fleet as well as large fleet owners. However, the small fleet owners, consisting of over 90% of all the nation's trucking companies face



Abhishek Gupta General Secretary, AITWA

the heat more as compared to the midsize or large trucking companies. Simply because they are unable to provide the truckers with basic facilities, whereas, the large fleet owners are doing comparatively better, with government policies like Gati Shakti and NLP turning out to be in their favour. Also, the drivers and other employees feel secure in their profession when working for larger organizations, considering the basic and added facilities provided to them by the organization.

Besides the discussion about the drivers and employees, there are other various challenges that the road freight industry faces day in and day out. However, technological advancements have made it simpler for trucking companies.

From tracking and monitoring cargo, managing the fleet of vehicles, and enhancement of communication and customer satisfaction through the use of modern software tools, the industry seems to be on the right move.

Significance of Driver Safety

The trucking industry recognises the importance of driver safety, so, many trucking companies are investing in cutting-edge technology to improve







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truck driver safety standards. Among these safety measures is the incorporation of collision mitigation systems. Collision mitigation systems incorporate more sensing technology to monitor crashes of various kinds and take emergency action. Lane departure warnings, blind spot monitoring, and adaptive control help drivers stay safe on the road, leading to increased productivity and fewer accidents.

Further, systems like autonomous braking and collision avoidance help drivers stay awake and alert, reducing their chance of making a mistake due to tiredness. It is worth noting that improved safety enhances efficiency, reduces costs, and provides customer satisfaction within the trucking industry. Using driver safety technologies can also lower insurance premiums and create an overall safer working environment for truck drivers.

E-logging Devices

E-logging helps track the data associated with trucking operations. From service hours to vehicle mileage and driver performance, it helps save time and effort for transportation companies by providing accurate and quick records of their driver logs. Also, e-logging reduces fuel costs, increases maintenance-cycle efficiency and improves compliance standards.

Payment Simplified Through E-methods

Electronic payment methods have significantly simplified and streamlined the payment process. They are equipped with technology that enables them to transact money on the go, track taxes and provide on-theroad financial assistance. E-payment methods reduce the time and labour for collecting payments while providing valuable insights into the payment information. By eliminating the need for physical cash transactions and paper invoices, e-payment reduces the



risk of fraud and reduces the overall cost of doing business.

Fleet Management Software

Fleet management software provides greater insight into truck fleets and their performance. Also, it reduces risks and increases safety standards. Through predictive analytics, vehicle tracking, and driver behaviour monitoring, it is possible to identify and control environmental risks such as risky driving, excessive speed, and aggressive driving. By measuring performance data from each vehicle in the fleet and optimising routes, fleet management software helps to maximise efficiency and improve the overall operating costs of a fleet.

Dynamic Routing

Dynamic routing technology is a process that determines the optimal route for a fleet of vehicles based on parameters such as cost, time, weight, distance, safety, and customer preferences. It can quickly determine alternate routes if the driver cannot take the initial route - be it by avoiding a high-traffic volume route and self-adjusting for the most efficient routes. This enables truckers to expedite delivery.

The Importance of Mobile and Mobile Apps

Mobile applications have improved

12

the operational efficiency of trucking companies by creating mobile apps to help them stay organised make ontime deliveries and provide drivers with crucial real-time information. Additionally, mobile applications streamline administrative processes such as payroll and billing. Also, mobile apps provide facilities to drivers and dispatchers to have better communications and facilitate the exchange of load-related information. Besides, mobile apps provide drivers with various amenities, such as roadside assistance, rest area information, and fuel-saving recommendations.

In brief, there are a lot of challenges that the road freight travellers under go but technology has somehow brought relief to the trucking industry, with new software and application methods. The result is there to see for all as the trucking industry has experienced exponential growth of late. Through smarter, more efficient routing, increased visibility, and automated features like collision avoidance, the technology is also constantly improving operational efficiency and customer service delivery by providing real-time tracking and enhanced visibility throughout the supply chain process.



AITWA Conclave 2024 This Time in Mumbai

n March 22, 2024, All India Transporters Welfare Association (AITWA) organised a Conclave 2024 - West in Mumbai, after a long gap. The financial capital of India was a natural choice for this event as it has a pool of members which is huge in number.

AITWA has been organising Conclaves across all the zones so that more members can participate, unlike the National Convention, where only a handful representatives can participate. However, such an event has happened after a longtime, preciously after 7 – 8 years. Though the event saw the cordial bonding grew among the members, but it was beyond cherishing relationships. Several important topics were picked to discuss and to know viewpoint of maximum members. But it was the 'Manthan Session' that took the limelight. The session was about the unorganized industry – the crisis, the positives and how to look forward for the growth of the industry. And, to the credit of AITWA, the 'Manthan Session' touched all the existing challenges with all seriousness and there was no room for nonsense talks.

Manthan West Zone session was sponsored by IDFC First Bank and they also made a very interesting presentation, highlighting various products, services and features of their offering for the road transport industry. What was very interesting about the meeting was the participation of youngsters, which is very rare. However, it was a different ball all together at Conclave 2024 – West.

Surprisingly, AITWA members came in good numbers, including young women transporters. The other highlight of the 'Manthan Session' was the choice of topics and level of participation from the participation from the transporters. Understandably, there was little hesitation to name customers who were not fair in their dealing with the



From left to right: Puneet Agarwal, Ramesh Agarwal, Parikshith Arya, Mahendra Arya, Pradeep Singal, Abhishek A Gupta



From left to right: Ashok Goyal, Ramesh Agarwal, Abhishek Goyal, Pradeep Singal, Mahendra Arya







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transporters. In fact, the subject of reverse bidding threw up some of the very interesting points, especially how customers were creating fraudulent participants to manipulate things.

After the 'Manthan Session', the conclave turned towards the topics that was planned to discuss. So, without a surprise, the limelight was witnessed by the topics such as Standard Terms and Conditions, Collaboration, Technology, Policy Changes and Compliance.

Mr Ajay Agarwal, CA and TDS expert and Mr Carlton Pereira, Ex MD Tano Capital were the distinguish speakers. Both the invited speakers spoke on topics related to their expertise and imparted knowledge to the present audience.

While Mr Ajay Agarwal highlighted the ongoing issues in trade with respect to TDS compliance and clarifying doubts Mr Carlton Pereira spoke about what investors look for in logistics companies to invest and how AITWA members can improve their business and systems to scale up for attracting investment in future.

Mr Ajay Agarwal offered in-depth knowledge on TDS and other tax related issues. He alarmed that the rules related to TDS and other taxation have changed over the years and transporters should be mindful of this while filing documentation.

Mr Carlton Pereira spoke about scaling up and funding opportunities to the logistics industry. He gave an overview of the facts that would impact the Logistics Industry, Globally and Domestically, and how companies could structure themselves in a manner that would attract investors.

There is no doubt that takeaways of both the guest speakers were invaluable. The rich advice/ suggestions will help the transport fraternity to manage their businesses even better.

For the first time in many years, AITWA decided to recognise and award some of the companies for their contributions towards building. AITWA members nominated four companies from the West Zone, namely, IVC Logistics Ltd, Total Group, Rhenus Logistics, BLR Logistics, for their distinguished work and inspiring many others to follow their footsteps.

Talking about the Nation's Logistics System, these are the companies that contributed the conventional trucking system to a developed system which now search only for excellence. Additionally, the event also recognised the sectors - Warehousing, CFS Operations, Grain Silo Management, Drivers, Training and Vehicle Carrying.

In the conclave, the AITWA members collectively identified the issue of low detention charges. The actual cost of each truck's idling cost was calculated. And, based on this a common detention charges were proposed which all the members agreed upon. It is also universally agreed that this charge will be highlighted to all the customers of AITWA members for a smooth business flow.

Apart from this, a long list of customers who have been exploiting transporters for long was also identified. The team AITWA will investigate it and approach these customers to resolve the issues as they have been giving hard times to AITWA members.







6 National Highway Projects Worth Rs. 3,946 Crore in Ahmedpur

nhancing roads and infrastructure for smooth and safe travel, Union Minister for Road Transport & Highway Nitinji Gadkari inaugurated 6 National Highway Projects worth Rs.3,946 crore in Ahmedpur and 3 National Highway Projects worth Rs.122.9 crore in Dharashiv at Ahmedpur, Maharashtra. State Minister, Sanjay Bansode G, Member of Parliament, Sudhakar Shringare, MP Prataprao Patil Chikhlikar and all the MLAs, officials and other dignitaries performed the dedication and Bhoomi Pujan.

Latur district is known throughout the country for the production of soybeans. Good roads facilitate access

of agricultural produce to markets. The projects launched include 4-laning of Ausa-Chakur section on National Highway 361, 4-lane 4-laning of Chakur-Loha section. This will improve connectivity between Marathwada and Vidarbha, two important regions of Maharashtra. Also, the strengthening work of Ashta mode to Ashta and Tivatgyal to Malkapur section on National Highway 63 has also been completed. This route will help the traffic in this area to be smooth and safe.

The projects, which were laid foundation stone, will make traffic smooth and safe for the people of Marathwada and Vidarbha regions. Time and fuel will be saved. It will also get rid of pollution. Mahur Shaktipeeth, Nanded Gurdwara, Tuljabhavani Temple of Tuljapur will be easy to reach.

In the same program, ground breaking ceremony of 3 national highway projects in Dharashiv district was done through video conferencing. These projects will improve the connectivity of Latur Road Junction and Sonegaon Junction. The Dharashiv Bypass will reduce the traffic problem in the city and also facilitate the transportation of agricultural products. Fuel and time will be saved. Travel will be safer and the number of accidents will decrease.

Rs. 3549.48 Crore for Construction and Strengthening of Various National Highways Projects in Madhya Pradesh

nion Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari has approved Rs. 3549.48 crore for construction and strengthening of various National Highways projects in Madhya Pradesh.

In a post he said, an allocation of Rs. 776.19 crore has been approved for 4-laning of 41 km length section of National Highway-146 B (Shahganj Bypass end to Badi Package-IV) in Sehore and Raisen districts of Madhya Pradesh under Hybrid Annuity Mode. Gadkari said, the proposed project

corridor will reduce travel time to reach Jabalpur, Bhopal, Betul and Indore cities and will connect various urban nodes by connecting to National Highway (NH) and State Highway (SH) networks and other important city roads. Construction of bypasses for traffic on National Highways and State Highways will help in reducing accidents by restricting the movement of commercial traffic in towns.

An allocation of Rs. 1238.59 crore has been approved for making 6-lane service road on both sides of Ayodhya bypass from Asharam Tiraha on National Highway-46 to Ratnagiri Tiraha on National Highway-146 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh under hybrid amputee mode.

