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MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



MK Yadav Sir

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INDIAN EXPRESS Page 1

UNGA RESOLUTION

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - IR)

ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR

India shifts stand, backs UNGA resolution on 'immediate ceasefire'

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 13

MORE THAN two months after the Israel-Hamas war broke out, India has, for the first time, voted in favour of a draft resolution in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) that demanded an "immediate humanitarian ceasefire" and unconditional release of all hostages.

This is perceived as a shift in New Delhi's position, as India had not called for a ceasefire in its statements so far. In October, India had abstained at the UNGA on a resolution that had called for an immediate humanitarian truce leading to a cessation of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Challenge is to strike the right balance: Kamboj

Context: Recently, **India voted in favor of a United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution**, urging Israel to implement an immediate ceasefire, protect civilians in accordance with international law, and release all hostages.

UNGA Resolution Passage

- **About:** It is a decision or declaration voted on by all member states of the United Nations in the General Assembly.
- **Voting: General Assembly resolutions usually require a simple majority** (50 percent of all votes plus one) to pass.
  - However, if the General Assembly determines that the issue is an "important question", then a two-thirds majority is required;
- **Background:** The United Nations Secretary-General invoked Article 99 of the UN Charter, urging the UN Security Council to act on the war in Gaza.
  - **Article 99** allows the secretary-general to "bring to the attention of the Security Council any matter which in his opinion may threaten the maintenance of international peace and security".
- **UNGA Adoption and India's Response**: Upon adoption by the UNGA, India expressed satisfaction that the international community found common ground to address the myriad challenges confronting the region.

UN General Assembly

- **Establishment**: In 1945 under the United Nations (UN) Charter
- **Member Countries**: All 193 members
- **UNGA President**: The UNGA is headed by its President, who is elected for a term of one year.
- **Composition**: United Nations General Assembly comprises all 193 Members of the United Nations.
- **Mandate**: provides a unique forum for multilateral discussion of the full spectrum of international issues covered by the Charter.

THE HINDU

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WHO REPORT ON TRAFFIC DEATH

Syllabus GS Paper 3 - Infra-Roads)

Road fatalities rise in India, despite global drop: WHO

Road traffic deaths fell by 5% worldwide between 2010 and 2021 but rose 15% in India, says report; crashes were the leading cause of deaths among children and youth aged five to 29 years

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Road traffic deaths fell by 5% to 1.19 million annually worldwide between 2010 and 2021, with 108 United Nations member countries reporting a drop, the World Health Organization (WHO) said in a report. India, however, registered a 15% increase in fatalities.

The total number of road traffic fatalities in India went up to 1.54 lakh in 2021 from 1.34 lakh in 2010, the 'Global Status Report on Road Safety 2023' said.

Ten countries succeeded in reducing road traffic deaths by over 50%. These are Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Denmark, Japan, Lithuania, Norway, Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela. Thirty-five countries made notable progress, reducing road traffic deaths by 30% to 50%.

As of 2019, road crashes were the leading cause of deaths among children and youth aged five to 29 years, and were the 12th leading cause of deaths when all ages are considered. Two-thirds of deaths occurred among people of a working age.

In the past decade, a 5% reduction in absolute numbers of road traffic fatalities was accompanied with a growth in the global population by nearly 14 billion, or roughly 13%.

This translates into the road fatality rate declining from 18 per 1 lakh people in 2010 to 15 per 1 lakh in 2021, which represents a 16% decline in the road traffic death rate since 2010.

Vehicle growth

The report also noted that during the same period, the global motor vehicle fleet grew 160%. Therefore, annual fatality rates per 1 lakh vehicles fell from 79 deaths to 47 deaths, which is a 41% reduction.

The report shows that 28% of global road traffic deaths occurred in the WHO's South-East Asia Region, 25% in the Western Pacific Region, 19% in the African Region, 12% in the Region of the Americas, 11% in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, and 5% in the European Region.

