

## **USD 125.8 billion by 2032**

**Source: PIB** 

The <u>National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)</u> has launched **Project Aarohan** to support the education of **children of toll plaza employees.** 

## **Project Aarohan**

- About: It is a scholarship and mentorship initiative in partnership with Vertis Infrastructure
   Trust, implemented by SMEC Trust's Bharat Cares, aimed at children from economically
   weaker sections.
- Objectives: To eliminate financial barriers, ensure equal access to quality education, and nurture talent, thereby bridging socio-economic disparities.
- **Key Features:** Supports **500 students** from Class 11 to undergraduate level with an annual scholarship of **Rs 12,000**, and **50 postgraduate students** with **Rs 50,000** each.
  - It provides mentorship, skill development, and career guidance.
  - It gives priority to girls, first-generation learners, and students from economically weaker sections (EWS), SC, ST, OBC, and minority communities.
- Significance:
  - Promotes Educational Equity: Provides financial support and mentorship to children
    of toll plaza employees from EWS, ensuring access to quality education.
  - Fosters Inclusive Growth: Prioritizes girls, first-generation learners, and students from marginalized communities (SC, ST, OBC, minorities), helping bridge socioeconomic disparities.
  - Develops Human Capital: Enhances career opportunities, skill development, talent nurturing, employment & entrepreneurship, contributing to nation-building.

## National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)

- NHAI was established under the NHAI Act, 1988 to oversee the development, maintenance, and management of national highways.
- National highways span 132,499 km, carrying 40% of India's road traffic while accounting for only 2% of the road network.

Read More: National Highways Authority of India

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