Gadkari said the proposed alignment connects National Highway-146 and National Highway-46 while also providing connectivity to Bhopal Airport. Making this route 6-lane will help in reducing congestion in Ayodhya Bypass/Bhopal city. This route will facilitate traffic movement on National Highways and reduce accidents by avoiding mixing of local and commercial traffic in the city.

An approval has been given for the construction of 34 km long Chasale 6 lane Indore Western Bypass under Hybrid Annuity Mode under Package-1 at a cost of Rs 1534.70 crore.

Gadkari said, the proposed Construction of bypass for traffic on National Highways will help in reducing the traffic of Bandur city and will also help in reducing the accidents by stopping the movement of commercial traffic in the city.

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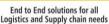




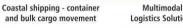


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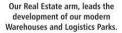














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10 National Highway Projects Worth Rs 10,000 Crore in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh

nion Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Nitin Gadkari laid foundation stone of 10 National Highway projects at a cost of Rs 10,000 crore in Jaunpur Uttar Pradesh. State Minister Girish Chandra Yadav, Minister Dayashankar Singh, Member of Parliament, Seema Dwivedi, Pushpraj Singh and MLAs and officials were also present on the occasion.

Nitin Gadkari said, the construction of 2 bypasses in Jaunpur city, the ring road will be completed, which will provide relief to Jaunpur from traffic jams and encourage industrial development.

He said, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has made significant progress under the PM Gatishakti National Master Plan aimed at improving multi-modal connectivity and last mile connectivity across the country. One such project is the Prayagraj-Dohrighat Corridor Project, which is in Prayagraj, Jaunpur and Azamgarh districts of Uttar Pradesh. This entire corridor is being constructed with 4-lanes.

This project, being built in a total of 4 packages, connects Purvanchal Expressway, 11 National Highways, 2 State Highways, 5 railway stations, 2 airports. The construction of this project road will reduce traffic problems in these 5 important commercial cities of Phulpur, Mungarabadpur, Machhilishahr, Jaunpur and Azamgarh. This ambitious project aims to provide seamless connectivity as well as generate huge economic benefits and increase employment to consumers, farmers, youth and business people, he added.

15 National Highway Projects Worth Rs 4,000 crore in Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh

onnecting Himachal Pradesh, situated in the lap of Himalayas, with world class infrastructure, the Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone 15 National Highway projects and 1 Ropeway project at cost of Rs. 4,000 crore in Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh. BJP National President and Member of Parliament, Jagat Prakash Nadda and Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Thakur, Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department Minister Vikramaditya Singh and MLAs and officials were also present on the occassion.

The projects inaugurated include construction of Theog bypass on Devrighat-Premghat, construction of 196 m long bridge on Kalruhi section

and construction of 225 m long Dhaliyara bridge on National Highway 503 in Kangra district. The projects that were laid includs road construction projects, construction of 8 km long 4-lane missing link and cable stay bridge on National Highway 503A till Birhu-Lathiani, 2 km long bridge from Mohal in Kullu to the famous Bijli Mahadev Temple at a cost of Rs 272 crore. Construction of ropeway, slope protection works of 4 km length to prevent landslides on Parwanoo-Solan section of National Highway 22, construction of 500 m long artificial tunnel on National Highway 5, construction of 410 m long 2-lane RUB on National Highway 503. Four projects are underway through construction and CRIF.

With the construction of these projects, the distance from Hamirpur to Mandi will be reduced by 15 km and

the connectivity of areas like Tauni Devi, Awahdevi, Sarkaghat, Dharampur etc. will improve. With Darlaghat Cement Factory and AIIMS Bilaspur getting 4-lane connectivity, the connectivity of logistics and health services of this area will be improved. The cable stayed bridge on Govind Sagar Lake will reduce the current distance from Birhu to Lathiani, Hamirpur to Una by 21 km. With the construction of the ropeway, the journey to the pilgrimage site Bijli Mahadev will reduce from the present 2 hours 30 minutes to about 7 minutes and all-weather connectivity will be provided to 36000 pilgrims every day. The work of slope protection and tunnel construction will solve the problem of landslides and travel will be safe and easy. Construction of various highway projects will ease the difficult journey on hilly roads.



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Rs. 1532.97 Crore for Upgradation of National Highway Projects in Gujarat

nion Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Nitin Gadkari in a post said approval has been given for widening of 12.4 km long Dhrol to Amaran section of National Highway-151-A in Morbi district of Gujarat to 4-lane at a cost of Rs 625.58 crore.

He said, Amritsar-Jamnagar corridor is the missing link from this section. The development of this missing link will complete the connectivity between four refineries in 3 states and several economic and social nodes in the project impact area. After completion of these stretches, the Dhrol-Amran-Pipjia route section will provide seamless connectivity to the industrial city of Jamnagar with the eastern and northern parts of Gujarat and also with the Jamnagar-Rajkot section of National Highway-151A/State Highway 25. Minister said that, this project will reduce the travel time by about one hour which will reduce the vehicle

operating cost. This route will ensure safe traffic. Better connectivity will open doors to economic prosperity with the facility of industries and agro parks in the area, which will create new employment opportunities and lead to economic prosperity. There will be better connectivity with the existing Navlakhi Port and the upcoming investment area in Navlakhi. Connectivity of religious and tourist places in Eastern Gujarat will also improve.

In another post, Gadkari said, approval has been given for construction of additional structures including pipelines in 15 km long stretch of Vadodara-Surat section on National Highway-48 in Vadodara, Bharuch and Surat districts of Gujarat at a cost of Rs 907.39 crore.

He said that National Highway-48 is a part of the Golden Quadrilateral and is considered to be one of the busiest National Highways, which starts from Delhi and passes through Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra,

Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The under-construction Vadodara-Mumbai Expressway crosses this project route, which will be integrated with National Highway-48 to ease traffic movement. All existing narrow bridges on Vadodara-Surat section of NH-48 are contemplated to be replaced with new 3/4-lane bridges on LHS/RHS/both sides as per site requirement to eliminate bottlenecks and traffic jams. This will improve the safety of road users. Further, to streamline traffic and improve the safety of route users, grade separator structures have been proposed at various locations identified as accident blank spot locations. The project will result in savings in productivity and fuel costs by reducing travel time for passenger and freight transportation. Improved road safety can lead to cost savings by reducing accidents and their associated economic impacts, the Minister added.

22 National Highway Projects Spanning 268 Km Worth Rs4,000 Crore in Mysuru, Karnataka

nion Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 22 National Highway Projects, spanning 268 Km and valued at over ₹4,000 Crore in Mysuru, Karnataka.

Notably, initiatives like the Huliyar-KB cross-Chunchanahalli-Nelligere road aim to enhance connectivity between Mysuru and North Karnataka. The Mysuru Ring Road, complete with service roads and RUBS, promises to alleviate city congestion, ensuring seamless traffic flow.

The 4-lane expansion of Belur-Hassan and Yedegowdanahalli-Bilikere road, coupled with the installation of ROBs at Hangarahalli and Holenarasipur Bypass, anticipates a notable 2-hour reduction in travel time.

The construction of a major bridge over Lakshmanathirtha River seeks to decongest Hunsur Town, echoing the commitment to streamlined urban planning. Additionally, the development of Srinivasapura and Chintamani bypasses targets congestion reduction in both cities.

The strategic inclusion of major and minor bridges, as well as Road over Bridges (ROBs) on railway level crossings, underscores a concerted effort to facilitate unhindered traffic movement.

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Rs 718.26 Crore for Widening and Strengthening of 26.96 Km National Highway-59 in Kandhamal and Ganjam District, Odisha

nion Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari in a post said in Odisha, an allocation of Rs. 718.26 crore has been sanctioned for the widening and strengthening of the Daringbadi Ghat section on National Highway -59, spanning Kandhamal and Ganjam

district, under the Annual Plan 2023-24. The project covers a total distance of 26.96 Km.

Gadkari said the Daringbadi Ghat segment currently experiences challenges due to a narrow carriageway and suboptimal geometrics, causing long-route vehicles from western Odisha to bypass National Highway 59. As a prominent tourist destination, especially during winter, enhancing this stretch will elevate highway standards, bolster safety, and ensure all weather-connectivity along National Highway-59.

Rs 1244.43 Crore for Upgradation on National Highway- 205 in Solan and Bilaspur Districts of Himachal Pradesh

nion Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari in a post said in Himachal Pradesh, approval has been given to upgrade the existing road from Kalar Bala village to Nauni Chowk on National Highway- 205 in Solan and Bilaspur districts of Himachal Pradesh to 4-lane with painted shoulder at a cost of Rs 1244.43 crore.

Gadkari said this road project will provide better connectivity to Shimla, Kangra, Dharamshala and Mandi. Also, connectivity with Darlaghat and AIIMS will improve.

Rs 438.34 Crore for Construction of 2-lane for Giridih on National Highway-114 in Jharkhand

nion Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari in a post said in Jharkhand, approval has been given for construction of 2-lane bypass road with paved shoulders around Giridih town on National Highway-114 at a cost of Rs 438.34 crore.

Gadkari said the proposed Giridih Bypass will reduce the travel time from Ranchi to Deoghar. Also, construction of bypass road around Giridih city will lead to socio-economic development of the area.

Rs 691.70 Crore for Construction of Kotdwar Bypass on National Highway-119 in Bijnor and Pauri Districts of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand

nion Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari in a post said in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, approval has been given for construction of 6 km long 4-lane Kotdwar Bypass on National Highway-119 in Bijnor and Pauri districts of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand at a cost of Rs 691.70 crore.

Gadkari said this route will act as a bypass for Kotdwar city. It will prove helpful in reducing congestion in the city and increasing connectivity with Uttar Pradesh. It will also promote the development of tourism in the state. Will improve connectivity to the pilgrimage sites Kedarnath and Badrinath Dhams.



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Rs 481.86 Crore for Widening of National Highway-19 in Saran District of Bihar



nion Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari in a post said in Bihar, widening of the existing 2nd Gen Chhapra Bypass section of National Highway-19 in Saran district of Bihar State with 3 additional lanes has been approved at a cost of Rs 481.86 crore.

Gadkari said the development of this section will ensure smooth and safe traffic flow and significantly reduce travel time. Additionally, the implementation of the project will provide seamless connectivity to Purvanchal Expressway from Hajipur (Patna)- Rivilganj- Ballia-Ghazipur and will boost the overall economic development of the region.

Rs 1894.76 Crore for Construction of Jaunpur Bypass (Package-1) on Jaunpur-Akbarpur Section of National Highway – 135A in Uttar Pradesh

nion Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari in a post said in Uttar Pradesh, approval has been given for construction of 29 km long 4 lane Jaunpur Bypass (Package-1) at a cost of Rs 1894.76 crore on Jaunpur-Akbarpur section of National Highway – 135A in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

Gadkari said the present proposal will ease traffic in the densely built-up part of Jaunpur city. The development of Greenfield Bypass will also provide connectivity to National Highway 128 A, National Highway 731 and National Highway 31 passing through the project highway. The objective of this project is to ensure smooth and safe traffic flow and reduce travel time of road users. The highway also includes a major bridge over river Ganga which will improve the connectivity of the region.

