

INFRASTRUCTURE NEWSLETTER

Infrastructure Policy & Finance (IPF) Division, Department of Economic Affairs



सत्यमेव जयते



KEY DATA AND INDICATORS

GST Collection

Period	GST Collection (In Rs Lakh crore)
Sept 2020	0.95
Oct 2020	1.05
Nov 2020	1.05
Dec 2020	1.15

Source: [DEA](#)

Foreign Investments (₹ Crore)

Period	FDI	FPI
H1 2019	182,000	38,917
H1 2020	224,613	55,778

Source: [DIPP](#) and [NSDL](#)

CPI & WPI Inflation (%)

Period	CPI	WPI
Aug '20	6.7	0.4
Sep '20	7.3	1.3
Oct '20	7.6	1.5
Nov '20	6.9	1.5

Source: [Office of The Economic Advisor](#)
and [MOSPI](#)

IIP (Base Year 2011-12)

Month	Oct 20	Nov 20
Mining	98.2	104.5
Manufacturing	131.5	128.4
Electricity	162.2	144.8
General	129.2	126.3

Source: [MOSPI](#)

In – Focus

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Finance Minister reviews implementation of Aatma Nirbhar Package with concerned Secretaries



In a special comprehensive package to fight COVID-19 pandemic induced crisis, Honorable Prime Minister had given a clarion call of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat in May 2020.

Key elements of the progress made so far in implementing the ongoing Schemes of the Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Packages are as under:

1. Under an Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS), additional credit amounting to Rs. 3.6 lakh Cr
2. Rs. 25,000 Cr has been disbursed under Additional Emergency Working Capital Funding for farmers through NABARD and Rs 1.6 lakh crore Concessional credit under Kisan Credit Cards.
3. Rs 30,000 Cr Liquidity injection to Discoms.
4. Projects amounting to Rs. 8455.61 crore approved under Special Assistance for States.
5. The Government has approved an equity infusion of Rs 6,000 crore in National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) Debt Platform.

The progress of implementation is being reviewed and monitored regularly.

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INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY ENABLEMENT

Draft Indian Ports Bill,2020 issued for Consultation

The Bill will provide increased opportunities for public and private investments in the Indian maritime and ports sector by way of removing barriers to entry, simplifying processes and establishment of agencies and bodies to plan and enable growth of the ports sector.

The bill seeks to constitute Maritime Port Regulation Authority, Formation of National Port Policy & Plan and Formulation of specialised Adjudicatory Tribunals to curb any anti-competitive practices. It will ensure safety, security, pollution control, performance standards and sustainability of Ports.

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Rights to the Electricity Consumers through “Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020” laid down

The rules will benefit about 30 crores existing and prospective consumers in the country. Power Distribution companies across the country are natural monopoly making consumers vulnerable. The rules will help consumers in accessing electricity connections, refunds and other services in a time bound manner. The implementation of rules will be an important step towards Ease of doing business.

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INFRASTRUCTURE MARKET NEWS

World Bank Signs \$500 Million Project to develop green, resilient and safe highways in India

The Green National Highways Corridors Project will support Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) construct 783 km of highways in various geographies. The project will integrate safe and green technology designs such as local and marginal materials, industrial byproducts, and other bioengineering solutions.

The \$500 million loan will have a maturity of 18.5 years including a grace period of five years.

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High Speed Rail work gathers momentum

National High-speed Rail corporation Limited (NHSRCL) has started Light Detection and Ranging Survey (LiDAR) survey for Delhi-Varanasi high speed rail corridor.

The technology will provide all the ground related data within 3-4 months which would usually take 10-12 months earlier. Similar technology will be used for another seven high speed rail corridors.

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Public comments invited for adoption of E20 fuel

E20 fuel refers to blending of 20% of ethanol with gasoline as an automotive fuel.

The notification will facilitate development of E20 compliant vehicles. Adoption of E20 compliant vehicle will help in reducing emissions of carbon dioxide, hydrocarbons, etc.

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PM lays foundation stone of Light House Projects

The project is an outcome of challenge launched by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in February 2019 to promote adoption of new technologies in construction sector.

