

“National Highway Excellence Awards” 2021

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In news—Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) organized the “National Highway Excellence Awards” 2021 ceremony recently.

About National Highway Excellence Awards(NHEA)-

- With a view to strengthen and augment the road infrastructure in the country, **MoRTH initiated NHEA in 2018.**
- It incentivizes stakeholders in the highway construction and maintenance process and creates a spirit of healthy competitiveness amongst them.
- The idea is to **recognize and award companies for the best-performing road assets and toll plazas across the country.**
- **The aim of the award is to create world-class road infrastructure, highways, toll plazas, expressways, bridges, tunnels** every day through new and innovative construction processes along with a strong focus on environmental sustainability and cleanliness factors.
- The **awards are designed across multiple categories.** It identifies players which have
 - Adhered to construction and operational guidelines.
 - Upheld high quality and safety standards, and
 - Employed innovation and sustainable practices in their work.
- The companies nominate themselves on an **online portal named ‘bhoomi rashi’** by uploading the project information and documents specific to the award category.

- In the **first award cycle in 2018**, a total of 107 nominations were received across **5 categories** (Excellence in Construction Management, Excellence in Operation and Maintenance, Excellence in Highway Safety, Excellence in Toll Plaza Management and Innovation).
- **In the second award cycle in 2019, two new categories were introduced** –
 - Green Highways and
 - Outstanding Work in Challenging Conditions.
- **In 2020 one additional special award category, Bridge & Tunnel, was added** to the pool of categories from 2019.
- **In 2022, the 4th award cycle, two new categories of Bridge Construction and Tunnel Construction were introduced.**