Rs 6728.33 Crore for the Construction of 8 Stretches of 305.50 Km National Highway-913 in Arunachal Pradesh

nion Minister for Road
Transport and Highways,
Nitin Gadkari in a post
said in Arunachal
Pradesh, an allocation of
Rs. 6728.33 crore has been granted for
constructing 8 stretches on NH-913
(Froniter Highway) as Intermediate
Lane Road, spanning 305.50 Km on
EPC mode.

Gadkari said, this development aims to enhance connectivity to border areas, fostering socio-economic progress. The Frontier Highway



construction is anticipated to curb migration, encouraging reverse

habitation towards Arunachal Pradesh's border regions. Furthermore, these frontier highway stretches will establish crucial road infrastructure linking significant river basins, facilitating the development of numerous hydropower projects in the state.

He said, this predominantly greenfield road will connect sparsely populated Upper Arunachal areas, ideal for tourism, projecting increased traffic due to burgeoning tourism in the future.

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2 National Highway Projects Worth Rs 1750 Crore in Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh

ncreasing the pace of development of Uttar Pradesh through National Highway construction, Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone of 2 National Highway projects worth Rs 1750 crore in Mirzapur in the presence of state ministers and MPs, MLAs and officials.

Nitin Gadkari said, Mirzapur district, situated under the shadow of Mother Vindhyavasini, is religiously and naturally important. To develop this entire region, the foundation stone of 2 ambitious National Highway projects costing more than Rs 1750 crore has been laid. Among these, a 4-lane Mirzapur bypass including a 6-lane bridge on the Ganga river will be constructed on National Highway 135A, 15 km long. Besides, repair work will be done on 59 km long road from Mirzapur to Prayagraj and from Prayagraj to Pratapgarh on National Highways 35 and 330.

With the completion of both these projects, it will be easier for the devotees to reach the religious places in Mirzapur district, which will boost tourism. Economic development will get a new impetus in many districts of Prayagraj and Purvanchal including Mirzapur. Construction of 4-lane Mirzapur bypass on river Ganga will provide relief from traffic jams and improve connectivity between Mirzapur-Ayodhya, which will increase trade.

Rs. 766.42 Crore for Construction and Strengthening of Various National Highways Projects in Goa

nion Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari has approved Rs. 766.42 crore for construction and strengthening of various National Highways projects in Goa

In a post he said, an allocation of Rs. 455.50 crore has been granted for the construction of a 4-lane flyover spanning from MES College Junction to Bogmalo Junction, covering a total length of 3.35 Km on NH-566. Additionally, a 4-lane Vehicular Underpass (VUP) at Queeny Nagar Junction, spanning 1.22 Km, will be built under the Engineering, Procurement, and construction (EPC) mode within the National Highways (Original) framework.

In another post, Gadkari said in Goa, an allocation of Rs. 310.92 crore has been approved for land acquisition to construct the Cuncolim Bypass from Uskini-bandh Cuncolim to Bendordem. Spanning 8.33 Km on NH-66 in South Goa district, this initiative under the Annual Plan 2023-24 aims to expedite the completion of the Mumbai to Kanyakumari Economic Corridor.

He said, the bypass addresses congestion and accidents in Cuncolim town, providing improved connectivity to tourist destinations, South Goa district HQ and the capital city Panaji. This development anticipates enhanced service levels, considerable socio-economic benefits, reduced Vehicle Operating Cost (VOC), and decreased travel time.

Rs 3371.18. Crore for 4 Laning of NH-37 & NH-8 Silchar - Churaibari Corridor in Assam

nion Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari in a post said in Assam, an allocation of Rs. 3371.18 crore has been sanctioned for three projects encompassing sections from Nilambazar/Cheragi bypass to Chandkhira, Chandkhira to Churaibari, and Karimganj to Sutarkandi for the widening to 4 Lane on NH-37 & 8. Totaling 58.06 km, these sections fall under Packages V, VI and VII of the Silchar Churaibari Corridor.

Gadkari said, envisioned as a 4-lane with paved shoulders and access-controlled corridor, the project aims to provide enhanced highway connectivity to neighboring states, namely Meghalaya, Manipur, and Tripura via NH-37, NH-06, and NH-08. The Silchar-Churaibari corridor further strengthens international connectivity with Bangladesh via the ICP near Sutarkhandi, Assam, on NH-37. This road's development will ensure seamless and secure traffic flow, fostering regional economic growth and facilitating international trade.



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Corridor on
KalimandirDimna ChowkBaliguma
Section of
National
Highway-33
(New-18) in
Jamshedpur,
Jharkhand

nion Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Nitin Gadkari in a post said, construction of 10 km long 4-lane elevated corridor on Kalimandir-Dimna Chowk-Baliguma section of National Highway-33 (New-18) in Jamshedpur city of Jharkhand has been approved at a cost of Rs 936.26 crore.

He said, keeping in view the increasing traffic in the city by separating local traffic, the project road is envisaged to be developed as a 4-lane single-elevated corridor to enhance safety and reduce congestion in the city of Jamshedpur.

8 National Highway Projects Worth Rs 4142 Crore in Rai Bareli, Uttar Pradesh



nion Minister for Road
Transport &
Highways, Nitin
Gadkari inaugurated 8
National Highway
projects at a cost of Rs 4142 crore in
Rae Bareli. State Minister, Dinesh
Pratap Singh and Prayagraj Member
of Parliament, Kesari Devi Patel,
Member of Parliament, Sangam Lal
Gupta, Virendra Tiwari along with
State Ministers and MPs, MLAs and
officials were also present on the

occasion.

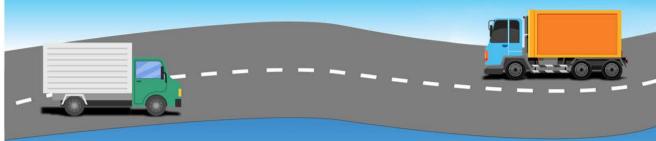
Gadkari said, situated at the holy confluence of Ganga, Yamuna and Saraswati, districts like Prayagraj, Rae Bareli and Sultanpur have religious and historical importance. 424 km length of roads and other development works will be done through the projects. With the completion of these projects, connectivity with other areas of the state and the country will improve.

"It's hard to beat a person who never gives up." -Babe Ruth



Golden Rules of Driving

India has the dubious distinction of being the accident capital of the world. With an accident happening every six minutes & a fatality every ten minutes, it is important for us to follow the Golden Rules of Driving and make our roads safer again!



1

Speed Guidelines

Follow Road Speed Guidelines diligently; a journey that stretches on for a few minutes longer is infinitely desirable than losing a life.



2

Blind Overtaking

Blind overtaking is to be avoided, for it not only endangers one's own life, but also the lives of co-passengers and the travellers in the oncoming vehicle (s).



3

Vehicle Maintenance

Lax Vehicle Maintenance is often the cause of accidents. Steering & suspension components are some of the oft-neglected, yet highly vital aspects that must be checked.



4

Air Pressure

Incorrect air-pressure levels can seriously destabilize a vehicle. They lead to blow-outs in extreme cases. Weekly tire pressure checks and/or before a long trip help go a long way.



5

Adequate Sleep

Ensure adequate sleep before getting behind the wheel. Drivers sleeping off when in motion are one of the key reasons for high accident rates.



6

Alcohol

Alcoholic intake or consumption of intoxicants is best avoided when driving.



7

Seatbelts

The simple act of wearing a seatbelts before starting out is an important life-saving habit.



CV Sales Volume to Decline Upto 7% in FY2025 Says ICRA

he volumes for the domestic commercial vehicle (CV) industry are expected to remain muted through Q4 FY2024 as the base effect catches up in addition to a perceived pause in the infrastructural activities as the model code of conduct kicks in ahead of the General Elections, says ICRA, reported Express Mobility.

It estimates that the domestic CV volumes will register 2-5% YoY growth in volumes in FY2024. Subsequently, the industry's sharp upcycle is expected to plateau in FY2025, with a decline of 4-7% in volumes.

Kinjal Shah, VP & Co-Group Head, ICRA Ratings said, "ICRA expects the long-term demand for CVs to remain intact. The continued focus on infrastructure capex (as reiterated in the interim budget for FY2024-25), emphasis on private participation in infrastructure, construction, defence and manufacturing activities would remain a long-term positive for the CV industry. The new railway corridors will result in higher last-mile connectivity, which would benefit the CV industry. However, in the near term, ICRA expects the volumes to plateau on a high base, amid the transient moderation in economic activity in some sectors with the onset of the General Elections."

The rating agency expects that among the various sub-segments within the CV industry, the medium and heavy commercial vehicles (M&HCV) segment is projected to witness a slowdown in volume growth in FY2024 to 3-6%, as Q4 FY2024 is expected to witness a muted rise due to the high base of the previous year.

The volumes are further expected to

decline by 4-7% in FY2025 amid a likely moderation in the momentum of the Government's capex in the first



The volumes are further expected to decline by 4-7% in FY2025 amid a likely moderation in the momentum of the Government's capex in the first few months of the fiscal with the onset of the General Elections

few months of the fiscal with the onset of the General Elections.

The light commercial vehicles (LCV) segment, which reported a high-volume expansion of 15% and 23% in FY2022 and FY2023, respectively, is expected to witness a volume contraction of 1-4% during FY2024.

The decline in FY2025 is expected to be sharper at 5-8% due to a high base effect, cannibalisation from the electric three-wheelers (e3Ws) and the

slowdown seen in the e-commerce sector, which continues to have a bearing on the overall demand within

this segment.

The buses segment is expected to register a healthy 18-21% YoY volume growth in FY2024 as the mandatory scrappage of older Government vehicles drives replacement demand over the near term. The growth is expected to moderate to 2-5% in FY2025 due to a high base effect. However, the Government's recent initiatives at addressing the payment security mechanism for electric bus operators will help in accelerating the adoption of electric buses in

the near term. Overall, the domestic CV industry's ability to scale previous peaks hinges on sustenance of the macro-economic environment, improvement in infrastructure activity and increased demand for last-mile transportation.

The OPM (overall profit margin) for ICRA's sample set companies [is expected to improve by 150-200 bps to 9-10% in FY2024, aided by operating leverage benefits and benign commodity prices.

It expects the OPM to contract marginally in FY2025 to 8.5-9.5% on the back of lower volumes.