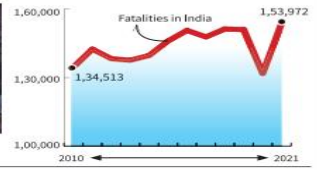
"Nine in 10 deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries, and fatalities in these countries are disproportionately higher when set against the number of vehicles and roads they have. The risk of death is three times higher in low-income than high-income countries, yet low-income countries have just 1% of the world's motor vehicles," the report said.

Deadlier roads

Road traffic-related fatalities in India reached a 11-year high in 2021 after a dip in 2020



Killer roads: Charred wreckage of a car after an accident in Bareilly. PTI



World Health Organization

- **About:** WHO is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for international public health.
- **Establishment**: April 7 1948
- **Headquarters**: Geneva, Switzerland
- **Leading Role**: The WHO has played a leading role in several public health achievements, most notably the eradication of smallpox, the near-eradication of polio, and the development of an Ebola vaccine.

Context: Recently, the **World Health Organization (WHO) reported that road traffic deaths fell by 5% to 1.19 million** annually worldwide between 2010 and 2021, with 108 United Nations member countries reporting a drop.

Key Findings of Report

- **Rising Road Traffic Fatalities in India**: The 'Global Status Report on Road Safety 2023' reveals an increase in road traffic fatalities in India from 1.34 lakh in 2010 to 1.54 lakh in 2021.
- **Global Success Stories**: Ten countries, including Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Denmark, Japan, Lithuania, Norway, Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Arab Emirates, and Venezuela, achieved a remarkable reduction of over 50% in road traffic deaths.
    - 35 countries demonstrated notable progress, successfully reducing road traffic fatalities by 30% to 50%.
- **Impact on Children and Youth**:
- As of 2019, road crashes emerged as the primary cause of deaths among children and youth aged five to 29 years.
- **Global Trends Over the Decade**: Over the past decade, a 5% reduction in absolute numbers of road traffic fatalities occurred globally.
- **Vehicle Growth:** "The report highlighted a 160% increase in the global motor vehicle fleet during the same period. Consequently, annual fatality rates per 1 lakh vehicles decreased from 79 deaths to 47 deaths, reflecting a 41% reduction."

PIB

Dec 13

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – IR)

Government of India and ADB sigh $200 million loan for Uttarakhand climate resilient power system development project

Context: The **Government of India recently signed** an agreement **with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to avail a $200 million loan,** aimed at enhancing the quality, efficiency, and reliability of power supply in the state of Uttarakhand.

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- **About**: ADB is a regional development bank that provides loans for development projects in its member countries.
- **Formation**: 1966.
- **Objective**: It envisions a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty in the region.
- **Headquarters**: Manila, Philippines.
- **Members**: 68 members including India, China, and Pakistan.
  - The bank admits the members of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP, formerly the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East or ECAFE), and non-regional developed countries.
- **Largest Capital Contribution and Voting Rights**: Japan and the United States (have equal and largest)>China>India>Australia.

ADB's Work in India

- **India is a founding member of ADB** and the bank's fourth largest shareholder.
- ADB has **aligned its operations in the country** to the government's developing priorities.
- ADB operations **promote private sector development, gender empowerment**, regional integration, knowledge solutions, and capacity development.

FINANCIAL EXPRESS

Page 2

GST AMENDMENT BILL

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – Polity)

GST amendment Bill moved in LS

FE BUREAU
New Delhi, December 13

FINANCE MINISTER NIRMALA Sitharaman on Wednesday introduced The Central Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023 in the Lok Sabha to raise the age limit for the president and members of GST appellate tribunals (GSTATs).

The CGST (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023, seeks to cap the age for the president and members of the GSTATs at 70 years and 67 years, respectively, higher than 67 years and 65 years, earlier.

The Bill follows the recommendations made by the 52nd GST Council in October.

An advocate for ten years with 'substantial experience' in litigation under indirect tax laws in the Appellate Tribunal, Central Excise and Service Tax Tribunal, State VAT Tribunals, high court or Supreme Court will be eligible for the appointment as a judicial member of GSTAT, the Council had recommended.

According to the amendment, the president and the members of the GSTATs shall hold office for four years, or until he attains the age of 70 years and 67 years, respectively, whichever is earlier.

