

# INSIGHT

**AFCONS**

VOLUME 15 | ISSUE 3 | JULY 2025

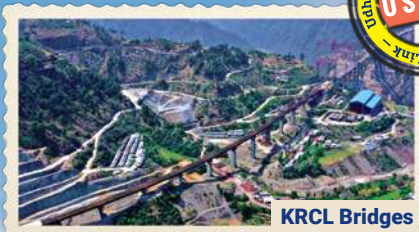
**Shapoorji Pallonji**  
Built to last... since 1865



Tunnel T49



Chenab Bridge



KRCL Bridges



Sangaldan Tunnels



**Samruddhi  
PKG-14  
inaugurated**

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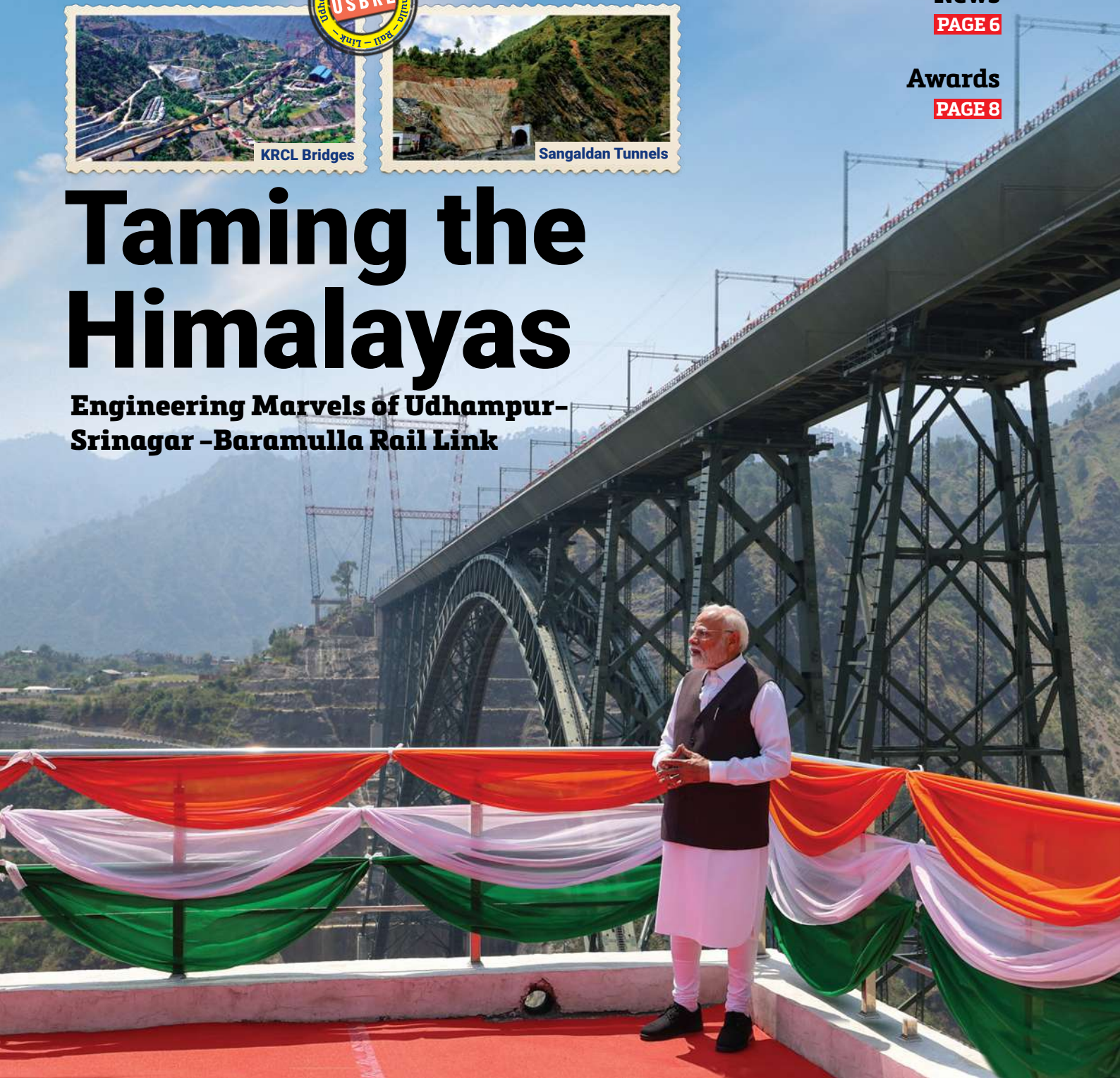
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## Taming the Himalayas

