

# LIFE LINES OF NATIONAL ECONOMY

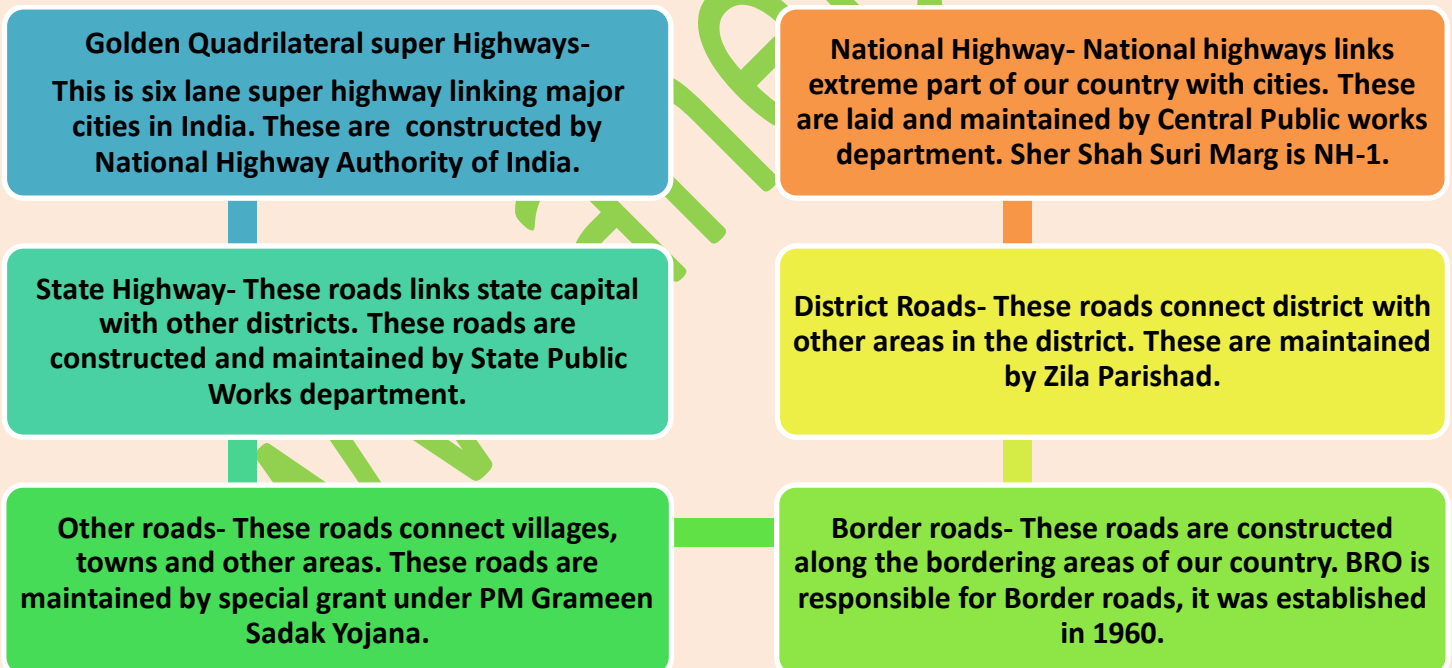
**Transportation-** Transport is a system in which passengers and goods are carried from one place to another.

## Roadways

*India has one of the largest road networks in the world. Its importance can be viewed.*

- ✓ Construction cost of roads is much lower than that of railway lines
- ✓ Roads can be constructed over comparatively more dissected and undulating topography.
- ✓ Roads can negotiate higher gradients of slopes and as such can traverse mountains such as the Himalayas.
- ✓ It is economical in transportation of few persons and relatively smaller amount of goods over short distances.
- ✓ It provides door to door services.
- ✓ It is used as feeder to other modes of transport such as they provide a link between railway stations, air and sea ports.

### *Type of Roadways in India*



**Road density-** The length of road per 100km<sup>2</sup> of area is known as density of road. Kerala state has the highest road density in India.

## Indian Railways

- ❖ Indian Railways carry most of long distance passenger traffic and 80% of total freight of the country.

- ❖ Heavy industries like coal, steel, petroleum, automobiles depend on railways to transport raw material and finished goods.
  - ❖ Railways promotes multifarious activities like business, sightseeing, tourism etc.
  - ❖ It plays an important role in providing cheap mode of transportation for far off areas.
  - ❖ Railways is one of the most eco-friendly mode of transportation.
- The distribution pattern of the railway network in the country has been largely influence by physiographic, economic and administrative factors.
  - The Himalyan mountains regions are unfavorable for the construction of railway lines due to high relief, sparse population & each of economic opportunities.
  - The northern plains having high population density, provide most favourable condition for their growth
  - Rivers requiring construction of bridges across their wide beds posed some obstacles for the construction of railway lines.
  - Availability of minerals and location of heavy industries like coal, iron and steel also impacts the distribution of railways.



