

Extra Case Study

Gati Shakti Initiative of GOI

On October 13, 2021, the Honourable Prime Minister (PM), announced '**PM Gati Shakti Master Plan**' - an INR 100 lakh crore national master plan for multi-modal connectivity to develop infrastructure to reduce logistic costs and boost the economy.

In the past, a lack of coordination persisted among various departments involved in the development projects. For example, post the construction of a road, the agencies would often dig it soon for activities such as laying cables, gas pipelines and others. Hence a lot of capital and time was wasted and it also caused inconvenience to common man. Thus, this plan aims to resolve infrastructural issues by increasing coordination among various departments so that all work may be done in a coordinated manner.

But why does Development of Infrastructure matter so much?

In Economics, the multiplier effects accrue to the economy through infrastructure spending. Studies by the Reserve Bank of India and the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy have estimated the multiplier to be between 2.5-3.5x. This means that for every rupee spent by the Government on creating infrastructure, the GDP gains worth 2.5-3.5 rupees accrue.

Now, infrastructure has always been the backbone of economies that have transformed – whether it was “The New Deal” introduced by the US President after the Great Depression or Japan’s transit-oriented initiatives after World War II or China’s infrastructure initiatives from 1980-2010. The result was a socio-economic transformation within a generation in these countries. The key reason for such transformation was a multi-modal transport network, which reduced the cost of logistics thereby boosting competitiveness. As India plans for this kind of economic transformation, it is imperative to remove the infrastructural bottlenecks.

Gati Shakti – India’s Answer to Develop Infrastructure

[PM Gati Shakti - National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity](#) is a digital platform to connect 16 Ministries including Railways and Roadways together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects. The multi-modal connectivity will provide integrated and seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods and services from one mode of transport to another. It will facilitate the last mile connectivity of infrastructure and also reduce travel time for people.

Vision of PM Gati Shakti

[PM Gati Shakti](#) will incorporate the infrastructure schemes of various Ministries and State Governments like [Bharatmala](#), [Sagarmala](#), [inland waterways](#), dry/land ports, [UDAN](#), etc. Economic Zones like textile clusters, pharmaceutical clusters, defence corridors, electronic parks, industrial corridors, fishing clusters, agri zones will be covered to improve connectivity and make Indian businesses more competitive. It will also leverage technology extensively including spatial planning tools with [ISRO](#) (Indian Space Research Organisation) imagery developed by [BiSAG-N](#) (Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics).

PM Gati Shakti is based on six pillars :

- **Comprehensiveness:** It will include all the existing and planned initiatives of various Ministries and Departments with one centralized portal. Each and every Department will now have visibility of each other's activities providing critical data while planning & execution of projects in a comprehensive manner.
- **Prioritization:** Through this, different Departments will be able to prioritize their projects through cross-sectoral interactions.
- **Optimization:** The National Master Plan will assist different ministries in planning for projects after identification of critical gaps. For the transportation of the goods from one place to another, the plan will help in selecting the most optimum route in terms of time and cost.
- **Synchronization:** Individual Ministries and Departments often work in silos. There is lack of coordination in planning and implementation of the project resulting in delays. [PM Gati Shakti](#) will help in synchronizing the activities of each department, as well as of different layers of governance, in a holistic manner by ensuring coordination of work between them.
- **Analytical:** The plan will provide the entire data at one place with GIS (provide full form) based spatial planning and analytical tools having 200+ layers, enabling better visibility to the executing agency.
- **Dynamic:** All Ministries and Departments will now be able to visualize, review and monitor the progress of cross-sectoral projects, through the GIS platform, as the satellite imagery will give on-ground progress periodically and progress of the projects will be updated on a regular basis on the portal. It will help in identifying the vital interventions for enhancing and updating the master plan.

With the Government envisioning to make India a INR 5 trillion economy by FY 25, Gati Shakti is one of the initiatives that could help India achieve its vision.

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