**Engineering Marvels of Udhampur-  
Srinagar -Baramulla Rail Link**





# Scaling New Heights

**Dear Afconians,**

It is with immense pride that we celebrate the recent inauguration of the iconic Chenab Railway Bridge by Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi held on June 6, 2025. This historic moment is not only a milestone in the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project but also a matter of national pride. Built in the face of immense challenges—technical, geographical, and climatic—this bridge stands today as a symbol of what Indian engineering, grit, and determination can achieve.

From the outset, doubts were cast on the feasibility of constructing a bridge in such rugged terrain. Yet, through unwavering commitment and engineering excellence, we turned those doubts into applause. The Chenab Bridge is the crown jewel of USBRL, but equally commendable are our other achievements on the corridor—the T49 tunnel, India's longest transportation tunnel; the Sangaldan tunnels; and 16 critical bridges built for KRCL. These are not just projects, but they are benchmarks in infrastructure execution in the Himalayan region.

In Maharashtra, the inauguration of Samruddhi Mahamarg PKG-14 has further enhanced seamless connectivity across the state, giving a boost to economic growth.

This success, however, brings greater responsibility. Expectations are higher, and it is now on us to deliver consistently. Project teams must sharpen their focus on operational discipline, cost efficiency, and timely execution. For us, innovation is not just a buzzword. It is ingrained in our culture, guiding how we solve problems, optimise resources, and deliver complex projects across diverse geographies.



**Krishnamurthy Subramanian**

As we step into the second quarter of FY26, let's reassess our priorities and strengthen our execution plans. Our renewed push in international markets will support a balanced order book and help expand our global footprint in line with our long-term vision. Let's work together to achieve new milestones and create history.

## MAKING HEADLINES

### PM inaugurates Kanpur UG Metro

Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated a 5-km underground stretch of Kanpur Metro on May 30, 2025. Afcons executed the Kanpur Central station and 2.4 km of tunnelling as part of the 3.8 km KNPCC-06 package, which includes three stations.



### CM Nitish Kumar inaugurates Bhupatipur-Punpun elevated road



Honourable Bihar CM Nitish Kumar inaugurated the Bhupatipur-Punpun (NH-22) elevated and at-grade section of the Mithapur-Mahuli-Punpun project. It has reduced travel time from one hour to 10 minutes, benefiting lakhs of commuters with improved access and faster travel in the region.

### Maha CM, DyCM visits MPEW Missing Link Project



Honourable Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis and Dy CM Eknath Shinde reviewed the Mumbai-Pune Expressway Missing Link Project on July 12, 2025. They expressed satisfaction with the progress and quality of work and acknowledged Afcons' critical role in the project.

### GMCP completes piling works in Maldives

The Greater Male Connectivity Project (GMCP) team in Maldives has successfully completed the crucial piling works. A total of 264 piles have been installed across 68 locations, including 75 marine piles, 85 shallow piles, and 104 land piles. Piling was among the most challenging phases, with engineers battling hostile weather, strong undersea currents, and erratic rainfall.



# INCREDIBLE ENGINEERING

## IN THE HIMALAYAS

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the final stretch of the **Udhampur–Srinagar–Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL)**, one of the most ambitious infrastructure projects ever undertaken by Indian Railways, on June 6, 2025. It included the Chenab Railway Bridge and marked a historic milestone in the nation's development. Designed to connect the Kashmir Valley with the rest of India **through a 272-km railway corridor**, the project has redefined mobility in Jammu & Kashmir, establishing seamless connectivity.

**A**t the heart of it stands Afcons, playing a pivotal role in shaping the future of rail connectivity in the Himalayas. From constructing the world's highest single-arch railway bridge to executing tunnels through the unforgiving Pir Panjal ranges, Afcons has led from the front in delivering under the harshest conditions.

