

**Press Information Bureau
Government of India
Ministry of Shipping**

03-October-2017 17:49 IST

**Vice President Shri M.Venkaiah Naidu launches various National Highways projects and development of Muktyala –
Vijaywada stretch of National Waterways-4 along with Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari**

Shri Gadkari assures that Polavaram project will be completed before 2019 election

Vice-President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated /laid the foundation stones for several National Highways projects and a project for development of Muktyala to Vijayawada stretch of Krishna River (National Waterways – 4), along with Shri Nitin Gadkari, the Union Minister for Shipping, Road Transport & Highways and Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation at a function in Vijaywada today. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu was also present on the occasion.

Seven NH projects were dedicated to the nation and foundation stones were laid for six NH projects in Andhra Pradesh, the total cost of all the projects being Rs. 4,193 crore. Foundation stone for the Phase-I for development of Krishna River (National Waterway -4) was also laid. In the first phase of the project, the stretch between Muktayala to Vijayawada will be developed for transportation. The total project cost is Rs. 7,015 crore and the length of the waterway 315 km.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Gadkari said that the Union Government would spend more than Rs. 1 lakh crore on improving National Highways in Andhra Pradesh and it would give a tremendous boost to the development of the state.. He said a six lane access controlled greenfield Amaravathi Expressway will be built to connect the new capital city Amaravathi with Anantapur and also provide connectivity to Kurnool and Kadapa. The project has been approved with a total length of 557 km and cost of about Rs. 25,000 crore. He added that the Andhra Pradesh Government is preparing the DPR and it is in the process of acquiring land.

Shri Gadkari also said that the project for development of Muktayala to Vijayawada section of NW-4 will provide an efficient logistics solution to boost the economic growth of the region and facilitate the development of the capital city Amravati during its early development stage as substantial construction material is expected to be transported on this stretch.

The Minister also said that under Sagaramala programme, several port-related projects would be taken up in the state. The capacity of the Visakhapatnam port would be expanded. Visakhapatnam-Chennai industrial corridor was another major project which would benefit the state enormously and it would be taken up expeditiously, he added.

Shri Gadkari gave assurance that the Polavaram irrigation project would be completed before the next General Election in 2019 and the Union Government would render all necessary assistance to the State Government for the purpose.

The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister thanked the Union Minister and said he was confident that Polavaram project would be completed on time, with the Centre's assistance.

The Vice President of India Shri M.Venkaiah Naidu expressed his happiness over the launch of so many projects on a single day in the State. He said linking of rivers is the need of the hour.

[To see the list of NH projects inaugurated/ foundation stone laid click here](#)

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[To see details of the project on Development of NW-4 click here](#)

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