24 mega projects announced

In December 2014, 610 new projects worth ₹74,415 crore were announced. Of these, 470 projects worth ₹44,564 crore were greenfield projects; 111 were plant modernisation projects; and 29 were capacity expansion projects. Further, of the 610 projects, the promoters of 268 projects have not firmed up the costs of their projects. Most of these projects were in the Real Estate sector.

Of the 24 mega projects (projex of ₹500 crore or more) announced in December 2014, four were in the Manufacturing sector. Neelachal Ispat Nigam intends to expand its steel capacity from 1.1 million tpa to 2.5 million tpa with an investment of ₹12,000 crore at Kalinganagar, in Jajpur district of Odisha. The project will also include a blast furnace, a seven mtr coke oven battery, a 60 MW coal-based power unit and a steel melting shop. The Karnataka-based SLR Metalliks announced its plans to set up a ₹600 crore steel ingots unit with a capacity of 3.2 lakh tpa at Narayanadavenakere village, Halli taluka, in Ballari district of the state.

In the Chemicals sector, Matix Fertilisers & Chemicals is setting up an urea unit (Phase-II) with a capacity of 1.3 million tpa at Panagarh, in Bardhaman district of West Bengal, with an investment of ₹5,000 crore. The company plans to use coal bed methane (CBM) gas as feedstock which will be sourced from Essar Oil’s Raniganj block.

The Automobiles major, Honda Cars India, plans to set up a ₹1,350 crore passenger cars manufacturing unit (Phase-I) in Gujarat.

Among the major sectors, Services & Utilities (Infrastructure) topped the investment chart with 494 projects worth ₹42,531 crore and accounted for 57 per cent of the total investment announced in December 2014.

Gujarat Integrated Maritime Complex, a subsidiary of IL&FS Maritime Infrastructure Co intends to develop ₹12,316 crore shipyard-cum-captive jetties with LNG terminal at Nana Layja,
Mandvi taluka, in Kachchh district of Gujarat. The project, to be spread over 336 ha of land, will include 17 million tpa coal jetties, three general cargo berths and an LNG terminal with a capacity of five million tpa. This was the largest project announced in December 2014.

Under the railway station modernization programme announced in the Railway budget, the Surat Municipal Corporation has taken up a Rs 3,000 crore modernization project of Surat station in Gujarat. The project will be executed through the PPP route.

NHAI announced seven mega projects in December 2014.
- A ₹2,236 crore Amravati-Chikli section (Package-I) from 166.00 km to 360.00 km; a ₹1,888 crore Chikli-Fagne section (Package-II) from 360.00 km to 510.00 km and a ₹1,909 crore Fagne-Maharashtra / Gujarat Border section of NH-6 (Package-III) from 510.00 km to 650.79 km in Maharashtra.
- A ₹724 crore Ner Chowk-Pandoh section from 190.00 km to 215.00 km (Package-I); a ₹690 crore Ner Chowk-Kullu stretch [Pandoh-Bata section (Tunnel)] from 215.00 km to 227.95 km (Package-II); a ₹575 crore Ner Chowk-Kullu stretch [Rehukaldhar-Aut Section (Tunnel)] from 230.60 km to 235.22 km (Package-IV) and a ₹556 crore Nerchowk-Kullu stretch [Aut-Takoli section (Tunnel)] from 235.22 km to 242.00 km (Package-V) of NH-21 in Himachal Pradesh.

In Maharashtra, the JNPT Port Road Co announced three mega road projects to be developed through the EPC route:
- A ₹570 crore Karalphata interchange from 3.60 km to 6.00 km of NH-4B and from 5.30 km to 6.40 km of SH-54 (NH-348A) and connectivity to proposed 4th Terminal of JNPT Phase-II, (Package-I)
- A ₹651 crore Gavanphata interchange from 14.80 km to 15.80 km of NH-4B, from 13.20 km to 14.85 km of SH-54 and from 5.40 km to 6.20 km of Amra Marg (NH-348A) and NH-4B from 6.00 km to 14.80 km and from 15.80 km to 21.20 km of JNPT Phase-II (Package-II)
- A ₹547 crore SH-54 (NH-348A) from 6.40 km to 13.20 km and NH-348A (Amra Marg) from 0.00 km to 5.40 km of JNPT Phase-II, (Package-III)

In Karnataka, the Bangalore Development Authority plans to construct a steel flyover from Chalukya Circle-Hebbal in length of 6.9 km in Bengaluru, under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), with an investment of ₹1,200 crore.

In the Construction sector, Lotus Greens Developers intends to construct a township at Sector 150, Greater Noida, in Gautam Budh Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh with an investment of ₹2,500 crore. The project will spread over 300 acre of land, comprising residential as well as recreational facilities, including a nine-hole golf course. An equally ambitious residential complex was announced by Ashiana Landcraft Realty in Gurgaon. The company plans to set up a ₹650 crore residential complex ‘The Center Court’, at Sector-88A, Dwarka Expressway, in Gurgaon district of Haryana.

In the Health care segment, two large projects were announced. KEF Holdings is constructing a Premium Medical Healthcare Providers (PMPH) Hospital with a capacity of 500 beds in Kozhikode district of Kerala with an investment of ₹550 crore. All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) plans to develop an institute with an investment of ₹850 crore in Kerala. The project will comprise a 1,000-bed facility with ICUs, trauma care units, alternative medicine besides intake of about 100 students for MBBS.

In the education sector, the newspaper giant, Bennett Coleman & Co has drawn up plans to set up a ₹600 crore multi-faculty Bennett university at Noida, in Gautam Budh Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh.

Fourteen new projects and 58 new power distribution lines helped the Electricity sector in attracting fresh projex of ₹9,868 crore. Ku Thermal Power plans to set up a 1,320 MW (2 x 660 MW) coal-based power unit with an investment of ₹6,600 crore at Ottapidaram and Sillanattam villages in Tuticorin district of Tamil Nadu.

The largest transmission line project of the month was announced by Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation. The company intends to set up a ₹1,593 crore inter-state power transmission system for evacuation of renewable power in Tamil Nadu. The project scope comprises establishment of a 400 kV grid substation at Thannampatty; augmentation of various 230 kV grid substations; and associated transmission systems.

Among the states, Gujarat topped the investment chart with 81 projects worth ₹18,450 crore and accounted for 24 per cent of the total fresh investment emanated in December 2014; and Maharashtra attracted the highest number of new projects - 110 projects entailing a total investment of ₹9,980 crore.