

At ₹1.13 lakh crore, capex by 60 CPSEs more than doubled in Sept

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With high spending on railways and roads, capital expenditure of 60 Central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) and four organisations surged more than double in September as against August and touched the highest figure in nine months, data from the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) showed.

Capital expenditure by CPSEs is key to overall growth as private sector capex, though picking up, is still below expectations. Capex target for 60 CPSEs, including four organisations for FY26, has been pegged at over ₹7.85 lakh crore. Now with the September number, around 50 per cent of the tar-



Capital expenditure by CPSEs (Amount in ₹ cr.)

2025-26			2024-25		
Month	Total at month end	% of annual target	Month	Total at month end	% of annual target
Apr	49,781.38	6.34	Apr	50,206	6.38
May	1,05,020.50	13.38	May	95,937	17.19
Jun	1,67,445.50	21.34	Jun	1,45,926	18.55
Jul	2,20,852.00	28.14	Jul	2,15,541	27.39
Aug	2,72,332.90	34.70	Aug	2,67,705	34.02
Sept	3,85,338.20	49.10	Sept	3,38,421	43.57

Source: Department of Public Enterprises

get has been achieved.

According to data, total capital expenditure crossed ₹1.13 lakh crore in Septem-

ber against over ₹51,000 crore in August, showing a growth of around 119 per cent. Similarly, on yearly

basis, September spending was nearly 60 per cent high as compared to around ₹71,000 crore during last September.

These CPSEs include large ones such as NTPC, ONGC, Indian Oil, GAIL, Coal India and Hindustan Aeronautics, besides organisations such as the Railway Board and the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI).

GROWTH DRIVERS

One important reason for the surge in capex is more projects for railways and roads getting approval.

A fact sheet by the government showed that the third term (starting June 2024) had seen the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approving road projects amounting to over ₹1.89 lakh crore and railway projects with an outlay of

around ₹1.50 lakh crore.

Even on October 7, the CCEA gave approval for four railway projects with an outlay of around ₹25,000 crore.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

According to officials, CPSEs are being encouraged to take up capex to achieve profitable growth in their business. A large capex creates growth opportunities and further employment.

Several key performance indicators have been included in the annual MoU framework for the CPSEs on which the companies are evaluated and this includes capex, besides return on net-worth or return on capital employed, export and import as per cent of revenue, EBITDA as a per cent of revenue and asset turnover ratio.

This data has come at a

time when capex by the Central government surged over 43 per cent per cent during April-August as reported by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA).

The Budget provided over ₹11.21 lakh crore for FY26 capital expenditure, of which over ₹4.31 lakh crore — 38.5 per cent of the allocation, compared with 27 per cent in the same period last year when election-related factors kept spending subdued.

Among the Central ministries/departments, defence services recorded an increase of around 58 per cent, followed by roads with around 11 per cent and around 9 per cent by the Railways. Higher spending by infrastructure ministries is expected to have a positive impact on the overall growth number.