

Gati or Durgati? Five years of PM GatiShakti

DELAYED

Of the central projects of Rs 150 crore and above approved since October 2021, when PM GatiShakti was launched, 92.7 per cent of those already due ran late: 555 of the 599 due by August 2026 and completed or still under way.

This brief analyses only what is in the public domain: the Government's own 59 monthly Flash Reports on central projects of Rs 150 crore and above.

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation does not print this count, so this brief makes it from the Ministry's own 59 monthly Flash Reports, October 2021 to August 2026.

92.7

per cent of the 599 central projects approved since October 2021 and due by August 2026, under way then or completed, ran late: 555 projects

On 15 August 2021, announcing PM GatiShakti from the Red Fort, the Prime Minister called it a scheme “of more than 100 lakh crores rupees”. On 11 August 2026, his Ministry of Commerce and Industry told the Lok Sabha that “no quantified targets or expenditure requirements have been set under PM GatiShakti initiative”.

A project is counted as late if it was completed after its original date of commissioning, if it is expected to be completed after that date, or if it was still listed as under way after its expected date had passed.

Published on 13 October 2026, the fifth anniversary of the launch of PM GatiShakti.

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The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation publishes a Flash Report every month on the central projects that cost Rs 150 crore or more. Each report lists those projects with their original cost and date of commissioning, their latest cost and date, and what has been spent on them.

The promise and the reply

On 15 August 2021, in his address from the Red Fort, the Prime Minister said that PM GatiShakti's national master plan would soon be launched, and in the next sentence he described the scheme in his own Hindi words:

“सौ लाख करोड़ से भी अधिक की यह योजना लाखों नौजवानों के लिए रोजगार के नए अवसर लेकर आने वाली है”

The Prime Minister's Office published this English rendering: “This scheme of more than 100 lakh crores rupees will result in new employment opportunities for lakhs of youth.”

At the launch of PM GatiShakti on 13 October 2021, the Prime Minister said that India was “taking every step so that projects do not get delayed, there are no obstacles and work is completed on time”.

On 28 February 2022, at a post-budget webinar on the vision of GatiShakti, the Prime Minister said of PM GatiShakti: “This will also bring down the time and cost overrun of the projects”. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas reported his words the same day.

On 11 August 2026, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry told the Lok Sabha in a written reply that “no quantified targets or expenditure requirements have been set under PM GatiShakti initiative”.

The words quoted on this page, with their dates

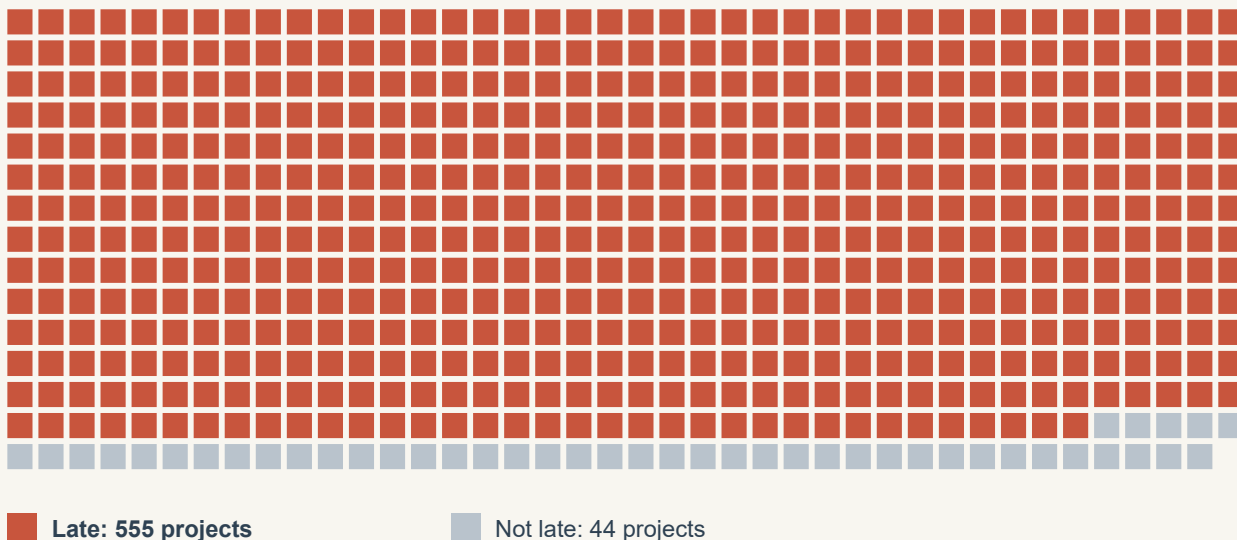
Date	Who	Where
15 August 2021	The Prime Minister	Address from the Red Fort, in Hindi, with the English rendering published by his Office
13 October 2021	The Prime Minister	Address at the launch of PM GatiShakti
28 February 2022	The Prime Minister	Post-budget webinar on GatiShakti, reported by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
11 August 2026	The Ministry of Commerce and Industry	Written reply in the Lok Sabha

