



राजमार्ग RAJMAARG

NHAI BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JAN
2025

Issue 1
Volume VI



Inner Lanes



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2024: BUILDING A HOLISTIC AND ROBUST NATIONAL HIGHWAY NETWORK

Looking back at the year gone by, in 2024, NHAI constantly evolved and embraced new ideas to create a holistic and robust National Highway Network. During the year, NHAI embarked on a journey to build knowledge as well as foster innovation and growth through impactful initiatives under the umbrella of capacity building.

From strengthening its Highway Patrol Services with 'Rajmarg Saathi', to taking proactive measures for countering reduced visibility due to foggy conditions in winters, the authority prioritized road safety and focused on sustainable development of the National Highways by commemorating 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiative across the country.

Further, to enhance seamless movement of vehicles at the Toll Plazas, NHAI developed a GIS based software for 'Real Time Monitoring' of the waiting time at the Toll Plazas.

In 2024, NHAI successfully leveraged asset monetization initiatives to boost its innovative and alternate financing strategy, which involves leveraging its operational and stable assets. Apart from awarding Toll-Operate-Transfer (TOT) bundle-16 and completing its largest InvIT monetization through 'Round 3', NHAI also successfully raised Rs. 775 Crore through first of its kind issue of 'Green Bonds' in the roads and highways sector. To enhance quality of construction and

maintenance of National Highways, NHAI introduced a comprehensive rating system for performance assessment of the Concessionaires engaged in the National Highway development and maintenance. Also, a Detailed Project Report (DPR) cell was set up at NHAI Headquarters in New Delhi to provide expert inputs and enable end-to-end monitoring of the DPR for the National Highway projects.

During the year, NHAI also collaborated with various Government organization for enhancement of National Highway infrastructure and contribute towards Nation Building.



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Capacity Building Initiatives

Embarking on a continuous journey of building knowledge and fostering innovation, NHAJ undertook a series of capacity building initiatives for all its stakeholders that included its officers, staff, consultants and concessionaires. The exemplary initiative demonstrating NHAJ's commitment to achieve excellence in holistic development of National Highway infrastructure.



Creating Green Highways

With focus on developing a holistic and sustainable National Highway infrastructure network, NHAJ took noteworthy steps in 2024 to promote green cover along the National Highways. During the year, NHAJ planted around 16 lakh trees under 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiative.

In a daylong nationwide plantation drive, around 1.52 lakh trees were planted by NHAJ field offices at 598 locations across the country. Also, NHAJ adopted Miyawaki method – a Japanese technique of plantation to plant trees on around 53 acres of land in Delhi/NCR.



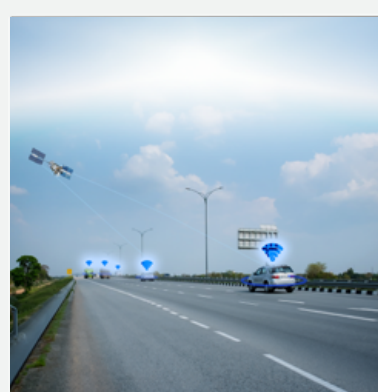
Leveraging Technology

To enhance seamless movement at the Toll Plazas, NHAJ developed a GIS based software for 'Real Time Monitoring' of the waiting time at around 100 Toll Plazas. Toll Plazas have been mapped in web-based software to the respective NHAJ field offices and provides details related to live status of queue length in meters, total waiting time, vehicle speed at Toll Plaza, congestion alert and lane distribution recommendations.



Asset Monetisation

Robust monetisation initiatives in 2024 ensured that additional resources for National Highway maintenance and development can be generated by unlocking the value of National Highway network. The strategy revolves around leveraging different asset monetisation mechanism which includes Toll-Operate-Transfer (TOT), Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) and Project-based Financing. The proceeds of asset monetisation have been ploughed into developing greenfield projects and a portion has been used to pay off debt.



Enhancing Ease of Commuting

NHAJ took rapid steps in 2024 to provide barrier free travelling on National Highway through Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) based Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) in India. Poised to be the future of ETC in the country, the technology will not only enhance the travel experience of National Highway users but will also increase the efficiency of tolling operation in line with global practices.