The Chenab Railway Bridge, a global symbol of engineering prowess, stands 359 metres above the riverbed—making it 35 metres taller than the Eiffel Tower. Spanning the deep gorge between Bakkal and Kauri, the bridge has become the face of USBRL and a beacon of

India's infrastructure capabilities.

Afcons has also executed 16 vital bridges for Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) across a 66-km alignment in Reasi, Bakkal, Kauri, and Sangaldan. Two of these bridges—Bridge 39 and Bridge 43—have been equipped with India's first Pre-Loaded Spring Dampers (PSDs) to counter seismic loads. Bridge 39 features seven piers, three of which are over 70 metres in height, with the tallest reaching 103 metres—nearly 30 metres taller than the Qutub Minar. These innovations mark a new chapter in bridge safety and resilience in seismic-prone areas.

In tunnel construction, Afcons has delivered five tunnels including T 74 RA (3.3km) and T 74 RB (2.3km)



in the Katra-Laole section, spanning a total length of 8.5 km with a tunnel diameter of 7.25 metres. These tunnels were carved out in extremely poor geology, with excavation volumes equivalent to nearly 30 football fields.

Another milestone is Tunnel T49, the longest transportation tunnel in India at 12.75 km, connecting Sumer and Arpinchala in Ramban district. Afcons executed Package T49B, which includes a 8.2 km main tunnel, an escape tunnel of 7.73km, 20 cross-passages,

two bridges, adits, and the Arpinchala station yard. This tunnel not only pierces through the rugged Pir Panjal but also showcases Afcons' capability to deliver large-scale infrastructure projects.

With USBRL now fully commissioned, Afcons' contributions stand tall in the mountainous terrain of Kashmir. These landmark achievements reinforce the company's position a global EPC leader with unmatched expertise in challenging terrains.

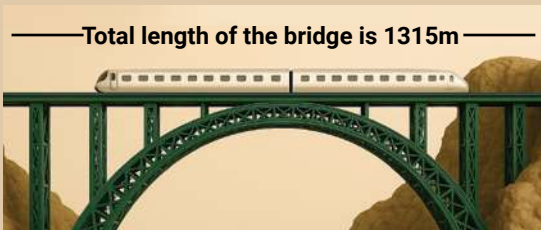
## Chenab Railway Bridge



World's highest single-arch railway bridge

For the first time in the world, the launching of segments is done on transition & circular curve

98 deck segments, each weighing about 85T, have been simultaneously launched from both ends of the valley over the mighty steel arch



30,350MT of steel has been used in bridge construction

World's largest crossbar cable crane that can handle loads up to 40T at tandem in single hook is used for erection activities



Bridge stands 359m (1,178ft) above the Chenab riverbed, 35m higher than the Eiffel Tower

## Tunnel 49

T49 is the longest railway tunnel in the country

Tunnel is 12.75km long and surpasses the Peer Panjal Tunnel (11.2km)

Afcons has constructed 8.2km (nearly 60%) of the total tunnel from the north portal which is at an altitude of 1,600M

Afcons has also constructed India's longest escape tunnel in the project



## 16 KRCL Bridges

16 bridges add up to a total length of 2.3km

Bridge 39 has 7 piers, including tallest pier of 103m, almost 30m higher than the Qutub Minar

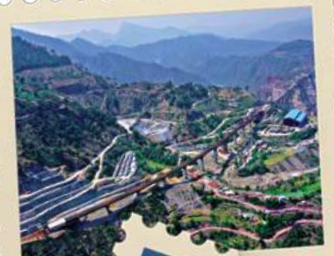
Bridge 43 is 777m long with 13 spans and has a curvature of 1.4 degree from Katra end

16,71,943cum of total excavation done in the project

25,160MT of total structural steel used for construction

27500MT of total reinforcement steel used in all bridges

63,164MT of cement consumed in the project



## Tunnels on Katra-Laole section (Sangaldan)



5 tunnels

Total length of tunnels is 8.5km

Tunnels are of 7.25m dia

Tunnelling done in extremely poor geology

Excavation equivalent to 30 football fields



# CM INAUGURATES SAMRUDDHI MAHAMARG PKG-14



Honourable CM Shri Devendra Fadnavis inaugurated the final 76 km stretch, including PKG-14, of the 701 km Hindu Hrudaysamrat Balasaheb Thackeray Samruddhi Mahamarg on June 5, 2025. Honourable Deputy CMs Shri Eknath Shinde and Shri Ajit Pawar also graced the occasion. The PKG-14 features Maharashtra's longest and India's widest twin road tunnels (8 km), along with two viaducts, an interchange, a toll plaza, multiple cross passages, and box culverts.

