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Important Transport System of India

TRANSPORT SYSTEMS IN INDIA

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TRANSPORT

- The movement of goods and services from their supply locations to demand locations necessitates the need for transport. Some people are engaged in facilitating these movements. These are known to be traders who make the products come to the consumers by transportation. Thus, the pace of development of a country depends upon the production of goods and services as well as their movement over space. Therefore, efficient means of transport are prerequisites for fast development.
- Movement of these goods and services can be over three important domains of our earth i.e. land, water and air. Based on these, transport can also be classified into land, water and air transport.

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AIR TRANSPORTATION

- Air transport is the fastest means of movement from one place to the other. It has reduced distances by minimising the travel time. It is essential for a vast country like India, where distances are large and the terrain and climatic conditions are diverse.
- Air transport in India made a beginning in 1911 when airmail operation commenced over a little distance of 10 km between Allahabad and Naini. But its real development took place in post-Independent period. The Airport Authority of India is responsible for providing safe, efficient air traffic and aeronautical communication services in the Indian Air Space.
- Pawan Hans is the helicopter service operating in hilly areas and is widely used by tourists in north-eastern sector.

LIST OF INDIAN AIRPORTS (DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL)

Name of the Airport	Location	State/Union Territory
Veer Savarkar International Airport	Port Blair	Andaman and Nicobar Island
Visakhapatnam International Airport	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
Rajiv Gandhi International Airport	Hyderabad	Telangana
Lokpriya Gopinath Bardoloi International Airport	Guwahati	Assam
Indira Gandhi International Airport	New Delhi	Delhi
Goa International Airport	Goa	Goa
Sardar Vallabhai Patel International Airport	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
Kempe Gowda International Airport	Bengaluru	Karnataka
Mangalore International Airport	Mangalore	Karnataka
Cochin International Airport	Kochi	Kerala



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Calicut International Airport	Kozhikode	Kerala
Trivandrum International Airport	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala
Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport	Mumbai	Maharashtra
Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport	Nagpur	Maharashtra
Bir Tikendrajit International Airport/	Imphal	Manipur
Biju Patnaik International Airport	Bhubaneswar	Odisha
Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport	Amritsar	Punjab
Jaipur International Airport	Jaipur	Rajasthan
Chennai International Airport	Chennai	Tamil Nadu
Coimbatore International Airport	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
Tiruchirapalli International Airport	Tiruchirapalli	Tamil Nadu
Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
Lal Bahadur Shastri Airport	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
Netaji Subash Chandra Bose International Airport	Kolkata	West Bengal
Maharana Pratap Airport/ Dabok Airport	Udaipur	Rajasthan
Sheikh ul-Alam International Airport	Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir
Birsa Munda Airport	Ranchi	Jharkhand
Swami Vivekananda Airport	Raipur	Chhattisgarh
Jai Prakash Narayan International	Patna	Bihar

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Airport		
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport	Nagpur	Maharashtra
Mandakalli Airport	Mysore	Karnataka
Kushok Bakula Rimpochee Airport	Leh	Ladakh
Devi Ahilyabai Holkar international airport	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
Raja Bhoj Airport	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh

WATER TRANSPORT

- Waterways are an important mode of transport for both passenger and cargo traffic in India. It is the cheapest means of transport and is most suitable for carrying heavy and bulky material. It is a fuel-efficient and eco-friendly mode of transport.
- The water transport is of two types– (a) inland waterways, and (b) oceanic waterways

INLAND NATIONAL WATERWAYS OF INDIA

- Inland Waterways Authority was set up in 1986 for the development, maintenance, and regulation of Inland national waterways in the country

NW Number	River system	Route	Length of NW In KM
NW – 1	Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly	Prayagraj – Haldia	1620
NW – 2	Brahmaputra	Sadiya-Dhubri	891
NW – 3	West Coast Canal, Champakara Canal and	Kottapuram – Kollam	205

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	Udyogamandal Canal		
NW – 4	Krishna and Godavari	Kakinada- Marakkanam	1095
NW – 5	Mahanadi, Brahmini	Magalgarhi to Pradeep and Talcher to Dhamra	623

- The backwaters (Kadal) of Kerala has special significance in Inland Waterway. Apart from providing cheap means of transport, they are also attracting a large number of tourists in Kerala. The famous Nehru Trophy Boat Race (VALLAMKALI) is also held in the backwaters.