The president and members of the GSTAT would be eligible for reappointment for two years subject to the age limit of 70 and 67 years, respectively, the amendment says.

The Parliament, had in March, cleared amendments in the GST Act, which enabled the formation of the GSTATs. Following this, the finance ministry notified the setting up of 31 benches of GSTATs in all states and Union territories in September. As per the notification, Gujarat and the UTs Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu will have two benches of GSTAT each, while Goa and Maharashtra will together have three benches.

Context: Recently, the **Finance Minister introduced The Central Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023** in the Lok Sabha, aiming to raise the age limit for the president and members of GST appellate tribunals (GSTATS).

Central Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023

- **GST Tribunal Appointments**: This bill aims to broaden the pool of eligible candidates for judicial members in tribunals.
- **Alignment with Tribunal Reforms Act**: Amendments in line with the Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021, propose changes in the appointment process of tribunal presidents and members.
- **Age Criteria and Tenure Limits**: The proposed amendments suggest a minimum age of 50 for tribunal presidents and members.
- **Tenure Limits:** 70 and 67 years
- **Impact on Taxpayer Remedies**: The bill highlights that the absence of GSTAT denies taxpayers a second appellate remedy, leading to an increased burden on high courts.

Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunals

- **About**: It serves as the second level of appeal within the GST framework, available for challenging any unsatisfactory rulings issued by the First Appellate Authorities under the CGST and SGST.
- **Establishment by**: Section 109 of the CGST Act 2017
- **Composition**: Two judicial members and two technical members.
  - The Tribunal is likely to be headed by a former Supreme Court judge or a former Chief Justice of a High Court.
- **Headquarters**: New Delhi

DTE

Dec 13

SAIGA ANTELOPE

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Env and Eco)

Miracle on the Steppe: The Saiga has beaten extinction for now, finds new IUCN Red List

Only 6% of the population was left in 2003, a decade after the break-up of the Soviet Union



Context: Recently, the Saiga (Saiga tatarica) species category was changed from Critically Endangered to Near Threatened by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Saiga Antelope

- **About**: The Saiga, the odd-faced antelope that have roamed the earth since the last Ice Age, can hope to continue gamboling across the vast Eurasian Steppe.
- **Saiga has two sub-species**: Saiga tatarica tatarica (found in most of the range) and Saiga tatarica mongolica (found only in Mongolia).
- **Distribution**: The antelope were once found throughout the Eurasian Steppe, the great band of grassland that stretches from Hungary in Europe to Manchuria in Asia.
- Currently, the animal is found in fragmented populations within Kazakhstan, Mongolia, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan.

Conservation Status

- **IUCN**: Near threatened
- **CITES**: Appendix II
- **Threat**: Saigas have been a target of hunting since prehistoric ages, when hunting was an essential means to acquire food.
  - Saigas are dependent on weather and affected by climate fluctuations to a great extent due to their migratory nature.

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ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC CORPERATION
(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – IR)

India Rejects OIC Statement on Article 370 Revocation

Context: India has rejected the statement issued by the General Secretariat of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on the judgment of the Supreme Court upholding the 2019 revocation of Article 370 of the Constitution.

Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)

- **About**: The OIC holds the position of being the second-largest intergovernmental organization globally, following the United Nations, with a combined population exceeding 1.8 billion.
- **Establishment**: In September 1969
- **Headquarters**: Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- **Membership**: Comprising 57 member states across four continents, the OIC boasts a widespread and diverse membership.
    - **India is not a Member of OIC.** India for the first time was invited by the host UAE as the "Guest of Honour" to attend the 50th session of the OIC in 2019.
- **Mission and Objectives**: To safeguard Islamic values, protect the sovereignty of its member states, and actively contribute to global peace and security.
- **Collective Representation**: Acting as the unified voice of the Muslim world, the OIC strives to safeguard the economic, social, and political interests of its collective members.
- **Multilingual Framework**: Recognizing linguistic diversity, the OIC conducts its affairs in Arabic, English, and French, reflecting its commitment to inclusivity.
- **Partnerships for Global Impact**: The OIC actively collaborates with international mechanisms, governments, and civil society organizations to address shared concerns among its member states and the global Muslim community.

