



Mains Marathon

Day 15: Gati Shakti will ensure integrated planning and implementation of infrastructure projects in the coming years, with a focus on expediting works on the ground, saving costs and creating jobs. Discuss. (250 Words)

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Approach / Explanation / Answer

Approach

- Start your answer by explaining the Gati shakti Mission
- Mention the significance of the mission
- Mention the challenges associated with the success of the mission
- Conclude by giving the way forward

Answer

PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (PMGS-NMP) was **launched on 13th October 2021** for providing multimodal connectivity infrastructure to various economic zones.

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.

It will **incorporate the infrastructure schemes** of various Ministries and State Governments like Bharatmala, Sagarmala, inland waterways, dry/land ports, UDAN etc.

Six pillars of the Plan:

- **Comprehensiveness:** It will include all the **existing and planned initiatives** of various Ministries and Departments with one centralised portal.
- **Prioritisation:** Through this, different Departments will be able to prioritise their projects through cross-sectoral interactions.
- **Optimization:** The National Master Plan will assist different ministries in planning for projects after identification of critical gaps.
- **Synchronisation:** Individual Ministries and Departments often work in silos and **there is lack of coordination** in the planning and implementation of the project resulting in delays.
- **Analytical:** The plan will provide the **entire data at one place with GIS 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 visualise, 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.

Significance of Gati shakti

- **Institutional infrastructure:**
 - The Centre's support in creating an institutional framework in time-bound manner and implementation of projects under the PM Gati Shakti national master plan for **multimodal connectivity will give a boost to overall infrastructure of the country.**
- **Ease of Living:**
 - **Endeavour to build Next Generation Infrastructure** which improves Ease of Living as well as Ease of Doing Business.
 - 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.
- **Information help with investing:**
 - PM GatiShakti will **provide the public and business community** information regarding the upcoming connectivity projects, other business hubs, industrial areas and surrounding environment.
 - This will **enable the investors to plan their businesses** at suitable locations leading to enhanced synergies.
- **Utilisation of resources:**
 - It will create multiple employment opportunities and give a boost to the economy.
 - PM GatiShakti, will also lead to optimum utilisation of the country's resources as everyone will be able to make their plan with complete information. 'Infrastructure-based development' will lead to an extraordinary increase in the strength of India's economy, creating many new possibilities of employment.
- **Improved competitiveness:**
 - It will improve the **global competitiveness of local products** by cutting down the logistics costs and improving the supply chains, and also ensure proper linkages for local industry & consumers.
- **Reduce turnaround time:**
 - Besides cutting logistics costs, the scheme is also aimed at increasing cargo handling capacity and reducing the turnaround time at ports to boost trade.
- **Tourism:**
 - Infrastructure was key to development of tourism, including spiritual and medical tourism

Associated Concerns

- **Low Credit Off-take:** Although the government had taken up 'strong' banking sector reforms and the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code** had yielded about Rs. 2.4 lakh crore of recoveries on bad loans, there are concerns about declining credit offtake trends.
- **Lack of Demand:** In the post-Covid-19 scenario, there is a lack of private demand and investment demand.
- **Structural Problems:** Due to land acquisition delays and litigation issues, the rate of implementation of projects is very slow on global standards.
 - Getting approvals is very difficult in terms of land access, environmental clearances, also impending litigation in court delays the infrastructure projects.

PM Gati Shakti is a step in the right direction. However, it needs to address structural and macroeconomic stability concerns, emanating from high public expenditure.

Thus, it is imperative that this initiative is underpinned by a stable and predictable regulatory and institutional framework.

The mission cannot be successful without timely land acquisition clearances for initiating the new projects.

Hence, a single window clearance is needed for speedy approval of projects.

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/mains-marathon-daily-answer-writing-practice/papers/2022/gati-shakti-ensure-integrated-planning-implementation-infrastructure-projects-coming-years-focus-expediting-works-ground-saving-costs-creating-jobs-economy-paper-3/print>