Oceanic Routes

- India has a vast coastline of approximate 7,517 km, including islands. Thirteen major and 185 minor ports provide infrastructural support to these routes. Oceanic routes play an important role in the transport sector of India's economy. Approximately 95 per cent of India's foreign trade by volume and 70 per cent by value moves through ocean routes. Apart from international trade, these are also used for the purpose of transportation between the islands and the rest of the country.
- Kandla in Kuchchh** was the first port developed soon after Independence to ease the volume of trade on the Mumbai port, in the wake of loss of Karachi port to Pakistan after the Partition. Kandla also known as the **Deendayal Port, is a tidal port**. It caters to the convenient handling of exports and imports of highly productive granary and industrial belt stretching across the states of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- Chennai is one of the oldest artificial ports of the country. It is ranked next to Mumbai in terms of the volume of trade and cargo.
- Vishakhapatnam is the deepest landlocked and well-protected port. This port was, originally, conceived as an outlet for iron ore exports. Paradwip port located in Odisha, specialises in the export of iron ore.

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- Kolkata is an inland riverine port. This port serves a very large and rich hinterland of GangaBrahmaputra basin. Being a tidal port, it requires constant dredging of Hoogly. Haldia port was developed as a subsidiary port, in order to relieve growing pressure on the Kolkata port.
- Mumbai is the biggest port with a spacious natural and well-sheltered harbour. The Jawaharlal Nehru port was planned with a view to decongest the Mumbai port and serve as a hub port for this region.
- Marmagao port (Goa) is the premier iron ore exporting port of the country. This port accounts for about fifty per cent of India's iron ore export.
- New Mangalore port, located in Karnataka caters to the export of iron ore concentrates from Kudremukh mines.
- Kochchi is the extreme south-western port, located at the entrance of a lagoon with a natural harbor.

LIST OF IMPORTANT PORTS IN INDIA

Port	State	Zone	Feature
Kolkata (Haldia)	West Bengal	Eastern Coast	India's only major riverine port Known for twin dock systems (Kolkata Dock system and Haldia Dock complex Situated on the bank of river Hooghly) Known as Diamond Harbour
Paradip	Odisha	Eastern Coast	It is famous for exporting iron ore Natural Harbor
Vishakapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	Eastern Coast	Deepest port of India deals with the export of iron ore
Ennore	Tamil Nadu	Eastern Coast	This port is now renamed as Kamarajar Port Limited It is first corporate port of India

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Chennai	Tamil Nadu	Eastern Coast	The oldest artificial port on the East Coast of India Second busiest Port of India
Tuticorin Port	Tamil Nadu	Eastern Coast	This port has been now renamed as V.O.Chidambaranar Port It is located in the Gulf of Mannar Major port in south India deals with the fertilizers and petrochemical products
Kochi	Kerala	Western Coast	It is a natural harbour located in kerala Famous for handling the export of Spices, Tea and coffee
Mangalore	Karnataka	Western Coast	Deals with the exports of iron ore
Mormugao port	Goa	Western Coast	Leading iron ore exporting port of india
Jawaharlal Nehru Port	Maharashtra	Western Coast	Largest Artificial Port It is also known as Nhava Sheva port It is the largest containers port in India
Mumbai Port	Maharashtra	Western Coast	It is a natural harbor It is the Biggest and Busiest port of india It is the biggest hinterland port in

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			India
Kandla	Gujarat	Western Coast	<p>Known as Tidal Port</p> <p>It is situated in the Gulf of Kutch</p> <p>It is a natural port</p> <p>Handling much of the crude oil imports of India</p> <p>Child of Partition</p>
Port Blair port	Andaman and Nicobar		Port Blair is the 13th and youngest major port of India

ROAD TRANSPORT IN INDIA

- India has one of the second largest road networks in the world with a total length of about 58.98 lakh km.
- Road transport in modern sense was very limited in India before World War-II. The first serious attempt was made in 1943 when 'Nagpur Plan' was drawn. This plan could not be implemented due to lack of coordination among the princely states and British India. After Independence, twenty-year road plan (1961) was introduced to improve the conditions of roads in India.
- Roads in India have been classified as National Highways (NH), State Highways (SH), Major District Roads, and Rural Roads.

Sher Shah Suri built the Shahi (Royal) road to strengthen and consolidate his empire from the Indus Valley to the Sonar Valley in Bengal. This road was renamed the Grand Trunk (GT) road during the British period, connecting Calcutta and Peshawar. At present, it extends from Amritsar to Kolkata. It is bifurcated into 2 segments : (a) National Highway(NH)-1 from Delhi to

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Amritsar, and (b) NH- 2 from Delhi to Kolkata.

National Highways

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) was operationalised in 1995. It is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Surface Transport. It is entrusted with the responsibility of development, maintenance and operation of National Highways. This is also the apex body to improve the quality of the roads designated as National Highways.
- The National Highways constitute only 2.7 per cent of the total road length, but carry about 40 per cent of the road traffic
- **Golden Quadrilateral** comprises the National Highways connecting the four metro cities, Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. The component has a total length of 5846km.
- **North-South and East-West Corridors** : North-South corridor aims at connecting Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir with Kanniyakumari in Tamil Nadu (including Kochchi-Salem Spur) with 4,076-km long road. The East-West Corridor has been planned to connect Silchar in Assam with the port town of Porbandar in Gujarat with 3,640-km of road length.

