




## Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor

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### Why in News

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The **World Bank** has offered to give financial assistance to the last remaining portion of the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) between **Sonnagar (Bihar) and Dankuni (West Bengal)**, which India is originally slated to construct in the **private public-private partnership (PPP) mode**.

Currently, the entire EDFC is being built with loan from World Bank, except for the last portion between Bihar and West Bengal.

### Key Points

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- The Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) with a route length of 1856 km runs from **Dankuni in West Bengal to Ludhiana (Punjab)**.
- It covers **Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal**.
- The railway is one of the multiple freight corridors.
- It has **two components**: First component is to **provide additional rail transport capacity, improved service quality and higher freight throughput**.

The second component is **institutional development to assist DFCCIL and Ministry of Railways (MOR)** to develop their capabilities to best utilize heavy haul freight systems.

### Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. (DFCCIL)

- DFCCIL under the Ministry of Railways is a special purpose vehicle tasked with planning and completion of 3,306 kms of Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs), consisting of western freight corridor and eastern freight corridor (1,856 kms). The total project cost is estimated at over ₹81,000 crore.
- The construction of DFCs project would enable the decongestion of existing over-saturated paths which, thereby, will effectively improve punctuality of passenger trains.

**Western Dedicated Freight Corridor:** The 1,504-km western freight corridor begins at **Dadri** in Uttar Pradesh and stretches till the country's largest container port — **Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, near Mumbai** — passing through Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra.]

## PROJECT MAP



**Source: IE**