Source: [PIB, Red Fort address, 15 August 2021, Hindi](#); [PIB, Red Fort address, 15 August 2021, English](#); [PIB, address at the launch, 13 October 2021](#); [PIB, webinar on GatiShakti, 28 February 2022](#); [PIB, Lok Sabha written reply, 11 August 2026](#).

Projects approved since the launch

The Government's own Flash Reports list 599 central projects that were approved in October 2021 or later, were due by August 2026, and were either still under way in August 2026 or completed by then. Of those 599 projects, which were under way or completed, 555 ran late, which is 92.7 per cent, and 44 did not.

One square is one project



Each square is one of the 599 projects approved since October 2021, due by August 2026 and under way or completed then, and the 555 red squares are the ones that ran late.

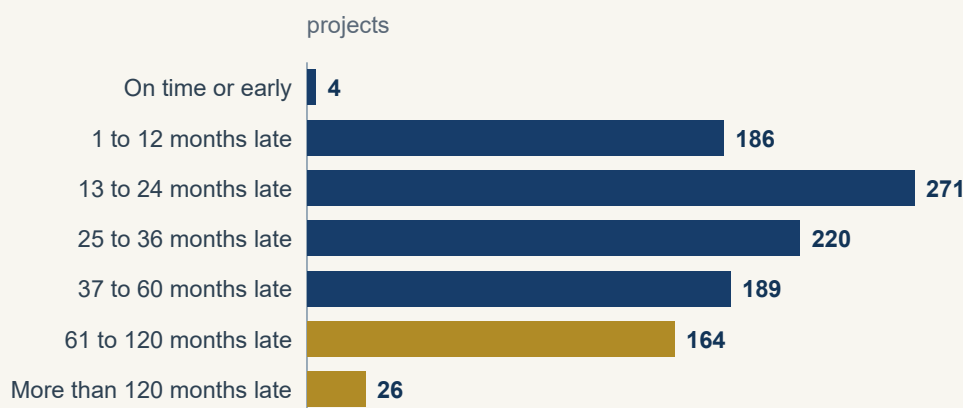
Four findings from the Government's reports

Finding	What the Government's own reports show
1,056 of 1,061 late	In August 2026, 1,061 projects were still under way after their original date had passed. Of those, 1,056 were late, and only 4 were on time or early.
Cost up Rs 3.49 lakh crore in the period	From October 2021 to August 2026, the 3,179 projects under way in August 2026 or completed in that time, leaving out BharatNet, came to cost a net Rs 3.49 lakh crore more than when they entered the reports, which is a rise of 7.4 per cent.
Railways: cost up 35.2 per cent in the period	The 272 railway projects that were under way in August 2026, or finished between October 2021 and August 2026, now cost Rs 1.49 lakh crore more than they did when they first entered the reports. That is a rise of 35.2 per cent.
Overrun tables gone	The May 2024 report was the last to print tables of cost and time overrun. The reports for July and August 2026 no longer list 114 railway projects that earlier reports carried, among them the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail project.

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation publishes a Flash Report every month on the central projects that cost Rs 150 crore or more. Each report lists those projects with their original cost and date of commissioning, their latest cost and date, and what has been spent on them.