State Highways

- Roads linking a state capital with different district headquarters are known as State Highways. These roads are constructed and maintained by the State Public Works Department (PWD) in State and Union Territories.

District Roads:

- These roads connect the district headquarters with other places of the district. These roads are maintained by the Zila Parishad.

Rural roads

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- Rural roads, which link rural areas and villages with towns, are classified under this category. These roads received special impetus under the Pradhan Mantri Grameen Sadak Yojana. Under this scheme special provisions are made so that every village in the country is linked to a major town in the country by an all season motorable road.

Border Roads

- The Border Road Organisation (BRO) was established in May 1960 for accelerating economic development and strengthening defence preparedness through rapid and coordinated improvement of strategically important roads along the northern and north-eastern boundary of the country. It is a premier multifaceted construction agency.
- It has constructed roads in high altitude mountainous terrain joining Chandigarh with Manali (Himachal Pradesh) and Leh (Ladakh). This road runs at an average altitude of 4,270 metres above the mean sea level.

- The World's longest Highway tunnel-Atal Tunnel (9.02 Km) has been built by Border Road Organisation. This tunnel connects Manali to Lahul-Spiti valley throughout the year. Earlier the valley was cut off for about 6 months each year owing to heavy snowfall.
- The tunnel is built with ultra-modern specifications in the Pir Panjal range of Himalayas at an altitude of 3000 metres from the Mean Sea Level (MSL).

IMPORTANT NATIONAL HIGHWAYS OF INDIA

National Highways name	Route	Distance
NH-44	Srinagar to Kanyakumari	3,745
NH-27	Porbandar in Gujarat to Silchar in Assam	3507
NH-48	New Delhi to Chennai	2807

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NH-52	Sangrur in Punjab to Ankola in Karnataka	2317
NH-30	Sitarganj in Uttarakhand to Ibrahimpatnam in Andhra Pradesh	2040
NH-6	Meghalaya, Assam, Mizoram (Zorabat-Shillong- Badarpur- Kolasib- Aizawl- Badarpur,- Panchgram)	1873
NH-53	Hajira in Gujarat to Paradip Port in Odisha	1781
NH-16	Kolkata to Chennai	1711
NH-66	Panvel in Maharashtra to Kanyakumari	1622
NH-19	Delhi to Kolkata	1435
NH-1	URI- Baramulla-Kargil, Srinigar – Leh	534
NH-21	Jaipur-Agra-Bareilly	465

RAILWAYS

- Indian Railways, network is one of the longest in the world. It facilitates the movement of both freight and passengers and contributes to the growth of the economy. Mahatma Gandhi said, the Indian railways “...brought people of diverse cultures together to contribute to India’s freedom struggle”.
- The Indian Railways is the largest public sector undertaking in the country. The first train steamed off from Mumbai to Thane in 1853, covering a distance of 34 km.
- The first railway line in India between Mumbai to Thane was constructed during the rule of Lord Dalhousie
- The total length of Indian Railways network is 67368 km

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Broad gauge: The distance between rails in broad gauge is 1.676 metre.

Metre gauge: The distance between rails is one metre

Narrow gauge: The distance between the rails in this case is 0.762 metre or 0.610 metre.

- Konkan Railways line runs parallel to the Arabian Sea

Konkan Railway: One of the important achievements of the Indian Railways has been the construction of Konkan Railway in 1998. It is 760-km long rail route connecting Roha in Maharashtra to Mangalore in Karnataka. It is considered an engineering marvel. It crosses 146 rivers, streams, nearly 2000 bridges and 91 tunnels. The states of Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka are partners in this undertaking.

- Gorakhpur railway station has the world's longest railway platform
- Mumbai is the busiest suburban railway network in India
- Vivek Express (Dibrugarh to Kanyakumari) is the longest train route in the Indian Subcontinent
- Ahmedabad Mumbai Central Double Decker Express is the India's first double Decker train
- First female loco pilot of the Indian Railways in India is Surekha Shankar Yadav
- The Railway network is divided into 17 zones. The 17 zones and their respective headquarters are given below

Zonal Railways	Headquarters
Central railway	Mumbai CST
Eastern railway	Kolkata
East Central Railway	Hajipur
East Coast Railway	Bhubaneswar
Northern Railway	New Delhi
North Central Railway	Prayagraj
North Eastern Railway	Gorakhpur