Collaborations for Nation Building

To strengthen National Highway framework, NHAJ collaborated with various government organisations for knowledge sharing, enhancing infrastructure development and implement innovative solutions. NHAJ collaborated with organisations such as Geological Survey of India, SJVN Limited, HLL Life Care, IIT Delhi, RITES and Survey of India.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Dedicated to Nation Various NH Projects in Bihar

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Darbhanga, Bihar on 13th November 2024 and Dedicated to the Nation various National Highway projects along with the bhumi puja of AIIMS Darbhanga, PNG sector initiatives and inaugurated Railway projects. The National Highway project Dedicated

to the Nation by the Hon'ble Prime Minister included four lane Galgalia-Araria section of NH-327E. This corridor will provide an alternate route from Araria on East-West Corridor to neighboring state West Bengal at Galgalia. Rail over bridges (RoB) on NH-322 and NH-31 were also Dedicated to the Nation by the Hon'ble Prime

Minister. He also inaugurated a major bridge on NH-110 at Bandhuganj that will enhance connectivity between Jehanabad to Biharsharif. These projects will provide improved connectivity, reduce traffic congestion and enhance economic growth in the region.



Hon'ble Prime Minister Inaugurates Key National Highway Projects in Jaipur

On 17th December 2024, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Jaipur, Rajasthan and Dedicated to the Nation various National Highway projects which included 28 km long 8-lane Package-12 of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway. Hon'ble Prime Minister also Dedicated to the Nation 27 km long 6-lane

Deogarh to Rajasthan/Gujarat Border section of the Amritsar-Jamnagar Economic Corridor. This section will reduce travel time and bolster connectivity between major cities and industrial hubs, facilitating trade and commerce in the region. He also inaugurated 74.6 km long 4-lane Dangiyawas to Nagaur

Road section of Jodhpur Ring Road-I. This section enhances regional connectivity while providing alternate route to divert heavy traffic away from Jodhpur city, ensuring seamless commuting experience and reduced congestion in the city.



Shri Gadkari Inaugurated and Laid Foundation Stone of Various National Highway Projects in Bodh Gaya, Bihar

Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari Dedicated to the Nation various National Highway projects in Bodh Gaya, Bihar on 21st November 2024. The Hon'ble Minister Dedicated to the Nation the 51 km long Bakhtiyarpur-Hasanpur section of NH-20 and Foundation stone was laid for 7.5 km long 4 lane Rajauli to Hardia stretch of Bakhtiyarpur-Rajouli section of NH-20. These sections will enhance connectivity and facilitate seamless movement of logistics in the region.





Santosh Kumar Yadav, IAS
Chairman, NHAI

Dear Friends,

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year!!

I am happy to share that during 2024, NHAI focused on taking numerous initiatives that will go a long way in building a holistic and robust National Highway network.

During the year, we constantly focused on leveraging knowledge and innovation to develop world class National Highways and Expressways in the country. Attuned to the changing dynamics of developing National Highway infrastructure, NHAI has been constantly evolving and embracing new technologies and ideas to match pace with the changing times. Under the umbrella of capacity building, NHAI embarked on a continuous journey of building knowledge as well as fostering innovation and growth. NHAI undertook a series of capacity building programs engaging various stakeholders which included officers, staff, consultants and concessionaires, to achieve all-round excellence in National Highway Infrastructure development.

During the year, NHAI also successfully tapped into various asset monetization initiatives to boost the alternate financing strategy. I am pleased to share that as a part of NHAI's robust debt payment plan, in addition to our regular debt payment commitments, we have successfully repaid debt of around Rs. 56,000 crore during the year. Also, we have recently raised Rs. 775 Crore through issue of Green Bonds, which is first of its kind issue in the roads and highways sector.

To enhance road safety and for the holistic growth of the National Highway infrastructure in the country, we have signed an MoU to undertake a pilot project for setting up 'Cattle Shelters' along the National Highways. This unique initiative will help us in addressing the challenge of stray cattle and to avoid animal-related accidents on the National Highways. This step will not help to create safer National Highways for commuters but also fulfils a humane need of taking care of stray cattle/animals.

Taking rapid steps in Furthering the cause of enhancing green cover and developing a sustainable National Highway network, NHAI planted around 66 lakh trees across the country during 2024. Also, under the nationwide initiative of 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam', NHAI planted more than 16 lakh trees across the country and achieved the unique feat of planting more than 1.52 lakh trees in a single day. Additionally, NHAI also undertook a unique initiative to plant Miyawaki plantation on over 53 acres land parcels adjacent to National Highways at various locations in and around Delhi-NCR.

With our focus on capacity building, innovation, and sustainability, I am sure that NHAI will achieve newer heights and greater milestones in 2025.

Once again, I wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year 2025.

