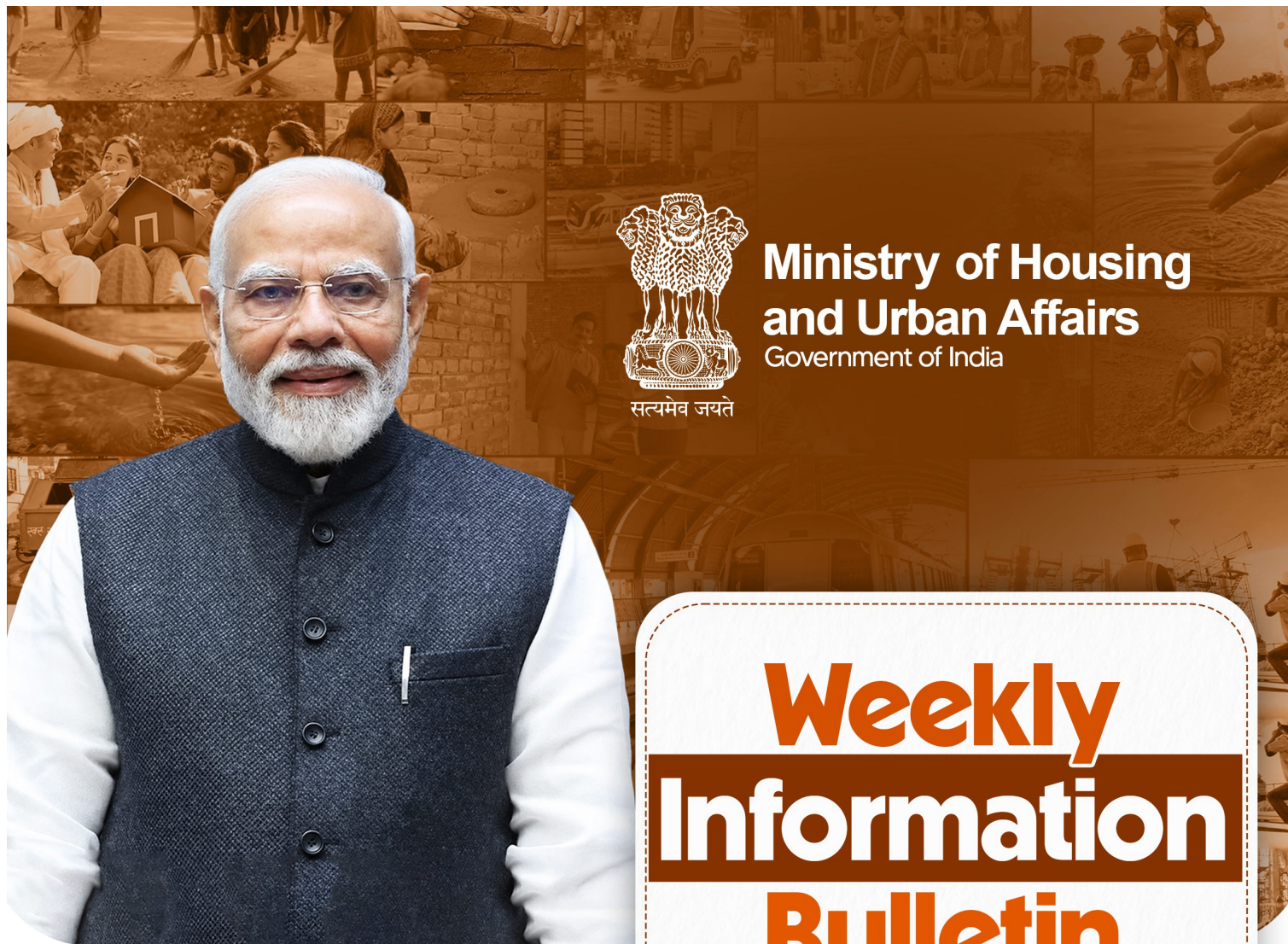




Weekly Information Bulletin



25th September – 1st October
2026

4th 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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Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Government of India

29 Sept, 2026

50 Cities, One Mission: Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal Launches PRAGATI-50 to Drive India's Next Clean Urban Transformation

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has launched PRAGATI-50, in pursuance of the directions of the Hon'ble Prime Minister during the 51st PRAGATI meeting, to develop 50 cities across 24 States as role models of 'Sampoorna Swachhata' under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0).

