

New report urges fast tracking of High-Speed Rail >>

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QUIZ

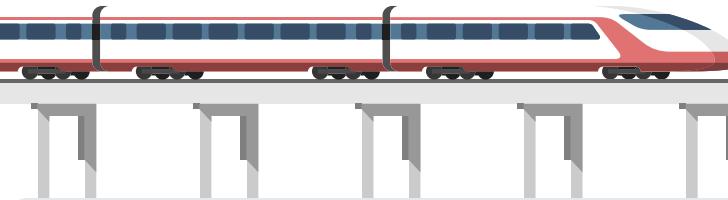
Editor's Note

February flew by, as The Infravision Foundation made the most of the shortest month of the year to plan for the months ahead. Fresh initiatives, new reports and impending roundtables. Much thinking was done to make the right policy interventions, maximise outcomes, and amplify outreach.



India Needs to Put High-Speed Rail on Fast Track

The Infravision Foundation (TIF) urges swift action to develop a world-class High-Speed Rail (HSR) network in India, essential for enhancing connectivity, reducing congestion, and driving economic growth. With Indian Railways undergoing rapid modernization—including the expansion of Vande Bharat services, dedicated freight corridors, the imminent completion of the Bullet Train project, Regional Rapid Transit Systems like Delhi-Meerut, station redevelopment, and the deployment of modern 'Kavach' safety systems—HSR must be a strategic priority. India is well-positioned for this transition, supported by strong economic indicators and the establishment of a High-Speed Rail Training Institute in Vadodara. Following a detailed assessment, in a report for TIF, rail expert Ramakrishnan TS has investigated these aspects rigorously and suggested the following corridors as priorities for development by 2035:



Corridor 1:

Delhi-Rewari-Jaipur-Ajmer-Jodhpur-Ahmedabad-(Mumbai);

Corridor 2:

Chennai-Mumbai via Tirupati, Bengaluru, Tumkur, Davangere, Dharwad, Belagavi, Kolhapur, Satara, Pune, Navi Mumbai, with a spur to Goa;

Corridor 3:

Delhi-Sonipat-Panipat-Karnal-Ambala-Chandigarh-Ludhiana-Jalandhar-Amritsar; and

Corridor 4:

Delhi-Agra-Lucknow-Varanasi-Patna-Kolkata.

To ensure self-reliance, a National HSR Technology Corporation (NHSRTC) has been recommended to drive domestic research, manufacturing, and technological innovation, reducing dependence on imports. With key projects already underway—including locally manufactured high-speed trainsets—India must move decisively to build a modern, efficient, and sustainable HSR. TIF has been advocating for this in the media.

TIF@Media

Chairman of the Governing Council of CAIRA Siraj Hussain wrote in The Wire on the US threat of imposing reciprocal tariffs and how it will impact agri and allied exports.

To read the article, please click on the link <https://thewire.in/agriculture/how-us-tariffs-could-impact-indian-agriculture>

TIF@Social Media

TIF Founder and Managing Trustee Vinayak Chatterjee is always active and engaged on X, often weighing in on issues of the day. A sample of his recent tweets cut a swathe through the need for accessibility and affordability of urban metros and buses, with transport expenses taking the largest share of non food spending, to resilient infrastructure and disaster preparedness in coastal regions given the seismic activity in the Bay of Bengal. Check out his X handle (@Infra_VinayakCh) and his tweets to stay ahead of the curve.

TIF on Smart Cities

For many, smart cities are just a futuristic concept—tech-driven spaces filled with cutting-edge infrastructure. But real smart cities aren't just about technology; they're about how well they serve the people who live in them. A city isn't just its buildings, roads, or apps—it's about access, mobility, and opportunity. It's about creating spaces that put people first. In the final episode of the City Champions Podcast series from online social engagement platform Josh Talks, TIF CEO Jagan Shah deconstructed what a real smart city looks like and how urban spaces can work for everyone. Director ATE Group Anuj Bhagwati also spoke in the conversation conducted by Josh Talks' Head of Partnerships Varun Khera. For the complete podcast, please click on this link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T_JAoX97mq4

TIF@Women's Day



TIF Co-founder and Managing Trustee Rumjhumi Chatterjee was a key speaker at the High Commissioner's Residence, Australian High Commission, on March 7, Women's Day, on Accelerating Action: The Role of Women in Shaping Global Leadership and Equality. Chatterjee is also Chairperson of the CII Centre for Women's Leadership. The other panelists were Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin, UN Women India Country Representative Susan Ferguson, and Luminous Power Technologies CEO Preeti Bajaj.

A promotional image for a CII Podcasts episode. The title is "Episode 138 WOMEN-LED DEVELOPMENT: SHAPING THE INDIA GROWTH STORY". The host is Rumjhumi Chatterjee, described as "Chair, CII Centre for Women Leadership, Co-Founder & Managing Trustee, The Infravision Foundation". The CII logo is in the top right corner. There is a portrait photo of Rumjhumi Chatterjee on the right side.

On International Women's Day, Chatterjee also spoke on how women in India are breaking barriers across industries, driving innovation and economic growth on CII Podcasts, on Women-Led Development: Shaping the India Growth Story.

To tune in, follow this link <https://bit.ly/41uaJaF>



EVENT ALERT

On April 8, TIF and EFKON will be collaborating on a roundtable in Delhi with key stakeholders to discuss at length a white paper on Decarbonising Urban Transport Using Traffic and Transport Data from ICCC. This is a pilot study in Noida, undertaken by IIT Delhi.



TIF@Work

TIF Co-founder and Managing Trustee Rumjhumi Chatterjee chaired a session at the Regional Dialogue on Social Justice organised by the Ministry of Labour when the Director General, ILO, was in Delhi. The session was on Building a Bigger Table: Promoting Inclusion and Women's Participation in the World of Work, and among the speakers were Bruno Berretini Camponês, Third Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brazil, as well as Co-Chair, Global Coalition for Social Justice and Suhela Khan, Country Programme Manager, Women's Economic Empowerment, UN Women. Alison Durbin, Minister Counsellor (Labour) in the Australian Mission to the United Nations in Geneva, joined the session virtually.

Infra@Streaming

The lack of public transport is part of the social commentary in Prime Video's new series Dupahiya when a stolen motorbike becomes the bone of contention between two families about to enter into a marital alliance and threatens to spoil the village's 25-year-old record of being crime free.



QUIZ: Test Your Infra Power

- For which pilgrimage town did the Union Cabinet recently approve a Rs 4,081 crore-rope way?
- In which city have safety inspections begun for a metro launch in mid-2025?
- Which country is getting its first railway link with Assam to strengthen bilateral ties?
- Which cities is India's longest LPG pipeline going to connect?
- What are the three pillars on which investment in people rests, according to Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

- Kedarnath
- Bhopal
- Bhutan. A detailed project report has been prepared by Indian Railways
- Kandla and Gondakpur
- Education, skill development, and healthcare



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