Still under way, past the original date

In August 2026, 1,061 central projects were still under way although their original date of commissioning had passed. Of these, 1,056 were late, only 4 were on time or early, and one is left out because its printed original date falls before its date of approval. More than half of the 1,056 late projects were over two years behind their original date, 190 were more than five years behind, and 26 were more than ten years behind.

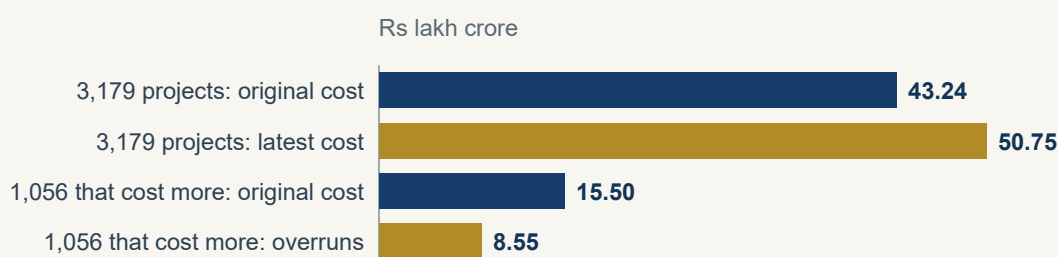


Each bar counts the projects still under way in August 2026 whose original date had passed, by how far they were behind it; the gold bars are the 190 projects more than five years behind.

Taking every late project together, both those still under way and those completed, half have a delay of 27 months or more, where the delay is the gap between the original date of commissioning and the latest date.

Costs above the original

The 3,180 central projects that were still under way in August 2026 or were completed from October 2021 had an original cost of Rs 43.24 lakh crore, a sum that covers 3,179 of them because it leaves out BharatNet, which the Ministry of Statistics split into sub-projects in July 2026. Their latest cost is Rs 50.75 lakh crore, which is Rs 7.51 lakh crore, or 17.4 per cent, above the original.



Of these projects, 1,056 cost more than their original cost. Their overruns add up to Rs 8.55 lakh crore, which is 55.1 per cent of their original cost of Rs 15.50 lakh crore.

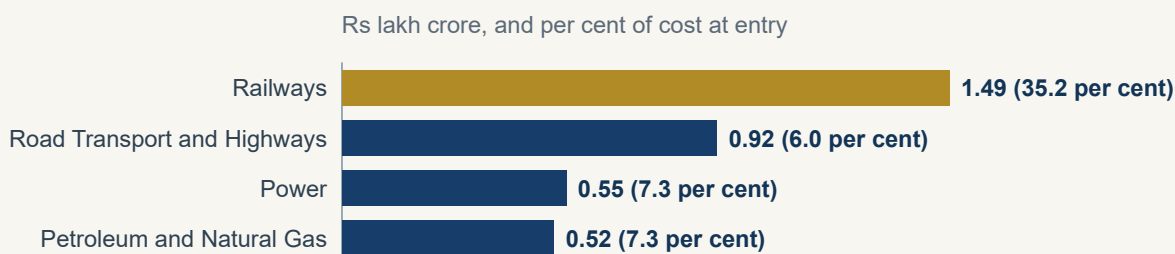
Original cost and the cost above it

Projects	Count	Original cost, Rs crore	Cost above the original, Rs crore	Per cent
Under way in August 2026 or completed since October 2021, leaving out BharatNet	3,179	43,24,054	7,50,709	17.4
Of these, the projects whose cost rose	1,056	15,49,661	8,54,597	55.1

Source: [MoSPI Flash Reports, October 2021 to August 2026](#); [MoSPI Flash Report, August 2026](#), released 25 September 2026.

The rise from October 2021 to August 2026

On 28 February 2022 the Prime Minister said of PM GatiShakti: “This will also bring down the time and cost overrun of the projects”. The Government's own reports show how much the cost of these projects rose while they sat in those reports. From October 2021 to August 2026, the cost of the 3,179 projects under way in August 2026 or completed in that time, leaving out BharatNet, went from Rs 47.26 lakh crore when they entered the reports to Rs 50.75 lakh crore. That is a net rise of Rs 3.49 lakh crore, or 7.4 per cent, and 706 of the projects grew costlier.



