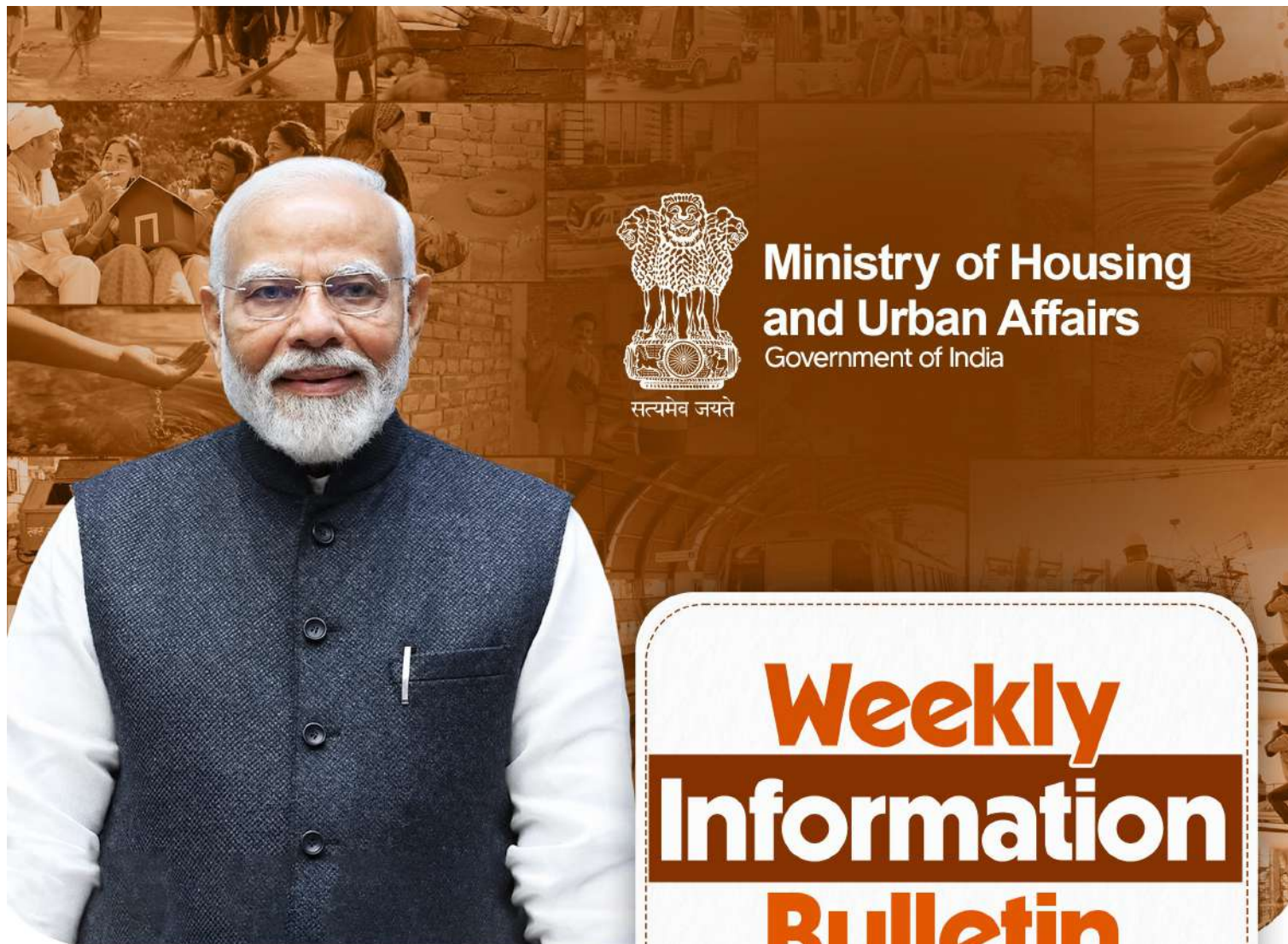




# Weekly Information Bulletin



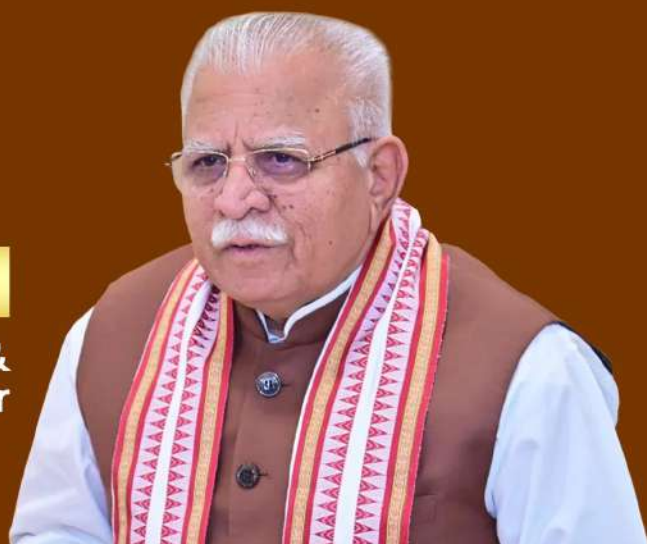
16th October - 22nd October  
2026

**7th Edition**



## Shri Manohar Lal

Hon'ble Union Minister of Housing &  
Urban Affairs and Power





**Ministry of Housing  
and Urban Affairs**  
Government of India

## Highlights of the Week

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- 3** | **PMAY-U 2.0: Foundation Stone Laid for 40-Unit Demonstration Housing Project in Ratanpur**
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- 6** | **DMRC and MES Sign MoU to Develop Strategic Underground Infrastructure for Armed Forces**



## Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Government of India

17 Oct, 2026

### Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal Celebrates Namo Bharat Diwas, Highlights India's Transformative Regional Connectivity



On Namo Bharat Diwas, Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal highlighted how Namo Bharat is reshaping India's urban mobility landscape by making regional travel faster, safer and more convenient.

Flagged off by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji on 20 October 2023, Namo Bharat has recorded over 4.5 crore passenger journeys across the 82-km Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor, marking a significant milestone in India's journey towards modern, efficient and connected transportation.

Emphasising the wider impact of improved transport, Shri Manohar Lal noted that better connectivity goes beyond reducing travel time – it brings cities closer, connects people to new opportunities and accelerates regional development and economic growth.

The Hon'ble Minister also appreciated and extended his best wishes to the CMD of NCRTC and the entire team of officers, engineers, technical experts, employees and workers whose dedication and commitment have helped turn this ambitious vision into reality.

