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Fresh hope for projects as JNNURM kitty gets fatterPUNE: With the Union Budget increasing the allocation for projects under the JNNURM in 2009-10 by 87 per cent (Rs 12,887 crore), the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) now plans to submit new proposals for water supply, solid waste management and flyovers. These projects were earlier held back due to restricted funds.

The Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) too is planning to implement Pavana river development and storm water drainage projects.

The Union government had allocated Rs 5,482 crore for JNNURM in the 2007-08 [budget](#) and Rs 6,866 crore in 2008-09. The allocation of Rs 11,842 crore was proposed in the interim budget for 2009-10. Pune has reaped maximum benefit as it has got Rs 2,440 crore sanctioned till date.

The PMC administration is optimistic about getting permission immediately for schemes such as the Rs 495 crore (phase II) storm water drain project, Rs 50 crore flyover and Rs 43 crore intelligent transport planning. "We also hope the Rs 232-crore sewage treatment plant proposal pending with the central government will also be sanctioned," said deputy commissioner Pravin Ashtikar, officer on special duty (solid waste).

Vinay Deshpande, officer on special duty, JNNURM, said, "With limited allocation, many proposals were held back. Now, we will speed up the process to submit new proposals."

Former deputy director of state town planning department Ramchandra Gohad said, "The PMC should now push for integrated planning for

projects like metro, roads and drainage system and seek [funds](#) from JNNURM."

The PCMC is keen on implementing two major projects storm water drainage (Rs 650 crore) and Pavana river development (Rs 200 crore).

According to Neelkanth Poman, head of the PCMC's JNNURM cell, the approved cost of all the projects under JNNURM is Rs 2,546 crore. So far the corporation has received grants of Rs 623 crore, with which it has undertaken road development projects, four sewage treatment plants, augmentation of water supply and solid waste management.