Railways' projects rose most in cost within the period, by Rs 1.49 lakh crore, which is 35.2 per cent above the cost they carried when they entered the reports.

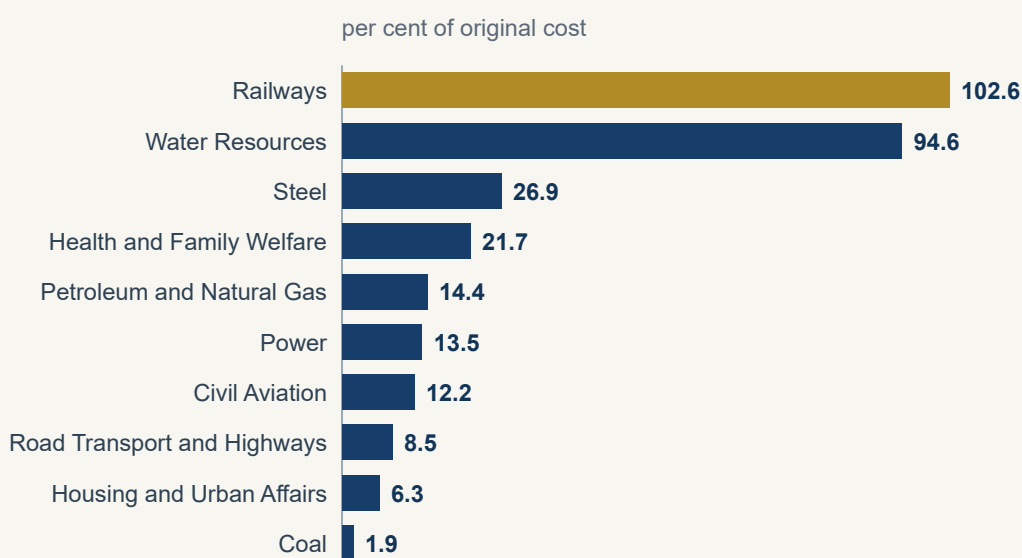
The four ministries with the largest rise, October 2021 to August 2026

Ministry	Rise, Rs crore	Per cent of cost at entry	Projects whose cost rose
Railways	1,48,725	35.2	133
Road Transport and Highways	91,743	6.0	388
Power	55,161	7.3	51
Petroleum and Natural Gas	52,412	7.3	63

Source: [PIB, webinar on GatiShakti, 28 February 2022](#); [MoSPI Flash Reports, October 2021 to August 2026](#); [MoSPI Flash Report, August 2026, released 25 September 2026](#).

Ministry by ministry

Railways carry the largest overrun, both in rupees and as a share of the original cost. The 272 railway projects under way in August 2026 or completed since October 2021 had an original cost of Rs 2,81,901 crore, and their latest cost is Rs 2,89,174 crore higher, which is 102.6 per cent, so the cost has more than doubled. Water Resources has the next highest share, 94.6 per cent, and Road Transport and Highways the next largest sum, Rs 1,27,870 crore. In Coal, every one of the 74 projects that were due ran late.



The ten ministries with the largest overruns in rupees, ranked here by the overrun as a share of the original cost; the gold bar is Railways.

Look up a ministry

Each ministry or department in the table is one whose projects, taken together, cost more than their original cost. The median delay is the delay that half of its late projects reach or exceed. On the web page of this brief a reader can pick any of them and read its four figures.