Namo Bharat is more than a train – it is a transformative step towards a better-connected, opportunity-driven and future-ready India.

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## Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

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21 Oct, 2026

### PMAY-U and PMAY-U 2.0: Over 1.27 Crore Houses Sanctioned, 1.01 Crore Completed

Shri Manohar Lal, Hon'ble Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, chaired a review meeting on Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0) to assess the scheme's progress and discuss key aspects of its effective implementation.

The review focused on ensuring the timely delivery of housing benefits to eligible beneficiaries, accelerating construction and addressing implementation challenges to achieve the scheme's objectives.

Under PMAY-U and PMAY-U 2.0, more than 1.27 crore houses have been sanctioned, of which 1.01 crore have been completed.



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## Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

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15 Oct, 2026

### PMAY-U 2.0: Foundation Stone Laid for 40-Unit Demonstration Housing Project in Ratanpur

Shri Tokhan Sahu, Hon'ble Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, laid the foundation stone of a Demonstration Housing Project (DHP) at Ratanpur, Chhattisgarh, on 15 October 2026 under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0).

With an estimated cost of ₹8.65 crore, the project will comprise 40 housing units, along with a dining hall, medical room, activity room, office, laundry and community centre to be used as a night shelter. Each dwelling unit will have two rooms, a pantry, bathroom, toilet and balcony.

The project will also include essential infrastructure and sustainable amenities such as paved roads, solar street lighting, rainwater harvesting, water supply, sewerage and fire safety systems.