Launched by Hon'ble Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs and Power, Shri Manohar Lal, the initiative will focus on Visible Cleanliness, Scientific Waste Management, Safe Sanitation & Used Water Management, and Jan Bhagidari. The selected cities, including major urban centres, cultural and historical cities, industrial hubs and tourism destinations, will adopt KPI-based action and technology-enabled monitoring to achieve sustained improvements in urban cleanliness.

Progress will be assessed through outcome-based monitoring, with the Hon'ble Union Minister chairing review meetings every other month. Successful technologies, innovative practices and scalable solutions emerging from the selected cities will be identified for replication across the country.



Further strengthening the focus on sustainable waste management, Shri Manohar Lal inaugurated an RRR (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Centre at Sankalp Bhawan, MoHUA, in the presence of Minister of State for Housing & Urban Affairs, Shri Tokhan Sahu, and senior officials.

Established as part of Swachhata Hi Seva 2026, the Centre is envisaged as the first RRR Centre in a Union Ministry office, promoting sustainable consumption, resource recovery and circularity in Government workplaces. Shri Manohar Lal also contributed unused household articles to the Centre, reinforcing the message that what is no longer useful to one person can become a valuable resource for another.

The Centre will facilitate the collection and responsible reuse and recycling of books, clothes, stationery, toys, household utility items, electronic accessories and other usable or recyclable materials, encouraging Government employees to adopt sustainable consumption practices.

PRAGATI-50 and the RRR Centre together reflect a renewed commitment to visible cleanliness, responsible resource management and citizen participation—advancing the vision of a cleaner, greener and more sustainable India.

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NBCC Signs MoU for India International Cultural Centre at Gurugram



NBCC (India) Limited, a Navratna CPSE under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, signed an MoU with the International Divya Parivar Society (IDPS), New Delhi, for construction of the prestigious India International Cultural Centre (IICC) at Gurugram. The project is supported under the CSR initiative of Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC).

The MoU was signed by Dr. Amit Jain, President, IDPS, and Shri Rajeev Kumar, CGM (Engg.) & SBG Head, NBCC, in the presence of Dr. Yogendra Narain, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, IICC Gurugram; Dr. K. P. Mahadevaswamy, CMD, NBCC; and Shri Anjeev Kumar Jain, Director (Finance), NBCC.

Located at Sector 9A, Gurugram, the IICC will serve as a cultural bridge between India and the world. It will feature a Saraswati Museum, Gurukul, School of Languages, auditorium, Research Centre, Library & Archives and Cultural Exchange Hub.

Spread across 1,260 sq. m., the Centre will comprise 3 Basements + Stilt + Ground + 7 Floors, with an estimated project cost of ₹26.69 crore (excluding GST). Designed as a sustainable Green Building in accordance with GRI-HA/IGBC norms, the IICC will promote India's rich cultural heritage and strengthen its cultural connect with the global community, embodying the spirit of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'.

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25 Sept, 2026

PM-eBus Sewa: 180 Electric Buses Powering Cleaner Urban Mobility in Madhya Pradesh

On 25 September 2026, an inauguration and flag-off event for PM-eBus Sewa Scheme buses and Mukhya Mantri Sugam Parivahan Sewa buses was held in Madhya Pradesh, with participation from cities including Bhopal, Indore and Jabalpur. The event was led by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shri Mohan Yadav, with the presence of Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari.



The progress of 180 electric buses operational under the PM-eBus Sewa Scheme in Madhya Pradesh was reviewed. Director (UT), MoHUA, Sh. Bhanu Pratap Singh Bhadoria, along with city Nodal Officers, also visited the Bairagarh Electric Bus Depot in Bhopal to review depot infrastructure and bus deployment.



Under PM-eBus Sewa, 245 e-buses have been sanctioned for Bhopal. Two depots—Bairagarh and Kasturba Nagar—have also been sanctioned. A total of ₹18.27 crore has been sanctioned for infrastructure proposals, including ₹9.33 crore for power infrastructure and ₹8.94 crore for civil depot infrastructure. The visit included inspection of installed chargers and electric bus parking facilities, along with a demonstration of the bus simulator.

