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NHAI Fast-Tracks Development of 29.9-Km Ring Road in Bareilly CW Team,
December 24, 2024

In a bid to enhance Bareilly's traffic infrastructure, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has accelerated the development of a 29.9-km ring road connecting Jhumka to Invertis University. The NHAI plans to initiate the tender process following a meeting scheduled for December 18, 2024.

The project, with an investment of Rs 73 crore per kilometer, is expected to improve traffic flow and boost connectivity in the area. The ring road will begin at Jhumka Tiraha on Rampur Road and extend to Invertis University on Shahjahanpur Road, with a total project cost of Rs 2,192.34 crore. Of this, Rs 995.75 crore is earmarked for road construction, while Rs 863.86 crore will cover land acquisition costs.

The road construction will involve the acquisition of 187 hectares from over 900 farmers, with compensation already provided to 21 villages. The project will also include the construction of seven small bridges and four large bridges, along with the development of a 17-km-long dual-lane road.

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The Brahmaputra To Get Its Rightful Place On India's Tourism Map: How A Sabarmati-Inspired Makeover Is In The Works

Swarajya, December 24, 2024

> When completed, the entire Brahmaputra Riverfront Development Project will stretch over 6 km, from the Kamakhya Temple to the Raj Bhawan in Guwahati, Assam.

The Brahmaputra River, one of the largest and most significant rivers in the world, is an integral part of Assam's cultural and ecological fabric. Flowing through the heart of Guwahati, it offers a magnificent view, with its expansive and torrential waters winding through the city, framed by the backdrop of lush green hills.

Despite this scenic grandeur, the Brahmaputra has not been highlighted as a major tourism destination in India, unlike rivers such as the Ganga or Yamuna. Guwahati, a vibrant city with historical, cultural, and religious significance, has not fully capitalised on the potential of the Brahmaputra River as a tourist attraction.

However, the Brahmaputra Riverfront Development Project in Guwahati is changing this narrative by transforming the riverfront area into a world-class, multi-functional space designed to attract tourists, boost the local economy, and enhance urban living.

Drawing inspiration from the successful Sabarmati Riverfront Project in Gujarat, this ambitious initiative aims to revitalise the riverbanks of the Brahmaputra in Guwahati, transforming the 6kilometre (km) stretch into a major hub for tourism, recreation, and economic development.

The Sabarmati Riverfront Development in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, has been a landmark success, transforming a neglected stretch of the Sabarmati River into a vibrant urban space. The development includes promenades, parks, cultural centres, boat rides, and recreational spaces, making it a bustling and attractive tourist destination.

This model has served as an inspiration for Guwahati's Brahmaputra project. However, unlike the continuous development along the Sabarmati, the Brahmaputra project has been rolled out in phases, each addressing different aspects of the riverfront's potential.



The Guwahati-North Guwahati bridge over Brahmaputra when it was in construction in November 2023

Key Features



The Brahmaputra Riverfront Development Project is being implemented in multiple stages, each adding unique elements to the city's riverfront infrastructure. While most phases of the project are already complete, the final stretch at Uzanbazar is still under redevelopment.

Below are the key phases that have already transformed the Brahmaputra riverbanks:

The first phase of development began with the creation of the Riverview Point at Nilachala Hill, situated along the road leading to the Kamakhya Temple. This location offers breathtaking panoramic views of the Brahmaputra River and the surrounding landscape. It serves as a gateway for both religious and eco-tourism, attracting visitors to experience the natural beauty of the region alongside the spiritual significance of the Kamakhya Temple.

Another significant phase involved the transformation of the old D C Bungalow into a River Heritage Centre. This centre acts as a cultural hub, showcasing the history and heritage of the Brahmaputra River. Visitors can explore exhibits detailing the river's ecological importance, its role in Assamese culture, the fishing culture of Assam, and the history of Guwahati itself.

The centre provides a deeper understanding of the river's cultural and environmental significance, highlighting its importance beyond just its physical beauty. The Centre also boasts a Starbucks, attracting high-end customers to sip coffee while immersing in the sunset over the magnificent river.

The old Commissioner of Police Residence was repurposed into a key part of the Brahmaputra Riverfront, which now features well-developed promenades, seating areas, and green spaces. This phase has created a vibrant public space for locals and tourists to enjoy the river from the heart of the city. It has also increased access to the river's edge, allowing for activities like riverside walks, photography, and sightseeing.

The most ambitious phase of the project, the Uzanbazar Riverfront Redevelopment, is still under construction. This area will feature an expansive walkway, a cycle track, a jogging track, and spaces for recreational activities, food stalls, and other cultural events.

The goal is to transform Uzanbazar into a multi-functional recreational hub that will draw both tourists and locals alike. When completed, it will further enhance the riverfront's appeal by offering a space for various community-driven and tourist activities.

Additionally, a few stretches remain to be completed, which includes the new six-lane bridge over the river connecting Fancy Bazar in the south bank to Changsari and Gauripur in the north bank of the river. A statue of Lachit Barphukan oversees this grand bridge. India's first state-of-the-art riverine ferry terminal in Fancy Bazar Ghat is also set to be completed soon.

The Vision

When completed, the entire Brahmaputra Riverfront Development Project will stretch over 6 km, from the Kamakhya Temple to the Raj Bhawan in Guwahati.

This ambitious plan will create a continuous stretch of vibrant urban spaces, green areas, and recreational facilities along the river, making it a major tourist attraction and a symbol of urban renewal in Guwahati. By integrating modern infrastructure with the natural beauty of the Brahmaputra, the project aims to revitalise the riverfront, improve access to the water, and promote sustainable tourism.