Projects under way in August 2026 or completed since October 2021, by ministry

Ministry or department	Projects	Due	Late, per cent of due	Median delay of late projects, months	Overrun, Rs crore	Overrun, per cent
Railways	272	192	81.8	40.5	2,89,174	102.6
Road Transport and Highways	1,884	1,480	92.0	28	1,27,870	8.5
Water Resources	63	60	98.3	55	1,04,161	94.6
Power	198	138	94.9	15	96,936	13.5
Petroleum and Natural Gas	294	200	91.5	20	96,448	14.4
Housing and Urban Affairs	76	58	89.7	37	29,168	6.3
Steel	37	19	89.5	11.5	13,063	26.9
Health and Family Welfare	47	31	93.5	29	5,819	21.7
Coal	145	74	100.0	38.5	5,091	1.9
Civil Aviation	33	27	96.3	13	3,139	12.2
Mines	6	6	100.0	64	2,604	26.7
Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)	14	3	66.7	53	1,187	4.8
Higher Education	41	27	92.6	24	414	2.3
Labour and Employment	15	12	100.0	13	266	7.4
Ports, Shipping and Waterways	11	8	87.5	24	229	1.3
Renewable Energy	1	1	100.0	29	94	34.6
Finance	1	1	100.0	36	53	25.4
Home Affairs	2	2	100.0	51	48	13.3

Source: [MoSPI Flash Reports, October 2021 to August 2026](#); [MoSPI Flash Report, August 2026](#), released 25 September 2026.

Shri Ajay Maken, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha

What the reports stopped printing

The monthly reports once printed tables of cost overrun and of time overrun, by sector and by state. The May 2024 report was the last to carry those tables, and none of the 27 reports from June 2024 to August 2026 uses the word overrun.

Until June 2025 the reports printed an anticipated cost, which is the cost a project was then expected to reach on completion. From July 2025 they print only the costs that have been formally approved, so a rise in the expected cost reaches the page only after that approval. For 172 projects still under way, the last anticipated cost printed was higher than the cost printed now, by Rs 39,270 crore in all.

What the monthly reports stopped printing

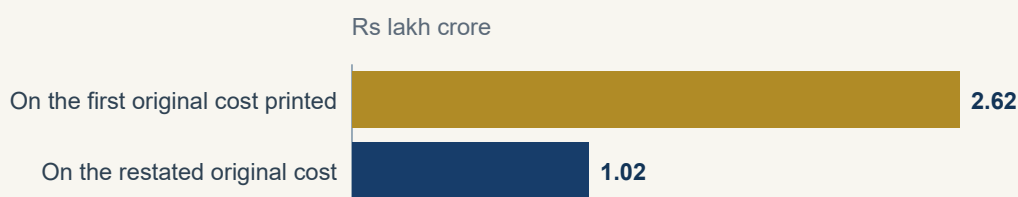
What the reports printed	Last printed in the report for	Report
Tables of cost overrun and time overrun	May 2024	MoSPI Flash Report, May 2024
The anticipated cost of each project	June 2025	MoSPI Flash Report, June 2025
114 railway projects, among them the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail project	June 2026 for 71, July 2026 for 43	MoSPI Flash Report, July 2026

Source: [MoSPI Flash Report, May 2024](#); [MoSPI Flash Report, June 2025](#); [MoSPI Flash Report, July 2025](#).

Shri Ajay Maken, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha

Original costs that changed

For 354 projects under way in August 2026 or completed, a later report prints an original cost different from the one the earliest report printed, and in 261 of those the figure went up. Leaving out BharatNet, whose costs stay out of every rupee sum, the remaining 353 projects ran Rs 2,62,127 crore over their first original cost, and Rs 1,02,047 crore over the restated figure. The restatement keeps 61.1 per cent of that overrun out of view.



The two bars measure the same 353 projects against two different original costs.

Railway projects no longer listed

The reports for July and August 2026 no longer list 114 railway projects that earlier reports carried: 71 were last listed in June 2026 and 43 in July 2026. Their original costs add up to Rs 3,93,714 crore, and Rs 4,11,662 crore had been spent on them by the last report that listed them.

