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## Centre Sanctions Rs 972 Crore for Roads Development in Rajasthan | Rajasthan | 16 Mar 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, **Road Transport and Highways Minister** Nitin Gadkari has sanctioned 972.80 crore rupees for widening roads in Rajasthan.

### Key Points

- The amount has been sanctioned for widening and strengthening work of **31 major district roads and State Highways**.
- Rs 384.56 crore have been sanctioned for construction work of 7 Road Over Bridge/Road Under Bridge/Flyovers in various districts under **Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF) Setu Bandhan Yojana**.

### Setu Bandhan Yojana

- The "Setu Bandhan Scheme" is a program initiated by the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, aimed at facilitating the construction of **Rail Over Bridges (ROBs), Rail Under Bridges (RUBs), and Bridges on State Roads**.
- This program is designed to enhance **road safety by replacing existing level crossings with bridges**, ultimately reducing accidents at these locations.

### Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (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 **a cess imposed along with excise duty** on petrol and diesel.
- The administrative control of the CRIF falls under the Ministry of Finance.
- Earlier it was under the domain of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.