Furthermore, ICRA says it does not expect any large debt-funded capacity expansion-related capex from the larger CV OEMs in the next two years, although these OEMs are expected to incur moderate capex towards their product development initiatives (especially on the electric and hydrogen fuel-powered drivetrains). With better profitability and lower debt, the credit metrics are expected to marginally improve in FY2024 and remain steady in FY2025.

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प्रयुक्त कमर्शियल वाहन ऋण

- √ वर्किंग कैपिटल का लाभ उठाने के लिए मौजूदा फ्री वाहन का उपयोग करें।
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- √ लोन अवधि 60 महीने तक।
- √ बड़े फ्लीट ऑपरेटरों से लेकर पहली बार उपयोग करने वाले।
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प्रथम वर्ष के बाद किसी भी समय आंशिक ऋण चुकाने का विकल्प उपलब्ध है

ड्रॉप-लाइन ओवर ड्राफ्ट लिमिट

- 🗸 ट्रांसपोर्टरों के लिए संपत्ति और कमर्शियल वाहनों पर ड्रॉफ्ट-लाइन ओडी लिमिट।
- √ अप्रयुक्त राशि पर कोई ब्याज नहीं।
- √ वार्षिक नवीनीकरण की आवश्यकता नहीं है।
- 🗸 कोई अवधि दस्तावेजी आवश्यकता नहीं है जैसे बैलेन्स शीट आदि।
- √ स्वतः लिमिट ड्रॉप उपलब्ध।

अधिक जानकारी के लिए सम्पर्क करें।

* नियम और शर्तें लागू। यस बैंक के विवेकाधिकार पर ऋण स्वीकृत किए जाते हैं। इसमें निहित कुछ भी येस बैंक के किसी भी उत्पाद, सेवा को खरीदने या कोई अधिकार या दायित्व बनाने के लिए निमंत्रण या आग्रह नहीं माना जाएगा। बैंक उत्पादों की बिक्री/विपणन आदि में एजेंटों की सेवाओं का उपयोग कर सकता है। यस बैंक करता है ब्यौरे में दी गई किसी बात पर भरोसा करते हुए किसी के द्वारा किए गए किसी नुकसान या खर्च किए गए डोमन के लिए कोई आदत या जिम्मेदारी नहीं लें। साइट पर प्रदान की गई सामग्री या सुचना और/या तीसरे पक्ष के कृत्यों/चूक के कारण।

BharatBenz Plans a Product-offensive Strategy to Up the Game in the M&HCV Market

erman truck and bus maker Daimler India Commercial Vehicles (DICV) plans a product-offensive drive with a plan to introduce AMT variants to up its ante in the medium and heavy commercial vehicle (M&HCV) segment in this calendar year amid a flat growth outlook for 2024, reported The Hindu Business Line.

The company expects the total volumes of medium and heavy commercial vehicles in 2024 to remain flat mainly due to a likely slowdown in the first half on account of the high base effect and General Elections.

However, it expects to outperform the industry in 2024 supported by new product launches across three key segments where it achieved higher growth than the industry in 2023.

DICV plans to roll out 14 new trucks across heavy-duty rigid, tractor-trailers, and tipper segments. A new range of rigid trucks, which will come in five configurations and be introduced next month, is to come up with a new BharatBenz powertrain range.

"With this more efficient range of trucks, the company enters into new segments such as bulker and petroleum oil & lubricants transportation segment where BharatBenz brand has not been present," said Sreeram Venkatesawaran, President & Chief Business Officer (Domestic Sales and Customer Service), DICV.

While the company claims a strong



position in the tractor-trailer segment, it seeks to further strengthen its position with the introduction of the all-new AMT (automated manual transmission) variants, aimed at offering better fleet fuel efficiency. These AMT variants will come in tractor-trailers and mining applications.

The company has already completed some trials and claimed to have received encouraging results for the AMT trucks apart from safety and comfort for the driver. AMT that the company is bringing to the market is a globally tested one - Mercedes Benz AMT. This has been fitted in more than half a million trucks across the world so far.

"We are bringing it at this time because we believe the market is getting ready for it. With all the investment and infrastructure that has been done and the customers are looking for better fleet utilisation and turnaround times, they are ready to pay more to enable that to happen. We believe this will up the game once again in terms of technology and in terms of what you can derive from the products," said Satyakam Arya, MD & CEO, DICV.

In the tipper segment, which has been a very successful product segment for BharatBenz brand, a new range of tippers with stronger engine power and a lot of segment-first features in terms of improving fuel efficiency and reducing maintenance costs, will hit the market.

In the long-haul (multi-axle trucks) segment, the industry reported a degrowth or flat growth. DICV reported 22 per cent in its sales. In tractor trailers, which saw a good revival in 2023, DICV reported 79 per cent growth as against the market growth of 52 per cent. In the tipper segment, where investment in infrastructure spurred growth, the market had a growth of 11 per cent, while the BharatBenz brand grew at a whopping 54 per cent.



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Daimler India Posts Highest-ever Annual Domestic Volumes in 2023



aimler India Commercial Vehicles (DICV), the Indian arm of Germany's Daimler Truck AG, has recorded its highest-ever annual domestic sales of its BharatBenz vehicles (above 9-tonne) in the calendar year 2023, helped by robust demand and network expansion, reported The Hindu Business Line.

The company's total sales of trucks and buses in the Indian market grew by a whopping 39 per cent at 25,435 units in 2023 when compared with the domestic volumes of 18,331 units in 2022. The company's previous highest annual domestic sales were recorded in 2018 when it sold 22,530 units.

In 2023, total medium and heavy commercial truck sales (excluding DICV volumes) in India grew by 9 per cent at 333,339 units, while bus volumes rose 61.5 per cent to 47,473 units, according to Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers data.

DICV is under the umbrella of Daimler Trucks Asia, which includes countries such as Japan, India, and Indonesia, among others. In 2023, India reported the highest growth in sales, while Japan recorded a 28 per cent rise in truck and bus sales at 39,021 units. Sales in Indonesia declined by 20 per cent to 35,311 units. "In India, Daimler Truck's heavy-duty vehicles are in high demand. The BharatBenz brand is capitalising on the rapid infrastructure growth of the country, expanding the dealership network to more than 330 sales and service locations nationwide in 2023," said Daimler Truck's latest Annual

Report.

Trucks will remain the backbone of our economy and society. Road transportation remains number one for long-haul and last-mile distribution. India's market carries significant growth potential as the upper mediumduty and heavy-duty truck market is expected to grow by 70 per cent by 2030 from 2025 level, said the Daimler Truck AG's investor presentation.

Discussing zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs), Daimler Truck AG has indicated that its ZEV portfolio will cover three technologies to serve different customer needs — battery electric vehicles, hydrogen fuel cell EVs, and hydrogen combustion engines. The group's sales of zero-emission trucks and buses stood at 3,443 units in 2023 — up from 914 units in 2022.

"The fuel choices will be many. Diesel will continue to be a dominant fuel till other fuels offer cost affordability, the technology matures and most importantly we have the necessary infrastructure to support the transition and adoption," Satyakam Arya, Managing Director & CEO, DICV, had told businessline.

In the near term, blended fuels and gas (CNG and LNG) will be choices that will have some level of penetration in the overall market. This will be purely for geography-specific applications, considering the availability of infrastructure. In the long term, fully electric for intra-city applications like LCVs and buses, and hydrogen for the long haul will be the fuels that could emerge as sustainable propulsion technologies.

"The challenges will still be cost affordability, technology maturity, and development of infrastructure — whether it is charging or storage or retail distribution of hydrogen," he noted.





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Domestic Commercial Vehicle Industry to See 4-7% Dip in Volumes: ICRA

omestic Commercial Vehicle (CV) volumes are expected to dip 4-7 per cent year-on-year next fiscal with high base effect kicking in, said rating agency Icra, reported PTI.

The volumes are expected to remain muted through the January-March quarter on account of a perceived pause in the infrastructural activities as the model code of conduct kicks in ahead of the general elections.

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"Icra estimates the domestic CV

industry volumes to register 2-5 per cent year-on-year growth in volumes in FY24. Subsequently, the industry's sharp upcycle is expected to plateau in FY25, with a decline of 4-7 per cent in volumes," the rating agency stated.

Icra Ratings Vice President & Co-Group Head Kinjal Shah said he expects the long-term demand for CVs to remain intact.

The continued focus on infrastructure capex, emphasis on private participation in infrastructure, construction, defence and manufacturing activities would remain a long-term positive for the CV industry, he said.

"However, in the near term, Icra expects the volumes to plateau on a high base, amid the transient moderation in economic activity in some sectors with the onset of the general elections," he added.

Overall, the domestic CV industry's ability to scale previous peaks hinges on sustenance of the macro-economic environment, improvement in infrastructure activity and increased demand for last mile transportation, Icra stated.

Blue Energy Motors' LNG Trucks Cross 1 Crore Kilometre on Indian Roads

une-based Blue Energy Motors, a green truck manufacturing company has announced a significant milestone as its fleet of LNG trucks have cumulatively crossed the landmark of 1 crore kilometres on Indian roads in various customer applications, reported Express Mobility.

The trucks while covering over

1 crore kilometres have effectively helped reduce over 3,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions, which is equivalent to the environmental benefit provided by 1.2 lakh mature trees.

India's trucking market is expected to grow four times larger by 2050 from 4 million trucks in 2022 to 17 million trucks, which will boost the nation's economy and increase transportation emissions. With this projected growth, it's crucial to ensure that green trucks

contribute to a cleaner and more sustainable transport system.

As per recent NITI Ayog report, LNG provides a compelling alternative to diesel trucks. It is expected that LNG HDV in total HDV sales per annum would reach 10 percent by 2032. Green trucks produce near-zero tailpipe emissions and offer opportunities for long-term fuel cost savings, making them effective replacements for current diesel trucks.

Hence, the Indian government is proactively adopting policies and developing infrastructure for swift adoption of clean energy trucks.

Anirudh Bhuwalka, CEO, Blue Energy Motors said, "Crossing the milestone of 1 crore kilometres is a significant achievement for Blue Energy Motors and a testament to the efficiency and

reliability of our zero-emission trucking technology. The government of India has been encouraging the use of alternate fuelled Green Trucks and has been providing relentless support to streamline infrastructure for early adoption of LNG trucks. We are committed in this journey to provide a cleaner and greener environment by decarbonising heavy-duty trucking and mitigating the impact of transportation on climate change."

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Tata Motors Delivers Green Trucks to Tata Steel

ata Motors, one of India's largest commercial vehicle manufacturer has flagged off its next-generation, green-fuel powered commercial vehicles to Tata Steel, reported Express Mobility.

The fleet includes Prima tractors, tippers and the Ultra EV bus, powered by Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and battery electric technologies. The vehicles were flagged off by Tata Son's Chairman, N Chandrasekaran, as part of the Tata Group's Founder's Day celebrations in Jamshedpur. Present at the ceremony were T V Narendran, CEO & MD, Tata Steel and Girish Wagh, Executive Director, Tata Motors, along with senior members of their leadership teams.

