

Cabinet approves construction of 4-lane Marakkanam – Puducherry (NH-332A) in Tamilnadu on Hybrid Annuity Mode with an outlay of Rs.2157 crore

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The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister has approved construction of 4-lane Marakkanam – Puducherry (46 km) in Tamilnadu. The project will be developed on Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM) at a total capital cost of Rs.2,157 crore.

Currently, connectivity between Chennai, Puducherry Viluppuram & Nagapattinam is dependent on existing 2-lane National Highway 332A (NH-332A) and associated State Highways, which experience significant congestion due to high traffic volumes, especially in densely populated stretches and key towns along the corridor. To address these challenges, the project will upgrade approximately 46 km of NH-332A from Marakkanam to Puducherry to a 4-lane configuration. This will decongest the existing corridor, improve safety, and cater to the mobility needs of rapidly growing towns such as Chennai, Puducherry Viluppuram & Nagapattinam.

The project alignment integrates with 2 major National Highways (NH-32, NH-332) and two State Highways (SH-136, SH-203), providing seamless connectivity to key economic, social, and logistics nodes across Tamil Nadu. Additionally, the upgraded corridor will enhance multi-modal integration by connecting with two Railway Stations (Puducherry, Chinnababusamudram), two Airports (Chennai, Puducherry), and one Minor Port (Cuddalore) thereby facilitating faster movement of goods and passengers across the region.

Upon completion, the Marakkanam - Puducherry section will play a pivotal role in regional economic growth, strengthening connectivity between major religious and economic centers, boosting tourism to Puducherry, and opening new avenues for trade and industrial development. The project will also generate approximately 8 lakh person-days of direct and 10 lakh person-days of indirect employment, and will open new avenues of growth, development and prosperity in surrounding regions.

Map of Corridor



Appendix - I: Project Details

Feature	Details
Project Name	4-Lane Marakkanam – Puducherry Section (NH 332A)
Corridor	Chennai–Puducherry–Nagapattinam-Tuticorin-Kanyakumari Economic Corridor (East Coast Road - ECR)
Length (km)	46.047
Total Civil Cost (Rs Cr.)	1,118
Land Acquisition Cost (Rs Cr.)	442
Total Capital Cost (Rs Cr.)	2,157
Mode	Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM)
Bypasses	Puducherry Bypass (Greenfield Access Controlled) – 34.7 km
Major Roads Connected	National Highways – NH-32, NH-332 State Highways – SH-136, SH-203
Economic / Social / Transport Nodes Connected	Airports: Chennai, Puducherry Railway Stations: Puducherry, Chinnababusamudram Minor Port: Cuddalore Economic Nodes: Mega Food Park, Pharma Cluster,

	Fishing Cluster Social Nodes: Arulmigu Manakula Temple, Paradise Beach
Major Cities / Towns Connected	Chennai, Marakkanam, Puducherry
Employment Generation Potential	8 lakh Man-Days (direct) & 10 lakh Man-Days (indirect)
Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) in FY-25	Estimated at 17,800 Passenger Car Units (PCU)

MJPS/BM

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