



New Pamban Bridge

Source: [HT](#)

The Prime Minister inaugurated India's **first vertical lift railway sea bridge**, the **new Pamban Bridge**, enhancing connectivity between Rameswaram and mainland India.

- It is designed by **Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL)** under the Ministry of Railways, and is built to last over **100 years**.
- It spans **2.07 km** across the [Palk Strait](#), replacing the **1914 Pamban Bridge** which was a **cantilever structure** with a **Scherzer Rolling Lift span**.
- It features a **72.5-meter vertical lift span** that rises **17 meters** to allow ship passage.
 - Designed for **double tracks**, it supports **heavier, faster trains** and smooth **rail-maritime coordination**.
 - It joins globally recognized bridges like the **Golden Gate (USA)**, **Tower (UK)**, and **Oresund (connect Denmark and Sweden)** bridges.



- It has been built to withstand **turbulent waters, cyclones, and seismic activity**.
 - During the **1964 tsunami**, a passenger **train was swept away** from the old Pamban Bridge, although the bridge itself withstood the disaster.
- The construction of the **old Pamban Bridge** started in **1911** and was opened to traffic in **1914**. It was **India's first sea bridge**, built for trade.

Read more: [Katchatheevu Island](#)

