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A'BAD GETS ₹1K CR FOR INFRA OVERHAUL

40% Increase In Budget For Roads, Metro, Sports And Healthcare

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahead of crucial municipal elections in 15 cities, the Gujarat govt has rolled out a Rs 30,325 crore urban infrastructure boost in its latest budget. This marks a 40% increase from the previous year, underscoring a strong focus on developing roads, health facilities and metro connectivity across major cities. Special allocations have been made for Ahmedabad, Surat, Rajkot and Vadodara, with Ahmedabad — which is gearing up for a potential bid to host the Olympic Games — getting a major share for infrastructure upgrades.

A significant Rs 1,000 crore has been earmarked under the Gujarat resilient cities partnership programme for Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and the Ahmedabad Urban Development Authority through the peri urban liveability improvement project. This initiative aims to enhance infrastructure in growing urban zones. The metro network is also getting a push, with allocations for Phase II of the Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar Metro and Surat Metro. The govt confirmed that Ahmedabad's Phase II will be completed by Dec. The multimodal transport hub project being developed in Surat also got a Rs 185 crore boost.

The much-anticipated second phase of the Sabarmati riverfront development, which will connect Ahmedabad to GIFT City and Gandhinagar, has received Rs 350 crore and is expected to be completed within three years. Additionally, a Rs 250 crore fund has been set aside for the development of the SVP Sports Enclave, strengthening Ahmedabad's case as a potential Olympic host.

Healthcare has also seen a significant boost. The budget includes funding for a neurology institute at Medicity, Ahmedabad, as well as new departments for spinal surgery, occupational therapy and prosthetics at the Government Spine Institute in Ahmedabad.

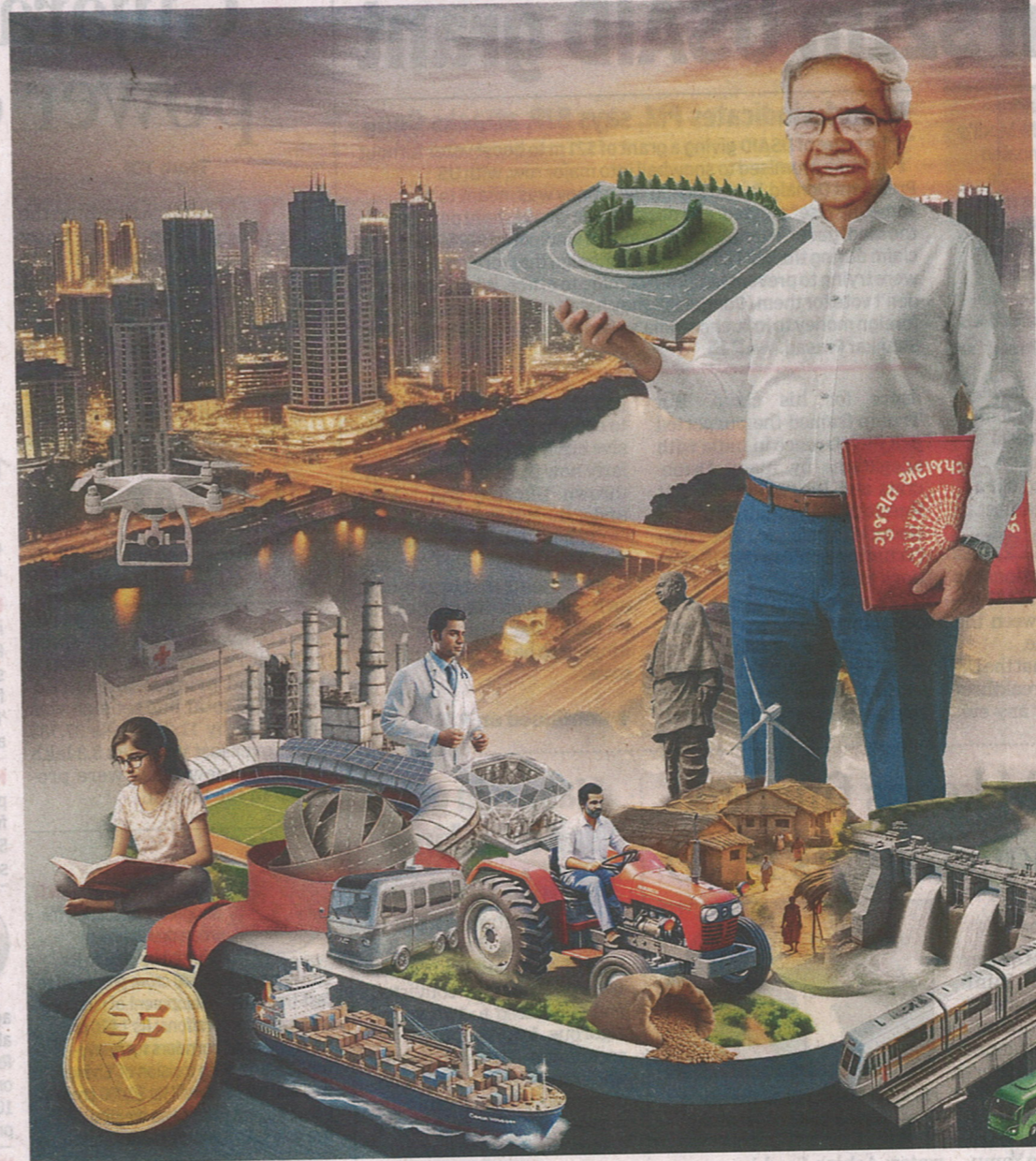
To make quality medical care available to