T V Narendran said: "This delivery marks another significant milestone in our long-standing partnership with Tata Motors. As leaders in our respective industries, Tata Steel and Tata Motors share a common vision for sustainability and innovation. By

harnessing our collective expertise and resources, we are not only revolutionising our industries but also leading the way in environmental responsibility. Together, we are committed to driving positive change and delivering eco-friendly solutions that not only benefit our businesses but also contribute to a greener tomorrow." Girish Wagh said, "Tata Motors is driving the global megatrend of sustainable, safe and smart mobility in India. Our green fleet of commercial vehicles will accelerate Tata Steel's efforts towards making its supply chain carbon neutral. We have collaborated with them and their transportation partners to design holistic solutions for enhancing functionality, performance, connectivity and safety. Every aspect of these vehicles has been purposefully augmented to cater to varied duty cycles and special applications. We look forward to strengthening our historic partnership in our respective quests of reducing carbon footprint and achieving net-zero emissions by 2045."

The commercial vehicles come equipped with multiple safety features including Advanced Driver Assistance System (ADAS), Electronic Stability Control (ESC), Active Traction Control and Driver Monitoring System, amongst others. The vehicles were handed over to Tata Steel's delivery partners for transporting steel products and raw materials.

Engineered for a variety of applications, the Tata Prima LNG range of trucks including Tippers (3530.K) and Tractors (5530.S) will be used for surface, mining, and long-haul commercial transportation. As part of the accelerated adoption of batteryelectric range, 28T EV Tipper (E28.K) and 46T EV Tractor (E46.S) are being deployed for establishing real-world performance, as part of Tata Steel's logistic movement. In addition to the zero-emission trucks, the company will also start using Tata Ultra EV buses for employee transport, across plant locations.

Commercial Vehicle Sales See Signs of Moderation, February Sales Down 2%

he commercial vehicle wholesales in February 2024, came at 79,733 units, which is 2 percent lower than 80,354 units for the same period last year, reported Express Mobility.

The drop in volumes can be attributed to various reasons, but most importantly, the high-base effect, cyclic demand and also the demand moderation due to the upcoming elections.

While, CV customers continue to benefit from infrastructure push and need for higher-tonnage vehicles on the back of demand, there is still a bit of hesitancy towards replacing their existing fleets (under 15 years).

Tata Motors, the country's largest CV player reported wholesales of 33,567 units, which was 4 percent lower compared to 35,144 units for the same period last year. Barring passenger carriers, all the segments were in the red.

Mahindra & Mahindra grew its overall wholesales by 10 percent with 22,825 units sold last month, compared to 20,843 units for the same period a year ago. The company primarily benefitted from uptick in demand for LCV above 2-tonnes and LCV above 3.5-tonne and M&HCVs.

Ashok Leyland reported wholesales of 16,451 units, which was lower by 6 percent, compared to 17,568 units last year. On the other hand, it continued to see a robust growth for its bus portfolio, which grew by 55 percent YoY.

Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicles (VECV), reported a marginal growth of 2 percent with wholesales of 6,930 units, compared to 6,799 units last year. Going forward, the month of March is expected to further see moderation, but in terms of fiscal year performance, CV makers look are likely to close the year on a high single-digit percentage growth.

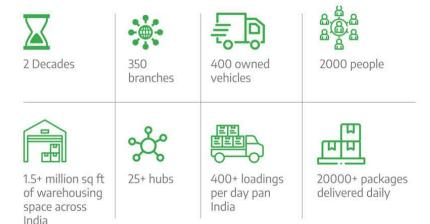
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Apollo Tyres Conducts Experiential Drive for its EnduTrax Range of CV Tyres

pollo Tyres, one of the leading tyre manufacturers in the country hosted a unique event at the NATRAX facility in Indore, reported Express Mobility. The company provided an experiential drive to the fleet owners, business partners and media, at the specially curated track at NATRAX to showcase its technological prowess, especially in the truck bus radial segment.

This first-of-its-kind experiential drive for commercial vehicle tyres in the country, at National Automotive Test Tracks (NATRAX), Indore for aftermarket customers and media was organised to showcase the toughness of the Apollo EnduTrax range, which has been developed afresh with inputs from customers. Specially curated track with slush/mud pit, dirt gradient, undulation, boulders and gravel tested the tyres to

its maximum on durability, high uptime and grip experience to the participants.

The company says it has been a preferred partner of leading commercial vehicle OEMs in the tipper segment, and, has the highest market share in this segment on an overall basis as well. The EnduTrax range from Apollo Tyres comprising EnduTrax MD+, EnduTrax MD and EnduTrax MA is used in tipper trucks for off-road and on-road applications in the growing infrastructure segment and for mining of construction materials.

Satish Sharma, President, Asia Pacific, Middle East and Africa (APMEA), Apollo Tyres said "Being the leaders in the truck-bus radial segment in India, both in terms of technology and volumes, we are hosting this experiential drive to build even stronger customer trust and confidence, while demonstrating the proven performance

and capability of our products. Apollo EnduTrax range stands as a testament to our engineering prowess in the radial tyre space and holds immense potential in the fast-growing infra segment, fuelled by government initiatives."

The Apollo EnduTrax range of tyres has been developed deploying the latest technologies on durability, mileage and cut and chip. The company says the assurance of Apollo Tyres' ACTO casing is further enhanced by unique bead area reinforcement materials for unmatched durability on loads. The layered elastomer matric technology on tread gives best-in-class cut and chip resistance on aggressive terrains. Long tread life is designed by way of special reinforcement materials in compounds. The distributed blocks and unique rounded tie bar provide traction even in slushy terrain.

BharatBenz Opens New 3S Dealership in Indore

aimler India Commercial Vehicles (DICV), the wholly-owned subsidiary of Daimler Truck has added a new 3S (Sales, Service and Spares) BharatBenz dealership to its network in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, in partnership with PPS Trucking, reported Express Mobility.

This facility is the 17 BharatBenz sales and service location in the state; the other 16 locations are situated in Indore (Rau), Bhopal, Jabalpur, Bela, Katni, Shivpuri, Singrauli, Chattarpur, Sagar, Manawar and Gwalior. The 3S dealer network is complemented by six 2S (Service and Spares) and four 1S (Spares) facilities in the state, which are located to meet the varied demands of customers throughout the region.

Sreeram Venkateswaran, President, and

CBO (Domestic Sales and Service) Daimler India Commercial Vehicles said, "Madhya Pradesh is an important market for us given the abundance of natural resources in the state. BharatBenz tippers are the most preferred by fleet owners operating in the mining sector and Madhya Pradesh, being rich in minerals and coal, gives us tremendous opportunities to grow our tipper business. Madhya Pradesh's sharp focus on the Swacch Bharat has opened many opportunities in road construction and infrastructure where BharatBenz rigid trucks and tractor trailers will prove beneficial to customers there."

The new facility is Spread over 51,000 sqft, comprises of 15 Mobile Service Vans (MRVs) and 49 service bays, capable of servicing up to 24,000 vehicles annually.

Rajiv Sanghvi, MD, PPS Trucking said, "We are excited to further strengthen our network with BharatBenz in Madhya Pradesh with the inauguration of this 3S facility in Indore. With the Best-in-Class products of BharatBenz coupled with our understanding of customer needs, we endeavour together to provide a superior ownership experience for our customers."

DICV states its plan in Madhya Pradesh is not only to expand its sales and service network but also to educate dealer and service staff about the unique needs of customers and how to provide them with unparalleled service quality. This approach is mirrored in the company's nationwide initiative to skill 8,000 service technicians who would be trained to service over 6 lakh vehicles annually.



Follow Traffic Rules, Avoid Accidents

Mandatory Traffic Signs

As the title suggests, this set of road traffic signs are obligatory for drivers to follow. The purpose of mandatory traffic signboards is the smooth functioning of traffic on the road. In fact, violating any mandatory traffic signs is punishable by law.













Both Direction

Or Turn Left

Right Turn Prohibited

Prohibited

One Way

Prohibited

Or Turn Right

Over Taking

Prohibited Prohibited





Turn Left



Ahead Only













Turn Right Ahead

Cautionary Traffic Signs

The goal of cautionary traffic signs is to warn drivers of any potential threat on the road ahead, like road work, potholes, and speed bumps. While these things are not inherent, accidents could occur if one doesn't slow down their vehicle. Hence, you must take cautionary road traffic signs as seriously as the mandatory ones.









Pin Bend





Right Reverse Bend

Left Reverse Bend



Steep Ascent



Steep

Descent

Narrow Road



Pin bend

Road Widens Ahead Ahead



Narrow Bridge





Gravel







Men At Work

Cattle







Informative Signs

Informative signs serve to aid any drivers without a map or knowledge of the facilities available in the area they are driving in. They can help guide drivers by offering directions or telling them about hospitals, public phones, and parking spots in the area.





Traffic Rules in India

Traffic rules are officially listed in the 1989 'Rules of Road Regulations.' They are as follows:

- Keep to your left if driving on a twoway street or road so that vehicles coming in the opposite direction can pass using the right lane smoothly.
- If you want to turn left ahead, you must stay on the left side before taking a turn.
- If you want to turn right ahead, you must be at the centre of the road and then gradually take a broad right turn.
- When you are coming towards a road intersection, road junction, or pedestrian crossing, you must slow down your vehicle.
- If being overtaken by a vehicle, you must not increase the speed of your vehicle or, in any way, prevent the vehicle that is attempting to overtake you.
- · Overtaking is prohibited in the

following cases:

- If passing would, in any way, be dangerous for other travellers on the road.
- If passing is near a bend, hill, corner, or point, as it may lead to a critical accident without clear sight of the road in front.
- If the driver upfront has not signalled the driver behind.
- When trying to overtake a vehicle that's already being passed by the third vehicle.
- For those driving two-wheelers, you and your pillion must wear a helmet.
- Parking is not permitted on the top of a hill, footpath, and road for pedestrians. The same isn't permitted near traffic lights, a crossing on the road, the entrance of a building, or if it covers a fire hydrant.
- Your temporary or permanent Vehicle Registration Number (VRN) must always be displayed on the front

and back of your vehicle.

- Only a single pillion is permitted per two-wheeler.
- Drivers must make way for any cyclists on the road.
- The head or tail lights of your vehicle should never be obstructed.
- Driving in the reverse direction is punishable by law on a one-way road.
- When overtaking another vehicle, one must not go beyond the yellow line.
- One must respect the STOP sign on roads and not stop beyond the sign.
- Honking should only be carried out if necessary.
- When driving on a mountain or hill, your vehicle must be towards the right side of the road.
- One cannot load the vehicle with certain goods, like Inflammable and explosive goods.
- Overtaking must only be carried out from the right side.