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The ultimate goal is to create a world-class riverfront that will provide economic opportunities for local vendors, improve the quality of life for Guwahati's residents, and make the Brahmaputra River a key player in India's tourism industry. This multi-phased development will offer boat rides, cultural events, outdoor activities, and educational experiences that highlight the river's historical and cultural significance.

Once fully completed, it will change the way people interact with the river, transforming it into a thriving tourist destination. Visitors from across India and abroad will be able to explore the river through boat rides, enjoy riverside cafés and restaurants, attend cultural events, and engage in outdoor activities like walking, cycling, and jogging.

More importantly, the project will also help in the economic upliftment of the region by creating employment opportunities, especially in the hospitality, tourism, and retail sectors. By positioning the Brahmaputra as a profit-making tourist product, the project will give a much-needed boost to the local economy, providing livelihoods for local vendors and businesses.

In essence, the Brahmaputra Riverfront Development Project is an exciting and transformative initiative that will elevate the river to its rightful place as a key landmark in India's tourism and cultural landscape. It combines the best elements of nature, history, and urban development, offering a unique and enriching experience to everyone who visits.

While much of the project is already complete, the redevelopment of Uzanbazar will provide the final touch, ensuring that the Brahmaputra becomes one of the most attractive and profitable riverfronts in the country.

Guwahatians, get ready for a unique breathtaking experience as the Guwahati Riverfront takes shape to be thrown open in 2025.

With children's play area, cycling track, recreation spaces, it is set to elevate the living experience of residents and tourists.

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Hyderabad Metro Phase 2 Progresses: 800 Properties Set To Be Acquired With Rs 81,000 Per Yard Compensation Deal

Swarajya,

December 24, 2024

The phase-2 expansion of Hyderabad's metro, spanning from MGBS to Chandrayangutta, has reached a significant milestone with notifications issued for the acquisition of 800 properties. This expansion is a key step in enhancing the city's metro network.

According to a statement from the Hyderabad District Collector, an agreement has been finalized regarding the compensation for these properties.

"For the compensation of these properties, an agreement has been reached after discussions with many of the property owners to pay Rs 81,000 per square yard and the construction value," the statement noted.





Property owners are invited to visit the Metro Bhavan in Rasoolpura, Begumpet, to provide their consent for the compensation. Once consent is provided, the full compensation amount will be paid via cheque within 10 days, as per the statement.

This development highlights the government's commitment to fair compensation and smooth land acquisition processes for public infrastructure projects, ensuring that affected property owners are adequately compensated while advancing the city's metro expansion.

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Belagavi Flyover Project Still Needs Approval CW Team. December 24, 2024

The revised proposal for the construction of a flyover in Belagavi has been submitted to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, but approval is still pending. Bhuvneshwar Kumar, the project director at the National Highway Development Authority, confirmed that construction will commence once approval is granted by the ministry.

The state government's proposal aims to build a five-kilometer-long flyover to connect Belagavi with the national highways linking Maharashtra and Goa. A detailed project report was submitted to the Centre earlier this year. In June 2024, Karnataka's Public Works Department Minister, Satish Jarkiholi, met Union Minister Nitin Gadkari to discuss the proposal. The project was later approved during a meeting chaired by Gadkari in New Delhi on August 13, 2024.

This flyover project is a significant part of the Rs 45 Billion crore action plan.

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JLN Marg Elevated Road Plan Scrapped CW Team, December 24, 2024

The Jaipur Development Authority (JDA) has decided to cancel the JLN Marg elevated road project, which had been outlined in the state budget this year. The authority is now focusing on developing Tonk Road into a three-tiered transport system to ease traffic congestion in the city.

JDA officials revealed that the decision followed a directive from Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma during a review meeting on November 29. The CM urged the Urban Development and Housing (UDH) Department to reassess the elevated road project, taking into consideration the aesthetic appeal of JLN Marg.

"Given the Chief Minister's concerns about the proposed elevated road from Ambedkar Circle to Jawahar Circle, passing through the JDA Circle, it seems the project has no future. We are now planning an elevated road along Tonk Road and a three-tier transport system," said a JDA official.

The revised plan involves constructing an elevated road starting from the MI Road crossing at Yadgaar, near the Traffic Police headquarters, and continuing to the B2B Crossing on Tonk Road.



"If the plan proceeds as expected, the city could see the removal of older flyovers at Gopalpura and Durgapura crossings on Tonk Road, along with the Tonk Puliya, the oldest flyover in the city. JDA will soon issue a tender to prepare the feasibility report for this project," the official added.

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UP CM To Review DMRC's 5-Km Corridor To Connect Noida Construction Week Online, December 24, 2024

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) proposal to construct a 5-km elevated Metro corridor to improve connectivity between Noida International Airport Limited (NIAL) in Jewar, which is slated to open early next year, and Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport will be submitted before Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for approval, Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) CEO Arun Vir Singh said. "The CM will review the proposal. The project's future depends on how we achieve the funding," he added.

DMRC will construct a small corridor between Tughlakabad and Kalindi Kunj as part of the larger plan to connect Aerocity to Tughlakabad under a project worth Rs 9.50 billion within three years. "It is also updated that Aerocity to Tughlakabad Metro corridor... work is in advance stage of construction and its further extension up to Kalindi Kunj will provide Metro interchange facilities with Magenta Line, Blue Line, Aqua Line as well as with proposed new line between Botanical Garden and Noida's Sector 142," read a letter dated December 13 from Singh to DMRC's chief project manager, Shiv Om Dwivedi. "Initially, DMRC had prepared a detailed project report to link NIAL with IGI via the expressway.

However, this proposal was shelved after the UP government decided to look at the rapid rail option — a 72-km corridor connecting Ghaziabad, Greater Noida and Noida airport," Singh added.

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