The project will use Light Gauge Steel Frame (LGSF) technology with agro-waste straw panels/fibre cement boards, promoting modern, sustainable, safe and environment-friendly construction practices.



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## Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Government of India

22 Oct, 2026

### MoHUA Reviews SBM-U 2.0 Progress with Focus on CBG, WtE and Hill Cities



The 21st meeting of the National Advisory and Review Committee (NARC) for Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0) was held on 22 October 2026 under the chairmanship of Sh. Satendra Singh, Secretary, Department of Urban Development (DoUD), MoHUA. The meeting reviewed the physical and financial progress of SBM-U 2.0, with a special focus on Compressed Biogas (CBG), Waste-to-Energy (WtE), and the proposal for the Clean Himalayan & Hill Cities Initiative (CHHCI).

Action plans for various States and Union Territories were also taken up for discussion. The meeting was attended by Principal Secretaries (Urban Development) and State Mission Directors from the participating States and Union Territories.

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## Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

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16 Oct, 2026

### PMAY-U 2.0 Housing Sanctions Reach 20.80 Lakh after 10th CSMC Meeting

Over 1.93 lakh additional houses were approved under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0) during the 10th meeting of the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC). The approvals cover eligible urban families belonging to the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) across Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Mizoram, Odisha, Sikkim, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. With these approvals, the total number of houses sanctioned under PMAY-U 2.0 has reached 20.80 lakh.

The meeting was attended by Shri Kumar Ravikant Singh, Joint Secretary and Mission Director (JS&MD), Housing for All (HFA); Shri Sanjeet, Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor (JS&FA); Shri Vaibhav Rundwal, Director (HFA); senior officials from the Ministry; and Mission Directors of the participating States.



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## Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Government of India

15 Oct, 2026

### DMRC and MES Sign MoU to Develop Strategic Underground Infrastructure for Armed Forces

On 15 October 2026, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and Military Engineer Services (MES), Ministry of Defence, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on the planning, design, execution and capacity building for strategic underground infrastructure for the Armed Forces.

The MoU was signed by Maj Gen Manoj Oommen, SM, Director General (Works), MES, and Dr. Pramit Kumar Garg, Director (Business Development), DMRC, in the presence of Dr. Vikas Kumar, Managing Director, DMRC, and Lt Gen Vikas Rohella, AVSM, SM, Engineer-in-Chief, along with other senior officials.

The partnership brings together MES's strategic defence expertise and DMRC's capabilities in tunnelling, underground engineering and project execution to support critical national infrastructure.



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## Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

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# Key News of the Week

**The Hindustan Times**  
(21 Oct, 2026)

{ NARELA } 2,500 UNITS

## DDA's LIG flats sell out within 2 hours

**Saloni Bhatia**

saloni.bhatia@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** All 2,516 low-income group (LIG) flats on offer under the Delhi Development Authority's (DDA) Awas Nivesh Yojana 2026 in north Delhi's Narela were booked within two hours of online bookings opening on Tuesday, officials said.

Bookings for the flats -- in Pockets 3 and 6 of Sectors G2-G6 in Narela -- opened at noon on October 20 under first-come, first-serve basis. The flats are tentatively priced at ₹14.95 lakh per unit and are being provided with a 25% discount, DDA said.

The scheme was launched under Delhi lieutenant governor and DDA chairman Taranjit Singh Sandhu. The authority said the response reflected homebuyers' confidence in the affordable and quality housing in Delhi. The strong demand also highlights Narela's emerging position as a residential destination, with the area developing into an educational, institutional and sports hub, officials said.

The DDA said they were investing in infrastructure and civic amenities to support planned urban growth and improve the area's attractions for prospective residents.

**The Millennium Post**  
(22 Oct, 2026)

## Metro adds 20 trips

**OUR CORRESPONDENT**

*New Delhi, October 21*

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) will run 20 additional train trips on weekdays from Thursday and intensify anti-pollution drives at construction sites and surrounding areas following the implementation of GRAP-I in the national capital from Wednesday.

The additional trips, to be operated from Thursday, aim to encourage more people to use public transport instead of personal vehicles, the DMRC said in a statement on Wednesday.