X

पश्चिम बंगाल में नादिया, मुर्शिदाबाद और उत्तर 24 परगना जिलों में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-34 परियोजनाओं के विस्तार के लिए 553.12 करोड़ रुपये की स्वीकृति

केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने एक पोस्ट में कहा कि पश्चिम बंगाल में, नादिया, मुर्शिदाबाद और उत्तरी 24 परगना जिलों में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-34 परियोजनाओं के विस्तार के लिए 553.12 करोड़ रूपये की स्वीकृति दी है। इस योजना के अंतर्गत कृष्णानगर-बेहरामपुर और बारासात-बाराजगुली खंडों का विकास किया जाएगा और मार्गों को 4-लेन का बनाया जाएगा। इन परियोजनाओं की संचयी लंबाई 28.23 किलोमीटर है।

गडकरी ने कहा कि इन सड़क खंडों के विस्तार का उद्देश्य वर्तमान 2-लेन राजमार्ग पर भीड़ को कम करना है। इससे दक्षिण बंगाल से उत्तर बंगाल तक माल ढुलाई की अधिक और कुशल आवाजाही को प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा।

कर्नाटक के बागलकोट और बेलगावी जिलों में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग- 748ए के बेलगाम-हुंगुंड-रायचूर खंड के 4-लेन के लिए 2675. 31 करोड़ रुपये की धनराशि को मंजूरी

केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने एक पोस्ट में बताया कि कर्नाटक के बागलकोट और बेलगावी जिलों में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग- 748ए के बेलगाम-हुंगुंड-रायचूर खंड के 4-लेन के लिए 2675.31 करोड़ रुपये की पर्याप्त धनराशि मंजूर की गई है। इसे हाइब्रिड एन्यूटी (वार्षिकी) मोड में कार्यान्वित किया जाएगा। इस परियोजना के तहत सड़क की कुल लंबाई 92.40 किलोमीटर है।

उन्होंने कहा कि यह खंड पणजी-हैदराबाद ईसी10 गिलयारे का अभिन्न अंग है। ईसी-10 कई प्रमुख औद्योगिक केंद्रों को आपस में जोड़ता है। इनमें पणजी, जो कि मत्स्यपालन, पर्यटन, कृषि व औषिध उद्योगों के लिए प्रसिद्ध है, बेलगावी, जिसे खाद्यान्न, गन्ना, कपास, तम्बाकू, तिलहन और डेयरी उत्पादों के लिए जाना जाता है। इनके अलावा रायचूर, जिसे चावल, कपास, मूंगफली और दालों के लिए पहचाना जाता है और हैदराबाद जो कि आईटी, औषिध, स्वास्थ्य सेवा और गोवा, कर्नाटक व तेलंगाना में स्थित विभिन्न स्टार्टअप्स केंद्र के लिए विख्यात है, इन औद्योगिक केंद्रों में शामिल हैं।

तमिलनाडु में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों को चौड़ा करने और इनको सुदृढ़ बनाने के लिए 2281.10 करोड़ रुपए की मंजूरी

केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने एक सोशल मीडिया पोस्ट में कहा, तिमलनाडु में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-716 के तिरुवल्लुर से तिमलनाडु/आंध्र प्रदेश सीमा सेक्शन तक मौजूदा 2-लेन पेव्ड शोल्डर को चौड़ा करने के लिए 1376.10 करोड़ रुपये के बड़े आवंटन को मंजूरी दी है। पैकेज-1 के तहत तिरुवल्लूर जिले में पेव्ड शोल्डर के साथ 4-लेन कॉन्फिगरेशन में यह परिवर्तन 43.95 किलोमीटर तक फैला है।

उन्होंने कहा, विकास का उद्देश्य पूरी तरह से पहुंच-नियंत्रित कॉरिडोर स्थापित करना है, जो तिरुथानी और तिरुपति के पवित्र शहरों को जोड़ने वाले एक महत्वपूर्ण मार्ग का अभिन्न अंग है।

एक अन्य पोस्ट में उन्होंने कहा कि तिमलनाडु में धर्मपुरी और सलेम जिलों में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग के 6.6 किलोमीटर लंबे थोप्पुर घाट सेक्शन के अलाइनमेंट को बढ़ाने के लिए 905.00 करोड़ रुपये स्वीकृत किए गए हैं।

चुनौतीपूर्ण भूभाग से गुजरने वाले इस सेक्शन में 110 मीटर से कम रेडियस वाले तेज एस-कर्व्स जैसी किमयां हैं, जो दुर्घटनाओं में योगदान करती हैं। मंत्री ने जोड़ा कि बाई ओर एक ऊंचा कॉरिडोर/पुल सिहत प्रस्तावित सुधारों का उद्देश्य इस राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-44 खंड पर दुर्घटनाओं को कम करना है, जो तिमलनाडु में उत्तर-दक्षिण कॉरिडोर के बेंगलुरु-कन्याकुमारी खंड का एक महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है।

X

जम्मू और कश्मीर में विभिन्न राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परियोजनाओं को चौड़ा करने तथा सुदृढ़ीकरण करने के लिए 2093.92 करोड़ रुपये की स्वीकृति



केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन एवं राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने सोशल मीडिया पर एक पोस्ट में कहा है कि जम्मू और कश्मीर में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग - 701 के राफियाबाद-कुपवाड़ा-चौकीबल-तंगधार-चामकोट खंड को चौड़ा करने तथा सुदृढ़ करने की परियोजना के लिए 1404.94 करोड़ रुपये के आवंटन को स्वीकृति प्रदान कर दी गई है। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा कि पैकेज 1 के तहत ईपीसी मोड पर बारामूला और कुपवाड़ा जिलों में प्रोजेक्ट बीकन के तहत क्रियान्वित इस परियोजना का लक्ष्य 51 किलोमीटर के मार्ग को दोनों तरफ से चौड़ीकरण के साथ 2-लेन वाली वाली सड़क में परिवर्तित करना है। उन्होंने कहा कि इस इलाके में रणनीतिक रूप से महत्वपूर्ण और रसद सामग्री पहुंचाने के लिए बारामूला तथा कुपवाड़ा जिलों को जोड़ने वाला यह मार्ग एक सराहनीय भूमिका निभाता है। नितिन गडकरी ने कहा कि यह सड़क अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सीमा के पास उत्तरी कश्मीर में पर्यटन क्षेत्र के विकास का अभिन्न अंग है।

गडकरी ने एक अन्य पोस्ट में कहा कि एसडीए पार्किंग (जबरवान पार्क के पास) से शंकराचार्य मंदिर तक रोपवे के विकास. संचालन एवं रखरखाव के लिए 126.58 करोड़ रुपये के आवंटन को मंजुरी दे दी गई है। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा कि श्रीनगर जिले में 1.05 किलोमीटर तक फैली यह परियोजना हाडब्रिड एन्यटी मोड पर संचालित होती है, जिसमें 700 पीपीएचपीडी परिवहन की क्षमता के साथ मोनोकेबल डिटेचेबल गोंडोला (एमडीजी) तकनीक का उपयोग किया जाता है। उन्होंने बताया कि यह परियोजना नगर शहर और डल झील का मनोरम दुश्य पेश करने, एक सुरक्षित एवं सविधाजनक परिवहन व्यवस्था प्रदान करने के लिए तैयार की गई है। गडकरी ने कहा कि यह परिवहन व्यवस्था दिव्यांग व्यक्तियों और वरिष्ठ नागरिकों के लिए मंदिर तक आसान पहुंच सुनिश्चित करती है, जिससे यात्रा का समय लगभग 30 मिनट से घटकर लगभग 5 मिनट हो जाता है। उन्होंने बताया कि इसके अतिरिक्त, यह सुविधा परिवहन के लिए एक पर्यावरण-अनुकल माध्यम के रूप में कार्य करती है और इससे स्थानीय आबादी के लिए रोजगार के अवसर सुजित होते हैं तथा पर्यटन को बढावा मिलने से क्षेत्र में आर्थिक लाभ भी बढता है।

केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-244 के नाशरी-चेनानी खंड के उन्नयन और सुदृढ़ीकरण के लिए 562.40 करोड़ रुपये आवंटित कर दिये गए हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि उधमपुर और रामबन जिलों में लगभग 39.10 किलोमीटर तक फैली यह सड़क परियोजना राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग (ओ) के तहत ईपीसी मोड पर संचालित होती है।

केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन एवं राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने कहा कि यहां पटनीटॉप एक प्रमुख पर्यटन स्थल है। इस वजह से मार्ग में सुधार होने के बाद पटनीटॉप तक बेहतर सड़क संपर्क सुविधा उपलब्ध हो जाएगी और इससे क्षेत्र के आर्थिक विकास को भी बढ़ावा मिलेगा।



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-573 ANSWERED ON – 07/02/2024

ROAD SAFETY ON EXPRESSWAYS

573. SHRI IRANNA KADADI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- the details of Expressways constructed/managed/controlled by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the cases of accidents are increasing day by day on these Expressways, if so, the details thereof;
- the number of road accidents occured on these Expressways during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) whether efficient traffic management on the Expressways has been included in the concession agreements/development, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) The details of Expressways under operation is as under:
 - i NE-1 (Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway)
 - ii NE-2 (Eastern Peripheral Expressway)
 - iii NE-3 (Delhi-Meerut Expressway)
 - iv NE-4 (Delhi Mumbai); [Sohna (Haryana) Dausa (Rajasthan) and Madhya Pradesh Portion operational]
- (b) and (c) As per data received from Police Department of states/Union Territories, No. of Road Accidents on National Highways (including National Expressways) in the country for the period from 2019 to 2022 is given in the table below:

Year	No. of road accidents on NHs (including NEs)
2019	1,41,057
2020	1,19,615*
2021	1,28,825*
2022	1,51,997

^{*} Covid affected years

(d) Provisions of Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) involving Video Surveillance System/Traffic monitoring Camera System; Video incident detection and enforcement system, fixed and portable variable message sign, Communication network with OFC backbone, AFMS command & control system etc. have been included in the concession/contract agreement for development of expressways.