### ***Pipelines :***

- + Pipelines transport network is a new arrival on the transportation map of India.
- + Its initial cost is high but subsequent running costs are minimal.
- + It is used for transporting crude oil, petroleum products & natural gas.
- + It rules out trans-shipment losses and delays.
- + Pipelines can be easily laid on difficult terrain and under sea.

#### Important Networks

- 🌐 Oil field in Assam to Kanpur (U.P.), via Guwahati, Barauni & Allahabad.
- 🌐 From Salaya in Gujarat to Jalandhar. In Punjab via Viramgam, Mathura, Delhi & Sonipat.
- 🌐 Gas pipelines from Hazira in Gujarat connects Jagdishpur in UP via Vijaypur in Madhya Pradesh.

### ***Waterways***

- i. Most suitable for heavy and bulky goods.
- ii. Fuel efficient and environment friendly.
- iii. 95% of international trade is carried out through seas.
- iv. Development of railways and roadways has helped in the expansion of waterways.

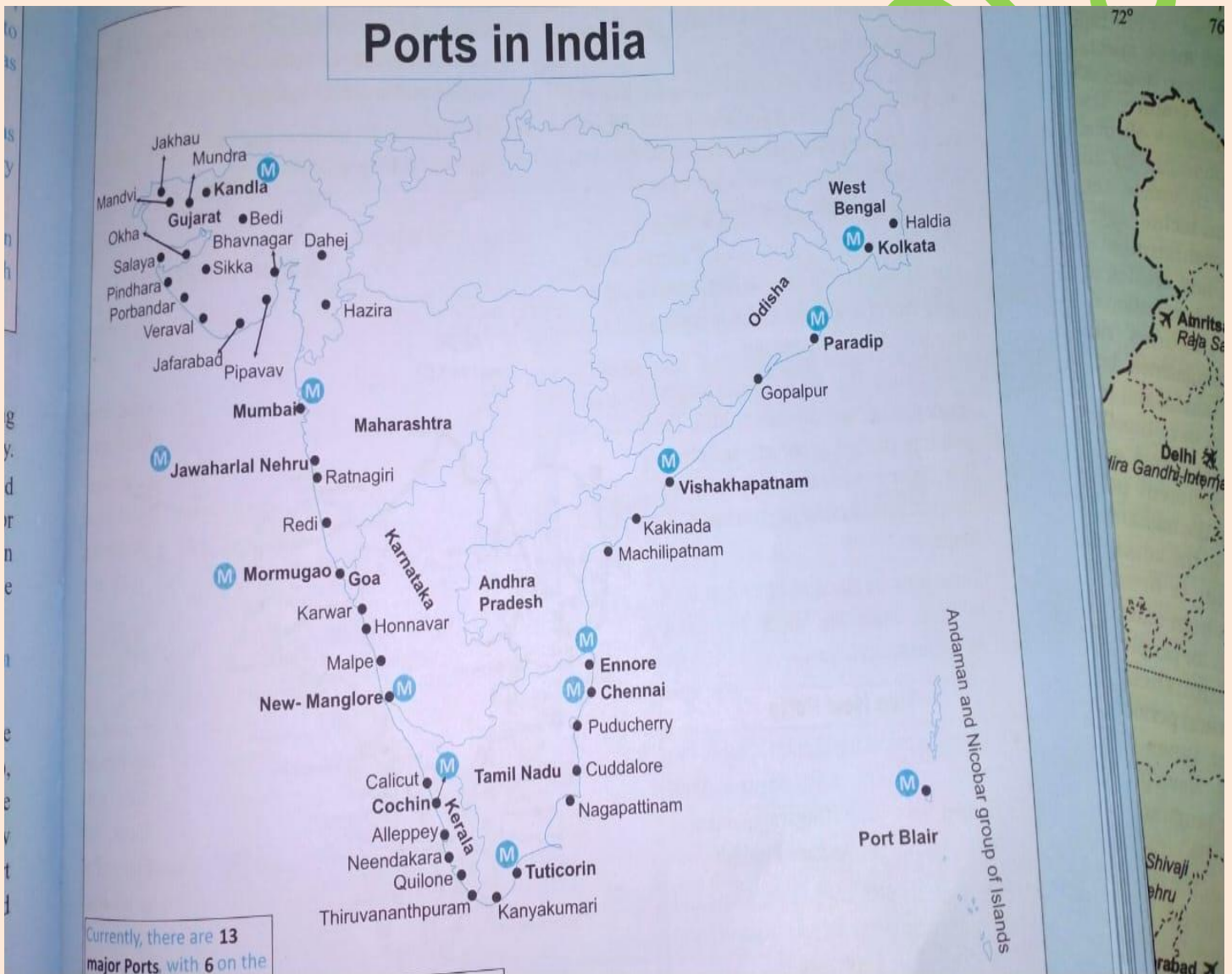
**NW-1:** The Ganga River, Between Allahabad and Haldia(1620km).