With Warm Regards,

Santosh Kumar Yadav

'Mission Karmayogi' Kick-off Meeting Held at NHAI Headquarter

On 29th November 2024, NHAI Chairman Shri Santosh Kumar Yadav, along with Dr. Alka Mittal, Member (Administration) Capacity Building Commission, chaired a kick-off meeting for 'Mission Karmayogi: Capacity Building Plan' for NHAI. Senior Officials from NHAI and Capacity Building

Commission were present on the occasion. The initiative focuses on equipping officials with the essential skills and knowledge needed to effectively address challenges and deliver quality public services. The meeting was an important step towards building a culture of continuous learning

and professional development within NHAI, ensuring enhanced efficiency and governance. By building capacities, 'Mission Karmayogi' aims to empower government officials to meet evolving demands, drive innovation and contribute to the nation's progress with better service delivery and accountability.



Convention on 'Cold Central Plant Recycling'

NHAI Chairman Shri Santosh Kumar Yadav addressed the 'Global Convention on Cold Central Plant Recycling' in New Delhi on 4th December 2024. In his inaugural address, NHAI Chairman emphasized the importance of adopting innovative and sustainable practices to

build a world-class National Highway network. Highlighting the role of advanced technologies like cold central plant recycling, he underscored their potential in reducing environmental impact while ensuring cost-effective and robust infrastructure. The

Chairman also reinforced NHAI's commitment to sustainability and innovation, fostering efficient National Highway construction and maintenance practices that align with global standards and support India's growing infrastructure needs.



Strengthening Highway Patrol with 'Rajmarg Saathi'

NHAI plans to enhance road safety and highway patrolling through upgraded Incident Management Services, featuring the new Route Patrolling Vehicles (RPVs) named 'Rajmarg Saathi'. These RPVs are designed for effective highway monitoring and emergency response. Addressing the shortcomings of existing RPVs, the new design includes a closed rear cabinet with dedicated compartments and shelves for better and

quicker access to emergency equipment. The RPVs will also feature a dashboard camera with AI-powered video analytics to detect cracks, potholes, and monitor vehicles, pedestrians and road signs. Collected data on road distresses will be integrated into the NHAI One application for efficient maintenance. To ensure service fitness of the vehicle, RPVs will be replaced after covering 3,00,000 km or three years of operation. Special emphasis has been placed on

the branding and appearance of RPVs, with their external appearance designed to stand out as Highway Patrol Services vehicles. Additionally, patrolling personnel will wear redesigned uniforms in bright blue with reflective jackets and authority logos for easy identification. These RPVs, equipped with advanced communication and safety tools aim to reduce traffic disruptions, improve road safety and enhance the overall highway user experience.



DME Development Limited Successfully Raises Rs. 775 Crore Through Issue of Green Bonds

DME Development Limited (DMEDL), a wholly owned subsidiary of NHAI, successfully raised ₹775 crore through its first-ever issuance of 'Green Bonds' in the Roads and Highways sector. The Green Bond issue was held under a close bidding system.

The aggregate total size of the issue was Rs. 775 Crores with a base issue size of Rs. 500 Crores with an option to retain oversubscription up to Rs. 275 Crores, with a yield @7.23% p.a. The proceeds will be allocated to eco-friendly initiatives like avenue and median plantation, animal underpasses, solar-powered streetlights, natural stormwater drainage, waste recycling, and rainwater harvesting system along the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway.



NHAI Introduces Performance Assessment Rating System for Concessionaires

NHAI has introduced a comprehensive rating system for performance assessment of the Concessionaires engaged in the National Highway development and maintenance. It will evaluate concessionaires using two primary metrics: the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) and compliance with defect rectifications via the NHAI One App, which digitally tracks over 95 types of defects. Eighty Percent weightage would be given to

PCI and Twenty percent weightage would be given to compliance on NHAI One App. PCI, a scientific metric ranging from 0 to 100, reflecting pavement conditions from 'Excellent' to 'Failed', as per IRC 82:2023 guidelines. PCI will be calculated based on six functional parameters that include roughness, potholes, cracking, ravelling, rut depth and patchwork. The Data for PCI will be gathered through advanced technologies like Laser Crack Measurement

Systems and processed by centrally deployed agencies under NHAI supervision. Contractors scoring below 70 out of 100 will be deemed non-performers, making them ineligible for new projects until their ratings improve. Ratings will be assessed at both project and Concessionaire levels every six months. The ratings will be published on NHAI's website and social media platforms.