BUSINESS STANDARD

Page 6

GCTF FOR CYBERSECURITY THREAT
(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – IR)



US, Taiwan, India join forces against China cybersecurity threat

AJAI SHUKLA
New Delhi, 13 December

With China looming ever larger as a potent cyber threat, American, Indian and Taiwanese cybersecurity officials have met to find ways of deepening their operational expertise and sharing best practices on cybersecurity issues.

The meeting took place on Monday and Tuesday during a joint workshop convened under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF). This was the first in-person GCTF programme held in India. Co-hosting the event were US Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti, Taiwan's Representative to India, Baushuan Ger, India's former National Cyber Security Coordinator, Lieutenant General Rajesh Pant, and the Indian government-sponsored think tank, United Service Institution of India (USI).

All three countries share a common interest in warding off cyber attacks from various agencies that the People's Liberation Army (PLA) is developing and training in China.

Ambassador Garcetti said, "The United States is committed to working closely with partners like India and Taiwan to enhance cybersecurity and protect our shared interests in the digital space. When we connect, protect, and detect with technology, instead of fearing what it can do to divide or oppress us, we can take full advantage of the nearly limitless potential that these advances will bring."

Pant said India, with over 800 million internet users and 1.2 billion smartphones, regarded cybersecurity as a major component of national security.

The Defence Cyber Agency (DCyA) is a tri-service command of the Indian military. Headquartered in New Delhi, the agency is tasked with handling and defeating cyber security threats.

The DCyA draws personnel from all three branches of the Indian military. The DCyA head is a two-star rank officer who reports to the CDS through the Integrated Defence Staff (IDS).

A two-star admiral, Mohit Gupta, was appointed in May 2019 as the first head of the DCyA. As of 2021, the DCyA was fully operational with the army, navy and IAF establishing their respective Cyber Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

The Naresh Chandra Task Force (NCTF) was set up in July 2011 by then National Security Advisor Shivshankar Menon to review the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee, assess the implementation progress, and suggest new reforms related to national security. The NCTF was led by retired bureaucrat Naresh Chandra and comprised 13 other members.

Among its recommendations, the Task Force recommended the creation of a cyber command (DCyA), an aerospace command and a special operations command. All three were proposed to be tri-service commands in order to bring the various special forces units of the military under a unified command and control structure.

Representative Ger highlighted GCTF's importance as a platform to utilise Taiwan's strengths in addressing issues of global concern.

The US is widely regarded as the world's premier cyber warfare superpower. The US Army Cyber Command integrates and conducts cyberspace operations, electromagnetic warfare, and information operations, ensuring decision dominance and freedom of action for friendly forces in and through the cyber domain and the information dimension while denying the same to our adversaries.

The US Army Cyber Command (ARCYBER) is the supporting Army headquarters under the United States Cyber Command.

"We operate and defend Army networks and deliver cyberspace effects against adversaries to defend the nation with over 16,500 soldiers, civilians, and contractors working 24/7 across the globe," says the US Cyber Command.

According to ARCYBER, its more critical and complex priority is to operate and aggressively defend the Department of Defense Information Network.

The ARCYBER says its most critical ability is to deliver cyberspace effects – both defensive and offensive – against global adversaries. Towards this, the US military believes it must equip its forces for the future fight against a resilient, adaptive adversary.

ARCYBER is regarded as engaged in the real-world cyberspace fight today, against near-peer adversaries, and other global cyber threats. According to ARCYBER: "We defend military networks, secure Army weapons platforms, and protect critical US infrastructure. Army Cyber forces are deployed globally, conducting defensive and offensive cyber operations 24/7."

Since its launch in 2015, the GCTF has held 70 international workshops with participation from over 120 countries to strengthen connections among experts on public health, supply chains, humanitarian assistance, digital health and other regional issues.

The US, Taiwan, the Australian Office, Taipei, and the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association jointly administer the GCTF, which serves as a platform for Taiwan to share its expertise with partners around the world.