**NW-2:** The Brahmaputra River, Sadiya and Dhubri(891km).

**NW-3:** The west coast canal in Kerala.

## Major ports in India

1. **Kandla**- Tidal port, also called Deendayal port. Located in Gulf of Kutch. Developed after independence because Karachi Port underwent to Pakistan. Petroleum import.
2. **Mumbai Port**- It is biggest and the most busiest port in India. It is a natural harbor.
3. **Marmagaon Port**- Located in Goa. It handles 50% iron ore export of our country.
4. **New Mangalore**- Located in Karnataka. It handles export of iron ore from Kudremukh mines.
5. **Kochi**- It is a natural harbor, this port is called natural gateway to south west India.
6. **Tuticorin**- Artificial deep sea harbor, located in gulf of Mannar.
7. **Chennai**- Largest port on Bay of Bengal, Artificial Port.



## Airways

- ❖ The airway is the fastest, most comfortable and prestigious mode of transport.
- ❖ Air travel has made access easier to the terrain areas like high mountains, dreary deserts, dense forests and long oceans.

- ❖ The air transport was nationalised in 1953.
- ❖ Air India provides domestic and international air services.
- ❖ Airways has helped in connecting areas located in deep Himalayan region and North eastern states.

## ***Communication***

The major means of communication in India are television, radio, press, films, etc.

The Indian postal network is the largest in the world. It handles parcels as well as personal written communications.

- ❖ First-class mail is airlifted between stations covering both land and air.
- ❖ Second-class mail includes book packets, registered newspapers and periodicals. They are carried by surface mail, covering land and water transport.

India has one of the largest telecom networks in Asia. The Subscriber Trunk Dialling (STD) facilities all over India have been made possible by integrating the development in space technology with communication technology.

- Mass communication provides entertainment and creates awareness among people about various national programmes and policies. It includes radio, television, newspapers, magazines, books and films.
- India Radio Channel (Akashwani) broadcasts a variety of programmes in national, regional and local languages.
- Doordarshan, the national television channel is one of the largest terrestrial networks in the world.
- India publishes a large number of newspapers in about 100 languages and dialects.

## ***International Trade***

The exchange of goods among people, states and countries is referred to as trade. Trade between two countries is called international trade. It is considered as 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.
- ✓ If the value of imports exceeds the value of exports, it is termed as an unfavourable balance of trade.

The commodities exported from India to other countries include gems and jewellery, chemicals and related products, agriculture and allied products, etc.

The commodities imported to India include petroleum crude and products, gems and jewellery, chemicals and related products, base metals, electronic items, machinery, agriculture and allied products.

## ***Tourism as a Trade***

More than 15 million people are directly engaged in the tourism industry. Tourism in India:

- ✓ Promotes national integration
- ✓ Provides support to local handicrafts and cultural pursuits.
- ✓ It provides employment to both skilled and unskilled workers.

- ✓ Helps in the development of international understanding about Indian culture and heritage.
- ✓ Foreign tourists visit India for heritage tourism, eco tourism, adventure tourism, cultural tourism, medical tourism and business tourism.

### **Why transportation and communication is essential for trade?**

- 1. Trade is exchange of material, without transport exchange cannot take place.**
- 2. Most of the deals are finalized through communication on mobile or email.**
- 3. Transport and communication promotes job creation which ultimately leads to increase in trade.**
- 4. Transport and communication helps in connecting the remotest areas to international trade.**
- 5. Communication helps in creating demand through advertisement and awareness.**

### **Problems with road transportation-**

- 1. Roads are inadequate compared to demand and volume of traffic.**
- 2. Condition of roads are poor.**
- 3. Most of the highways lacks healthcare facilities and police stations.**
- 4. Most of the bridges are old and narrow.**
- 5. Roads are highly congested in cities.**
- 6. Long waiting periods at toll gates.**

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