NHAI's Initiative to Prevent Stray Cattle-Related Accidents on National Highways

In a significant move to enhance road safety, NHAI has initiated a pilot project to construct cattle shelters along National Highways. This initiative aims to create a safer travel experience for commuters while ensuring care and management of stray cattle and animals found along the National Highways. The shelters ranging from 0.21 to 2.29 hectares, will be strategically located on highways, including the UP/Haryana border to Rohna section of NH-334B, Kharkhoda Bypass,

and Jodhpur Ring Road. NHAI signed an MoU with the existing concessionaire M/s Gawar Construction. Under the contract, Gawar Construction will build Cattle-Shelters on land provided by NHAI. The concessionaire will also maintain these shelters by providing first aid, adequate fodder, water, and caretakers throughout the concession period, ensuring the well-being of the animals. Similarly, shelters will be constructed

along Bhiwani-Hansi section of NH-148B at Hansi Bypass, Kiratpur-Ner Chowk section of NH-21 and the Dangiyawas to Jajawal section of the Jodhpur Ring Road on NH-112. To further support this effort, cattle ambulances will transport and treat injured stray animals, with first-aid centres and hospitals established to serve a 50-km radius. These measures ensure timely medical care and the enforcement of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871.



Coming Together for a Better Tomorrow

As part of 'My Social Responsibility' initiative, ANHAI in collaboration with GOONJ organised a special collection drive at its Headquarters in New Delhi to contribute under-utilized or unused household items on 21st December 2024. The drive witnessed an overwhelming response, with NHAI officials, staff, and

general public coming forward to contribute for this noble cause. This initiative highlighted the spirit of generosity and the power of collective action to support people in need. A diverse range of items, including clothing, footwear, books, curtains, blankets etc.

were collected during the drive, reflecting the community's heartfelt commitment to making a difference. The drive aligns with NHAI's commitment to fostering societal welfare alongside building the National Highway infrastructure.



NHAI Welcomes 2025

Marking the beginning of the new year, NHAI organized a get-together for its officials and staff on 1st January 2025, at its headquarters in New Delhi with other field offices virtually joining the meet. In his keynote address, NHAI Chairman Shri Santosh Kumar Yadav applauded the contributions of NHAI officials in creating world-class National Highways that contribute to nation's progress. He emphasized on the role of Capacity Building sessions for upskilling officials, addressing challenges

and driving continuous enhancements. In his address, the Chairman also underlined NHAI's collaborations with Geological Survey of India for geotechnical consultancy, HLL Lifecare for incident management, IIIT Delhi for AI-driven road signage, and RITES for advancing National Highway infrastructure. Furthermore, he mentioned NHAI's new pilot project of mitigating the risk of Cattle related accidents on National Highways as a potential game changer for enhancing safety on the National Highway Corridors.

Concluding his address, he inspired officials to set new benchmarks and continue making substantial contributions to the nation's development.

Also addressing the officials, NHAI Member (Administration) Shri Vishal Chauhan highlighted NHAI's steadfast commitment to overcoming the challenges through strategic planning and under Chairman's leadership, NHAI is well-positioned to surpass its targets for 2025. Here are some glimpses from the event.



NHAI Recognised for 'Excellence in Technology Application'

NHAI was awarded 'Excellence in Technology Application' by Geospatial World at the AEC Forum in Hyderabad on 4th December 2024 for integrating Geographic Information System (GIS) technology into National Highway project development. By mandating GIS-based land acquisition plans, NHAI has set a benchmark for efficient and transparent project execution.

NHAI's efforts to map legacy and asset data in compliance with GIS standards enhance data management, accessibility and operational efficiency. NHAI also focuses on building technical expertise among its officials and stakeholders, ensuring the seamless adoption of GIS technology. This initiative reflects NHAI's commitment to leveraging advanced tools for excellence in infrastructure planning and development.



NHAI Observes Sexual Harassment Prevention Week with Workshop on Legal Framework

Commemorating 'Sexual Harassment at Workplace Prevention Week', a workshop was organised at its Headquarters in New Delhi on 9th December 2024 on 'Penal Consequences on

Sexual Harassment: Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, 2013'. The workshop raised awareness about the legal

framework surrounding sexual harassment at workplace, emphasizing the importance of prevention, prohibition, and redressal.



Naturopathy Session at NHAI to Promote Healthy Living and Wellness

A Naturopathy session was held at NHAI Headquarters, New Delhi, on 17th December 2024. The session was conducted by renowned Naturopathy expert Dr. Shyam N Mehrotra. In his inaugural address, NHAI Chairman Shri Santosh Kumar Yadav

emphasized on the importance of naturopathy in daily life. During the workshop, Dr. Mehrotra highlighted ways to boost immunity through an active lifestyle and healthy eating habits. Senior officials and staff actively participated in the session, which was also streamed online.

