

## Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurates major road projects in Varanasi

The Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, visited Varanasi and laid the foundation stone of projects worth over Rs. 2400 crore. He dedicated the Multimodal Terminal on the River Ganga, to the nation, and received the first container cargo. He inaugurated the Varanasi Ring Road Phase 1, and the development and construction for four laning of Babatpur-Varanasi Section of NH-56. He also inaugurated and laid the Foundation Stone for various other development projects in Varanasi. The Eastern Uttar Pradesh is now connected with the Bay of Bengal, through the water route.

The inland water-way would save time and money, reduce congestion on roads, reduce the cost of fuel, and reduce vehicular pollution. The road connecting Babatpur Airport with Varanasi has become an attraction for tourists, besides facilitating travel.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister said that projects worth Rs. 23,000 crore have been approved under Namaami Gange so far. He said almost all villages along the banks of the River Ganga have now become open defecation free. He said these projects are part of the Union Government's commitment to cleaning the River Ganga.

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