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CITIIS 2.0: Driving Sustainable and Circular Urban Development

CITIIS 2.0 (City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain 2.0) is a flagship urban development programme under the Swachh Bharat Mission–Urban 2.0, focused on promoting circular economy, integrated waste management and climate-oriented urban development. The programme supports cities in adopting innovative, sustainable and scalable solutions while strengthening institutional capacity and urban governance.

On 30 September 2026, the CITIIS 2.0 PMU conducted an orientation for city teams on preparing visible cleanliness plans for high-footfall areas, following the Apex Committee's January 2026 direction under Component 1. The session focused on sustainable planning and ensuring running costs through non-project sources by the end of the implementation period. More than 62 city officials and sector experts participated.

Cities will identify suitable precincts and submit their plans to the CITIIS 2.0 PMU for approval, with the objective of developing model cleanliness precincts that can be replicated by other cities.

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25 Sept & 27 Sept, 2026

Building for a Stronger India: CPWD Delivers Modern Infrastructure from Border Security to Agricultural Research

The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) continues to deliver modern, future-ready infrastructure across critical sectors.

On 25 September 2026, Hon'ble Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar, inaugurated four new facilities at the BSF Sector Headquarters, Keerapakkam, Tamil Nadu—including the Administrative Block, Officers' Mess, Jawan Barracks and Subordinate Officers' Mess. The facilities, developed across the 28-acre campus, strengthen infrastructure for BSF personnel.



On 27 September 2026, Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Shri Bhagirath Choudhary, inaugurated the Administrative Building and Pearl Millet Demonstration Park at IIMR Gudamalani, Rajasthan, and laid the foundation stone for a Housing Complex and Guest House. The ₹5.22-crore Administrative-cum-Laboratory Building features five laboratories, nine scientist rooms, rooftop solar PV, fire safety and accessibility provisions, while the Demonstration Park was completed at ₹86 lakh.

From strengthening border infrastructure to advancing agricultural research, CPWD continues to build the foundations of a stronger and more self-reliant India.



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1 Oct, 2026

Delhi Metro Sarthi App Surpasses 1 Crore Downloads, Expands Digital Services



The Delhi Metro Sarthi App has crossed 1 crore downloads, emerging as a key digital platform for Delhi Metro commuters. The app records close to 20 lakh views in the Delhi NCR in a month and is opened around 8.2 lakh times every week on weekdays.

Developed by DMRC, Sarthi brings multiple transport and commuter services together on a single platform, reducing the need to switch between different applications. It integrates DTC buses, IRCTC train bookings, inter-state bus bookings, NCRTC's Namo Bharat and NMRC's Noida Metro.

The app also provides Metro maps, first and last Metro timings, parking and station information, EV charging and battery-swapping station details, and route guidance. Additional services include mobile and FASTag recharge, medicine ordering, utility payments and a virtual Metro card.

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सत्यमेव जयते

Key News of the Week

Top Story (25 Sept, 2026)

NBCC sells all eight Bharat Business Park towers for ₹10,000 crore

TOP STORY NEWS
New Delhi

State-owned NBCC (India) Ltd has handed over the allotment letter and agreement to sale for two towers at its Bharat Business Park in Sarojini Nagar to SBER India, following the Russian bank's purchase of the office space for more than ₹2,000 crore.

NBCC CMD K P Mahadevaswamy handed over the documents to SBER India Deputy Managing Director Igor Shishkin at the company's corporate headquarters here on Wednesday.

The two towers have a combined super built-up area of around 5.17 lakh square feet and were acquired by SBER India through a competitive e-auction held in April 2026, making it the largest single buyer at the project, according to NBCC.

SBER India, the Indian arm of Russia's Sberbank, plans to establish a Russian Business Centre in New Delhi to support Russian companies



operating in India with banking, legal, tax and audit services.

NBCC said it has sold all eight towers at Bharat Business Park, covering around 22-44 lakh square feet, for about ₹10,000 crore. The project is expected to be completed in 2028.

Other buyers include public sector organisations such as IRCTC,

Government e-Marketplace, BPCL, RVNL and National Land Monetization Corporation, among others.

"SBER India's decision to make Bharat Business Park its home in Delhi is a strong endorsement of NBCC's execution capability and of Delhi as a destination for global business," Mahadevaswamy said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation stone for the eight towers of Bharat Business Park on March 8, 2026.