The interactive session provided valuable insights into incorporating natural wellness practices into routine life, promoting better health and well-being. Here's a glimpse of the enriching session.



NHAI Organises Capacity-Building Session for NH Toll Plaza Staff

NHAI along with HLL Lifecare, organized various capacity-building sessions across the country for National Highway toll plaza staff. The sessions aimed to enhance the skills of the toll plaza staff through comprehensive

training covering job orientation, soft skills, and basic life-saving techniques. This initiative is part of NHAI's ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency and safety of National Highway operations, ensuring that toll

plaza staff are well-equipped to handle both emergency and non-emergency situations while promoting a safer and professional work environment.



Hilalpur, Haryana



Babina, Uttar Pradesh



Baman Danga, West Bengal



Deederganj, Bihar



Bigha Khet, Uttar Pradesh



Doodhli, Rajasthan



Keesara, Andhra Pradesh



Khumari, Maharashtra

**Edalhatu, Jharkhand****Gulal Saray, Uttar Pradesh****Jagatpur Patti, Uttarakhand****Jerh, Uttar Pradesh****Karaundi, Uttar Pradesh****Durg, Chhattisgarh****Pundag, Jharkhand****Tangi, Odisha**



Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala



Etturvattam, Tamil Nadu



Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh



Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh



Pikhawan, Uttar Pradesh



Hesmi Mandar, Jharkhand



Madurai, Tamil Nadu



Saran, Bihar

**Mahesh goud Are**
@are_maheshgoud**@NHAI_Official**

While going to Arunachalam in the middle car tyre was burst at Buredipally then called 1033 TollFree, NHAI service team responded immediately and helped a lot and thank you so much Shakapur Toll plaza team G Kurumoorthy, Shiva and team 🙏

**amitclicks**
@herenowlife

Thank you very much @nitin_gadkari ji from Kangra....@NHAI_Official @PMOIndia @BJP4India you have improved our quality of life so much...Gratitude @narendramodi

**Dr. Ashish Zutshi (Ticku)**
@ashuzutshi

Thank you @nitin_gadkari @OfficeOfNG @NHAI_Official for the gift known as Delhi Mumbai Expressway .

**Mohit Kumar**
@DetoxTravellerr

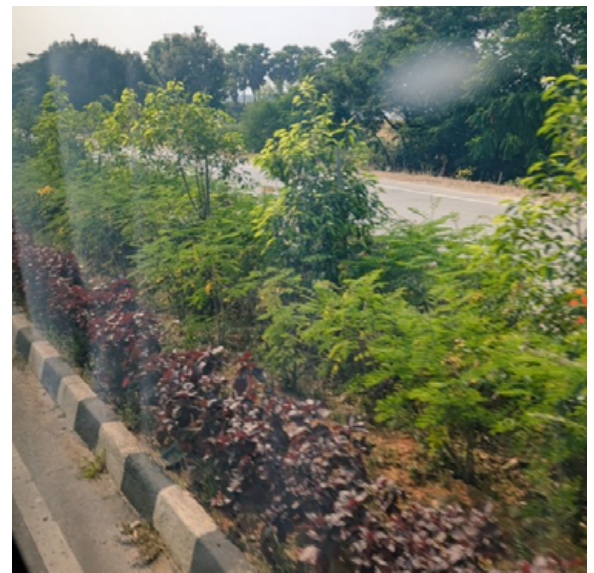
Just drove through the Jaipur-Dausa section of NH-21, and what a ride it was 😊! Smooth road, scenic views, and pure driving bliss. Kudos to the team behind this stretch 🌞

@NHAI_Official @nitin_gadkari @hdmalhotra

**Sathish**
@Sathish_Anaji

The Hyderabad to Warangal Highway, the median is beautifully maintained – plants are neatly trimmed and watered. I didn't spot a single dry patch in the median all the way to the Warangal, with densely planted border tree line, a pleasant travel experience!

@NHAI_Official

**Sthitapragyan Pati**
@larrybi29213460

Everyday while going to work, I thank @NHAI_Official and @nitin_gadkari for the amazing work they've done in and around Khordha, Odisha! 🙏

Travel speed has doubled since 2019.

BIG W for National Highways Development Program.



BUILDING A NATION, NOT JUST ROADS.

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For feedback and contributions, write to us at nhaieditor@gmail.com