



# Project Aarohan

## Why in News?

[National Highways Authority of India \(NHAI\)](#), in collaboration with Vertis Infrastructure Trust, launched 'Project Aarohan' to support the educational aspirations of **toll plaza employees'** children, with the launch ceremony held at NHAI Headquarters in **New Delhi**.

## Key Points

- **About:** The program aims to **address financial barriers** and promote equal access to quality education for students from [economically weaker sections \(EWS\)](#), first-generation learners, and marginalized communities, including [Scheduled Castes \(SC\)](#), [Scheduled Tribes \(ST\)](#), [Other Backward Classes \(OBC\)](#), and [minority groups](#).
- **Objective:** The program combines **financial assistance** with **structured mentorship**, **skill-building workshops**, and **career guidance** to enhance the overall educational experience of the students.
  - The initiative aims to equip students not only for higher education but also for future **employment** and **entrepreneurship**.
- **Funding:** **The first phase of the project has been allocated a fund of ₹1 Crore for the financial year 2025-26.**
  - The project will support **500 students from Class 11** to their final year of graduation, offering an **annual scholarship of 12,000 rupees** for the financial year 2025-26.
  - **Fifty bright students** aiming for postgraduate and higher studies will receive scholarships of 50,000 rupees each.

## National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)

- The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) was established by the **NHAI Act, 1988**, to oversee the development, maintenance, and management of national highways.
- NHAI's key responsibility is implementing the **National Highways Development Project (NHDP)**, which covers 50,329 km of highways, and improving road infrastructure for smoother traffic flow.
- With a total length of **132,499 km**, national highways carry about **40% of the total road traffic in India**, despite making up **only 2% of the road network**.