₹15,600-crore projects in Karnataka; Namma Metro Pink Line opens

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News

On Friday, 13 November 2026, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated, dedicated and laid the foundation stone for projects worth over ₹15,600 crore in Karnataka. He opened the 7.5-km elevated Kalena Agrahara–Tavarekere stretch of Bengaluru Namma Metro's Pink Line (6 stations, about ₹3,470 crore) and rode the metro from Tavarekere to IIM Bangalore station with Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Governor Sudha Yadav; public service began at 6 am on 14 November. This takes Bengaluru's metro network from about 96 km to 103.6 km, past the 100-km mark. He dedicated India's largest underground LPG storage cavern at Mangaluru (80,000 tonnes, over ₹850 crore, linked to New Mangalore Port by a 9.4-km pipeline) and MRPL's ₹330-crore Devangonthi marketing terminal in Bengaluru. Transmission lines evacuating renewable power from the Koppal, Gadag and Bidar zones were opened, and the foundation stone was laid for a GAIL compressed biogas (CBG) plant at Haralakunte, Bengaluru, to process 300 tonnes of municipal waste a day. He flagged off the Bengaluru–Mangaluru–Madgaon Vande Bharat Express (via Hassan, Udupi and Karwar) and dedicated the 45-km Bagalkot–Wandal doubling (part of the 284-km Gadag–Hotgi line, aiding coal supply to NTPC Kudgi) and the 55-km Sakleshpur–Subrahmanya Road ghat electrification; the CBG plant will yield about 12.6 tonnes of CBG a day. The same day he opened the 'COSMOS-Mysuru' LED dome planetarium in Mysuru.

Key facts for the exam

Point	Details
Date	13 Nov 2026 – Bengaluru, Mysuru
Total value	Over ₹15,600 crore (Karnataka)
Pink Line (opened)	Kalena Agrahara–Tavarekere, 7.5 km elevated, 6 stations
Pink Line (full)	21.25 km; 18 stations (12 underground) – to Nagawara
Metro network	About 96 → 103.6 km
Energy	Mangaluru underground LPG cavern (80,000 t); RE transmission
Waste	GAIL CBG plant, Haralakunte – 300 t/day waste
Railways	Bengaluru–Mangaluru–Madgaon Vande Bharat; Bagalkot–Wandal doubling
Mysuru	COSMOS-Mysuru – 'India's first LED dome planetarium' (IIA)

Background

- Namma Metro: Bengaluru's metro is run by Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (BMRCL), a joint venture of the Centre and Karnataka. The Purple, Green and Yellow lines are running; the Pink Line is part of Phase 2. Its Jayadeva Hospital station will interchange with the Yellow Line, MG Road with the Purple Line and Nagawara with the Blue Line. Its trains are built by Bengaluru's BEML, with CBTC signalling.
- Law and safety: before a new metro line opens, inspection and approval by the Commissioner of Metro Rail Safety (CMRS) is mandatory under the Metro Railways (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002. The CMRS is part of the Commission of Railway Safety (CRS), which – to keep it independent of the Railways Ministry – is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- Energy security: India's Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPR) are managed by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL). Phase-1 caverns are at Visakhapatnam (1.33 MMT), Mangaluru (1.5) and Padur (Udupi, 2.5) – 5.33 MMT in all. Phase 2 plans Chandikhol, Odisha (4 MMT) and a Padur expansion. Karnataka's 2,050-MW Pavagada Solar Park in Tumakuru district is among the world's largest solar parks.
- Railways: the first Vande Bharat Express, built as 'Train 18' at the Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai, was flagged off by the PM between New Delhi and Varanasi on 15 February 2019. Electrification of the Sakleshpur–Subrahmanya Road ghat section completes electrification of the Bengaluru–Mangaluru route.

Tamil Nadu link: Chennai Metro's first section (Alandur–Koyambedu, Green Line) opened on 29 June 2015; Phase 1's Blue and Green lines cover about 54 km. The first Phase-2 stretch, Poonamallee Bypass–Vadapalani (about 15 km, Corridor 4), was opened by the PM on 11 October 2026. Chennai Metro Rail Ltd (CMRL) is a joint venture of the Centre and Tamil Nadu; Phase 2 (about 119 km) has three corridors (3, 4, 5), and Bengaluru's BEML is supplying driverless trains for Corridors 3 and 5. The Vande Bharat trains now running across India began at ICF, Perambur, Chennai.

Frequently asked questions

What is this news about?

On Friday, 13 November 2026, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated, dedicated and laid the foundation stone for projects worth over ₹15,600 crore in Karnataka. He opened the 7.5-km elevated Kalena Agrahara–Tavarekere stretch of Bengaluru Namma Metro's Pink Line (6 stations, about ₹3,470 crore) and rode the metro from Tavarekere to IIM Bangalore station with Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Governor Sudha Yadav; public service began at 6 am on 14 November.

What are the key facts to remember for the exam?

Date: 13 Nov 2026 – Bengaluru, Mysuru; Total value: Over ₹15,600 crore (Karnataka); Pink Line (opened): Kalena Agrahara–Tavarekere, 7.5 km elevated, 6 stations; Pink Line (full): 21.25 km; 18 stations (12 underground) – to Nagawara.

What is the background to this news?

Namma Metro: Bengaluru's metro is run by Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (BMRCL), a joint venture of the Centre and Karnataka.

Practice questions (with answers)

1. The Commissioner of Metro Rail Safety (CMRS), who clears new metro lines, works under which ministry?

A) Railways

B) Civil Aviation

C) Housing & Urban Affairs

D) Home Affairs

Answer: B – Explanation: Civil Aviation Ministry – to keep it independent of the Railways. The CMRS is part of the Commission of Railway Safety (CRS).

2. Karnataka's Pavagada Solar Park, among the world's largest, is in which district?

A) Tumakuru

B) Ballari

C) Bidar

D) Koppal

Answer: A – Explanation: Tumakuru – 2,050 MW; built by KSPDCL, a SECI–KREDL joint venture. Koppal, Gadag and Bidar are the RE zones in the news.

3. Besides Mangaluru and Padur, where is India's Phase-1 Strategic Petroleum Reserve located?

A) Chandikhol

B) Bikaner

C) Visakhapatnam

D) Rajkot

Answer: C – Explanation: Visakhapatnam – the three total 5.33 MMT (ISPRL). Chandikhol, Odisha, is planned in Phase 2.

4. The Vande Bharat Express, now also on the Bengaluru–Mangaluru–Madgaon route, was first built as 'Train 18' where?

A) RCF, Kapurthala

B) MCF, Rae Bareli

C) ICF, Chennai

D) BEML, Bengaluru

Answer: C – Explanation: Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Perambur, Chennai; first service New Delhi–Varanasi, 15 Feb 2019.

5. Chennai Metro's first section, opened in June 2015, linked Alandur with which station?

A) Koyambedu

B) Chennai Central

C) Washermanpet

D) Airport

Answer: A – Explanation: Koyambedu (Green Line), 29 June 2015. CMRL is a Centre–State joint venture; Phase 2 is about 119 km.

Sources: PMO (pmindia.gov.in, 11 Nov 2026 – visit programme); PIB; News On AIR (11 Nov 2026; 16 Oct 2026 – Governor Sudha Yadav); DD India; The Week (PTI, 11 Nov 2026); PIB (CRS/CMRS); Business Standard (PTI, 07.02.2019); DT Next (Oct 2026 – Chennai Metro, BEML); PIB (Chennai Metro Phase II, 03.10.2024); ISPRL (isprl.in). © Shanmugam IAS Academy.