X

टोल कलेक्शन ने तोड़े सारे रेकॉर्ड, 50 हजार करोड़ रुपये के हुआ पार, इस वजह से आया है उछाल

राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों पर टोल कलेक्शन में खूब इजाफा हुआ है टोल कलेक्शन के 62,000 करोड़ रुपये तक पहुंचने की उम्मीद फास्टैग यूजर्स की संख्या बढ़ने से भी टोल कलेक्शन बढ़ा है

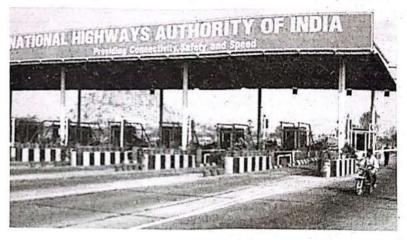
नई दिल्ली, 1 मार्च।

देश में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गी पर टोल कलेक्शन में बंपर उछाल आया है। इस वित्त वर्ष में जनवरी के अंत तक राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों पर टोल कलेक्शन 50,000 करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा हो गया है। इस साल टोल कलेक्शन के 62,000 करोड़ रुपये के रेकॉर्ड स्तर तक पहुंचने की उम्मीद है। टोल कलेक्शन

में जबरदस्त तेजी देखने को मिली है। इसमें तेजी की वजह टोल वाली सड़कों का विस्तार और फास्टैग यूजर्स की संख्या बढ़ना है। रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, इस वित्त वर्ष के पहले दस महीनों में टोल वाली सड़कों में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि और नई सड़कों को जोड़ने के कारण देश का टोल कलेक्शन 53,289.41 करोड़ रु तक पहुंच गया है।

इतना बढ़ा टोल कलेक्शन

सरकारी आंकड़ों के मुताबिक, अप्रैल से जनवरी तक औसत मासिक टोल कलेक्शन 5,328.9 करोड़ रुपये था। यह दर्शाता है कि वित्त वर्ष 2024 में टोल संग्रह 62,000 करोड़ रुपये के रेकॉर्ड स्तर तक पहुंचने की राह पर है। इस वित्त वर्ष के नवंबर के अंत तक देश में टोल वाली सड़कों की कुल लंबाई 75 फीसदी बढ़कर 25.996 किमी से 45.428 किमी हो गई है।



और होगा इजाफा

सरकार जल्द ही जीपीएस बेस्ड टोल कलेक्शन सिस्टम की शुरुआत करने जा रही है। इससे टोल कलेक्शन में और इजाफा होने की उम्मीद की जा रही है। जानकारों का मानना है कि जीपीएस बेस्ड टोल कलेक्शन प्रणाली सरकारी राजस्व को बढ़ावा देगी। यह ड्राइवरों को वैक्लिपक रास्तों की बजाय मार्गों के बजाय टोल सड़कों का इस्तेमाल करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करेगी। हालांकि, उन्होंने यह भी चेतावनी दी है कि इससे टोल सड़कों पर ट्रैफ़िक बढ़ सकता है और सरकार के लिए नई चुनौतियां खड़ी हो सकती हैं।

पिछले साल नवंबर के अंत तक 79.8 मिलियन से ज्यादा फास्टैग जारी किए जा चुके हैं। राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग शुल्क प्लाजा पर फास्टैग के जरिए हर दिन का औसत टोल कलेक्शन करीब 147.31 करोड रुपये है।

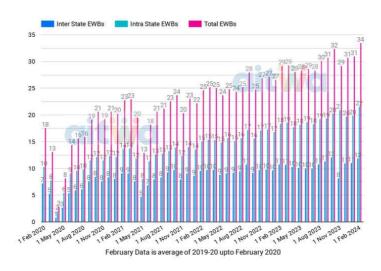


Eway Bill Dashboard

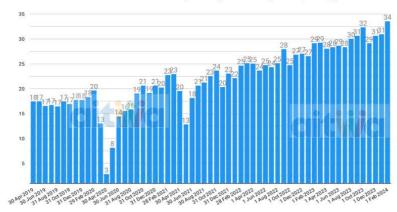


Last updated on 12th March 2024 | Data as on 29th February 2024

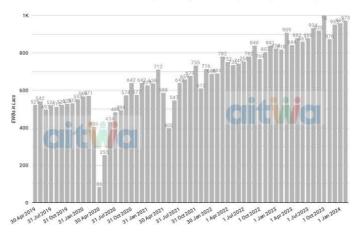
Number of daily EWBs generated across different types (in lacs per day) - Monthly



Total number of daily EWBs generated (in lacs per day)



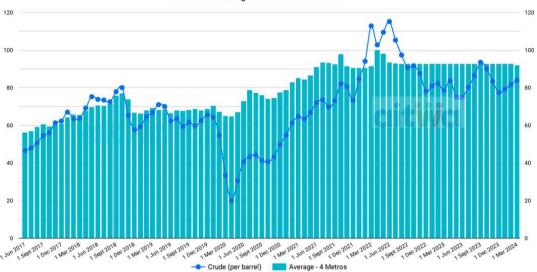
Total number of monthly EWBs generated (in lacs per month)



Diesel Dashboard

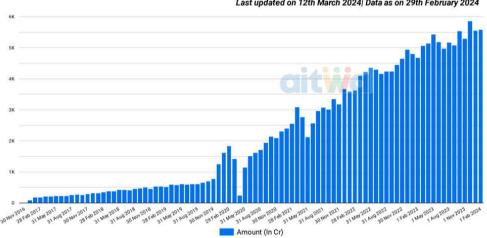
Last updated on 21st March 2024 | Data as on 21st March 2024

Diesel Price Average of 4 metros since 2017



Toll Collection Dashboard

Last updated on 12th March 2024| Data as on 29th February 2024



National Permit Vehicles in India



TOTAL FREIGHT (INT'L+DOM.)

		VALUE	LIOII	Freight (
S.	Airport	For	The Mon			Period Apr	il To Feb.
no.		Feb.	Feb.	%		2022-23	%
		2024	2023	Change			Change
	15 International	Airports					
1	Chennai	29915 14097	25515	17.2	307493 134888	310501	-1.0
3	Kolkata Goa	646	10234 587	37.7 10.0	5498	124144 5817	-5.5
4	Srinagar	549	478	14.8	8392	8568	-2.1
5	Bhubaneswar	789	593	33.1	9060	9070	-0.1
6	Calicut	1561	1201	30.0	16447	12957	26.9
7 8	Coimbatore Varanasi	791 307	396 284	99.6 8.1	8022 4379	7958 4412	-0.8
9	Amritsar	187	141	32.7	2938	2055	43.0
10	Trichy	571	463	23.4	5981	5884	1.6
11	Portblair	558	422	32.3	5636	5884	-4.2
12	Imphal	494	428	15.5	3725	7119	-47.7
13 14	Vijayawada Tirupati	23	78	-70.4	650	1209 89	-46.2 -65.5
15	Kushinagar	0	0		0	0	-05.5
ota		50494	40821	23.7	513140	505667	1.5
	6 PPP Internation	nal Airpo			,		
16	Ahmedabad	10103	6759	49.5	98271	83918	17.1
17	Lucknow	1715	1317	30.2	18973	14322	32.5
18	Guwahati	1290	1687	-23.5	17583	21114	-16.7
19 20	Jaipur	1561 1551	1090 1308	43.2 18.6	17802 16565	15291 15147	16.4 9.4
20	Trivandrum Mangalore	195	1308	13.5	1907	3641	-47.6
Fota		16416	12333	33.1	171102	153433	11.5
	7 JV Internationa			33.1	1,1102	100700	11.5
22	Delhi (DIAL)	85631	68961	24.2	900418	814832	10.5
23	Mumbai (MIAL)	73195	60866	20.3	742220	706262	5.1
24	Bangalore (BIAL)	38392	30832	24.5	398179	373744	6.5
25	Hyderabad (GHIAL)	12753	11565	10.3	135578	129754	4.5
26	Cochin(CIAL)	5200	3882	33.9	54745	52054	5.2
27 28	Nagpur (MIPL)	663 252	688 300	-3.6	7320	8412	-13.0
Z 8 Fota	Kannur (KIAL)	216085	177094	-15.9 22.0	2983 2241442	3532 2088590	-15.5 7.3
_				22.0	2241442	2000390	7.3
	2 ST Govt./Pvt.			07.3	220	500	50.7
29 30	Shirdi Goa (MOPA)	244	35	-87.2	238 1398	590	-59.7
Fota		249	39	12	1636	595	
	10 Custom Airpo		39	-	1030	393	
31	Pune	3105	3069	1.2	34851	36634	-4.9
32	Patna	628	646	-2.8	8490	10908	-22.2
33	Chandigarh	893	387	-	7414	8872	-16.4
34	Indore	794	783	1.4	9332	9694	-3.7
35	Bagdogra	642	651	-1.3	7785	8324	-6.5
36 37	Visakhapatnam	368	262	40.4 70.1	3607 5138	3940 4420	-8.4 16.3
38	Surat Madurai	566 244	333 140	74.0	3005	2702	11.2
39	Aurangabad	49	56	-13.3	682	1086	-37.2
40	Gaya	0	0	-	0	0	(2)
Γota		7290	6327	15.2	80305	86580	-7.2
\ /	74 Domestic Air						
41	Ranchi	422	496	-14.9	5416	5939	-8.8
42 43	Raipur Dehradun	399 100	347 119	14.9 -16.3	4563 1887	5297 1409	-13.9 34.0
+3 44	Jammu	84	72	16.0	759	1392	-45.5
45	Agartala	425	177	10.0	2524	3904	-35.3
46	Udaipur	37	29	26.4	222	365	-39.2
47	Leh	124	317	-61.0	1522	1868	-18.5
48	Bhopal Vadodara	182	227	-19.8	2397	2780	-13.8
49 50	Jodhpur Jodhpur	208	196	6.0	2272 97	2059	10.4
51	Rajkot	0	63	-	365	807	-54.8
52	Gorakhpur	0	0	14.	0	0	- 1.0
53	Dibrugarh	54	81	-32.9	1154	1212	-4.8
54	Darbhanga	10	4	70.0	406	268	51.4
55	Prayagraj	4	5	78.0	31	91	-66.4
56	Rajahmundry	0	11	-77.0	17	17 157	2.4
				-11.0	497	698	-28.8
57	Jabalpur Silchar	40	45				
57 58	Silchar Hubli	40 21	45 5	1=	143	46	-
56 57 58 59 60	Silchar Hubli Belgaum	21	5	18.0	143 10	36	-73.1
57 58 59 60 61	Silchar Hubli Belgaum Dimapur	21 1 134	5 1 40	18.0	143 10 1580	36 1069	47.8
57 58 59 50	Silchar Hubli Belgaum	21	5	18.0	143 10	36	