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

**LONGEST** in Maharashtra | **WIDEST** in India

**8 km TWIN TUNNELS**

Tunnelling completed in a  
**RECORD TIME OF 2 YEARS**

Executed using the  
**NEW AUSTRIAN TUNNELLING METHOD (NATM)**

Equipped with advanced ventilation, fire-fighting & safety systems



India's first tunnel with a high-pressure water mist fire safety system





## PEPC, led by Afcons MD, meets RBI for policy discussions

Project Export Promotion Council (PEPC), led by Chairman Mr S Paramasivan, Managing Director, Afcons, held a key meeting with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on draft FEMA Regulations 2025, advancing policy reforms to strengthen India's project export ecosystem.

## Breakthrough at Bhanupali-Bilaspur-Beri Railway Line

Afcons achieved a breakthrough at Tunnel 11 on Bhanupali-Bilaspur-Beri Railway project using NATM, overcoming challenging geology with advanced support methods across 2.3km tunnel.

## Final breakthrough at Agra UG Metro

Agra UG Metro achieved its final breakthrough at Mankameshwar station on June 3, 2025, completing 8.1km of tunnelling with 10 breakthroughs, overcoming tough ground conditions near old structures using advanced stabilisation methods.

## Another breakthrough at Delhi Metro DC-07

Afcons completed a key tunnelling milestone at Tughlakabad Railway Colony station in Delhi Metro DC-07, with 566 rings installed at 18m depth, ensuring zero structural settlement.

## NATM tunnel breakthrough at HSR C-2 package

Afcons achieved a major milestone in MAHSR C-2 package with a successful NATM tunnel breakthrough on July 9, 2025, overcoming tough geology. Final breakthrough by NATM is expected by October 2025.



## Twin Tunnelling Records at CIDCO Water Tunnel Project

Afcons' CIDCO Water Tunnel Project set national records with 714m—the highest monthly progress ever recorded for a TBM of this category in India—in May 2025, and 53m as the highest single-day tunnelling progress in March, showcasing engineering excellence and exceptional project execution.



# AWARDS & APPRECIATIONS

## Dual success for RRTS PKG-8

Delhi-Meerut RRTS PKG-8 won the Waste Management Champion Trophy and Silver in the Service Category at CII Northern Region Green Practices Awards held in Gurugram on June 26, 2025.

## Special Recognition for DC-07 at CII Green Practices Awards

Delhi Metro DC-07 package received Special Recognition at the 4th CII North Region Green Practices Awards for its exemplary water conservation initiatives.

## Delhi Metro DC-05 wins Platinum HSE Award

Delhi Metro DC-05 project won the Platinum Award for Best Practices in HSE at the ISDA Infracon National Awards 2025, held on June 14 in New Delhi.

## Golden Peacock Award for High Speed Rail Project

Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project C-2 won the 2025 Golden Peacock OHS Award at the 26th International Environment Conference. Union Minister Shri HD Kumaraswamy presented the award on the occasion. Mr Sudhir More, HSE Head, also gave a presentation on clean green energy infrastructure, highlighting HSR Package C-2.

## Twin delight at British Safety Council Award

Afcons received two prestigious honours from the British Safety Council in 2025. Delhi-Meerut RRTS PKG-6 won the International Safety Merit Award, while HSR C-2 secured the International Safety Award (Distinction). These accolades reaffirm Afcons' strong commitment to health and safety across its project sites.

## Afcons shines at National Safety Practice Awards

Afcons bagged top honours at the 8th CII IQ National Safety Practice Competition 2025 for innovative safety practices:

<b>GOLD</b> (WINNER)	<b>GOLD</b> (RUNNER-UP)	<b>SILVER</b>	<b>SILVER</b>
Delhi Metro DC-05	Oil & Gas BU	HSR Project C-2	HRRL Mundra

The awards recognised Afcons' excellence in safety practices, with project teams presenting innovative solutions across the infrastructure and construction sectors.