The corporation will undertake measures to reduce dust levels at construction sites, remove road dust from surrounding roads and clear garbage from footpaths and road medians.

**The Times of India**  
(21 Oct, 2026)

## Nov opening for 645-vehicle parking at Bhikaji Cama

**Vibha Sharma**  
@timesofindia.com

**New Delhi:** Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has completed construction of a 645-vehicle multi-level parking facility at Bhikaji Cama Place District Centre, scheduled for inauguration in the first week of Nov 2026.

The Rs 40-crore facility is receiving finishing touches. Initiated under LG TS Sandhu, the project aims to resolve parking shortages, reduce roadside parking and ease congestion at the busy South Delhi commercial hub and adjoining roads.

"The facility comprises a basement, ground floor, two upper floors and a terrace, connected by an internal vehi-



The facility features nine EV charging points, electronic payment options and an automatic sensor system for parking space availability

lar ramp. Its parking capacity includes 424 cars, 193 scooters, 30 designated spaces for persons with disabilities (PwD) and eight adapted scooter spaces," said officials.

To ensure smooth traffic flow, the authority has planned separate entry and exit points, directional signage, and road markings. The facility features nine EV charging

points, electronic payment options and an automatic sensor system for parking space availability.

Officials stated that a connecting tower with a lift and bridge will link the parking lot to the mixed plaza. This improves pedestrian access, allowing visitors to reach their destinations without navigating traffic or surface parking.

Amenities include four passenger lifts, two 50-capacity waiting halls, drinking water and separate restrooms. Accessible parking spaces and all floor lift access ensure seamless movement for persons with disabilities.

Safety features include fire-fighting installations, fire-check doors, a fire-escape staircase, basement ventilation,

lighting and power backup. Rainwater harvesting and landscaping of the surrounding area are also part of the project.

According to DDA, the facility is designed to provide safe, organised and accessible parking for visitors to Bhikaji Cama Place, one of South Delhi's prominent commercial centres. It is expected to benefit office-goers, visitors and businesses by improving parking availability and traffic circulation in the area.

"The project forms part of DDA's initiative to create structured parking infrastructure in commercial areas and district centres to reduce roadside parking. Earlier, DDA shared plans to set up 232 surface parking lots by the end of the year," said an official.



# Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Government of India

## Key News of the Week

### The Times of India (18 Oct, 2026)

#### Premium shift: Better seats and lounge access on RRTS

Prityangi Agarwal  
@prityangiagarwal

New Delhi: For someone used to the privacy and comfort of a car, switching to public transport can mean compromising on space and convenience. The premium coach of Namo Bharat trains is attempting to bridge that gap, offering separate access and additional amenities at a slightly higher fare.

The option appears to be gaining traction, with daily ridership in the coach rising from about 2,000 before the inauguration of the full corridor in Sept last year to nearly 6,000 now. Namo Bharat trains, which make trips in a day, have an average daily ridership of about 1 lakh.

At 6.15pm, when the evening coach was building up, the premium coach of a Namo Bharat train was almost full. Akash Raj, who works in a PSU, said, "I used to drive daily from my home in Ghaziabad to Anand Vihar but it is stressful to drive during the peak hours. I mostly use Namo Bharat trains daily and I prefer premium coach as it has a better chance of finding seats."

Another commuter, Kapil Vyas, said boarding the premium coach gave a feel of premium ambience. "However, the frequency of trains of 10 minutes should be reduced during peak hours," he added.

Akhil Deb, who travels daily from Anand Vihar to Gurgaon, said, "During peak hours, the availability of seats in the premium coach is a major factor. As I am preparing for competitive exams, I am able to study comfortably on my way to and from the two cities."

Unlike passengers travelling in standard coaches, premium passengers across the train through a separate premium lounge at the platform. The first coach of trains travelling from Sarai Kale Khan towards Moolgaura is reserved for premium passengers.