S.	Airport		The Mon		For The	Period Apr	ril To Feb.
no.		Feb. 2024	Feb. 2023	% Change	2023-24	2022-23	% Change
(F)	74 Domestic Air	00000 PA C 0000	2023	Change			Change
64	Gwalior	0	1	-	10	73	-85.8
65	Tuticorin	0	0	-	4	2	-
66	Mysore	0	0	- 5	0	0	
67	Gaggal (Kangra) Jorhat	0	39	-78.2	189	209	-9.5
69	Bareilly	0	0	-70.2	0	0	-9.5
70	Juhu	27	23	-16.2	285	272	4.8
71	Agra	4	1	-	41	2	(4)
72	Kolhapur Jamnagar	52	0	-	185	0	
74	Barapani (Shillong)	0	0		0	0	
75	Jaisalmer	0	0	- 4	0	0	
76	Kalaburgi	0	0	-	0	0	-
77	Kandla Deoghar	0	0	-	0	0	
79	Pondicherry	0	0	- 5	0	0	
80	Pantnagar	0	0	-	0	0	-
81	Cuddapah	0	0	-	0	0	(5)
82	Bhavnagar	0	0		0	0	-
83 84	Kishangarh Agatti	0	0	-	48	42	13.8
85	Bhuj	0	0	-	0	0	13.0
86	Diu	0	0		0	0	
87	Rupasi	0	0	-	0	0	-
88 89	Hollongi (Donyi Polo) Lakhimpur (Lilabari)	0	0	-	3	7	-57.1
90	Khajuraho	0	0	-	0	0	-37.1
91	Bikaner	0	0	-	0	0	-
92	Hindon	0	0	-	0	0	-
93	Porbandar	0	0		0	0	
95	Bhuntar Tezu	0	0		0	0	-
96	Pakyong	0	0	-	0	0	-
97	Keshod (Junagarh)	0	0	-	0	0	:5
98	Shimla	0	0	-	0	0	1/2
99	Gondia Tezpur	0	0	-	0	0	
101	Hyderabad (Begumpet)	0	0	-	0	0	-
	Coochbehar	0	0	-	0	0	12
	Jalgaon	0	0	-	0	0	-
	Salem Sholapur	0	0	-	0	0	-
	Ludhiana	0	0		0	0	10
107	Kota	0	0	-	0	0	1/4
	Safdarjung	0	0	-	0	0	-
	Bhatinda Pathankot	0	0		0	0	
	Adampur (Jalandhar)	0	0	-	0	0	-
	Kanpur (Civil)	0	0	-	0	0	: -
	Rajkot (Hirasar)	68	0	-	194	0	500
	Ayodhya	2440	0		27022	30211	10.6
	Domestic Airports		2324	5.0	27022	30211	-10.6
	21 St.Govt. / Pvt	Airports 22	0		463	477	-3.0
	Lengpui(aizwal)	69	40	71.9	810	431	88.0
117	Nasik(Hal ozar)	65	0	71.7	275	0	- 00.0
118	Jagdalpur	0	0	3	0	0	-
	Bilaspur	0	0	-	0	0	1124
120	Kurnool	0	0	-	0	0	-
121	Sindhudurg Vijayanagar	0	0	-	0	0	-
123	Bangalore(HAL)	0	0	-	0	0	-
	Bidar	0	0	-	0	0	-
	Pasighat	0	0	-	0	0	15
126	Rourkela	0	0		0	0	-

22.7 3036195 2865984

Grand Total (A+B+C+D+E+F+G+H) 293129 238978

126 Rourkela

131 Mundra

132 Ziro 133 Hisar

127 Jeypore 128 Jamshedpur 129 Nanded 130 Pithoragarh

134 Shivamogga 135 Utkela

(G) 21 St.Govt. / Pvt Airports

(H) Other Airports

70.6

5.9

OCEAN FREIGHT

(DURING APRIL TO FEBRUARY'2024* VIS-A-VIS APRIL TO FEBRUARY'2023) TRAFFIC HANDLED AT MAJOR PORTS

(*) TENTATIVE

(IN '000 TONNES)

TRIVIALIVE								1)				(111)	(ELVINO 1000 VIII)
PORT	TRAFFIC	P.O.L.	Other	Iron Ore	Fertilizers	lizers	Coal	le le	Containers	ers	Other	TOTAL	% VAR.
	PERIOD	(Crude,	Liquids	Incl.	FIN.	FIN. RAW	Thermal	Coking	Tonnage	TEUS	Misc.		AGAINST
		Prod., LPG/ LNG)		Pellets			& Steam	& Others	0		Cargo		2022-23
KOLKATA													
Kolkata Dock System	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	272	1064	29	380	9	1	2424	9033	587	2705	15584	0.17
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	8815	4747	1662	96	369		19201	1870	101	8705	45465	71.0
Haldia Dock Complex	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	8888	4327	299	55	379	ï	19125	1895	95	8895	44231	2.79
TOTAL: SMP, KOLKATA	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	2806	5157	1691	801	375	0	21625	10903	889	11410	61049	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	9172	5391	299	444	389	0	21671	8996	919	12440	59842	2.02
PARADIP	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	34354	1746	23790	422	4999	44577	14208	174	Ξ	9908	132336	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	34303	1804	16020	520	4565	44019	12506	177	11	7949	121863	8.59
VISAKHAPATNAM	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	16912	1548	14085	1629	1551	9284	6523	10149	618	11787	73468	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	14503	1832	12639	1363	1339	12022	4755	7566	466	10706	66725	10.11
KAMARAJAR(ENNORE)	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	4415	146	Ľ	,	E	19803	1993	11903	617	2630	40890	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	4419	114	90	1	II.	20301	1625	9728	504	3456	39643	3.15
CHENNAI	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	13306	1302	714	0	268	1	1	28188	1461	3407	47185	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	12687	1290	113	1	265	9	1	25997	1347	4265	44617	5.76
V.O.CHIDAMBARANAR	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	428	1057		797	710	8883	7788	13410	671	4270	37443	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	569	1093	25	999	169	9868	5266	13409	671	4001	34406	8.83
COCHIN	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	21950	869	£	£	190		1	9170	629	1034	32942	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	20340	493	ľ	ľ	171	F.	ı	9093	634	1268	31365	5.03
NEW MANGALORE	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	24104	2583	4349	486	46	9519	822	2576	181	849	41971	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	24365	2204	2228	452	99	3760	878	2176	152	1138	37267	12.62
MORMUGAO	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	519	384	4727	136	31	3356	6147	1	1	3867	19136	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	539	291	2091	94	1	2461	6825	28	3	3178	15507	23.40
MUMBAI	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	36565	1588	4919	393	87	7272	1	156	15	10275	61255	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	34489	1520	5514	279	107	2777	1	211	20	10001	57958	5.69
J.N.P.A.	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	3147	2302	E	L	10	L	10	70981	5837	1618	78048	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	2995	2809	3.	36	1	90	-1	68928	5501	1209	75941	2.77
DEENDAYAL	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	58655	9701	1220	2952	238	16079	258	7894	452	21955	118952	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	57160	10757	286	3602	116	19646	355	7747	447	27048	127217	-6.50
ALL PORTS	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2024	223442	28112	55495	7616	8464	115510	59364	165504	11230	81168	744675	
	TRF APRIL-FEB., 2023	215241	29598	40083	7420	7709	116972	53881	154728	10372	86719	712351	4.54
% Variation from previous year	ear	3.81	-5.02	38.45	2.64	62.6	-1.25	10.18	96.9	8.27	-6.40	4.54	
						27				G			

Source: I.P.A.

NHAI Collaborates With HLL Life Care Limited to Strengthen Incident Management Systems and Assist Accident Victims on National Highways

o provide immediate assistance to accidents victims and strengthen the Incident Management System (IMS) on the National Highways, NHAI has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with HLL Lifecare Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoH&FW). The MoU was signed in presence of NHAI Chairman, Santosh Kumar Yadav and Kuruvilla P.C., Associate Vice President & Business Head, HLL Lifecare Limited, along with other senior officials from NHAI and HLL Lifecare Ltd.

The MoU will help NHAI to strengthen its existing Incident Management System, which includes Ambulances, Route Patrol Vans & Cranes, real time tracking, and supportive supervision. This will improve response time and facilitate referral of accident victims to the nearest health facilities, establishing a seamless process for incident management. This will include Operation & Management of Trauma Centres/Emergency Stabilization Centers to maximize assistance during the golden hour and improve health outcomes. This will also help to strengthen services provided through National Highway Toll Free Helpline Number 1033 resulting in improved response time.

In addition, HLL Lifecare Limited will provide services for comprehensive geo-tagging, mapping and engagement of health facilities and trauma centres across National

In addition, HLL
Lifecare Limited will
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National Highways to
enhance the
emergency medical
response by linking
health facilities with

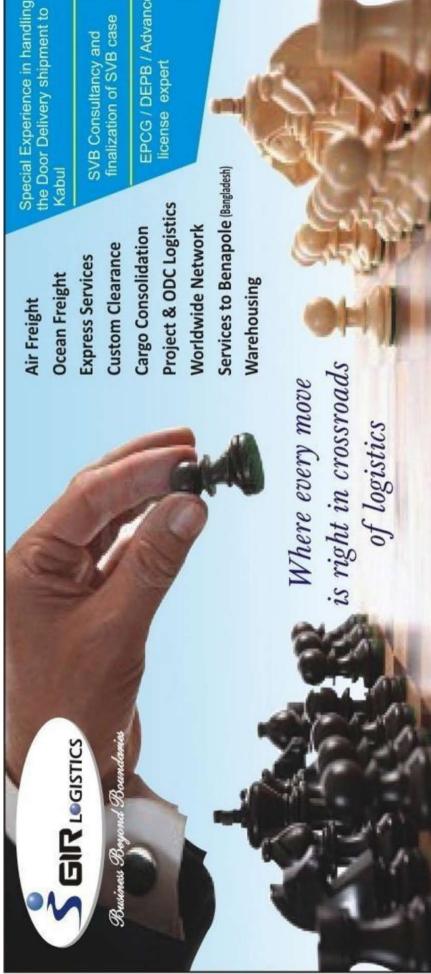
Highways to enhance the emergency medical response by linking health facilities with ambulances. A blueprint for investment on trauma centres along National Highways will also be created by HLL Lifecare Limited.

ambulances

HLL will also operationalize and manage State-of-art ambulance services which will be equipped with improvised 'Basic Life Support' at select locations of National Highways and will integrate technology for better communication, real time tracking and coordination.

As a part of the agreement, HLL Lifecare Limited will undertake training and orientation of the Toll Plaza Staff on new initiates and providing basic life support. Also, capacity Building for Toll Plaza staff for improving their psychological & behavioral skills, soft skills, stress management will be undertaken. Along with this, health screening for truckers and highway users such as eye test, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and oral cancer screening at laybys and Wayside Amenities will also be organized. A Technical Support Unit will also be established to provide supervision to various initiatives and coordinate with concerned NHAI officials for trouble shooting and effective implementation.

This agreement will remain in effect for a period of five years. This unique collaboration between two Government Organizations underlines NHAI's focus to enhance the Incident Management System and provide timely assistance to accidents victims. This arrangement will play a prominent role in providing immediate medical assistance and save precious lives on the National Highways across the country.



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