



## Joint Logistics Node

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### Why in News

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The **Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat** has operationalised the **third Joint Logistics Node (JLN) in Mumbai**.

**Other** operationalised JLN are in **Guwahati and Port Blair**.

### Key Points

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- **Significance of Joint Logistics Nodes:**
  - These JLN **will provide integrated logistics cover to the Armed Forces** for their small arms ammunition, rations, fuel, general stores, civil hired transport, aviation clothing, spares and also engineering support in an effort to synergise their operational efforts.
  - It would **accrue advantages** in terms of **saving of manpower, economical utilisation of resources**, besides **financial savings**.
  - This is the **precursor to the joint logistics command** which is being planned and is **imperative for the optimisation of the combat potential of integrated theatres**.

One of the means to achieve jointness is through the **setting up of integrated theatre commands** for the best use of military resources to fight future battles.

- **Integrated Theatre Command:**
  - An integrated theatre command **envisages a unified command of the three Services**, under a single commander, for geographical theatres (areas) that are of strategic and security concern.
  - The commander of such a force **will be able to bear all resources at his disposal**—from the Army, the Indian Air Force, and the Navy—with seamless efficacy.
  - The integrated theatre commander **will not be answerable to individual Services**.
  - Integration and jointness of the three forces **will avoid duplication of resources**. The resources available under each service will be available to other services too.
  - The services will get to know one another better, **strengthening cohesion in the defence establishment**.
  - The **Shekatkar committee** has **recommended the creation of 3 integrated theatre commands**—northern for the China border, western for the Pakistan border, and southern for the maritime role.
- **Present Tri-Services Command:**
  - The **Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC)** is a theatre command, which is headed by the chiefs of the three services in rotation.
    - It was **created in 2001** to safeguard India's strategic interests in Southeast Asia and the Strait of Malacca by increasing rapid deployment of military assets in the islands.
  - **The Strategic Forces Command** was **established in 2006** and is a functional tri-services command. It looks after the delivery and operational control of the country's nuclear assets.

## **Chief of Defence Staff**

- **About:**
  - He is in the **rank of a four-star General** with salary and benefits equivalent to a Service Chief.
  - The **retirement age for the CDS is 65 years**, which is three years more than the retirement age of the three service chiefs.
  - The creation of a CDS was **suggested by the Kargil Review Committee (KRC) in February 2000**.
- **Role of CDS:** Fundamentally, the CDS will perform two roles:
  - **First Role:** The CDS will act as the **principal military adviser to the defence minister** on tri-Services issues.
  - **Second Role:** The CDS will **lead the Department of Military Affairs (DoMA)** dealing with the three services.

**Source:TH**