An official of National Capital Region Transport Corporation, which is implementing the project, said, "The premium coach offers reclining seats, along



TRANSIT WITH COMFORT: The premium coach of Namo Bharat trains is offering separate access and additional amenities at a slightly higher fare

with charging points for laptops in addition to mobile phones, laptops, cool boxes, magazine and bottle holders at every seat. Sunblinds on the windows provide respite during the scorching summer months, while a vending machine caters to mid-journey cravings. Together, these provisions add another dimension to the Namo Bharat travel experience while retaining the efficiency of regional rail.

"By addressing the evolving expectations and needs of commuters, NCRRTC seeks to encourage a gradual behavioural

shift towards public transport, helping make the shift from personal vehicles to mass transit more viable for a wider section of commuters," he added.

Premium coach fares are about 20% higher than standard coach charges. The journey from Sarai Kale Khan to Moolgaura costs Rs 250 in the standard coach, while the premium fare is Rs 300. A ride between Sarai Kale Khan and Ghaziabad is Rs 160 for the standard coach and Rs 195 for the premium coach.

### The Pioneer (17 Oct, 2026)

#### DDA takes land pooling pitch to villages; policy could create 12 lakh homes

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE  
New Delhi

The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has begun a month-long outreach campaign in land pooling areas to explain to landowners and farmers how they can take part in the planned development of their land. The policy covers nearly 200 sq km and could create around 12 lakh new homes, the DDA said in a press release dated October 16.

The campaign was started on the directions of Lieutenant Governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu, under Reform Utsav. It consists of village-level, on-site camps. The aim is to familiarise landowners, farmers and other stakeholders with the development models under the Land Pooling Policy. Participants can raise concerns, seek clarifications and understand the steps being taken



to implement the policy.

The DDA has so far held interactive programmes in Bakkarwala, Tigipur and Sultanpur Dabas, covering Zones K-I, P-II and N, respectively. Landowners and other stakeholders took part. They expressed willingness to join the development of their land parcels and sought clarifications from DDA officials on the process. The officials told them that the road network plan, along with details of the land parcels, would be notified shortly. More camps are

planned at Chhawla and Saranpur in Zone I, Neb Sarai in Zone J, Khara Kalan in Zone P-I and Mukhmelpur in Zone P-II.

The policy lets landowners voluntarily pool their land parcels for planned development in partnership with the DDA. The development framework envisages integrated neighbourhoods with roads, utilities, schools, healthcare facilities, parks, commercial centres and other public amenities. Land pooling applies in Planning Zones K-I, L, N, P-I and part of J.

### The Hindustan Times (21 Oct, 2026)

#### PM SVANidhi YOJANA

#### LOAN DISTRIBUTED TO 24 LAKH+ STREET VENDORS



The scheme has been launched to provide cost capitalization without any guarantee to street vendors to start and expand their business. This scheme has proved to be a boon for such businesses affected by the Covid-19 pandemic

### The Millennium Post (19 Oct, 2026)

#### MCD introduces 1,080-tonne daily waste collection system

SHIVANGI SHUKLA  
New Delhi, October 18

Integrated waste collection and transportation operations have commenced across all 25 wards of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi's (MCD) Central Zone, covering around 98 square kilometres and designed to handle 1,080 tonnes of waste daily.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta flagged off the project, implemented by Core Solid Waste Solution Private Limited, a Renvio company, under a Design-Build Finance Operate

Transfer concession.

The system covers residential, commercial, institutional and bulk waste generators, along with street sweeping, desilted drain, horticulture and domestic hazardous waste. Electric vehicles will be deployed for primary and secondary collection to reduce tailpipe emissions and noise.

A central control room will monitor operations through GPS tracking, RFID identification, weighbridges, geofencing and infrared monitoring. A mobile application will facilitate status updates

and grievance resolution.

The project also includes Fixed Compactor Transfer Stations, Material Recovery Facilities and decentralised composting units to strengthen waste processing and management.

Gupta said the initiative marked a step towards modernising municipal services through coordinated efforts by the government, MCD and implementation partners. It aligns with the Centre's Swachh Bharat Mission and aims to improve accountability and service delivery.



# Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

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## Key News of the Week

**The Indian Express**  
(22 Oct, 2026)

### Delhi Metro's solution on pollution: More weekday trips

Express News Service  
New Delhi, October 21

DELHI METRO will run 20 additional train trips on weekdays from Thursday to encourage the use of public transport amid implementation of Stage I of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in the Capital on Wednesday to tackle pollution. The additional train services will operate Monday to Friday, officials said.

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) announced on Wednesday that the additional trips would operate from Thursday, alongside intensified anti-pollution measures at its construction sites and surrounding areas, an official said.

As part of the drive, DMRC will undertake measures to reduce dust at construction sites, clear road dust from surrounding roads and remove garbage from footpaths and road medians. Engineers will also inspect construction sites and adjoining roads to ensure construction materials are properly covered and wheel-wash facilities for outgoing vehicles are functional.

**The Statesman**  
(19 Oct, 2026)

### Namo Bharat rapid rail ushering in new era of regional connectivity in India: Manohar Lal

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
New Delhi, 18 October

The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) celebrated 'Namo Bharat Diwas 2026', marking three successful years of Namo Bharat operations and a transformative journey in regional mobility.

The occasion was graced by Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs and Power, Manohar Lal; Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Tinkun Sahu; Secretary, Department of Capital Development, MoHUA, and Chairperson, NCRTC, D Thakur and Secretary, Department of Urban Development, Satendra Singh, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs said on Sunday.

Managing Director, NCRTC, Shalabh Goel, along with the Directors and senior officials, welcomed the dignitaries.

On this occasion, the NCRTC reflected on the remarkable journey of Namo Bharat, highlighting key milestones, initiatives to strengthen multimodal connectivity, first- and last-mile connectivity to enhance the commuter experience, and initiatives such as Solar on Track and the development of a 110 MW captive solar power plant to promote the environmental and financial sustainability of the project.

These achievements and the progress made by the project were showcased through a film, highlighting the efforts, innovations and initiatives

that continue to shape Namo Bharat's journey.

On the occasion, Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs and Power, Manohar Lal, said, "Namo Bharat" is not merely a name; it embodies the spirit of putting the nation first, along with the values of dedication, culture and traditions. Namo Bharat rapid rail is ushering in a new era of regional connectivity in India, giving a new dimension to the future of urban transportation."

"Since its inauguration by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 20, 2023, the 82-km-long Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor has recorded over 4.5 crore passenger journeys. This achievement reflects the growing trust of the people in modern, safe and seamless transportation," the Union Minister said.

"I believe that better transportation does not merely reduce distances between cities but also connects people with new opportunities, thereby accelerating regional development and economic progress. I commend all the officers, engineers, technical experts, employees and workers of NCRTC for their dedicated and committed contribution towards realising this ambitious project," he added.

Namo Bharat operations commenced in October 2023 with the inauguration of the 17-km Priority Section between Sahibabad and Duhai Depot. Post which, the entire corridor was operationalised in a phased manner.

