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# Central Road and Infrastructure Fund

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**Why is in news?** Shri Nitin Gadkari approves schemes worth Rs 154.25 crore for Una and Kangra region of Himachal Pradesh under Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CIRF)

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari in a post said strengthening the infrastructure for smooth transportation in the country is the priority of the Modi government.

He said schemes worth Rs 154.25 crore for Una and Kangra region of Himachal Pradesh under the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund CIRF have been approved.

## **About CRIF:**

The Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (earlier known as Central Road Fund) was established in 2000 under **Central Road Fund Act, 2000**.

The fund **comprises of a cess imposed along with excise duty on petrol and diesel**.

The administrative control of Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF) falls **under the Ministry of Finance**.

Earlier it was under the domain of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

## **Central Road Fund Act (Amendment), 2018:**

The amendment renamed the Central Road Fund as Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF).

It allowed using the proceeds of the road cess under CRIF to finance other infrastructure projects including waterways, some portion of the railway infrastructure and even social infrastructure including education institutions, medical colleges etc.