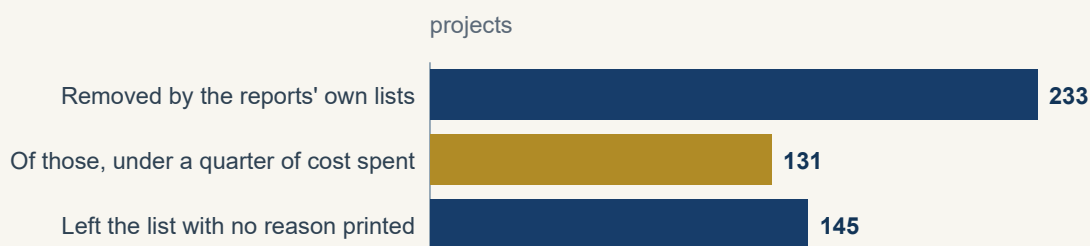
They include the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail project. The July 2026 report listed it at a cost of Rs 1,08,000 crore, with Rs 90,967 crore spent, and the August 2026 report does not list it.

Railway projects that the reports for July and August 2026 no longer list

Railway projects no longer listed	Figure
No longer listed from the July 2026 report	71
No longer listed from the August 2026 report	43
Their original costs, Rs crore	3,93,714
Spent by the last report that listed them, Rs crore	4,11,662
Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail project, cost in the July 2026 report, Rs crore	1,08,000
Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail project, spent by the July 2026 report, Rs crore	90,967

Projects taken off the list

The reports' own lists name 233 projects as deleted, as frozen or deleted, or as “completed, dropped or frozen” without saying which, and the reports never say why a project was removed. Their original costs add up to Rs 2,13,461 crore, and Rs 83,797 crore had been spent on them.



The first two bars are the projects that the reports' own lists removed; the third bar counts the projects that left with no reason printed.

131 of the 233 had spent less than a quarter of their original cost when the reports removed them. Those 131 projects had original costs of Rs 1,33,615 crore, about Rs 1.34 lakh crore, and Rs 7,056 crore had been spent on them.

Another 145 projects left the list without appearing in any list of completed, deleted or frozen projects, and the reports print no reason for their going. Their original costs add up to Rs 1,53,742 crore, and Rs 86,346 crore had been spent on them.

Projects that left the list without being recorded as completed

Projects	Count	Original cost, Rs crore	Spent, Rs crore
Named in the reports' own lists as deleted, frozen, or completed, dropped or frozen	233	2,13,461	83,797
Of those, less than a quarter of the cost spent	131	1,33,615	7,056
Left the list with no reason printed	145	1,53,742	86,346

Source: [MoSPI Flash Reports, October 2021 to August 2026](#); [MoSPI Flash Report, August 2026](#), released 25 September 2026.

Five years on

The Prime Minister spoke of taking every step so that projects do not get delayed. The Government's own reports, read month by month from October 2021 to August 2026, record what followed for the central projects approved since then.

Five years after the Prime Minister said that every step was being taken so that projects do not get delayed, the Government's own reports show that more than nine in ten of the projects due since then, among those under way or completed, ran late.

Four figures from the reports, October 2021 to August 2026

What the Government's own reports show	Figure
Projects approved since October 2021, due by August 2026 and under way or completed, that ran late	555 of 599
Projects under way in August 2026 and past their original date that were late	1,056 of 1,061
Cost rise from October 2021 to August 2026, 3,179 projects under way or completed, BharatNet left out	Rs 3.49 lakh crore, 7.4 per cent
Railway projects the reports for July and August 2026 no longer list	114

Source: [MoSPI Flash Report, August 2026](#), released 25 September 2026; [PIB](#), address at the launch, 13 October 2021; [PIB](#), Lok Sabha written reply, 11 August 2026.

Annexure: sources and method

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation publishes a Flash Report every month on central projects of Rs 150 crore and above. This brief reads all 59 of those reports, from October 2021, when PM GatiShakti was launched, to August 2026, the latest one, released on 25 September 2026. The Ministry's website carries the 41 reports from April 2023 onwards, and the 18 reports from October 2021 to March 2023 come from the Ministry's archive at ipm.mospi.gov.in. Every project in every report was read, and the number of projects read from each report matches the number that report prints. The Ministry does not print the counts used in this brief, so they are made here from its own reports, and the data file beside each chart gives the public address of the official source.

The months are joined into one record for each project by its project code. From July 2025 the reports use new codes. An old code is joined to a new one only where a report prints the old code and the two records agree on cost or name, or where state, date of approval and original cost all match. A doubtful join was refused, so some projects may appear twice, once under each code, rather than two projects being merged into one.