NBCC said the early sale of the project, including SBER India's purchase, will contribute to funding the completion of the seven GPRAs redevelopment projects.

The Morning Standard (28 Sept, 2026)

Haryana to develop 136 km RRTS corridor from Delhi to Karnal through Panipat

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

THE Haryana Government has included the 136.30-km Delhi-Panipat-Karnal Namo Bharat Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridor under its Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Policy paving the way for planned development around proposed stations. The semi-high-speed corridor, being developed under Phase-I of the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC), will connect Delhi, Sonapat, Panipat and Karnal along National Highway 44. The project is estimated to cost between ₹33,000 crore and ₹34,740 crore, with the Haryana government contributing its sanctioned phased share.

The proposed alignment will connect Narela, Kundli, Sonapat, Murthal, Ganaur, Samalkha, Panipat, Gharaunda and Karnal, among other stations. In Karnal, stations are proposed at Karnal ISBT, Sector 7, Gharaunda and Kohand, while Karnal Bypass is listed as a future station. Panipat will have stations at Panipat City, Sewah and Samalkha, with Sector 18 as a future station.

The Haryana Town and Country Planning Department, on September 22, issued a notification amending the TOD Policy notified in 2016. The notification added the Delhi-Panipat-Karnal corridor to the list of Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) corridors eligible for TOD planning. The amendment came into effect immediately.

According to the notification, the corridor had already been approved by the state government on the recommendation of the Haryana Mass Rapid Transport Corporation (HMRTC). Under the TOD framework, areas around transit stations can be planned for better connectivity, mixed land use and higher-density urban development.

Transit network

136.30-km corridor will connect Delhi and Haryana

Project estimated to cost ₹33,000-34,740 crore



Alignment follows National Highway 44 through Haryana

NCRTC is developing corridor under Phase-I

Proposed stations include Murthal, Ganaur and Samalkha

The Hindu (26 Sept, 2026)

PM Modi likely to inaugurate Poonamallee-Vadapalani Metro Rail stretch on Oct. 11

The opening of this stretch will be a relief to commuters. However, the stations from Alapakkam to Saligramam, which are situated between Porur and Vadapalani, are still under construction

TRACK TALES

Sumitha Sekar
CHENNAI

After months of waiting, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to inaugurate the Poonamallee-Vadapalani stretch of Chennai Metro Rail's Phase II project on October 11, sources said. He is also expected to take a train ride from Poonamallee to Porur.

Other projects

Mr. Modi would board the train at Poonamallee and alight at Porur station. Sources said the Prime Minister might also visit IT-Madras, and there would be another public function where he would inaugurate various projects, including the Vellore airport, and lay the foundation for



Much-awaited nod: The 14.6-km Phase II stretch, from Poonamallee to Vadapalani via Porur, received the final approval from the Commissioner of Railway Safety in May. S. JOTHI SANKARAN

more projects.

In the initial phase, a train would be available every 10 minutes on the Poonamallee-Vadapalani stretch and about 15 trains were likely to be put to use for operations. The first stretch of the 118.9-km phase II project from Poonamallee to Porur, a section of Corridor 4 (Poonamallee to Light House),

was slated for completion in December 2025. Then, Chennai Metro Rail began work to improve connectivity to Vadapalani station so commuters could switch to the Phase I network at this station. The works were slated for completion in February 2026. But the 14.6-km stretch,

