

## Railways Upgrade for Delhi-Ambala Corridor

## Why in News?

To address the increasing load on the <u>Delhi-Ambala rail corridor</u>, the <u>Ministry of Railways</u> has planned to upgrade the existing two-track system into a four-line corridor.

 Railway officials met with district administration officers in Panipat and Sonepat under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioners to discuss the project details.

## **Key Points**

- Need for Expansion:
  - Deputy Commissioner Sonepat emphasized the urgent need for expanding the Delhi-Ambala rail corridor due to the increasing train load.
  - The current two-track system is insufficient, prompting the Railway Ministry to plan the expansion of the 193.6 km corridor from Delhi to Ambala.
- Project Scope and Cost:
  - The expansion will involve development work at 32 railway stations along the route.
  - The project has an estimated cost of Rs 7,074 crore and aims for completion within four years.
- Land Acquisition Details:
  - The expansion requires 11 hectares of land from 15 villages:
  - 8 villages in Samalkha division
  - 7 villages in Panipat
  - The administration will ensure appropriate compensation for landowners.
- Railway's Land Proposal:
  - The project requires 85 hectares, including:
    - · 80 hectares of private land
    - 5 hectares of government land
  - Upon completion, the upgraded corridor will offer significantly improved facilities for the public.

## **Indian Railways**

- Indian Railways was established in 1853 and is one of the world's largest railway networks.
- The first railway on the Indian sub-continent ran over a stretch of **21 miles from Bombay to**Thane.
- India is projected to account for 40% of the total global share of rail activity by 2050.
- Indian Railways crafted the National Rail Plan (NRP) for India 2030 to develop a modern railway system.

