

PRESENTATION BY NITI AAYOG CEO

PM Modi takes stock of key infra progress

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The high-level meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday reviewed the progress of key infrastructure sectors of roads, rural and urban housing, railways, airports and ports. In course of the presentation made here by the CEO of NITI Aayog, Amitabh Kant, it was noted that the pace of road construction has picked up significantly, a statement from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said.

The average road length constructed per day in financial year 2017-18 was 26.93 km, compared to 11.67 km in FY 2013-14.

"The Prime Minister was informed about the progress made in digitisation of the transport sector. More than 24 lakh RFID tags have been issued so far, and over 22 per cent of toll revenue now comes from electronic toll collection. The Sukhad Yatra application, which provides information on road condition, and facilitates lodging of complaints, has till date been downloaded one lakh times by users," said PMO.

The Prime Minister called for faster progress in electronic toll collection. Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, rural roads have now connected in 88 per cent of all eligible habitations.

Over 44,000 villages have been connected with the road network between 2014 and



2018, compared to about 35,000 villages in the preceding four years, the statement said.

The meeting reviews the Green technologies, and non-conventional materials such as waste plastic and fly ash, are being used in rural road construction.

In the railways sector, there has been significant addition in capacity and rolling stock. Additions in "new lines, doubling and gauge conversion" between 2014 and 2018, was to the extent of 9,528 km, which is 56 per cent higher than the preceding four-year period.

In the aviation sector, passenger traffic has grown by more than 62 per cent in the four-year period between 2014 and 2018, against 18 per cent in the preceding four years. In the ports sector, traffic volume in major ports have increased by 17 per cent in the period between 2014 and 2018.

In the rural housing sector, the Prime Minister was informed that over one crore houses have been constructed in the period from 2014 to 2018, as compared to about 25 lakh houses in the preceding four-year period.