**The Millennium Post**  
(19 Oct, 2026)

### NCRTC expects approval soon for two new Namo Bharat corridors



OUR CORRESPONDENT  
New Delhi, October 18

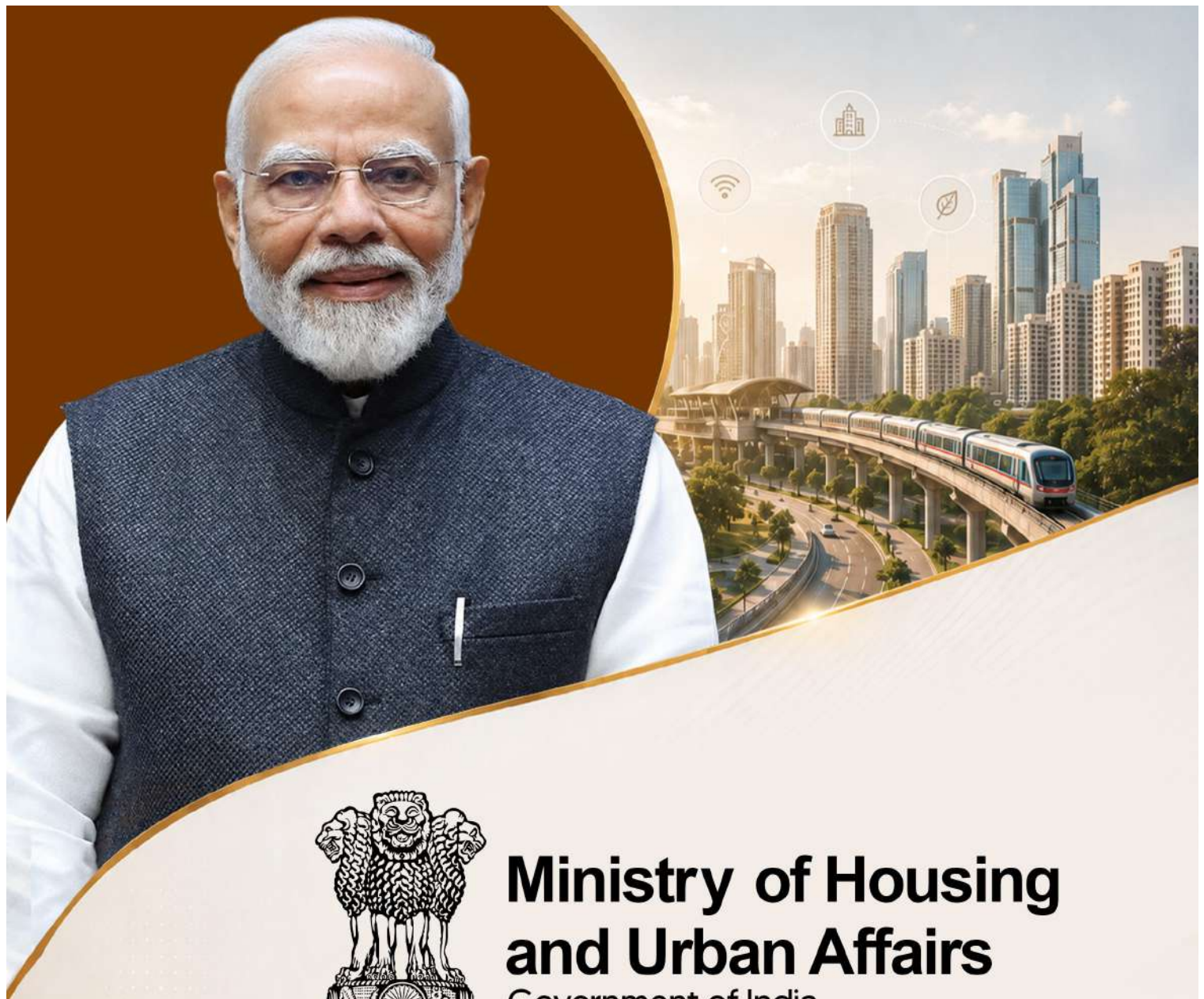
The NCR Transport Corporation (NCRTC) expects approval soon for two proposed Namo Bharat corridors – Delhi-Panipat-Karnal and Delhi-Gurgaon-Behror – as the regional rapid rail service completes three years of operations.

The 82-km Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor has recorded over 4.5 crore passenger journeys since operations began in October 2023 and currently serves more than 1.1 lakh commuters daily, the corporation said on Sunday. It recently recorded its highest single day ridership of around 1.68 lakh.

Detailed project reports for two other proposed corridors, Ghaziabad-Jewar and Noida-Faridabad-Gurgaon, are under preparation.

Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal said the service was improving regional connectivity, linking people to opportunities and supporting economic growth.

Namo Bharat operations began on October 20, 2023, with the 17-km Sahibabad-Duhai Depot section. The full corridor was inaugurated on February 22, alongside Meerut Metro. NCRTC is also pursuing multimodal connectivity and a proposed 110 MW solar plant.



सत्यमेव जयते

# Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Government of India



**Office of  
Manohar Lal**

Hon'ble Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs and Power

