

FACILITATION CORNER BY EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

Building a Resilient,
Multimodal Freight
Ecosystem

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VIKSIT BHARAT NATIONAL MASTERPLAN

This Facilitation Corner, powered by India's premier tech-piloting agency Ease of Doing Business (EoDB), as dedicated support for freight and logistics stakeholders. It aims to accelerate India's journey toward reducing the national GDP expenditure on logistics by enabling strategic policy interventions, innovative pilot programs and technology-led transformation across the sector.

Technocrat POV

India's logistics landscape in 2026 reflects measured, capacity-driven progress rather than headline-driven expansion. With freight demand projected to rise steadily on the back of domestic consumption, e-commerce growth, and manufacturing realignment, current investments are largely focused on addressing structural bottlenecks such as rail congestion, port connectivity gaps, cargo handling inefficiencies, and maritime dependence. The emphasis is shifting toward improving network reliability, reducing transit time, and strengthening multimodal integration so that rail, ports, inland facilities, and shipping capacity work more cohesively. While execution discipline and coordination will remain key challenges, the broader direction suggests a practical effort to build a more efficient, trade-ready freight ecosystem that can sustainably support India's economic growth over the next decade.

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News and Trends

India Freight & Logistics Market Outlook

India's freight and logistics market is projected to grow from USD 383.77 billion in 2026 to USD 592.36 billion by 2031, registering a strong 9.07% CAGR, driven by domestic consumption, e-commerce expansion, manufacturing shifts, multimodal logistics parks, and dedicated freight corridor development, positioning India as one of the fastest-growing logistics markets globally.

₹9,072 Crore Rail Multitracking Expansion

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved ₹9,072 crore worth of railway multitracking projects across Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Jharkhand, including the Gondia–Jabalpur doubling and additional third and fourth lines on key freight sections, aimed at reducing congestion, improving cargo velocity, and strengthening long-haul rail freight capacity through 2030–31.



Kerala's ₹2,000 Crore Logistics Master Plan at Vizhinjam International Seaport

The Government of Kerala has signed ₹2,000 crore worth of MoUs with central PSUs including Indian Oil Corporation and Container Corporation of India to implement a comprehensive logistics master plan around Vizhinjam, including bunkering facilities, rail connectivity, and a proposed multimodal logistics park to position the port as a strategic maritime and economic hub.

CONCOR–Vizhinjam Container Freight Station MoU

Container Corporation of India has signed a non-binding MoU with Vizhinjam International Seaport to develop a Container Freight Station near the port, incorporating bonded storage, container yards, warehousing, and customs infrastructure to strengthen EXIM trade facilitation and port-inland freight integration.

Strategic Shipping Freight JV for Energy Security

Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited are collectively taking a 35% stake in a shipping freight joint venture with Shipping Corporation of India, aiming to reduce dependence on foreign-flagged vessels for crude and petroleum transport. Strengthening India's domestic maritime logistics capacity and enhancing energy supply chain security, this initiative aligns with broader goals of self-reliance and energy transition. As part of this ecosystem, NHEV participated as an associate partner in India Energy Week 2026, where Mr. Abhijeet Sinha, Program Director at NHEV, engaged with Petroleum PSUs & OMCs to participate and take 30% stake in PPP mode in 3G Energy Station initiative. He also held a panel discussion on Future Mobility: Battery and Energy Storage, highlighting innovations driving India's clean energy and electric mobility future.

IMEC Takes Centre Stage in Modi–Netanyahu Talks

During his visit to Israel, Narendra Modi held detailed talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, where the proposed India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) was a key topic of discussion. India's Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said the corridor was discussed "at some length," highlighting its strategic role in boosting regional connectivity and trade.

Misri noted that current regional tensions could slow progress, but some partner countries are already advancing parts of IMEC independently to maintain momentum. Both leaders also spoke about cooperation under the I2U2 grouping — involving India, Israel, the UAE, and the United States — as well as the importance of peace and stability in West Asia for India's security and economic interests.

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