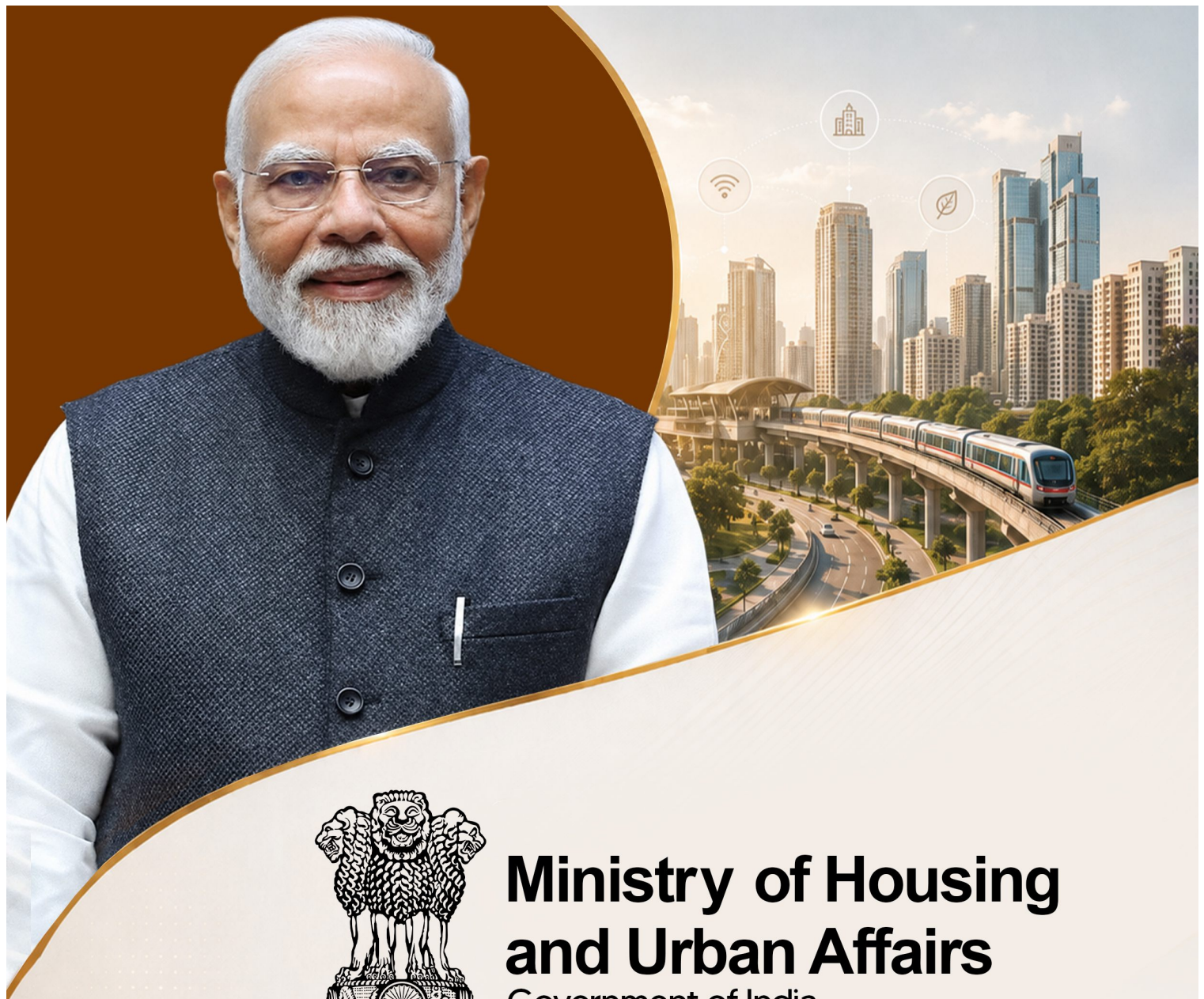
from Poonamallee to Vadapalani via Porur, received the final approval from the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS) only in May this year.

The opening of this stretch will be a much-needed relief to commuters, as they can finally skip heavy congestion on Arcot Road and travel by Metro Rail from Poonamallee to Vadapalani. However, till now, Chennai Metro Rail continues to construct the stations from Alapakkam to Saligramam (situated between Porur and Vadapalani). It is still not clear when these stations will be open to the public. Many commuters have been constantly questioning the inordinate delay in the opening of the Poonamallee-Vadapalani Metro Rail stretch, and when it would be inaugurated.

The New Indian Express (27 Sept, 2026)

NBCC gives agreement to sale to Russia's SBER India at Bharat Business

NBCC (India) Limited on evening of September 23 handed over the Allotment Letter and Agreement to Sale document for two towers at its Bharat Business Park (BBP) to SBER India, in one of the largest purchase of Indian office space by a foreign bank. Sberbank, the largest bank in Russia and Central and Eastern Europe, established its Indian branch in 2010 to create a strategic presence and support India-Russia trade. The two towers cover nearly 5.17 lakh sq ft of super built-up area having a sale value of more than ₹2,000 crore. SBER Bank secured the order through a competitive e-auction in April 2026.



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**Office of
Manohar Lal**

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