## ad High Speed Rail C-02 Package (B





## World Environment Day

On World Environment Day 2025, we hosted two guest lectures. Ms Bharati Chaturvedi, Founder and Director of Chintan (Environmental Research and Action Group) emphasised individual and organisational roles in sustainability, while Ms Muskaan K Jain of InCorp India conducted a BRSR-focused ESG masterclass. Afconians attended the insightful sessions, gaining valuable personal and professional perspectives on environmental responsibility and compliance.

## Yoga Day celebrations

International Yoga Day was celebrated with enthusiasm at various sites including Kilwa and Nanyumbu sites in Tanzania, featuring group yoga sessions, wellness talks, emphasising mindfulness, and healthy living.



## Thought Leadership Initiatives



## Afcons at Global Stainless Steel Expo 2025

At Global Stainless Steel Expo 2025 in Mumbai, Mr Gajanan Pai, Vice President – Supply Chain Management, Afcons, spoke on a panel highlighting stainless steel's vital role in driving economic growth and innovation across industries.



## Afcons at International Safety Conference 2025

Mr Sudhir More, Head–HSE, Afcons, joined a panel discussion at the 2025 International Safety Conference, organised by British Safety Council, sharing insights on integrating safety into daily operations, systems, and workplace culture.

## HR CORNER

- CPE and Electrical Trainings on Gyro Survey and Electrical Basics Level 1 were conducted at MAHSR C2 Package and Butibori, respectively
- Junior Management Development Program and Middle Management Development Program – Phase 3 were conducted at HO
- Soft Skills Trainings on First-Time Manager, Persuasiveness, Problem Solving & Analysis, and Personal Motivation were held at various project sites and HO
- Other trainings such as Contract Management & Dispute Resolution, Labour Laws, and POSH Awareness were held virtually and at HO

## NEW JOBS

### New water supply project in Rajasthan

Afcons has bagged a project from Rajasthan Water Supply & Sewerage Board to develop water supply infrastructure for 353 villages in Dungarpur district.

### New job for RIL, Dahej

Reliance Industries Limited has awarded Afcons a construction project for its Vinyl Project at RIL, Dahej, covering civil works, structural fabrication and erection, as well as underground and above-ground piping.

### New Civil and Structural job for RIL

Afcons has bagged a project from Reliance Industries Limited for civil and structural erection works at its Battery Complex.

## NEW JOINEES

**Mr Dimitrius D'Mello** has rejoined us as Director (Commercial & Special Initiative) at HO.

**Mr Uday Vartak** has rejoined us as Executive Vice President (Special Initiative) in the Special Initiative BU at HO.

**Mr Arvind Singh** has joined us as Vice President (Project Mgmt) at Urban Infrastructure BU at HO.

**Mr Subodh Kumar** has joined us as Vice President (Business Development) at Delhi Office.

**Mr Manish Samel** has rejoined us as General Manager (Estim and Tender) in the Special Initiative BU at HO.

**Mr James Dsouza** has joined us as Jt General Manager (Formwork) at HO.



# Awards

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## EMPLOYEE CHOICE AWARD FOR AFCONS



Afcons was honoured as the Top Rated Construction Company in the 'Mid-Sized Companies' category by the AmbitionBox Employee Choice Awards (ABECA) 2025. The recognition is based entirely on ratings and reviews shared voluntarily by our employees on AmbitionBox, reflecting the trust and satisfaction of our workforce.

The award was presented on June 20, 2025 to Executive Vice Chairman Mr Krishnamurthy Subramanian, in the presence of Managing Director Mr S Paramasivan and HR Director Ms Bhakti Prasad. In a special acknowledgment, Ms Bhakti Prasad also received a Certificate of Appreciation for her leadership in fostering an inclusive workplace culture.



## Bentley recognises Afcons as an industry leader

At Bentley's Illuminate 2025 in Mumbai, Mr Sandeep Desai, Head, Information and Business Process Group, Afcons, was honoured with a special invitation for this event. He presented use of digital technology, showcasing Chenab Railway Bridge and Greater Male Connectivity Project case studies to over 300 infrastructure industry leaders.



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