"The United States looks forward to continued collaboration with India, Taiwan, and like-minded partners to tackle shared challenges," says ARCYBER.

Taiwan has world-class experts in a wide variety of fields, including public health, law enforcement, disaster relief, energy cooperation, women's empowerment, digital economy and cyber security, media literacy, and good governance.

However, pressure from Beijing prevents many international institutions from allowing Taiwan to participate. Consequently, Taiwan's experts are not able to share their knowledge. The GCTF allows practitioners from around the world to learn what Taiwan has to offer and to strengthen connections between experts in different countries as they tackle 21st-century problems that do not respect borders.

UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION OF INDIA

United States (US) Ambassador Eric Garcetti said that the US is committed to working closely with partners like India and Taiwan to enhance cybersecurity and protect shared interests in the digital space

NEWS ANALYSIS

Context: Recently, the first in-person GCTF program in India, co-hosted by the US ambassador to India, was attended by representatives from the US, India, and Taiwan in New Delhi.

Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF)

- **About:** GCTF is a platform to utilize Taiwan's strengths and expertise to address global issues of mutual concerns.
- **Establishment**: In 2015
- **Multilateral Cooperation**: The GCTF actively supports capacity building in Indo-Pacific nations through training programs for officials and experts, contributing to the enhancement of Taiwan's multilateral cooperation.
- **Global Participation**: More than 7,000 government officials, experts, and civil society representatives from 126 countries have actively participated in GCTF workshops, fostering a diverse and inclusive platform for collaboration.
- **Expansion of Partnerships**: Japan joined as a full partner in 2019, cohosting all GCTF workshops.
- **Australian Full Partnership**: In 2021, Australia announced its full partnership with the GCTF, further strengthening the collaborative efforts and initiatives undertaken by the forum.
- **Joint Committee Meetings**: The full partners, currently comprising Taiwan, the United States, Japan, and Australia, convene GCTF Joint Committee meetings.

Defence Cyber Agency (DCyA)

- **About:** DCyA is a tri-service command of the Indian military.
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi, the agency is tasked with handling and defeating cyber security threats.
- The **DCyA draws personnel from all three branches of the Indian military**.
- The DCyA head is a two-star rank officer who reports to the CDS through the Integrated Defence Staff (IDS).

DTE

Dec 13

AMPHIPOD

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Env and Eco)

New marine amphipod species found in Chillika Lake, Odisha

Shrimp-like crustacea named Demaorchestia alanensis

Context: Recently, researchers at Berhampur University, Odisha, made an exciting discovery as they **identified a new species of marine amphipod**, a shrimp-like crustacean belonging to the genus Demaorchestia, **in Chilika Lake** on the east coast of India."



Amphipod

- **Distribution**: They may be pelagic (living in the water column) or benthic (living on the ocean bottom).
- **Features**: The new species is white in colour and less than 15 millimetres in length. It has 13 pairs of legs.
- Amphipods are a **significant group in the marine ecosystem** and play a vital role in the marine food chain.
- **As an Indicator**: They also serve as **indicators for studying the impact of climate change** and health of coastal ecosystems.

Chilika Lake

- **About**: It is the largest brackish water lagoon in Asia and second largest coastal lagoon in the world.
- **Spread:** Puri, Khordha and Ganjam districts of Odisha state.
- **First Indian Wetland**: "In 1981, Chilika Lake achieved the distinction of being the inaugural Indian wetland to receive international importance designation under the Ramsar Convention.

ALL INDIA RADIO

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CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES AMENDMENT BILL

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – Social Issues)

Parliament passes Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023 paving way for establishing Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University in Telangana

Context: Recently, the **Parliament passed the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023**, with the **Rajya Sabha giving its assent**. Prior to this, the Lok Sabha had already passed the Bill.

Parliament passed the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023

- **About**: The Bill amends the Central Universities Act, 2009, which establishes central universities for teaching and research in various states.
- **Central Tribal University in Telangana**: The Bill establishes a **Central Tribal University in Telangana**. It will be named the 'Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University'.
  - Its territorial jurisdiction will extend to Telangana.
- **Objective**: It will provide avenues of higher education and research facilities primarily for the tribal population of India.
- Note that the **Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 provides** that the central government will **establish a Tribal University** in the state of Telangana.