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North Frontier Railway	Maligaon, Guwahati
North Western Railway	Jaipur
Southern Railway	Chennai
South Central Railway	Secunderabad
South Eastern Railway	Kolkata
South East Central Railway	Bilaspur
South Western Railway	Hubballi
Western Railway	Mumbai
West Central Railway	Jabalpur
Kolkata metro Railway	Kolkata

RAILWAY PRODUCTION UNITS

Production Unit	Location	Product
Diesel Locomotive Works	Varanasi	Diesel Locomotive
Chittaranjan Locomotive-Works	Chittaranjan	Electric Locomotive
Diesel Loco Modernization Works	Patiala	Locomotive manufacture and rebuilding
Rail Wheel Factory	Bengaluru	Wheels and Axles
Integral Coach Factory (ICF)	Perambur	Coaches

OIL AND GAS PIPELINES

- Pipelines are the most convenient and efficient mode of transporting liquids and gases over long distances. Even solids can also be transported by pipelines after converting them into slurry

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- Oil India Limited (OIL) under the administrative set up of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is engaged in the exploration, production and transportation of crude oil and natural gas. It was incorporated in 1959 as a company
- Asia's first cross country pipeline covering a distance of 1,157 km was constructed by OIL from Naharkatiya oilfield in Assam to Barauni refinery in Bihar. It was further extended up to Kanpur in 1966

COMMUNICATION

Radio

- Radio broadcasting started in India in 1923 by the Radio Club of Bombay.
- It was changed to All India Radio in 1936 and to Akashwani in 1957.
- All India Radio broadcasts a variety of programmes related to information, education and entertainment. Special news bulletins are also broadcast at specific occasions like session of parliament and state legislatures.

Television

- Television broadcasting has emerged as the most effective audio-visual medium for disseminating information and educating masses. Initially, the T.V. services were limited only to the National Capital where it began in 1959. After 1972, several other centres became operational. In 1976, TV was delinked from All India Radio (AIR) and got a separate identity as Doordarshan (DD). After INSAT-IA (National Television-DD1) became operational, Common National Programmes (CNP) were started for the entire network and its services were extended to the backward and remote rural areas

Digital India

Digital India is an umbrella programme to prepare India for a knowledge based transformation. The focus of Digital India Programme is on being transformative to realise – IT (Indian Talent) + IT (Information Technology)=IT (India Tomorrow) and is on making technology central to enabling change.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

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- The exchange of goods among people, states and countries is referred to as trade. The market is the place where such exchanges take place. Trade between two countries is called international trade. It may take place through sea, air or land routes. While local trade is carried in cities, towns and villages, state level trade is carried between two or more states. Advancement of international trade of a country is an index to its economic prosperity. It is, therefore, considered the economic barometer for a country.
- Export and import are the components of trade. The balance of trade of a country is the difference between its export and import. When the value of export exceeds the value of imports, it is called a favourable balance of trade. On the contrary, if the value of imports exceeds the value of exports, it is termed as unfavourable balance of trade.

ONE LINERS

- Pawan Hans is the helicopter service operating in hilly areas and is widely used by tourists in north-eastern sector
- In 1911 Air transport in India was launched between Allahabad and Naini.
- Air India provides International Air Services for both passengers and cargo traffic
- Indian Railways are divided into 17 zones
- Indian Railway is the 3rd largest rail network in the world after US and China
- UNESCO World Heritage Sites on Indian Railways are
 1. The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway
 2. The Nilgiri Mountain Railway and
 3. The Kalka-Shimla Railway,
 4. The Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus
- India's first private train is Delhi - Lucknow Tejas Express
- The first Shatabdi Express train was introduced in 1988 between New Delhi and Jhansi Junction
- Shatabdi Express trains were introduced in 1989 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru
- Indian Railways was nationalized in 1951
- Uttar Pradesh has the longest route (in kilometers) of railway line in India



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- National Rail Museum located in New Delhi
- Northern Railways is the largest zone in terms of route kilometers
- The Maitree Express Running between India with Bangladesh
- Great Indian Peninsula Railway ran the first train from Bori Bunder to Thane in 1853
- The width of broad gauge railway line in India is 5 feet 6 inches
- Siliguri station has all the three gauges viz. broad, metre and narrow
- The world's highest railway bridge in Kashmir being constructed over Chenab river
- India's first rail auto hub will be located in Chennai
- Visakhapatnam port is known as Jewel of all port
- India has 13 major ports
- The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) transported the container cargo belonging to the food and beverage giant PepsiCo (India) from Kolkata to Varanasi on river Ganga (National Waterway-1). It was country's first container movement on Inland Vessel post-independence
- The manufacturing of steam engine in Chittaranjan Locomotive Works was stopped in 1971
- The National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI) is India's first and only transportation university located in Vadodara.

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