₹100CR FOR CLEAN AIR INITIATIVE: In a move to combat air pollution and prevent a Delhi-like crisis, the govt has allocated Rs 100 crore for expanding the State Clean Air Programme to Jamnagar, Junagadh, Bhavnagar, Gandhinagar and Bharuch-Ankleshwar. The initiative will install air quality monitoring sensors in these cities, similar to those deployed in Ahmedabad. Gandhinagar, which currently has only one sensor at Lekhawada, will see an expansion of its monitoring network.

more people, the govt announced new Medicity facilities in Gandhinagar, Vadodara, Surat and Rajkot. Specialized medical services such as cardiac, kidney, and urology treatment will be available in Surat and Bhavnagar, while Rajkot will focus on cancer and cardiac care. Vadodara and Surat will also see the establishment of dedicated gynaecology and paediatric units, complete with neonatal and obstetric ICUs.

Expanding medical education, the govt allocated Rs 137 crore to construct postgraduate hostels at BJ Medical College in Ahmedabad, Medical College in Vadodara and MP Shah Medical College in Jamnagar.

To enhance urban aesthetics and sanitation, Rs 808 crore has been allocated under the Swachh Shaher, Sundar Shaher Yojana. This includes funds for Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 and Nirmal Gujarat 2.0. Additionally, Rs 330 crore has been set aside for solid and liquid waste management in 371 villages across Gandhinagar, Mehsana, Kutch, Jamnagar, Anand, Panchmahal and Navsari districts under 'Nirmal Gujarat 2.0'.



Ayaz Daruwala

Guj to hit fast lane with expressways, high-speed corridors

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Gujarat's road infrastructure is set for a significant upgrade with Rs 1,020 crore allocated for new expressways and high-speed corridors. The development includes prominent routes such as the Namo Shakti Expressway connecting Banaskantha to the coast, and the Somnath-Dwarka Expressway for pilgrim travel.

The govt has earmarked Rs 24,705 crore to address highway congestion and develop new transport infrastructure. Under the "Garvi Gujarat High-Speed Corridor" project, Rs 1,020 crore will fund 12 new high-speed corridors spanning 1,367 km, with specific routes yet to be announced.

The budget allocates Rs 937 crore for the 50 km Bhuj-Nakhatrana four-lane high-speed corridor. Additionally, Rs 278 crore is designated for high-speed corridors linking crucial tourist and industrial destinations, including routes between Ahmedabad to Dakor, Surat to Sachin-Navsari, Vadodara to Ektanagar, Rajkot to Bhavnagar, Mehsana to Palanpur, and Anleshwar to Rajpipla.

The govt has allocated Rs 85 crore for infrastructure development on the Gandhinagar-Pethapur-Mahudi Road, including a flyover and four-lane expansion. The crossing-free cities initiative includes 29 ongoing railway over-bridge projects worth Rs 1,659 crore, with an additional Rs 545 crore for constructing over-bridges and underpasses to eliminate railway crossings in urban areas.

Two new greenfield expressways have been announced — Namo Shakti Expressway linking Deesa to Pipavav, and the Somnath-Dwarka Expressway connecting Ahmedabad to Rajkot with extensions to pilgrimage sites. Officials confirm that Pipavav to Somnath highway will connect to the union govt's coastal highway, while the Dwarka-Somnath road will link to Rajkot via the national highway and extend to Ahmedabad.

