

IL&FS gets ₹693 cr for 2 road projects

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Debt-laden Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Ltd (IL&FS) said on Sunday that its unit ITNL has received a settlement amount of ₹673 crore for Kiratpur Ner Chowk Expressway Ltd (KNCEL) and ₹20 crore towards claims for Chenani Nashri Tunnelway Ltd (CNTL) from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

With these two projects, NHAI and the ministry of road transport and highways (MoRTH) have settled claims of more than ₹1,804 crore so far across six road projects of IL&FS.

The KNCEL project was foreclosed under the ministry's new rules announced in March 2019 for stalled and incomplete road projects, while CNTL is a completed project, earning annuities.

According to the ministry's rules for projects that were left incomplete or stalled for various reasons, the government



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would be able to foreclose the project's concession agreement and pay full and final compensation to the developer based on the value of work completed or 90% of the debt due, whichever is lower.

Earlier, Fagne Songadh Expressway Ltd (FSEL), a wholly-owned unit of ITNL, completed its settlement with NHAI under the new policy and received ₹707 crore. Other IL&FS projects settled under the new policy include Jorabat Shillong Expressway (JSEL) ₹252 crore; Baleshwar Kharagpur Expressway Ltd (BKEL) (₹8

crore); and ITNL Road Infrastructure Development Company (IRIDCL) (₹144 crore).

There is a pending settlement of ₹902 crore for the Khed Sinnar Expressway project and ₹171 crore for Amravati Chikli Expressway from NHAI, the infrastructure lender said in a statement.

"FSEL, KNCEL and IRIDCL have been handed over to the Authorities post-settlement of claims. BKEL will form part of the InVIT that will include 11 Road projects in two phases. Between FSEL, KNCEL, IRIDCL-IL&FS would be

addressing an aggregate debt of ₹3,500 crore through NHAI and MoRTH Settlements," IL&FS said.

The new board of IL&FS has adopted a multi-pronged strategy for its road assets to pare debt totalling over ₹18,000 crore as part of its debt resolution framework approved by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT).

IL&FS also has plans to form InVIT for a dozen road projects, settle incomplete projects under the ministry's rules and monetize the remaining road assets to the highest bidders.

The company has also received approval from retired Supreme Court judge Justice V.K. Jain, nominated by the court, to oversee the debt-laden group's resolution process to sell JSEL to Sekura Roads Ltd—backed by Edelweiss Infrastructure Yield Plus—that bid ₹916 crore for a 100% stake, addressing ₹1,600 crore debt. JSEL is a four-lane highway from Jorabat to Shillong on NH-40, connecting Shillong, Mizoram and Tripura with Guwahati.