



New Rail Projects

Why in News?

Recently, [the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs](#), chaired by the Prime Minister **approved the three new rail projects** with a total estimated cost of Rs 6,456 crore.

Key Points

- According to the Prime Minister, the three new railways related projects approved by the Cabinet will greatly benefit **Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Chhattisgarh**.
- According to the railway ministry, these **projects will improve logistical efficiency, increase line capacity, and enhance transportation networks, resulting in streamlined supply chains and accelerated economic growth**.
 - The projects are result of [PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity](#) which have been possible through integrated planning and will provide seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods and services.

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)

- **Chaired by the Prime Minister**, CCEA lays down the **priorities for public sector investment** and considers specific proposals for investment of not less than specific levels as revised from time to time.
- Its responsibilities includes **setting priorities for public sector investment, Considering investment proposals, Reviewing economic trends, Developing an economic policy framework, and Directing and coordinating economic activities and policies**

PM GatiShakti National Master Plan for Multi-modal Connectivity

- It is a [Made in India](#) initiative, a transformative 'whole-of-government' approach for **integrated planning of multimodal infrastructure connectivity** to economic nodes and social infrastructure, thereby improving logistics efficiency.
 - PM Gati Shakti principles bring **socio-economic area-based development as part of regional connectivity**.
 - PM GatiShakti was **launched in October 2021**.
- The Gati Shakti scheme subsumed Rs. 110 lakh crore [National Infrastructure Pipeline](#) launched in 2019.
- PM Gatishakti National Master Plan is a [Geographic Information System \(GIS\)](#) data-based digital platform with over 1400 data layers and 50+ tools.
 - It provides visual representation of trunk and utility infrastructure, land use, existing structures, soil quality, habitation, tourism sites, forest sensitive areas etc.
- The initiative is also being implemented to enhance connectivity with regional partners as well. Some of the suitable examples are:
 - The **Indo-Nepal Haldia Access Controlled** Corridor project (eastern Indian states and Nepal)
 - [Regional Waterways Grid \(RWG\) project](#) for multimodal connectivity to growth centres and border points.

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