



Rudrastra - Asia's Longest Freight Train

Why in News?

Indian Railways has achieved a significant milestone with the successful trial run of **Rudrastra**, the **longest freight train in India and Asia**, measuring 4.5 km.

Key Points

- **About:** On 7th August 2025, the **Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay (DDU) Division** of East Central Railway conducted a trial service between **Ganjkhwaja station in Chandauli (Uttar Pradesh) and Garhwa (Jharkhand)**, covering 209 km in 5 hours 10 minutes at an **average speed of 40.5 km/h**.
 - The train, consisting of six BOXN rakes with **354 wagons**, was **powered by seven engines**—two at the front and one after every 59 bogies—carrying approximately **72 tonnes of goods per wagon**, marking the **largest freight load ever moved** by Indian Railways in a single operation.
 - The train ran on the **Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC)** from Ganjkhwaja to Sonnagar, and then on the normal track to Garhwa Road.
- **Significance:** Running Rudrastra as a unified system **reduces logistical overheads**, enhances train capacity, and boosts the speed and efficiency of freight transportation in India.

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