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Multiple waves of the Covid-19 pandemic have hampered growth of the infrastructure sector even as the central government took some crucial steps to address the issues.

[In view of the disruptions caused by the pandemic](#), the infrastructure sector is hoping for some positive announcements in the upcoming Union Budget 2022-23. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will announce the budget for the next financial year on February 1, 2022.

WHAT INFRA SECTOR NEEDS FROM BUDGET?

[The sector will be eyeing a slew of measures from the government](#), most of which are aimed at boosting sentiments of the investors as well as the players, said Pradeep Misra, CMD-REPL.

Some of the key demands of the sector are clarity on asset monetisation, easing norms for fund raising, robust expenditure on boosting the education, health and export infrastructure, and incentivising the use of technology in infrastructure development.

All these factors will act as a catalyst for the infrastructure sector as they will not only help in infusing the liquidity but will also attract investments, he said.

Last month, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said that infrastructure projects worth Rs 7 lakh crore were planned by road transport ministry over the next two to three years.

Gadkari has urged investors to come forward and invest boldly in the infrastructure sector, which offers a diverse array of investment opportunities, spanning multiple asset classes including highways, multimodal logistics parks, wayside amenities, ropeways, warehousing zones and more.

It remains to be seen whether the government announces measures to boost investor confidence in the sector.

To resolve the issues pertaining to infrastructure creation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the PM GatiShakti, a National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity, in October last year.

It is expected that the government will take further steps in the upcoming budget to boost the sector, with announcements related to Bharatmala, Sagarmala, inland waterways, dry/land ports, UDAN, economic zones like textile clusters, pharmaceutical clusters, defence corridors, electronic parks, industrial corridors, fishing clusters, and agriculture zones.