Based on various criteria of innovation six states have been selected to implement Lighthouse project. The Lighthouses will be built in Tripura, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Tamilnadu. The projects will use various modern technologies in collaboration with various countries such as: Germany's 3D Construction System, Finland's Pre cast concrete system, New Zealand's steel frame technology capable of withstanding major earthquake and Canada's technology of plastering

The states/UT will receive central assistance to construct these projects under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY).

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NHPC initiates work on Indo-Nepal Link canal

The 1.2 km long canal is being constructed under 'Mahakali Treaty' signed between India and Nepal. The work for head regulators started at 94.2 MW Tanakpur Power station barrage at Banbasa, Uttarakhand.

The project will be constructed by National Hydro Power corporation (NHPC).

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CABINET APPROVALS ON INFRASTRUCTURE

Cabinet approves Industrial Corridor nodes under CBIC

The proposal was made by Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT). The project includes construction of various trunk infrastructure components for Krishnapatnam Industrial area in Andhra Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,139 Cr and Tumakuru Industrial area in Karnataka at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,702 Cr.

Both the projects are part of Chennai Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC) and will form the backbone of multi modal connectivity infrastructure. The projects are expected to generate more than 1.85 Lakh direct and indirect job opportunities.

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Cabinet approves MoU between India and USA in Electricity Sector

Memorandum of understanding (MoU) will be signed between Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), India and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), United States of America (USA) for exchange of information and experiences in areas of mutual interest to both in the electricity sectors.

The MoU will help in improving regulatory and policy framework for developing efficient wholesale power market and enhancing grid reliability. The MoU will facilitate seminars, visits and exchanges.

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Cabinet approves modified scheme to enhance Ethanol Distillation capacity in country

The scheme will support Industry in augmenting production of fuel grade ethanol. India being one of the largest importers of fuel has fixed target of 20% ethanol blending with petrol by 2030 thereby reducing import requirements and utilising surplus production of sugar in country since 2010-11 (except reduction during drought season of 2016-17).

Under the scheme interest subvention will be applicable to new grain-based distilleries/ expansion of existing grain-based distilleries (using dry mill process), new molasse based distilleries/ expansion of existing molasse based distillery (with zero liquid discharge technology) etc.

Government will bear interest subvention for five years including one-year moratorium against the loan availed by project proponents from banks @ 6% per annum or 50% of the rate of interest charged by banks whichever is lower. Additionally, Interest subvention would be available to only those distilleries which will supply at least 75% of ethanol produced from the added distillation capacity to OMCs for blending with petrol.

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Skill India establishes first Centre of Excellence (CoE) of Power Sector

The establishment of CoE is a result of MoU signed between Ministry of skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Ministry of Education -France and Schneider Electric.

The CoE will focus on creating a pool of highly skilled trainers and assessors for further training to increase employability of candidates in the field of Electricity, Automation and Solar Energy Sectors. The centre will design and deliver Training for Trainers, Instructors, Training of Assessors and other high-end program in the power and solar sector. The center will support India's rapid stride towards renewable energy to accelerate economic development, improve energy security and energy access while mitigating climate challenges.

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DEA releases VGF

DEA had released final Viability Gap Funding (VGF) installment Rs 3.69 crore as VGF support towards the Rau-Mhow-Mandleshwar Road Project implemented by Mhow Agro Pathways Pvt. Ltd.

Madhya Pradesh Road Development Corporation Limited (MPRDCL) is Project Authority. The Total Project Cost of the project is Rs 176.06 Crore and Total VGF Approved is Rs 66.33 Crore. Govt of India's share is Rs 35.21 Crore.

Finance Minister concludes Pre-Budget Meeting

More than 170 invitees representing 9 stakeholder groups were consulted in between 14th -22nd December via video conferencing.

The stakeholder groups made several suggestions on various subjects that included Fiscal Policy, Infrastructure Spending, Health and Education Budget, Sanitation, MGNREGA, Ease of Doing Business; Production Linked Investment scheme, Exports among others.

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