The original cost and the original date of commissioning are the ones printed by the earliest report that lists the project. The latest cost is the anticipated cost where a report prints one, which it does until June 2025, and the latest approved cost after that. A project is due when its original date of commissioning is August 2026 or earlier. The delay is the gap between the original date and the latest date, or August 2026 for a project still under way after its latest date.

The cost rise within the period is the gap between two figures for each project. The cost at entry is the latest cost printed by the first report from October 2021 onwards that lists the project, which is the anticipated cost where that report prints one, otherwise the approved cost, otherwise the original cost. The cost at exit is the latest cost, as defined above. The reports stopped printing the anticipated cost in July 2025, so for 1,162 projects the entry figure is an anticipated cost and the exit figure an approved cost, and the rise for those projects can be smaller than it would be on the anticipated cost at both ends.

Annexure: figures set aside, and limits

Four sets of figures are set aside. One project printed with an impossible original cost is left out of every total. BharatNet, which was split into sub-projects in July 2026, stays out of every rupee sum, because the fall in its printed cost is the split of the work and not a fall in what it costs; it is still counted among the 3,180 projects. Approved costs below Rs 150 crore in the reports from July 2025 are not used, because the reports' own footnote says that they are being reconciled. Six projects whose printed original date falls before their date of approval stay out of the delay figures.

The 599 projects of the opening count are those approved in October 2021 or later, due by August 2026, and either still under way in August 2026 or completed by then. Another 151 projects approved in that period and due by August 2026 left the reports without being recorded as completed. The reports do not say whether those 151 ran late, which is why they sit in neither the 599 nor the 555, both of which count projects under way or completed. The figures for changes in cost or date are a minimum, because they pick up only the changes visible from one monthly report to the next. The Flash Report covers only the central projects of Rs 150 crore and above that the ministries report to it, so it does not cover every public project.

Annexure: the 59 Flash Reports

Each month below links to the Ministry's own copy of its Flash Report; the reports to March 2023 are in its archive.

MoSPI monthly Flash Reports, October 2021 to August 2026

Report	Report	Report	Report
October 2021	November 2021	December 2021	January 2022
February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022
June 2022	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022
October 2022	November 2022	December 2022	January 2023
February 2023	March 2023	April 2023	May 2023
June 2023	July 2023	August 2023	September 2023
October 2023	November 2023	December 2023	January 2024
February 2024	March 2024	April 2024	May 2024
June 2024	July 2024	August 2024	September 2024
October 2024	November 2024	December 2024	January 2025
February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	May 2025
June 2025	July 2025	August 2025	September 2025
October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026
February 2026	March 2026	April 2026	May 2026
June 2026	July 2026	August 2026	

Source: [MoSPI Flash Reports, October 2021 to August 2026](#); [MoSPI archive, Flash Report, October 2021](#); [MoSPI Flash Report, August 2026, released 25 September 2026](#).

Annexure: where each figure comes from

Evidence and its official source

Evidence	Official source
Every project, its costs, dates and spending, October 2021 to August 2026	MoSPI monthly Flash Reports, all 59
The reports from October 2021 to March 2023	MoSPI's archive at ipm.mospi.gov.in
The last tables of cost and time overrun	MoSPI Flash Report, May 2024
The last anticipated costs	MoSPI Flash Report, June 2025
The Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail project, last listed	MoSPI Flash Report, July 2026
The Prime Minister's words of 15 August 2021	PIB, the address from the Red Fort, in Hindi and in the English rendering
The Prime Minister's words of 13 October 2021	PIB, English rendering of the address at the launch
The Prime Minister's words of 28 February 2022	PIB, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, post-budget webinar on GatiShakti
The reply of 11 August 2026	PIB, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, written reply in the Lok Sabha

The chart data files carry a public source address for every figure, and a separate file lists all 59 reports with their addresses.

Source: [MoSPI Flash Reports, October 2021 to August 2026](#); [PIB, Red Fort address, 15 August 2021, Hindi](#); [PIB, address at the launch, 13 October 2021](#); [PIB, Lok Sabha written reply, 11 August 2026](#).