



Centre Allocates Rs.11,000 Crore for Chhattisgarh Roads

Why in News?

Recently, the [Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways](#), approved **Rs.11,000 crore** for the development of road infrastructure in Chhattisgarh.

Key Points

- **Project Details:**
 - The funding supports the construction and development of **four major** [national highways](#).
 - The total length of the approved projects is **236.1 km**.
 - **Major Projects Cleared:**
 - Urga-Katghora bypass (NH-149B)
 - Basna to Sarangarh feeder route
 - Sarangarh to Raigarh feeder route
 - Raipur-Lakhanadon economic corridor
- **Additional Approvals:**
 - **Eight projects worth Rs. 908 crore** sanctioned under the [Central Road Fund \(CRF\)](#).
 - Approval for the **four-lane widening of Keshkal Ghat** and **Dhamtari-Jagdalpur road**.
 - Instructions were given to ensure the completion of **Raipur-Visakhapatnam road** and **Bilaspur-Urga-Pathalgaon road** under the [National Highway Authority of India \(NHAI\)](#) within a set timeframe.

Central Road Fund

- The [Central Road Fund \(CRF\)](#) is a non-lapsable fund created under [Central Road Fund Act, 2000](#).
- It is procured out of **cess/tax imposed by the Union Government on the consumption of Petrol and Diesel**.
- CRF should be used to develop and maintain **National Highways, State roads (that have economic importance with inter-state connectivity), rural roads, railway under/over bridges etc, and national waterways (waterways from 2017 onwards only)**.
- The CRF was replaced with a [Central Road and Infrastructure Fund \(CRIF\)](#) through amendments introduced in the [Union Budget for 2018-19](#).