Sammakka Sarakka

- **About**: Sammakka and Sarakka, a legendary mother-daughter duo, hailed from the Dandakaranya region, now part of Telangana, and lived several centuries ago.
- **Sammakka, the wife of feudal chief Pagididda Raju from the Kakatiya dynasty**, along with her daughters Sarakka, Nagulamma, and Jampanna, played crucial roles in resisting oppressive rulers and challenging taxation imposed on the Koya tribal people.
- **During a battle against local rulers**, Saralamma, one of Sammakka's daughters, made the ultimate sacrifice.

LIVEMINT

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PMGS-NMP

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Economy)

Govt plans to take PM Gati Shakti global, starting with our neighbours

Dhirendra Kumar & Subhash Narayan

NEW DELHI

The government plans to take the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (PMGS-NMP) global to help developing as well as developed nations streamline their infrastructure-planning processes with an integrated digital tool.

According to officials privy to the development, the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan may first be offered to neighbours Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka for the planning and execution of certain cross-border infrastructure projects. Later a separate product will be developed for other overseas projects, based on the framework for domestic projects.

The official cited above said that technical architecture would be shared with countries looking to adopt PM Gati Shakti portal to see how projects go from drawing board to execution.

"We are already showcasing the Gati Shakti Master Plan to other countries. In the neighbourhood, we had delegation-level visits to Nepal and also showcased the master plan to Bangladesh at the invitation of the government there. We have also showcased the tool to 30 countries in Central Asia and South-east Asia," said Sumita Dawra, special secretary, department for promotion of industry and internal trade.



The tool may first be offered to Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka for the planning and execution of certain infra projects. MINT

The tool was also showcased at a recent UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (UNESCAP) conference in Hong Kong, at the Asia Pacific Business Forum, and at the September G20 meeting in Delhi, Dawra said.

"A lot of interest has been generated, even from private companies, as they also need clearances and want their governments to adopt such geospatial technologies that can help speed up projects."

Queries sent to commerce ministry remained unanswered.

The PMGS-NMP has also digitized land records of 13 states and four union territories—another aspect countries may want to explore. The programme will reduce the time and cost of implementing projects as it provides easy access to this data to stakeholders.

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman has asked the Niti Aayog to map industrial corridors, freight corridors, PM Mitra Parks, and defence corridors to bring them under the PM Gati Shakti scheme.

The details of sharing PM Gati Shakti are yet to be worked out. It may involve adopting country-specific versions of the existing tool, or developing similar ones in each country. The plan is to first offer the tool to countries where India is already executing projects.

The global service may also involve mapping data from other countries on the platform and then planning projects or giving limited access to other countries to use the tool to plan projects themselves.

The PMGS-NMP also integrates economic and infrastructure planning with socio-economic development. To complement it, the national logistics policy was launched in 2022 to address the soft infrastructure and logistics sector.

dhirendra.kumar@livemint.com

Context: The union government plans to take the **PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (PMGS-NMP)** global to help both developing and developed nations streamline their infrastructure-planning processes with an integrated digital tool.

PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (PMGS-NMP)

- **About:** It is a digital platform will bring 16 Ministries including Railways and Roadways together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects.
- **Launched:** 13th October 2021 for providing multimodal connectivity infrastructure to various economic zones.
- **Implementation**: On 21st October 2021.
- **Focus Area**: Railways, Roads, Ports, Waterways, Airports, Mass Transport and Logistics Infrastructure.
- 6 pillars of the Plan: Comprehensiveness, Prioritisation, Optimization, Synchronisation, Analytical and Dnamic.

PM Gati Shakti Scheme

- **About**: It is a multi-modal connectivity plan with the goal of coordinating infrastructure project planning and execution to reduce logistics costs.
- **Establishment**: October 2021
- **Aim**: It is the first National Infrastructure Masterplan. The National Master Plan for Multi-modal Connectivity is essentially a digital platform to bring 16 Ministries includes.

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